

STAR EXCLUSIVE

Weighing a run

City hall veteran Chow confirms she's considering mayoral bid **A3**

SPORTS

Dream finish

Toronto Six beat Minnesota in OT to claim Isobel Cup **S1**



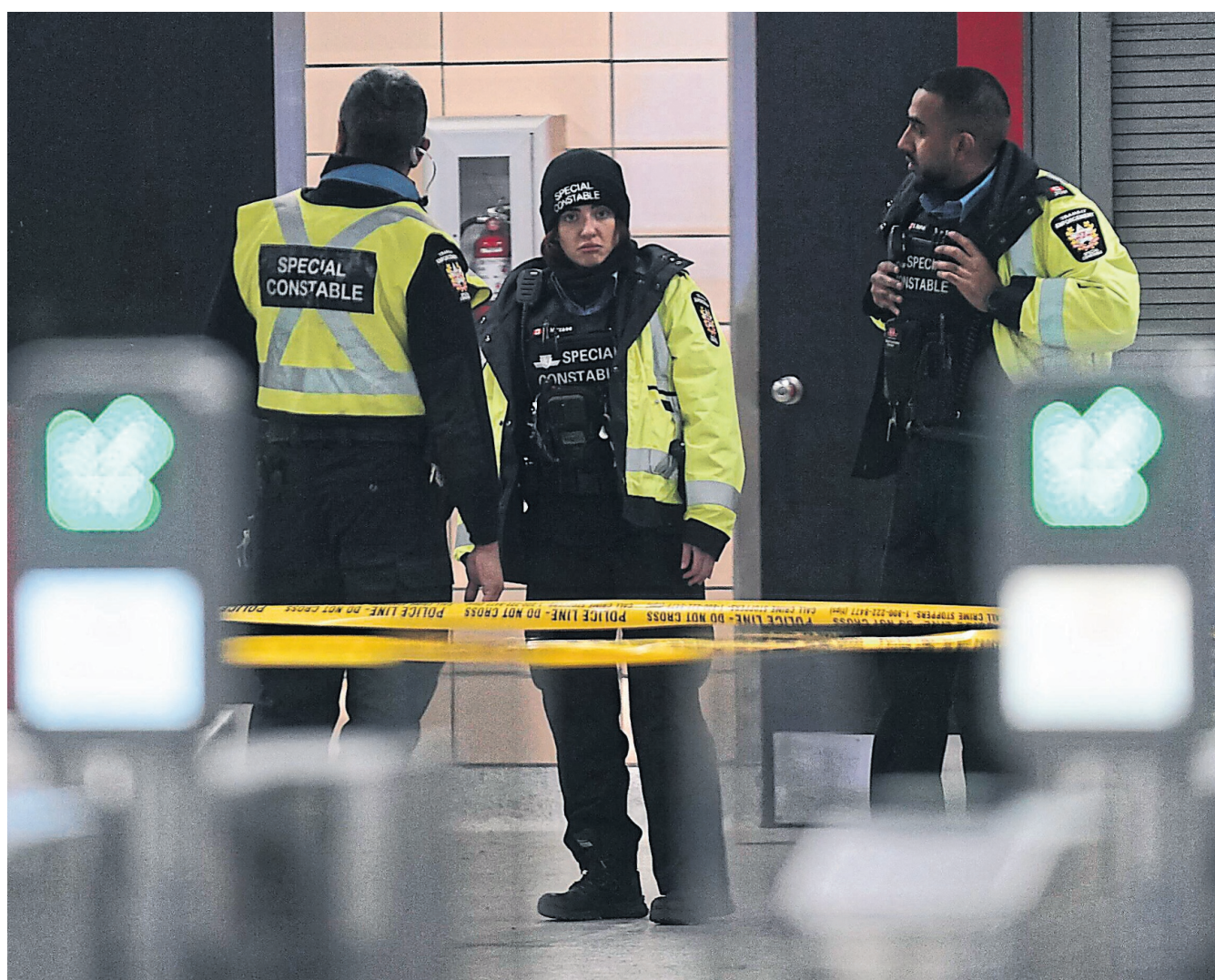
TORONTO STAR

WEATHER HIGH 5 C | MIXED PRECIPITATION | MAP A14

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023

'HE WAS LOVED. HE HAD DREAMS'

Mother in shock after teen stabbed to death in random subway attack



ARLYN MCADOREY

Gabriel Magalhaes, 16, was killed in what police said was a random and unprovoked attack inside Keele station on Saturday evening. A 22-year-old man of no fixed address was later arrested and charged with first-degree murder.

DHRITI GUPTA AND RICHARD WARNICA
STAFF REPORTERS

On Saturday night, Andrea Magalhaes heard reports on the news of a man who was stabbed at Keele subway station, but she didn't think it could be her son Gabriel, who had been out with friends.

"I thought, he's not a man, he's a kid," said Andrea, who is a nurse at Mount Sinai Hospital. "You never think it's going to happen to you, right?"

But when Gabriel, 16, didn't answer her calls or messages later that night, panic started to set in.

Andrea left the front door unlocked in case her son forgot his key, and lay awake looking at her phone until detectives knocked on her door. They confirmed the worst: Gabriel had been stabbed in the chest three times that night.

The attack, which police say was random and unprovoked, took place just before 9 p.m. on the lower level of the busy station.

Police said on Sunday they believe the victim was attacked while sitting on a bench across from a bank of pay phones near the escalators up to Keele's westbound subway platform.

SEE ATTACK, A2



“He was sitting peacefully on a bench ... When is it going to stop, this senseless violence?”

ANDREA MAGALHAES, MOTHER OF GABRIEL, LEFT

SMARTTRACK

How Tory's promise went off the rails

With ex-mayor gone, can radically reduced transit plan survive?

ALYSHAH HASHAM
CITY HALL BUREAU

It's 2014 and would-be mayor John Tory is planting lawn signs across Toronto emblazoned with his signature transit plan: SmartTrack, a 53-kilometre above-ground "London-style" rail line from Mississauga to Markham, with 22 stations and frequent two-way service. It would cost \$8 billion to build, be ready in just seven years — and, as it turned out, was enough to help win an election.

In 2023, you wouldn't even know SmartTrack is still happening.

Only five stations remain of Tory's grand plan, sliced and diced over the years with one key section deemed impossible to build, another subsumed by the Scarborough subway saga, and others made redundant due to the province's transit plans, already in motion.

Nearly a decade after it was first promised, not one new station has been built (the earliest one could be completed is August 2027, and all the stations have now been delayed from their 2026 opening dates).

Toronto's city council is now facing some tough choices due to massive cost overruns that could lead to cutting a station, or even re-evaluating the whole thing in light of a much-changed transit landscape.

In the meantime, the city could be on the hook for millions in penalties per month should it blow past a contractor commitment date of April 5 to start work on Bloor-Lansdowne station and fail to urgently secure \$234 million from the province to cover the new costs.

SEE TRANSIT, A6

There will be another pandemic. And when it comes, they'll be ready

We ask four scientists how Canada can prepare for the next global threat

MEGAN OGILVIE
HEALTH REPORTER

It's been 36 months since the world plunged into a pandemic.

And though we're still in its grip, with no clear end in sight, scientists are working hard to prepare for the next global threat.

They know another pandemic pathogen will emerge. Where and when — and what exactly will cause the initial outbreak — are among the many things they're trying to predict.

"There will be another pandemic.

Like death and taxes, it's an absolute certainty," says Dr. Allison McGeer, an infectious disease specialist and professor of laboratory medicine and pathobiology at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health. "It could happen any time between tomorrow and 30 years from now."

No matter the timeline, it's clear preparing for it can't wait. Evidence is building that climate change, combined with our ever-greater encroachment into wildlife habitat, is fuelling the risk of viruses spilling from animals into humans.

Many scientists caution that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is far from the worst-case scenario.

To mark the world heading into its fourth COVID year, the Star asked four Canadian scientists about their own pandemic research and their roles in leading the country's response to the next threat.

Each scientist provides a snapshot of their research. They also make the case that sound science is only one key component of pandemic preparedness.

SEE PANDEMIC, A8

FULL INDEX A2 OR0



BUSINESS

Paying the price for inflation



Rising costs, stagnant wages leave workers falling behind. Experts offer tips on how to fill the income gap **B1**