

REFLECTIONS ON 2023

In general, has 2023 been a better year than 2022?

58.9% Yes

41.1% No

Out of 5, rate the performance of the 2023-2024 Board of Stewards

1

3.76

5

Describe your 2023 in one word

hassle
bleep
improvement
ai
recovering
chaotic
nuanced
failure
idiosyncratic
awful
revitalizing
innovative

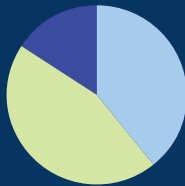
$$\text{score} = \frac{100 \cdot \# \text{ of very satisfied votes} + 50 \cdot \# \text{ of somewhat satisfied votes}}{\# \text{ of total votes}}$$

(satisfied % / somewhat satisfied % / unsatisfied % / index score / last year's score)

How satisfied are you with your own performance (in all aspects of life) in 2023?

(39.3 % / 45 % / 15.7 % / 61.8 / 64.8)

Decreased from 2022



How satisfied are you with the performance of Canada as a country in 2023?

(9.9 % / 45.4 % / 44.7 % / 32.6 / 51.9)

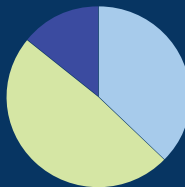
Decreased from 2022



How satisfied are you with UCC's performance as a school in 2023?

(37.3 % / 48.6 % / 14.1 % / 61.6 / 58.6)

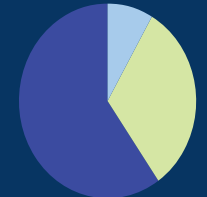
Increased from 2022



How satisfied are you with the progress of humanity in 2023?

(8.5 % / 31.9 % / 59.6 % / 24.5 / 39.5)

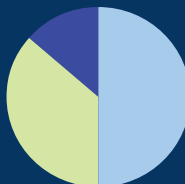
Decreased from 2022



Are you satisfied with your social life in general over the past year?

(50 % / 36.4 % / 13.6 % / 68.2 / 67.0)

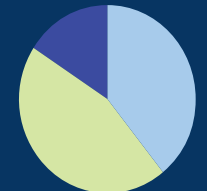
Increased from 2022



Are you satisfied with your co-curricular pursuits over the past year?

(59 % / 29.5 % / 11.5 % / 73.7 / 68.8)

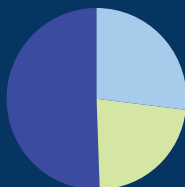
Increased from 2022



Are you satisfied with the amount of sleep you have been getting over the past year?

(39.3 % / 45 % / 50.4 % / 38.3 / 37.0)

Increased from 2022



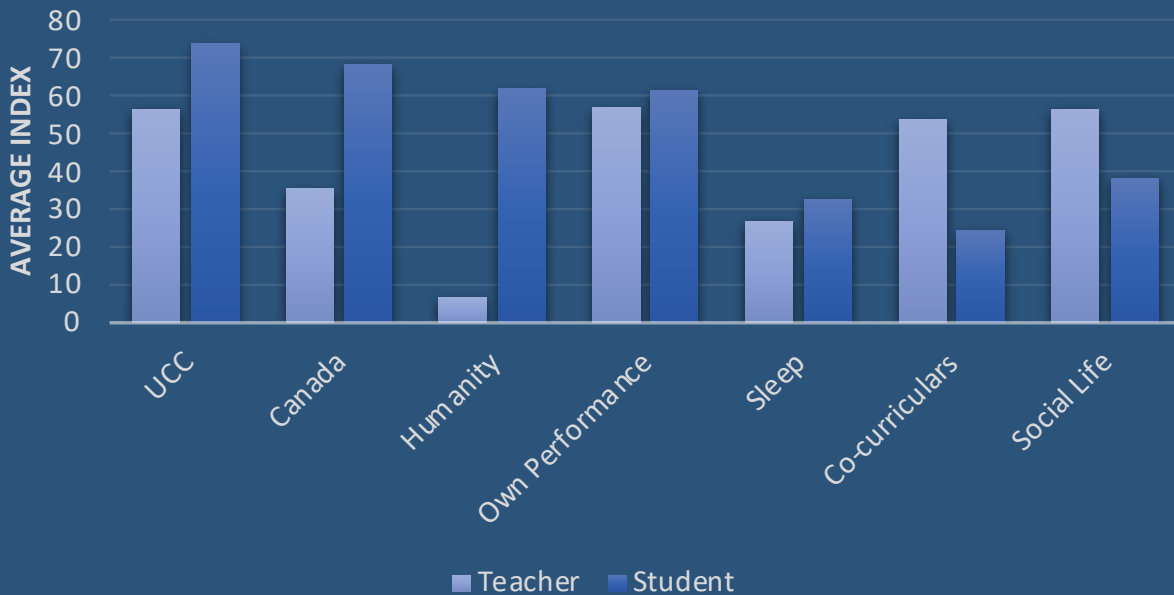
Summary	Index Scores	
	2023	2022
1. Co-Curricular Performance	73.7	68.8
2. Social Life	68.2	67.0
3. Personal Performance	61.8	64.8
4. UCC Performance	61.6	58.6
5. Canada Performance	32.6	51.9
6. Progress of Humanity	24.5	39.5
7. Sleep	38.3	37.0

All About Teachers

2023 in One Word

woke
 complicated stressful
 chaos transitional
 divisive tough unpredictable
 tour dubious interesting
 shocking harsh
 archived eras nauseating
 hectic unstable

Teachers vs. Students



Most Memorable Event of 2023

Rowing at the Welland Regatta

Becoming a dad

Global disasters and wars

New Years Resolutions

Listen to my conscience and change my actions accordingly...

Leafs win the Stanley Cup

Continue to be honest and integral

Additional Comments

Work too many hours to even have an outside of school life to be satisfied with.

Keep up the good work!

All About Students

Most Memorable Event of 2023

The sleep I got.

Upper better than prep

Going to texas for the best hockey tournament and getting the most points on my team.

WINNING A HIGHLY RANKED SOCCER TOURNAMENT AND WINNING AGAINST THE BEST TEAM IN ONTARIO

Hockey Tournament

Bench 225

Stewards Elections

My first Vex Robotics Competition

Winning a soccer tournament

I would say that the most memorable event of 2023 was A-Day. As a Year 12 student it was really important to me because it was my last A-Day as a student at the college. For 2024 I hope to continue to get involved and learn new things.

Lando Norris had multiple podiums during the 2023 Formula Season

physics class

Resolution: Drink more hot chocolate

Twelfth Night performance in December!

Visiting Israel in March of 2023

Standing up to headaches in the English Department

UD

irrelevant talent show ordeal

benching 205

Getting into my first University

Relay for life(2023)

A-Day

My trip to washington

2k

The emergence of the term "rizz"

Rowing 6k

OceanGate crash LOL

The UofT tournament that those of us on the U16A and U16B Basketball teams were lucky enough to get to attend.

Talent show

New Year's Resolutions

Survive the crippling depression that January and ib exams will bring

To win more

My new year resolution is to dunk (I'm so close)

I hope to continue my goals of getting better at hockey and school throughout 2024

Start sleeping more, start actually studying for tests, stop starting summatives one night before they're due, improve at the language I need to learn for school, and earn, or at least come close to, an academic tie.

Continue to be Honest and Integral

Stop Procrastinating

Be healthier take time for myself

I'll repeat it in 297

Reduce Procrastination

Additional Comments

I hate the IB

The best school I've ever went to, so much to do

Fix school bathrooms please. I see graffiti and pee/poo on the ground everytime I go to a stall

lets go baby 2024 Wooooooo!

fortnite battlebass

TARAN HOOEY AND SACHIN RASTOGI ARE THE GOATS

I love hot chocolate machine

I am rarely satisfied- if one is satisfied one has no reason to continue.

We all need to go back to the meadows

BILL SUN IS HIM

From January to December, I felt that I have grown so much

Can UCC PLEASE fix the swimming pool? Compared to other schools, our swimming program is actually incredibly good, however WHY IS OUR POOL SO SMALL!!!! Can UCC please put in some budget to increase or give better facilities for the SWIMMING POOL??? We have 2 amazing hockey rinks, but we cannot afford to get a simple 25m pool that students can use. INVEST IN SOME HEATING FOR THE POOL!!!!

I have been dying of pain everytime I enter the pool water, its literally negative degrees!!!! Give us 1 better pool or at least some heating for the pool!!!!

Make the school better and focus on winning instead of losing every single time theres a game.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my feedback.

Bring back LD mural

2023 was a year filled with challenges, adventures and crushing defeats. Wouldn't have it any other way!

Canada has become a joke of a country and I feel like UCC's old competitiveness and over all spirit has been reduced and shut down more and more. The school does not have its old feeling of strength and competitiveness. And finally the curriculum in some classes are too political, Example in Issues in Canadian Geography we had a whole class about the green belt politics. This should not be taught in school.

Sadly, I feel as if locally society may be going downhill where ideals are taken to the extreme. Personally though, I feel individuals are progressing within themselves while aspects of society begin to "change".

I heard that UCC was previously investing in a swimming pool, and they haven't decided on building on, FOR 20 YEARS!!!! We have 100 million dollars worth of budget, yet our swimming pool can't compete with various public schools in NORTH YORK!!!! Bring back LD mural

More sleep please

THE YEAR THAT WAS: 2023 IN RETROSPECT

DEVLIN MONIZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

How do students compare with teachers in terms of overall satisfaction and well-being? What changes can we make to better the school? Was 2023 a better year than 2022? From hating the IB to never being satisfied, Convergence's year-end review results may surprise you. Not everything always appears as it seems on the surface, but when allowed to reflect anonymously, the truth almost always comes out.

The Year-in-Review, initiated in 2020, is a compelling Convergence tradition. It is a method of measuring the general satisfaction and performance of the student body inside and outside of UCC. Students can reflect, provide earnest feedback, and look toward the new year. This latest issue has expanded to include the voices of teachers and staff, important members of the UCC community.

The survey was sent out right before the winter break and contained twelve questions, eliciting thought-provoking qualitative and quantitative responses. We received 143 responses, fifteen of which were from teachers, an overall decrease from the 162 responses last year. Nevertheless, it is a big enough sample size to accurately represent the UCC community.

Students are often asked to reflect and advocate for changes they want to make. We are programmed to think this way in discussion-based classes, clubs and student councils. We wear our hearts on our sleeves and are often more blunt and unafraid when discussing UCC and life in general. However, teachers remain behind the scenes, and their views are a little more censored and hidden than the majority. They remain positive to encourage students to work hard and have fun, yet do they really feel this way?

Teachers on average had more negative views than the students. To describe 2023, they included words such as "chaos," "hec-

tic," and "harsh." These words may not explain personal satisfaction but rather external conflicts. Yet, as we head towards the main categorical questions, teachers had lower results in every level of satisfaction and performance except for social life and co-curriculars. This is particularly surprising, as you always assume high school students to be in the prime social and co-curricular standing of their lives. However, students are bound to more pressures and expectations than teachers, which can push down their self-esteem.

The big difference between student and teacher votes may reflect how our views develop as we grow up. Teachers also have a higher degree of responsibility and influence, and less time to relax which would play a factor in their responses.

Taking a broader look at the whole issue, the results make sense. When asked directly, most people believe 2023 was an improvement from 2022. As we all know too well, the pandemic has had a crushing effect on the school community. As we continue to move away from this time and school starts to go back to its old ways, people should be more have more fun and be more satisfied. Right?

The more specific questions garner antithetical responses. The average index for the students for the year 2022 was 55.4, which is considerably higher than the 51.5 received this year. In the direct improvement question, people see how far we have come from the online pandemic-related times and appreciate 2023 as a step towards normality. However, unfortunately, our surveys are not immune to comparative biases. In 2022, there was a steep increase in satisfaction due to the reprehensible online school that preceded it. Every category's index score increased from 2021. However in 2023, although there was a general improvement, the slow increase merited lesser satisfaction.

There were also more increases in categories than decreases since 2022 - demon-

strating that the decreases were much greater. Aggravations in global conflict is likely a main factor for the steep decrease in satisfaction in humanity and Canada, as both categories had index score decreases of nearly twenty points, while no other section had changes of over ten points.

Canada specifically, had the greatest decrease with an index score nearly twenty points lower. This is not particularly surprising. In the news, we see augmented hatred due to local hate crimes that stem from the Israel-Hamas conflict. We also see frequent attack campaigns based on our upcoming Federal election. Our views of Canada can change very quickly. This was the question with the biggest increase in index score 2021 and 2022. It will be interesting to see if it decreases even lower as we head closer to the 2025 Federal elections.

On the other hand, the greatest increase in index score from 2022 was UCC's performance, so we would like to commend the school for its great improvements in bringing full athletics back, extending co-curricular activities, and employing more school spirit through activities such as Holidays at Lonsdale and A-day.

Lastly, it is important to incorporate sources of error. Of course, there are different people at the school each year, including a new class of year eight's, who have different experiences than the rest of us, not to mention that the leaving class is also no longer at the school. The addition of teachers lowered the average scores, and many did not respond.

When reading this information, it is important to reflect on the past, but not dwell on it. The index scores, albeit lower than last year, were still positive and reflect a willingness to improve and make external change. In 2024, we hope to continue to progress as a school, and that improvement will become evident in our next year-end survey.

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