

HEALTH BRAIN PROJECT

SCULPTURES FROM
CELEBRITIES, ARTISTS
WILL GO TO AUCTION

A hundred North American artists and celebrities have made brain sculptures for the second annual TELUS Health Brain Project, which raises awareness and money for research into brain health and aging at Baycrest Health Sciences. The sculptures — on display around Toronto as of July 11 — include those by skater Kurt Browning, retired CBC anchor Peter Mansbridge and Spirit of The West's John Mann. Gina Godfrey, whose parents lived at the health centre into their 90s, unveiled her sculpture — destined for Nathan Phillips Square. Called Luminescent, it was inspired by Godfrey's nine grandchildren and some of their favourite movies, such as Finding Dory and Avatar. "Both heroines, both females, and if anyone takes a look at my brain — yes it is a female — so this was a no-brainer for me to do," Godfrey said. The majority of the "brains" will be sold at auction. *National Post*



B.C.

SON 'FRAGMENTED'
PRIOR TO CELL
SUICIDE, DAD SAYS

VANCOUVER A British Columbia father says his son was in a "fragmented" state of mind just days before he hanged himself in a solitary confinement cell at a B.C. medium-security prison.

Robert Roy told a B.C. Supreme Court trial focused on alleged infringements of segregated inmates' rights that he was distressed to learn his son wanted to be transferred to a maximum-security facility.

Thirty-seven-year-old Christopher Roy used a ligature when he died of suicide at Matsqui Institution in Agassiz in June 2015.

The B.C. Civil Liberties Association and the John Howard Society of Canada have launched a constitutional challenge of the country's solitary confinement regime.

They say it constitutes cruel and inhumane treatment.

The groups say mentally ill and Aboriginal prisoners are placed in segregation for longer periods of time, sometimes for years, worsening their physical and psychological conditions.

A lawyer representing the federal government has said Canada's solitary confinement policies uphold inmates' charter rights.

The Canadian Press

SASKATCHEWAN

SUSPECT IN AMBER ALERT
HAD PRIOR ABDUCTION CHARGES

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK. The parents of an eight-year-old girl allegedly abducted from a Saskatchewan playground say their daughter is doing well, while investigators say this is not the first time the suspect has been involved in an alleged child abduction.

An Amber Alert was issued Tuesday after the girl disappeared from a playground in Prince Albert.

A little over an hour after the alert was issued, police said the girl had been located. The girl's

father said on social media that police found her "safe and unhurt."

A suspect in the abduction, Jared John Charles, 19, of St. Louis, Sask., pictured, was taken into custody in Prince Albert on Tuesday.

Court documents show Charles, who is also identified as Jarrod Charles, was charged with abducting two boys early last fall in La Ronge, Sask. However, the charges were stayed.

The Canadian Press



Jared John Charles

ONTARIO

REJECTED MENTAL
STRESS CLAIMS
SUBJECT OF SUIT

TORONTO Hundreds of Ontarians who say they have suffered chronic mental stress due to their job may be awarded workers' compensation if a new charter challenge is successful.

It targets Ontario's workplace safety and insurance law, which allows for compensation to be given in mental illness claims that stem from a sudden or traumatic event, but excludes chronic mental stress that builds up over time, such as in cases of ongoing harassment.

One of the lawyers for the applicants, Christine Davies, said the suit was filed last week on behalf of two groups that represent injured workers and an Ottawa woman who says she was sexually harassed when she worked for the city. They are asking the court to declare the exemption of chronic mental stress unconstitutional and invalid, Davies said, adding the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal has already found it is unconstitutional in three individual claims, but does not have the power to change the law itself.

The situation is set to change on Jan. 1, when a bill the Ontario government passed this spring comes into effect, amending the section of the law targeted by the suit.

The Canadian Press

ONTARIO

STUDENT UNION, INDIGENOUS STUDENTS
PUSH RYERSON TO CHANGE ITS NAME

TORONTO A student-led campaign at Ryerson University is pushing the school to change its name out of respect for residential school survivors.

But the proposal from the Ryerson Students Union and the Indigenous Students Association has prompted considerable backlash from the wider student community, who criticize it as being impractical and disrespectful in its own right.

The downtown Toronto university is named for Egerton Ryerson, a pioneer of public education in Ontario who is widely believed to have helped shape residential school policy through his ideas on education for Indigenous children. The request for a name change was one of 11 demands the students union posted on its Facebook page on Canada Day under the hashtag #resist150.

The Canadian Press

NOVA SCOTIA

MILITARY MUST LEARN ABOUT
ABORIGINAL HISTORY, ORGANIZER SAYS

HALIFAX An organizer of the Aboriginal ceremony in Halifax disrupted by off-duty members of the Armed Forces on Canada Day says she is glad the military has apologized but also wants a public acknowledgment that much of the East Coast is unceded Mi'kmaq territory.

"More than an apology, I need that education out there," Rebecca Moore, a member of Nova Scotia's Pictou Landing First Nation,

said Wednesday.

Gen. Jonathan Vance, the chief of the defence staff, said late Tuesday the Forces members involved would be removed from training and duties while the military conducts an investigation.

A tense but non-violent confrontation lasted about 10 minutes, as the men took issue with assertions they were interrupting a sacred rite on Mi'kmaq territory.

The Canadian Press

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