

Humber Et Cetera

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No plans yet for Chilean relief at Humber

KATELYN MCCALLION
SENIOR REPORTER

Two programs responsible for fundraising on campus, the Humber Student Federation and the fundraising volunteer management program, said they have yet to put together any fundraising events for Chile.

"Most of the fundraising has been done for Haiti," said director of programming for Humber Student Federation, Aaron Miller, referring to the 7.0 magnitude quake that devastated the Caribbean nation almost two months ago.

On Feb. 27, a stronger earthquake shook Chile registering at a magnitude of 8.8, killing around 795 people and leaving many still unaccounted for.

The program co-ordinator for the fundraising and volunteer management program, Ken Wyman, said despite heavy workloads, the students are still eager to plan an event for Chile.

"Students are often concerned and step up to the plate," said Wyman, but

added there is always room for students to get more involved.

Wyman said Chile has been an earthquake zone for years and a situation like this requires immediate attention.

He added being ready to fundraise is something his students should be prepared for.

Its not going to end in the last few days or few months, it's going to take years to rebuild.

Ken Wyman
Program co-ordinator

"We know how often charities face emergency fundraisers," said Wyman. Manager of international recruitment at the International Centre, Linda Chao, said there aren't any international students from Chile studying at Humber this year.

"Our sincere condolences go out to

the people who have friends and family in Chile," said Chao. "We encourage students to come to the international centre if they need help."

Wyman said when fundraising does begin it's important to leave the money undistributed so it can be put towards the areas most in need.

It's also important to let the experts decide what areas would benefit the most, he said.

"I've spent some time in Chile and visited the projects on the ground," said Wyman about programs initiated in the country prior to this disaster.

"Its not going to end in the last few days or few months, it's going to take years to rebuild."

In 1960, Chile was hit by one of the biggest quakes ever recorded at a magnitude of 9.5, killing 1,655 people.

Grad heads TTC panel for service

TESSIE SANCI
NEWS REPORTER

A Humber graduate is in charge of tackling the problems between TTC employees and riders as the voluntary chair of a customer service advisory panel.

Steve O'Brien will help create a charter of rights and make recommendations on how the TTC can improve its customer service.

O'Brien graduated from the hotel management program in 1987 and is now the general manager of One King West Hotel and Residence.

"We're going to talk to riders, we're going to talk to employees," O'Brien said. "We'll do focus groups, we may even do public forums."

The panel is a response to a conflict that intensified in January when a rider took a picture of a TTC toll collector who appeared to be sleeping in his booth and posted it online.

Since then, negative exchanges between TTC employees and riders have been documented by Toronto media.

City councillor and vice-chair of

the TTC board, Joe Mihevc, said it was looking for someone who knows customer service and can work with people.

"We wanted a 'roll up your sleeves' kind of guy," he said.

But despite the board's decision, there has been some scepticism about O'Brien's ability to lead the panel.

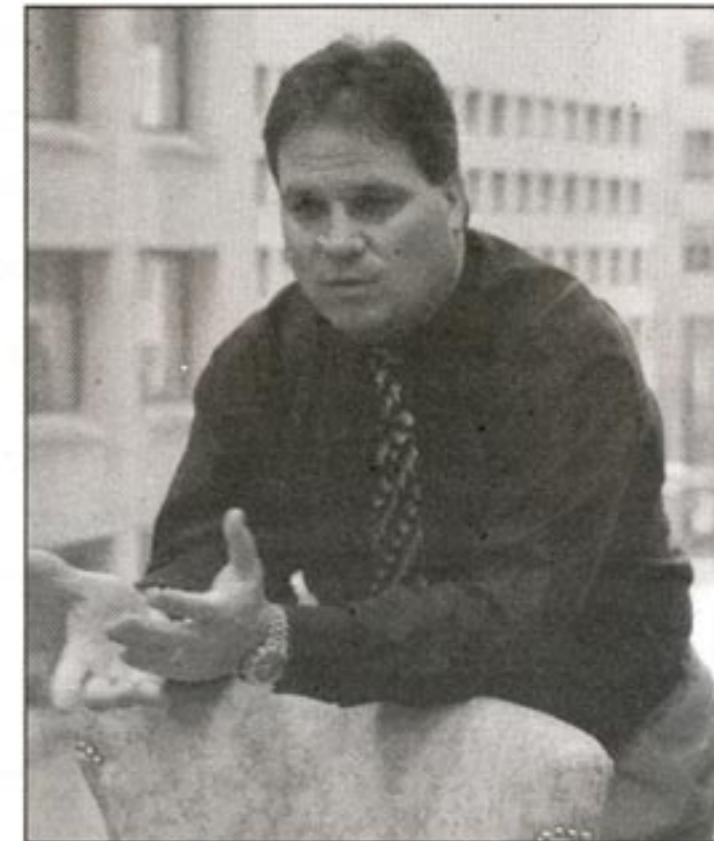
"There's been a lot said that I don't live in the city and that I'm not a regular rider of the TTC, but I've grown up on the TTC, I still ride the TTC, and I've got 200 employees who ride the TTC," O'Brien said.

He said studying this issue includes riding the TTC through different communities at different times to understand the experience from the perspectives of the employees and riders.

O'Brien added any charter of rights has to include the responsibilities of riders.

"We'll be looking at everything, not just how we're dealt with from an employee standpoint, but how the riders view the TTC and how the riders treat the TTC," he said.

The union will also be conducting



Tessie Sanc

Steve O'Brien is chair of the TTC customer service panel.

forums with customers to get a better understanding of the experience on both sides, said media relations consultant for the TTC union, Bill Reno.

This initiative is separate from the panel.

O'Brien said the panel's report is intended to be released in June.

Alumnus revamps Sony Centre

Interior work on downtown entertainment complex

PHIL HEIDENREICH
NEWS REPORTER

A distinguished Humber grad is playing a major role in giving Toronto's Sony Centre for the Performing Arts a facelift.

Darius Mosun, 41, the CEO of the architectural design and manufacturing company, Soheil Mosun Ltd., graduated from Humber with a manufacturing engineering diploma in 1990 and a business management diploma in 1999.

"Our current project is to assist in the renovation and restoration of all the bronze doors, entranceways, railings and wood paneling in the auditorium," said Mosun.

The company has gained international recognition for projects such as the CN Tower elevators, the Peace Tower observation deck windows in Ottawa and the gates of the Prophet's Mosque in Saudi Arabia.

Mosun's German immigrant parents founded the company in 1973.

Mosun said its reputation is based



Phil Heidenreich

Darius Mosun (left) with his father Soheil Mosun.

partly on their attention to detail, something his father, Soheil, said his son possessed since his days at Humber.

"He has intense focus and really plans things," said the elder Mosun. "He even approaches cleaning his car like a chess game."

Mosun's work with the company has earned him a spot on the Humber alumni wall of distinction.

Alumni selected for the wall are chosen from past Humber nominees for the Premier's Awards said director

of alumni relations, Julie Castle.

Mosun said his company's vast portfolio of projects ranging from awards, to park benches and custom work of all sorts, relies on the ability to conceptualize a client's vision.

"It's visual music," said Mosun. "People use their home or vehicle as a way of expressing themselves so it involves understanding what message they're trying to convey."

Mosun who started working for the company at the age of 12, said his

engineering program fit perfectly with his work both educationally and geographically.

"I was taking what I was learning in the morning at Humber, applying it at work in the afternoon, and then realizing the results the next day."

Mosun resides in western Toronto with his wife and two daughters while his company is a short drive from North Campus.

The Sony Centre's renovations are scheduled to be completed in the fall.

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