

Feted film

'Sinners' makes history with 16 Oscar nominations **B5**

Back in town

Marner awaits boobirds in first game in Toronto with Vegas **S1**



PROUDLY CANADIAN OWNED SINCE 1892

TORONTO STAR

WEATHER HIGH -12 C | FLURRIES | MAP A16

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

Plagued with delays

TTC data shows Finch West LRT slowed by struggles in winter weather



R.J. JOHNSTON/TORONTO STAR

New line was delayed an average of 2.5 hours per day in its first three weeks, according to delay logs published by the TTC.

ANDY TAKAGI
TRANSPORTATION REPORTER

The city's new \$3.5-billion Finch West LRT was delayed the equivalent of two and a half hours a day during its first three weeks of operation — problems overwhelmingly caused by the line's inability to handle inclement weather.

That's the snapshot offered by new delay logs published by the TTC and the city, which show the line was delayed by a total of 3,582

minutes across parts — and at times all — of the line last month after it opened on Dec. 7.

Track switch failures accounted for 764 minutes of those delays, including on Boxing Day when a switch issue kept the line out of service for nearly six hours during a heavy snowfall. That was topped this month when snow blanketed the city on Jan. 15, shutting down the LRT for a day and a half.

Switches allow the train to change to another track. There are several

switches along the Finch West LRT, and in winter weather, those switches need heaters to melt snow or ice in order to operate.

The electric switch heaters on Line 6 have been a source of trouble, freezing up and causing delays during a snowy winter.

According to the TTC data, the Finch West LRT has also struggled with brake and equipment issues, communication system failures and HVAC problems.

SEE FINCH, A6

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U.S. RELATIONS

PM lauds Canadian values as tension escalates

Carney touts unity as Trump rescinds peace board invite

ALEX BALLINGALL
DEPUTY OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF

QUEBEC CITY Facing American blowback after his major foreign policy speech in Davos, Switzerland, this week, Prime Minister Mark Carney delivered a clarion call for national unity on Thursday, praising Canadian "coexistence" and shared prosperity — and his government's vision to protect it.

His second sweeping address of the week took Canadian values as its theme, leaning heavily on the shared history of French and English Canada as he spoke from inside the fortified Quebec City citadel to kick off a two-day planning session with his cabinet ministers.

But Thursday night, U.S. President Donald Trump revoked his invitation for Canada to join his "Board of Peace," created to preserve the fragile ceasefire between Hamas and Israel, and oversee the redevelopment of the war-torn Gaza Strip.

"Dear Prime Minister Carney," Trump wrote in a social media post. "Please let this Letter serve to represent that the Board of Peace is withdrawing its invitation to you regarding Canada's joining, what will be, the most prestigious Board of Leaders ever assembled, at any time."

The Prime Minister's Office did not immediately respond when asked about Trump's statement, which did not explain why.

SEE CABINET, A4

TORONTO ICON

He sells seashell car of local folklore

Man wants tchotchke-covered van to go to buyer who will 'keep it intact'

LIBAAN OSMAN
STAFF REPORTER

Right before Christmas, Albino Carreira decided he was going to part ways with his most prized possession.

Tucked away in his garage, his 1993 Plymouth Voyager — completely covered in seashells and plastic bugs, from roof to bumper — has been affectionately known for the last three decades as the "Bug Van" or "Seashell Van," an unusual and eye-catching vehicle that has

become an unofficial landmark in the 80-year-old man's west end Toronto neighbourhood.

But after a number of health setbacks, including a second stroke last week that has left him hospitalized, Carreira, along with his family, has made the difficult decision to put it up sale.

However, they have one condition for the future buyer of the minivan and its eclectic set of glued-on figurines and knick-knacks: "Keep it intact."

SEE VAN, A8



RICHARD LAUTENS/TORONTO STAR

Albino Carreira's 1993 Plymouth Voyager is covered in knick-knacks from roof to bumper.

INSIDE

Murder trial hears of insults

'Overbearing' would-be adoptive mom admits to berating boy **A9**

WILLIAM KENTRIDGE'S film series

SELF-PORTRAIT AS A COFFEE POT

Presented by Koffler Arts, with work from the William Kentridge Studio

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