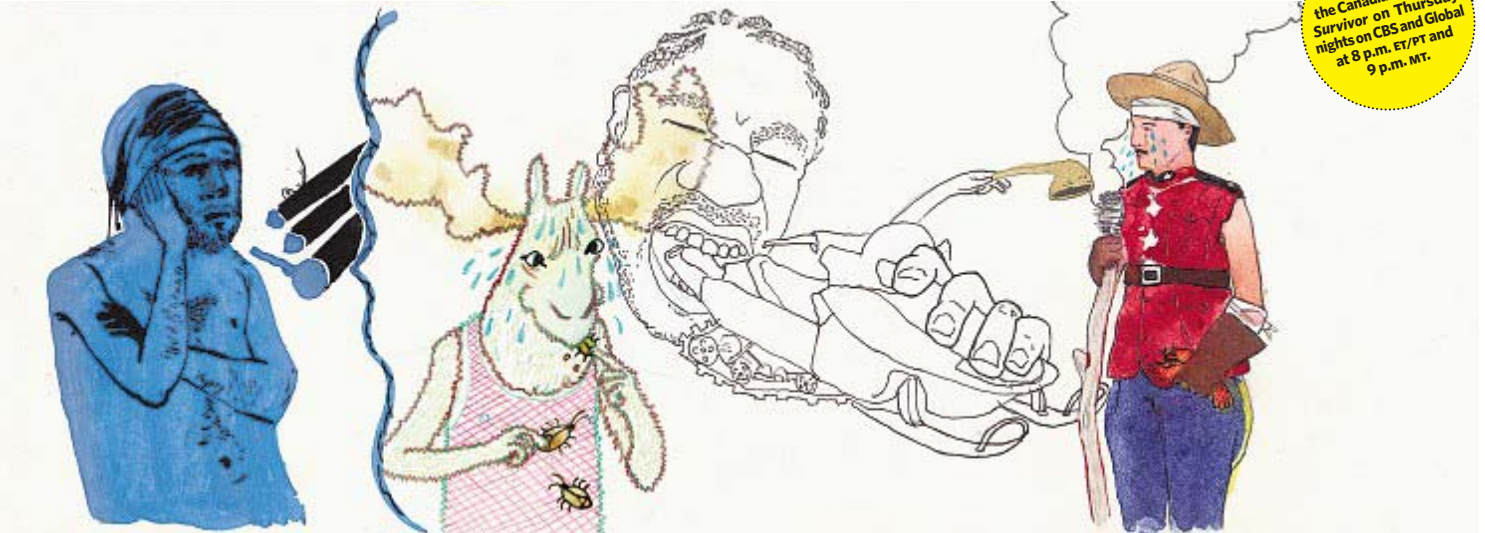


Canucks vote for their turn on the Survivor island

The Canadian tribe, led by Ian Mackenzie, has spoken: we want our 15 minutes on reality television

ILLUSTRATION: TEAM MACHO



AS CANADIANS, WE never have to worry about getting voted off the island. We're not even allowed on. Despite massive Canadian popularity of reality shows like *Survivor* and *The Amazing Race* (which premieres tonight, see next page for details), Canadians just aren't welcome on most American reality shows. One man is campaigning to change that.

Meet Ian Mackenzie. He's a 24-year-old Vancouver student who's so crazy for *Survivor*, he's started an initiative

to get the networks and Mark Burnett to give Canucks a chance on the show. He's been gathering signatures and garnering support for his cause on his website (www.letmeonsurvivor.com) since last December, and as of last weekend, his online petition had already received 2,150 signatures. It seems Mackenzie is not alone in his desire to become a semi-starving, sand-flea bitten, maggot munching castaway.

"I'm sure you've seen the website where I say it's not about the mon-

ey and it's not about fame. All that is true," he says. "The big draw of *Survivor* is the way they put people in an area, put them in certain conditions and see how they react. That's interesting. The draw for me is psychological."

Although Mackenzie's petition is *Survivor*-centric, many of his supporters are more interested in getting on *The Amazing Race*. Mackenzie estimates that some 30 per cent of the people who've signed his petition so far are *Race* hopefuls. While he's happy to have

the support of *The Amazing Race* fans and watches it occasionally, Mackenzie says the show's not for him. "I've done a lot of backpacking and people are always asking me, why don't you like *The Amazing Race*?" he says. "It's not that I don't like it. It's just that I never really got into it, in part because (it's) kinda what I do anyway, just going backpacking and stuff. So I think I've never been as interested because I've never needed that opportunity."

eTalk Daily recently revealed that

Burnett is considering an all-Canadian version of *Survivor* (sort of like *Canadian Idol*), but Mackenzie says he'd rather be on the original. Even so, he admits, "I'll have to take what I can get."

Mackenzie's petition is set to close on Oct. 1, after which time he'll take up the issue with CBS. In addition to the signatures, he's already talked with nine or 10 past survivors who are in his corner as well. "They're giving me the thumbs up," he says. "I'm hopeful."

— JENNIFER SELK/DOSE

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4. No cover ever.
5. Sunrise.



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