

ARAS Weekly Newsletter

Association of Retired Academic Staff



March 02nd, 2026

CURRENT AFFAIRS SALON



The next Current Affairs Salon will take place via Zoom at 2:00 pm on **Thursday March 5** at 2:00 pm. The topic will be the recently announced Alberta budget.

The Zoom coordinates for this meeting are

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83008835534?pwd=aKONPxDaAey#success>

Meeting ID: 830 0883 5534

Passcode: qn35hU4h

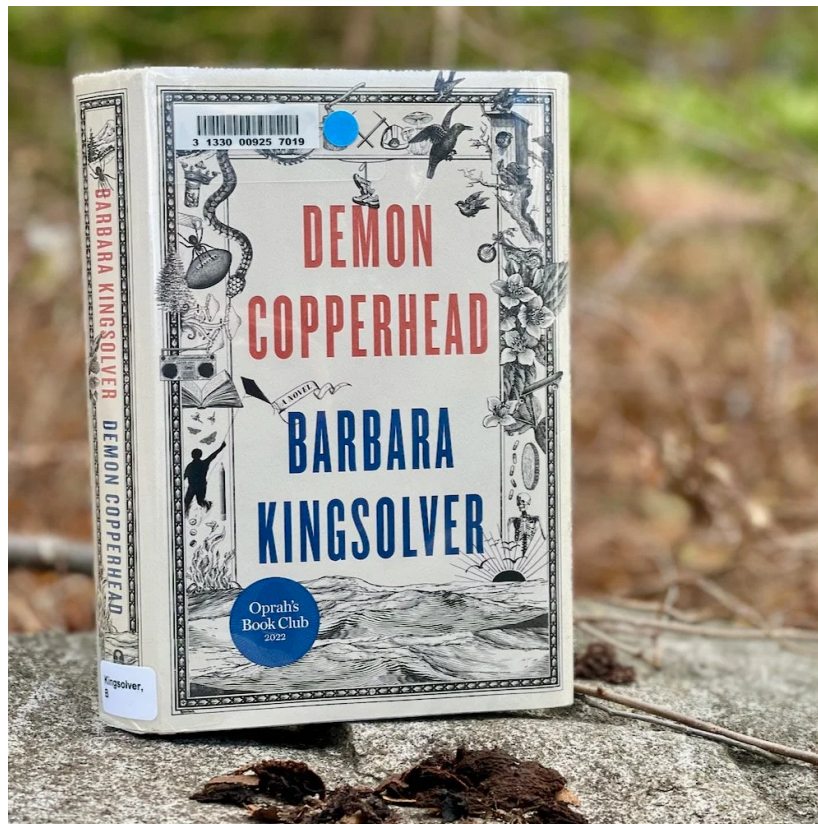
DINING OUT



Peggy has booked our next dining out for **Thursday, March 5** at 6:30 pm at Bahubali. The restaurant is at 4208 Calgary Trail. It is directly south of the Earl's restaurant that is at the corner of Calgary Trail and the Whitemud freeway. There is a large parking lot with free parking right in front. The restaurant offers South Indian cuisine. If you wish to come, please let Peggy know by **Tuesday, March 3** at peggyallegretto@gmail.com so that Peggy can confirm

our number with the restaurant . Peggy looks forward to seeing you there.

BOOK CLUB



The next meeting of the Book Club takes place on **Wednesday,**
March 18th at 2:30 pm in Room 1-46 of University Terrace (8303

112 Street). The discussion of *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, will be led by Marion Allen. Members may participate either in-person or online. Beverley O'Brien (bo1@ualberta.ca) will send a Zoom link beforehand for those wishing to join virtually. If you wish to join the group, please contact Vivien Bosley at vbosley@ualberta.ca . Please note that University Terrace is locked but there will be someone to meet you at the door when you arrive.

CURAC

AROHE has provided a webinar series of talks on charting the journey to a fulfilling retirement. The dates and titles of the talks can be accessed by clicking the link below

<https://www.arohe.org/page-1827074>

Humanities and Social Sciences

Big Thinking Summit 2026: Inflection Point

June 9 to 11, Edmonton Convention Centre, Edmonton, Alberta

The Federation's Big Thinking Summit: Inflection Point will bring the humanities and social sciences (HSS) to the forefront. Together, we must draw on historical, linguistic, cultural, and practice-based perspectives to open new possibilities for a Canada at the crossroads. Questions of legitimacy — who produces knowledge, whose voices are amplified, and how authority is recognized — are pressing to the fore. As public trust in postsecondary institutions is tested, shifts in cross-sector partnerships must reshape how research connects with policy and community priorities. Innovations in teaching, inquiry, and knowledge sharing must redefine scholarship and how it circulates across all of society.

Calling on academics, community partners, and policymakers from across Canada to forge new collaborations and tackle these critical questions at the Big Thinking Summit: Inflection Point.

[Register](#)

Academic For Life

The University of Manitoba strengthens engagement with retired academics by Professor Emeritus, Dr. William Kops from the University of Manitoba.

EPILOGUE

Please find attached the most recent issue of Epilogue for your reading pleasure.

OFFICE ASSISTANT

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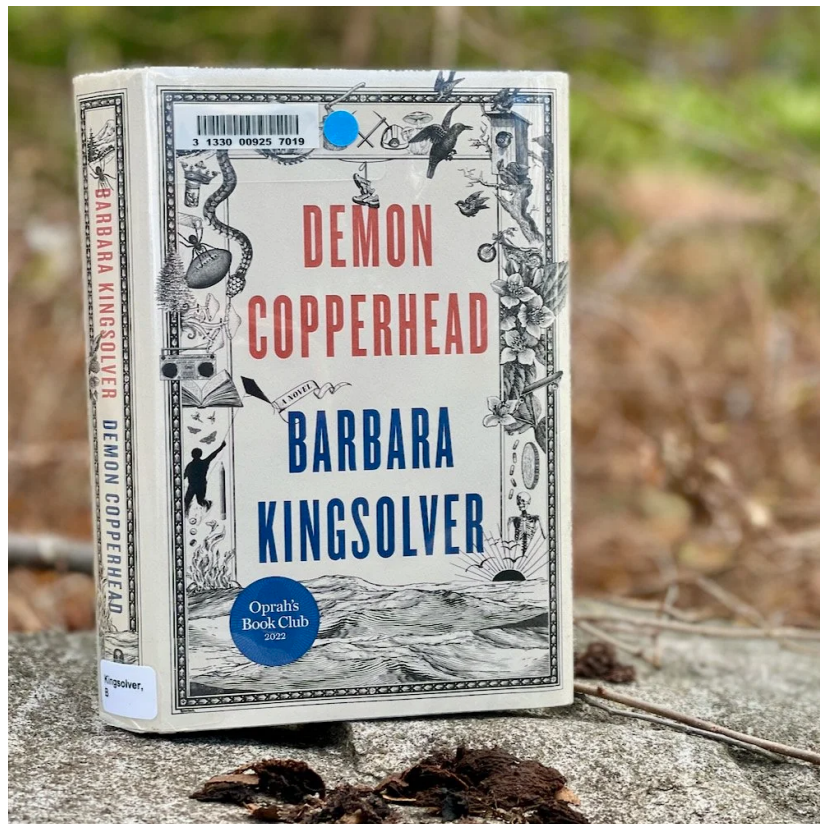
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March 16th, 2026

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LUNCH WITH...



The next Lunch With....will take place at 11.30 am on **Wednesday March 25** in Room 1-38 at University Terrace. The speaker will be Geoff Holroyd (Canadian Wildlife Service; Co-founder and current Chair, Beaverhill Bird Observatory) who will speak on birds of Alberta and abroad.

Lunch will be catered by Upper Crust at a cost of \$25; payment in advance by INTERAC transfer would be appreciated, but payment

at the meeting will be accepted. Paid parking will be available in College Plaza and is accessible from 112 Street by turning onto 83 Avenue and driving east until turning right into the parkade. Room 1-38 is at the far east on the first floor of University Terrace. If you have a OneCard which authorizes you to enter University Terrace, you can park in the parkade under University Terrace (paid parking). Someone will be at the front door to greet you and let you in. You should be targeting an arrival time of 11:30 am with lunch to begin at around 11:45 am and the speaker starting his presentation at around 12:15 pm. If you would like to attend, please notify us at emirhse@ualberta.ca

TRAVEL GROUP



The next meeting will be at 2.00 pm on **26 March 2026** in room 6-30 of University Terrace where Linda Ogilvie will talk about her trip "Buenos Aires to Santiago via Patagonia". Please indicate by email at emirhse@ualberta.ca that you are going to come so that you can be met at the door.

DINING OUT



Peggy has booked our next Dining Out evening at Sorrentino's Century Park for **Thursday March 26** at 6:30 pm. The restaurant is located at 2345 111 St NW which is at the northeast corner of 111 St and 23rd Ave NW. There is lots of free parking right in front of the

restaurant. Please let Peggy know if you plan to come by **Tuesday, March 24**. Peggy hopes to see you there.

CURAC

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<https://www.arohe.org/page-1827074>

21st Annual University of Toronto Senior College Symposium

April 15, 2026 9am-4pm Eastern Time by Zoom or at U of T Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks

Canada is facing challenges to its economy, governance, and sense of identity. We need to make urgent choices of direction to survive as a country in which we can take pride. While the most obvious threats are external, we also need to recognize strengths and weaknesses inherent in institutions we think of as distinctly Canadian. Our eminent speakers will help us explore and discuss where we are now and where we can go in the future.

- To join speakers and colleagues at the faculty club, Register at
-

<https://uoft.me/21st-annual-attendance-symposium-85>.

Early registration \$85 until noon on Mon. April 6, then \$100 until noon on Mon. April 13 (refreshments, lunch, post-event reception included).

- To participate by Zoom, Register at

<https://uoft.me/zoom-symp-25>. Registration \$25; you will be able to upgrade later to in-person if you wish.

Bob Rae, Distinguished Fellow, Munk School; Visitor, Massey College; Former Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations. “Some Thoughts on a World Turned Upside Down”

Dimitry Anastakis, U of T Wilson-Currie Chair in Canadian Business History, Department of History and Rotman School of Management. “What Now? The Auto Sector as a Nexus of Canada-US Relations—Past, Present, Future”

Dan Breznitz, University Professor, Munk School Chair of Innovation Studies; Political Science. “Innovation and Prosperity for Canadians in a Troubled Global World”

Danyaal Raza, St. Michael’s Hospital and U of T Faculty of Medicine. “The Elephant in the Room: Funding, Taxes and Better Medicare”

Tony Keller, Globe and Mail columnist and author of *Borderline Chaos* (2025). “How Canada Got Immigration Right and Then Wrong, and How to Get It Right Again”

David Milne, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Prince Edward Island; University of Malta. Rapporteur and Commentator on the Symposium.

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March 23rd, 2026

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CURRENT AFFAIRS SALON

The next Current Affairs Salon will be held on Thursday, April 2nd 2026 at 2pm online. The topic will be announced in the next Newsletter (Things are happening so fast on a global scale that it's hard to predict what the most important topic will be one week ahead of time.)

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March 30th, 2026

CURRENT AFFAIRS SALON



The next Current Affairs Salon will be held on **Thursday, April 2nd** 2026 at 2pm online. When it comes to current affairs, it is impossible to ignore the war in the Middle East. In particular what

are the “off ramps” which will bring the fighting to an end? Will an end to the fighting bring the creation of a Palestinian state any closer to reality? The President of Lebanon has ordered Hezbollah to disarm- if that happened would Israel and Lebanon be able to come to a peace agreement? Many questions. Be prepared to suggest some answers.

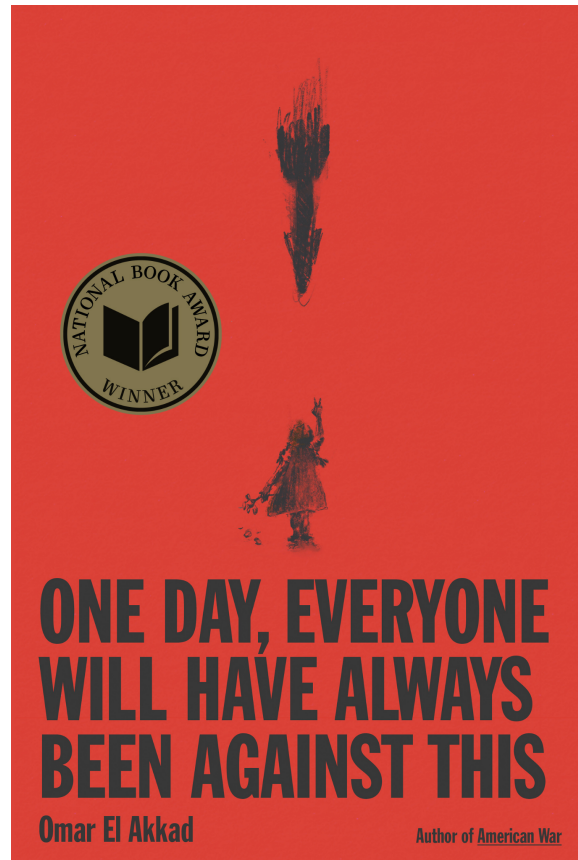
The Zoom coordinates for this meeting are

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Meeting ID: 830 0883 5534

Passcode: qn35hU4h

BOOK CLUB



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Members may participate either in-person or online. Cherie Koenig will send a Zoom link beforehand for those wishing to join virtually. If you wish to join the group, please contact Vivien Bosley at vbosley@ualberta.ca . Please note that University Terrace is locked but there will be someone to meet you at the door when you arrive.

TRAVEL GROUP



The next meeting will be at 2.00 pm on **23 April 2026** in room 6-30 of University Terrace where Doug Hube will talk about "Birds and Beasts of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana". Please indicate by email at emirhse@ualberta.ca that you are going to come so that you can be met at the door.

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