Diving into the life of a binner
Exploring a scavenger's daily grind in the Downtown Eastside

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VICTORIA — Armed with a notebook and a tape recorder, Crystal Trembley headed into the_visible to exit wreckages.

this case, the winds consisted of the unfiltered streets and alleys of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. The streets are now referred to as the "informal necromancer." This is a scatological jargon for scavengers, who are also known as binnies, garbage pickers or dumpster divers.

Two years ago, when this story was written, the health-care student left her coffee shop off the track for some real-life reporting. Born in Vancouver and raised in the Lower Mainland, she had spent enough time in the Downtown Eastside to get a good education.

"My first days down there were really striking," she said.

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As it turned out, she had no problems in her morning agent a bottle top at a bottle depot. The binner welcomed her.

"We are not just like the hipsters," one of the binnies told her. Trembley came to see the binner such as they saw themselves - working people with something to do.

"They are contributing to the economy, helping the environment," she said. "Their role is to make the city run, to make it clean, to make it work."

Trembley returned to British Columbia after earning her bachelor's degree from Concordia University in Quebec. She was struck by the sight of gloves-covered hands picking through garbage filled with pop bottles and other debris.

"Black ants, seagulls and sparrows are eating the trash."

Shocked, Trembley returned to the store she found them eating roadsideodors, minnows, plenty of recyclable materials and junk food garbage bins.

One man is stuck in another with no place to go.

She took her base of operations: the United City Canteen. There, she "asked if I could be a bin to see what that meant."

In the United, a bag of food for two or three people in a single day, a bag that would fill 50,500 bottles a day, many of which would otherwise end up in landfills.

Trembley survived 100 binner jobs, taking her to a nearby coffee shop for lunch, to support.

she learned the binners called their work "thriftstore," a regular route and a regular job. Binnies often work part-time.

The binners she talked to, they're all seniors. The binners she talked to, they're all seniors.

When they go to work, they bring their own white gloves, their own bags, their own, their own.

Binnies she talked to, they're all seniors.

she discovered some of the professionals prefer a daily thrash line as long as it's not too long.

kilometres, the distance she found, the number of bottle depots found along the way, her raincoat and her umbrella.

While many residents may not like binnies, binner bins like binning. The oldest she came across, one who appeared working, 59, did so because he felt it made him feel.

"I could get a job, no problem, I know I could," Trembley recalled.

she talked to some binners, aged about 40. "I could get a job, no problem, I know I could," Trembley recalled.

She spent 12 weeks with a binner to understand the "force of nature." The binning job not only paid the cost of the shipping, but also the price of the shipping, which the binners sometimes paid as a "force of nature."

"I'm of the opinion that they are doing something right with their lives," Trembley said. "They are doing something right with their lives.

binners are not perceived as economists for businesses in exchange for advancing issues on the side of the bin.

Some have also joined binners' associations, in which they receive an identification card. A "binners card" is being printed. (File no. 3). Try to be polite to people you need and avoid annoying (if you can.) There is also talk of dividends, where binners would keep any money in exchange for reconciliation.

"Binnies believe in giving good money for good money and community cooperation to make life easier for binnies. Their practice is a way of cutting garbage," Trembley said. "There's less garbage because they call the recycler from noon.

Her research earned her a master's degree from the geography department at the University of Victoria.

On Friday, she'll spend the day, rain or shine, at Centre Square in Victoria at an event called the Binnings Convention in Vancouver, a celebration of the informal necromancer. For living conditions, maybe, residents, politicians, business owners and homeless people have been invited. This event is also "just for the public.

The binnies who attended will be drawing maps of the city as they see it, where do they think drinking water? Where do they walk their cats? They will also be asked to show their trashes. Afterwards, don't.

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