Du-Bye Canada, Hello UAE

This past summer, I decided to do an internship in Dubai, U.A.E. I could have easily done one in Canada but I really wanted to broaden my international experience and learn how companies overseas run their Human Resource policies and practices. I began applying to different companies in early February and I fortunately received a 3-month HR internship offer at flydubai. For those who don’t know, flydubai is Dubai’s number one low-cost carrier operating between 95 destinations, serving the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Europe with its main hub being in Dubai. Here is a short list of what my job entailed.

• May: I started working with HR business partners where I proofread and edited company policies.

• I made hundreds of phone calls to pilots and cabin crew members reminding them to update their details for their employee health insurance.

• June: I worked with the training and development team where I created several PowerPoints for their training sessions.

• I helped recruitment with pilot assessments and interviews and received the opportunity to ask questions at the interview, which was super exciting.

• July: I designed an internal newsletter for the company and collected several articles from different departments about their experiences or any recognition awards they may have won.

My internship at flydubai has taught me more than I could have ever imagined. As the HR intern, my duties were diverse, ever-changing and very beneficial. Coming into this position, I had no idea what direction my career was going in and I lacked confidence in my strengths and abilities.

My internship has definitely given me a better understanding of my skill set, where my career may take me, but most importantly, I have learned that I am not alone. This job has taught me that almost everybody is in my same position. Very few university or college students know what they want to do, and that is simply not worth worrying about. I know that if I continue to work hard, things will fall into place.

This being my first position in an office atmosphere, I did not know exactly what to expect. Simply working in the office and getting used to everything has definitely prepared me for whatever my next position may be. Just observing the everyday events has taught me more about teamwork, and how people can come together to get things done.

I recommend doing an internship after your 1st or 2nd year so you will have an idea of whether or not you like your field of study after receiving hands on experience in it.

As far as your internship goes, remember to always be friendly, work hard, and ask questions. I hope that you take away from your internship as much as I did. This was truly a great learning experience and I will be forever indebted to those who gave me a hand.

Gabrielle Dias (4th Year, VP Promotions, New College Council)

New College Does Movember

On November 30th, New College held a fundraiser to help raise money and awareness for the Movember Foundation. For those of you who don’t know, the Movember Foundation is the leading global organisation committed to changing the face of men’s health.

Held in the Harry Crowe room, New College affiliates showcased their talents by giving the audiences performances they’ll never forget. In addition to the show, there was a month long auction where the good looking, athletic, and charismatic men of New College were bid on and gave their highest bidder the greatest three hours of their life. All proceeds went to the Movember Foundation. Thank you to everyone who came out and showed their support by either performing, volunteering to be auctioned, or just coming out for a good time. New College was able to raise a total of $512 for the foundation, setting the bar very high for next year’s fundraiser.

For more information on the Movember Foundation, visit their website at https://ca.movember.com/

Robel Adugna (2nd Year, BAS Management)
Pop The Bubble Before It Traps You

From the time you wake up to the last peek at your phone, social media is undeniably part of daily living. Decades ago, information from the real world came from newspaper journalists or the TV screen. Now, scroll through your favorite social network and one gets a feel of the outside world, from a friend’s shared posts to that person you follow. In the wake of the election that happened south of the border not too long ago, one cannot help but reflect on our interaction with social media.

Have you found yourself in a situation where you felt compelled to unfriend or unfollow someone just because their views contradicted yours? Was it because you found it to be “too toxic”?

If you answered “yes”, then you’re making yourself a social bubble. By voiding yourself of other people’s views that contradict yours, you are essentially robbing yourself of the glimpse of the other side. This inevitably creates an illusion of unanimity that everyone is in agreement with you. This painfully reminds us of the classic saying, “Keep your friends close and your enemies closer.”

So the next time you come across a friend’s absurd posts, think twice before clicking that unfriend or unfollow button. Instead, thank that person, regardless of how false or offensive the post was, for giving you the opportunity to see where they stand and perhaps to see how they could be right or wrong.

John David Lugtu (1st Year, BAS I.T.)

The Trip That Blue Me Away

The New College community offers many social events throughout the school year that are a great way to get involved and meet new people. The Montreal trip in October was unforgettable, but now that winter is coming, it’s time to prepare for my personal favourite which is the trip to Blue Mountain! I have attended this event for the past two years and plan to keep on attending until I graduate. Coming from Alberta, the whole atmosphere at Blue reminds me of home and fond childhood memories.

Lift passes are included with the ticket, and for those who aren’t bringing their own equipment, do not stress because rental ski, skate and snowboard packages will be available. I usually like to spend most of the day on the hill, and in the evenings take a stroll around the village and check out some of the festive shops. Some people choose to sell their lift passes and would rather play games, take a dip in the hot tub, skate on the pond or hang out in the hotel.

The village has a wide selection of restaurants with my favourite places being the Sunset Grill for brunch, the Firehouse Pizza Company, Mile High Poutine or Rusty’s for dinner. After dinner, I will be hitting up the dance floor, and dancing all night. A hidden gem that you must check out is the Beavertails stand on top of one of the hills, where you can enjoy this classic Canadian treat while admiring the view.

I’ve decided to challenge myself this year by attempting to snowboard for the first time. I will definitely be wiping out a lot, but hey that’s how you learn! You also have the option of joining a ski or snowboarding class with an instructor, as well as using one of the many support bars for skating.

This trip is not one you want to miss. I hope everyone who goes will have just as much fun as I had during my last two visits.

Teja Bellary (4th Year, VP Academics, New Council College)

Eagles of the Month

The Movember Coffee House planners; Gabrielle Dias, Teja Bellary, and Sierra Carney, rightfully deserve the honour of being December’s Eagles of the month for organizing a wonderful fundraiser. The other recipients are Haile Wondwossen and “Ice” for making sure everyone had an amazing time at Rage Dodgeball. Thank you all for your contributions!

Robel Adugna (2nd Year, BAS Management)