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## Looking for updated complaint numbers

By IRYNA RYBCHAK **Staff Writer** 

While more attention than ever is being paid to sexual violence on postsecondary campuses across North America, Niagara College lacks up-to-date statistics on how many students have made complaints in recent years.

According to Hafsah Shaikh, the college's student rights and responsibilities officer, amendments made to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act requires post-secondary institutions to report "information about sexual violence to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development as well as to report on the support available to students who experience sexual violence."

However, Niagara College has nothing to make public.

"At this time, we (the college) do not have recent statistics and are awaiting ministry clarifications on reporting requirements," said Shaikh.

When asked why the college does not have recent statistics, Shaikh responded: "At the moment, I don't have the statistics reported within the last three years."

Shaikh and the Campus Safety, Health Wellness and Accessibility Services is the first to speak to if you

## KITCHEN PREP

Niagara College culinary syoung chefs ready to take on the world in two different competitions



Leanne Breukelman (left) and Rafael Quintana (center), second-year Culinary Management students, plate appetizers with program co-ordinator Chef Olaf Mertens (right). Story on Page 2 Continued on Page 2 | PHOTO BY DANIELA VILANOVA

## **Cost of** strike at \$4 million: **College**

By IRYNA RYBCHAK Staff Writer

Niagara College was left with black ink in its financial ledgers, following a five-week strike last fall.

Niagara News has learned the college saved \$4.27 million during the strike, while paying out just over \$4 million in strike-related expenses.

That means the college benefited to the tune of about \$230,000.

Last week, Michael Audibert, co-ordinator for the Board of Governors, said, "this number includes the salary/compensation savings from the strike (\$4.27 million) minus the tuition refunds and other strikerelated expenses and lost revenue (\$4.04 million)."

In the Jan. 26 edition, Michael Wales, senior communications officer at Niagara College, couldn't detail the amount of money saved and spent on the strike.

He said at the time, "in terms of a surplus, applications for the fund will be accepted until April 27, so it's too early to predict how much will be paid out."

A spokesman for the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) Local 242, declined comment about the savings and expenditures related to the

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## Tory leadership race makes pitstop in Niagara



Caroline Mulroney. PHOTO BY BETH AUDET

Doug Ford and Caroline Mulroney attended local rallies this week, seeking support to take over leadership of the Ontario PC party following the resignation of former leader Patrick Brown after allegations of sexual misconduct.

See stories and photos by Beth Audet and Lisa Brown on Pages 8, 9.



Doug Ford. PHOTO BY BETH AUDE