

Editor-in-Chief board report for Oct. 24, 2013 AGM
Shandi Shiach

Hello, members,

We have part-time staff! Erin, Will and I had the pleasure of meeting many awesome people in the course of interviews for the 18 positions we sought to fill. A bunch of applicants we declined for or after interview have already begun or continued volunteering in the past month.

Incoming staff received orientation packages and welcome letters that I packed full of essential information.

The new team and I have taken a layered learning strategy, so folks are taking on further requirements of their job descriptions a few tasks at a time as they get a handle on the basics. Returning staff and volunteers have been invaluable. I hope to see everyone continue learning by example, practice, some workshops soon and through hands-on mentorship.

Associate Editor Beth Parker and Staff Writer Adam Hayman have an ombuddies' training session with Martine Conway scheduled for Oct. 30. Staff sensitivity training is Nov. 8 and will include an angle useful for sensitivity in publishing and journalism. So we are both maintaining a healthy office environment and producing content that also values equity.

Surrounding the students' society general meeting and leading up to student elections, we have published news and opinions content that should help students feel informed and enable engagement. The second instalment of our "Focus on fuel" liquefied natural gas investigative series comes out next week. I have been receptive to a variety of feedback from staff, volunteers and community members that may inform our content, and I continue to strive for quality journalistic coverage while trying to allow the visual team to uphold the magazine-style design that so often garners compliments. It's a balance.

I hosted early workshops and tutorials on using the runsheet and editing a Martlet document in Microsoft Word, but also regularly meet with editors as needed and spend my time editing for standards, fact checking, coordinating coverage and generally spicing every dish.

Things are going well, with a lot of work ahead of us, and we are on track for pursuing my volume-long goals.