

Design Portfolio

Graphic design, branding, UX/UI, and more!

CAITLYN GASS | CAITLYNSCREATIVITY O in





2024



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Introduction

Intent as an Artist

Caitlyn is a multi-disciplinary designer and illustrator focused on concept art, with a specialty in character design.

Based out of Halifax, NS, her work is inspired by nature's bright colors, plussize artists, and the many women in her family. Caitlyns love for a character's story helps bring her projects to life.





About my own brand

Caitlynscreativity was created to encompass all the different ways I create. I wanted it to easily fit art and design together in a fun cohesive way, that represented my artist statement and personality.

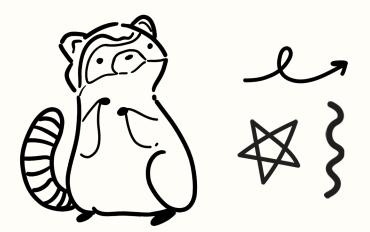
Colors



Iconography







Characters/Art

Fonts

This is a example of headers...
All Round Gothic Bold

This is a example of descriptions...

Proxima Nova Regular

Application Example





My Process

Typically, especially if starting from scratch for a design project, this is the process I follow from start to finish. In this portfolio you will find highlights from each stage varying from project to project.

Stage 1: Research

- Competition
- Stats around the topic
- Market value
- Gaps where something could be useful
- How brands exist in that market
- Is there obvious themes

Stage 2: Defining Goals

- What are our main goals as a brand/ concept
- How will we accomplish this?
- What is our demographic?
- How will we stand out from competition?

Stage 3: Ideation

- Name and Branding ideas
- Does our image match our demographic?
- Sketches
 of logos,
 packaging, etc.

Stage 4: Refining

- Feedback
- Surveys, user testing, General audience feedback.
- Honing in on 1 specific concept
- 2-3 rounds revising concept into its final form

Stage 5: Final Product

- Final edits for brand/concept
- Package branding into
 PDF + assets in a .zip file
- Include
 examples of
 how these
 assets can be
 used

مرا





mending Matters

Combining book design, education, and sustainability.

Editorial Design

Graphic Design

UX/UI Design







A digital and printed guide for students around Nova Scotia to learn about basic mending techniques and existing programs in HRM. A collaborative capstone project for my final year in NSCAD University.

Branding

Logo

Primary



Secondary



Fonts

Gelica Semibold Italic

This is a example of headers...

This is a example of descriptions...

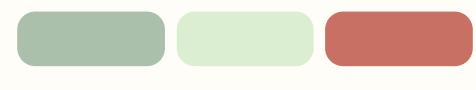
Articulat Cf Regular

Colors

Primary Colors



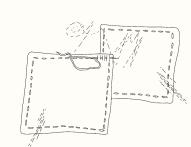
Secondary Colors

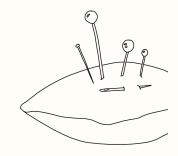


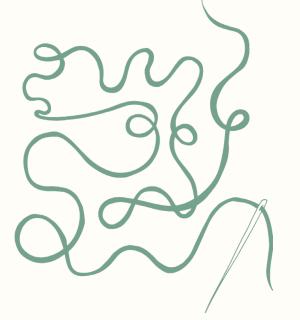
Accent Colors



Graphics





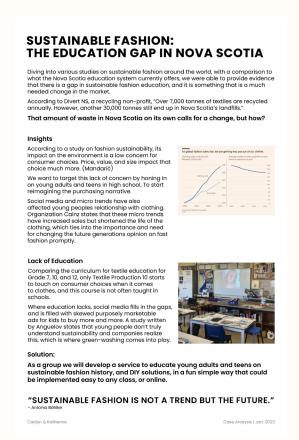


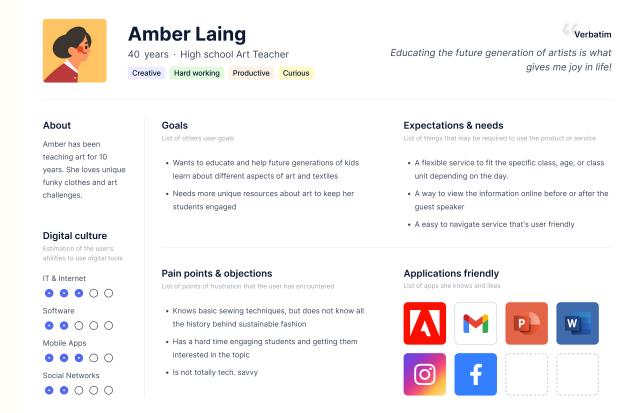
Imagery





Process behind the concept





Design brief to pitch our concept

Target Audience

Pain points our service will solve

connecting teens to our local

we will make it fun and approachable

textile community and their initiatives.

Lack of community, bridging the gap and

Lack of Nova Scotia specific information, we

How Ours is Different

existing initiatives concerning sustainable fashion

education. Our service is dedicated to engaging Nova Scotians with local initiatives in their

communities they might not have been aware

lifecycle of their current wardrobe and the reality

of textile waste in the province. The merging of

we think makes our concept unique to currently

Fashion" (https://fixing.fashion/collection.html)

mend and re-vamp existing clothing.

Design Brief

teaching Nova Scotians about extending the

sustainable fashion if they are interested.

Our main target audience are teens / young adults (aged 14-18) who would be

reading our guide and partaking in workshop activities to learn about initiatives. Currently students are using social media and online resources to learn about

these ideas and taking that local approach is what web.mit.edu/sustained/index.html#orgs) a

explaining terms involved with sustainable fashion
One existing service is One Army project "Fixing" and connecting visitors to action based projects

The benefits and our motivation
In the long run reducing their shopping

the amount of textile waste in NS.

consumption habits, gaining new sewing skills

fun, hip approach to teaching DIY techniques,

sustainable fashion choices. It's dedicated to

and resources. This is more of a global approach

delve into maintaining the longevity of our current

Caitlyn and Katherine | 3

nothing about Nova Scotia. We actually

but they focus on that service, nothing really about community sustainable initiatives, certainly

and consistent education on the subject will start to shift the over consumption habits, and change

Identifying a gap Building a persona based on targeted audience

We wanted Mending Matters to be easily accessible and understandable to teens and young adults, and be used in classrooms, So we had two target audiences to reach. Not only having a unifying brand that is recognizable but easily being able to transfer the branding from a printed booklet to a free online resource.

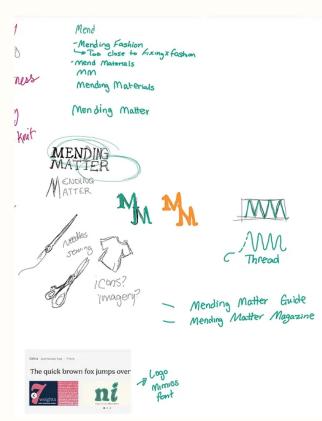
The entire process of how we built the website and the book, curated the content, and even just how we decided on the name, can be found in our blog here.



Brand Ideation



Brand ideation



Playing with alliteration and relating back to our original goal: How mending clothes is important.





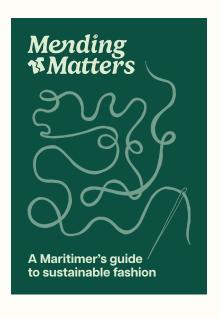
The branding process on its own can be messy, with lots of revising. Here I included a snapshot of the brainstorming and sketches created before landing on our finalized version. A much more indepth process can be found on the Mending Matters website.



Final Product









Mending Matters is an educational service that aims to teach teens and young adults in Nova Scotia how to mend and repair their clothing, while also educating them on existing sustainable fashion. Our service offers a range of skills and techniques to help people repair and upcycle their own clothing.





Mending Matters Website!





Rifai Nuts Rebrand

Looking at existing branding and putting a contemporary spin on it.

Package Design

Graphic Design





A redesign concept of the existing Rifai Nuts company, owned and operated in Lebanon. With the goal to look at how it performs in a North American market, and how to elevate that presence.

Branding

Brand Identity



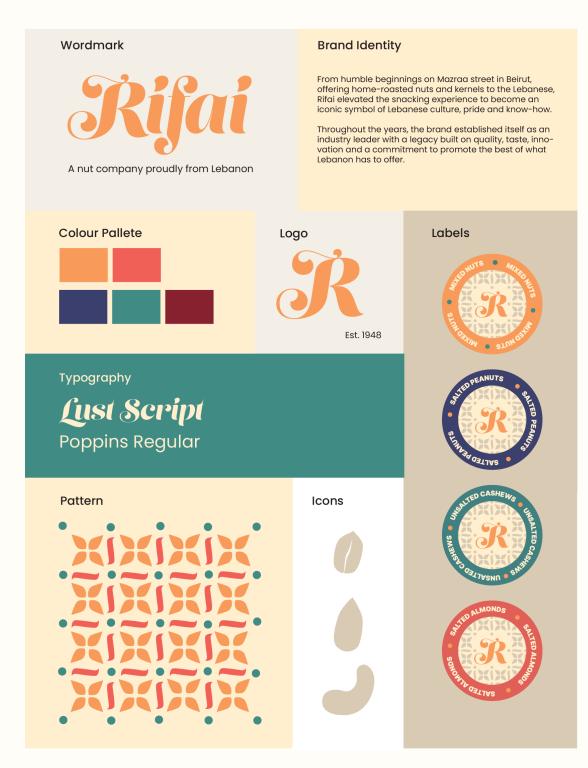








We came up with a system where the design and layout could be applied to all of their packages, unifying the packages, while also adding Lebanese elements.

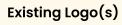


Final Brand Identity Package



Process behind the concept





Another key part of their brand that has inconsistencies is their logo, or in this case logos.

All of the logos included here are for their various demographics, and depend on if the product is being sold in Lebanon vs North America.

We wanted to simplify this aspect as well.





AL RIFAI



RIFAI

Inspiration

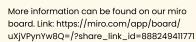
Looking at the opportunity to bring in more Lebanon heritage.

We looked at existing Lebanese packaging concepts, and noted key elements they all used, such as:

- Intricate patterns
- Bright lively colors
- Natural materials



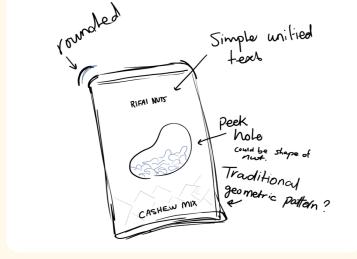












First sketches

Existing Branding/Logo(s)

Our Inspiration around Lebanese food packaging

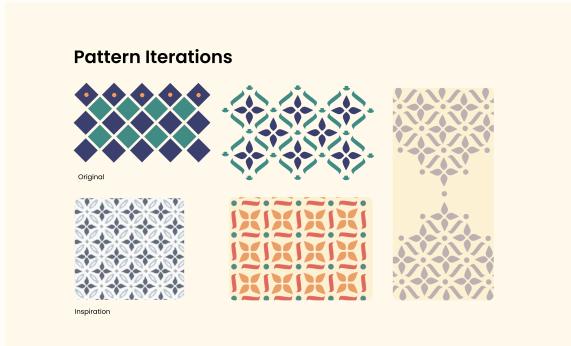
We looked at Rifais history, diving into their core values and how the brand represents itself around the world.

We thought it was interesting that their number one value is heritage, but it is not evident in its packages. They portray themselves very differently internationally vs in Lebanon.



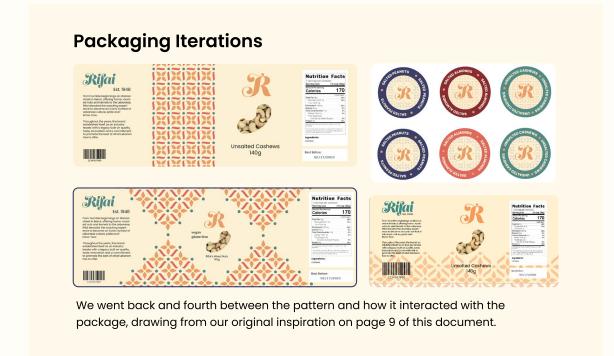
Brand Ideation





These are exerpts from my process book that goes into detail on how we re-designed the Rifai brand into something that could fit the North American Market a bit better.

To read more about our research into existing nut companies, pros and cons to redesigns, and our final designs, click here.







Final Product



This packaging redesign took a lot more than just a face-lift. We looked at their current goals/values, market insights, and over all brand image as different elements to address when redesigning Rifai. Producing four varieties of packaging designs.











Always Rebrand

Taking feminine hygiene packaging to a new sustainable level!

Package Design

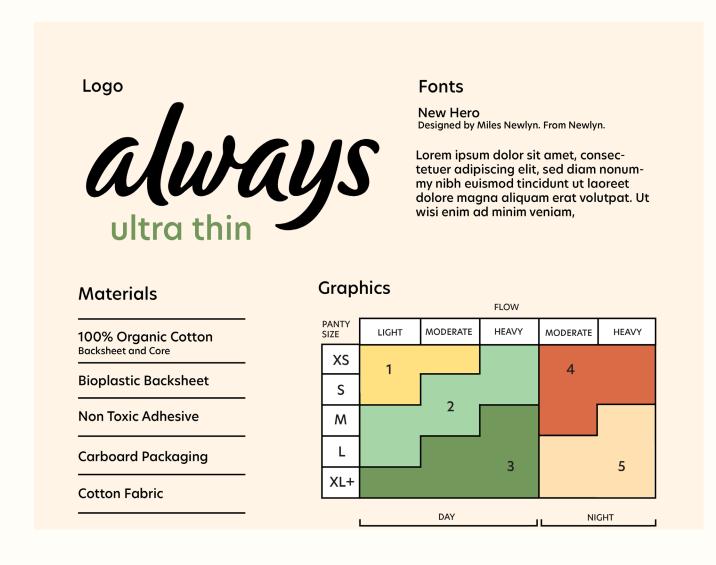
Graphic Design





A redesign concept of Always Brand pad products with the goal of using less waste around packaging.

Branding





Final Brand Identity Package

Our redesign is a concept geared towards Always pad products, and how we think they could address their plastic waste. We removed the pad wrapper, and suggested a cotton travel bag, alongside new materials for the pad itself.



Process behind the concept









Existing Always Packaging

Material Research

Product Breakdown

Many traditional pad brands use plastic not only in the product itself but the packaging, recyclable materials can make a big impact on reducing waste.

There are several different parts to a pad, and the material used in each is important

- Top Sheet The inner part that makes direct contact with the skin. Often made from plastic-based materials but organic pads will use natural materials.
- Core The absorbent core of the pad. Sometimes made from petrochemical-derived foam, sometimes made of wood cellulose. Also bleached; it's important that this is bleached with chlorine-free methods.
- Back Sheet Moisture-proof back layer to keep fluid inside. Often made from polypropylene and polyethelene, petroleum-derived plastics but organic pads will use natural materials.
- Adhesives Used to keep the layers of the pad together. Organic pads often use more ecofriendly and non-toxic glues.
- Fragrance Unnecessary chemical fragrance that should be avoided but often used in traditional pads.
- Wrapper Keeps the product individually wrapped. Often plastic or non-recyclable but organic pads often use recyclable packaging.

Looking into existing material usage

Sustainable Competitors



Lola

Made with sustainable materials, and no chemicals, Lola provides an alternative pad product to Always.

https://mylola.con



August

Similar to Lola, August provides a organic cotton pad as well. Their individual packaging still uses plastic.

https://www.itsaugust.co

These products are not be as accessible because they are only available online. They also are not well known, and can be more expensive compared to shopping at a Walmart.

This is why it is crucial to revamp Always, and encourage mainstream products to adapt these practices.

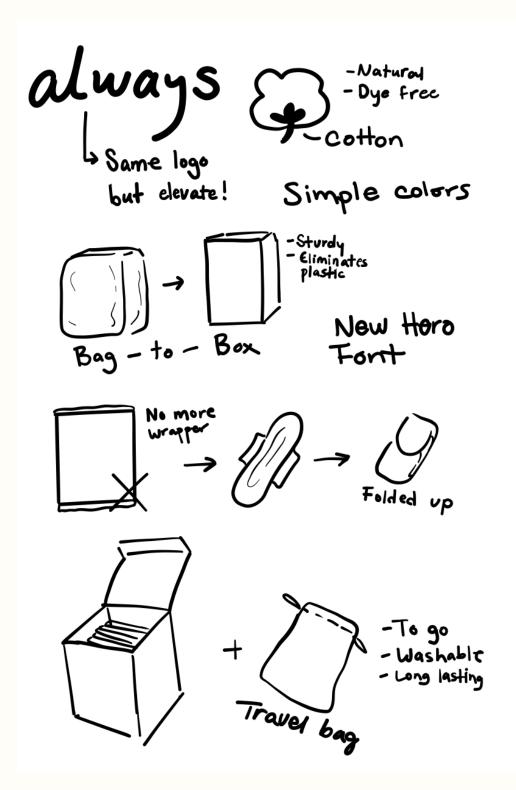
Researching Competitors

Our goal was to eliminate the amount of waste significantly for pad products. Research into pad users brought up issues like accessibility and its environmental impact - which is why we opted to try and just eliminate/swap plastic for cardboard, and pad material to cotton. Rather than trying to get people to switch menstruation products entirely.

Existing branding was all over the place and clunky, and other smaller brands took on a much more modern approach - which is the direction we took for this redesign.

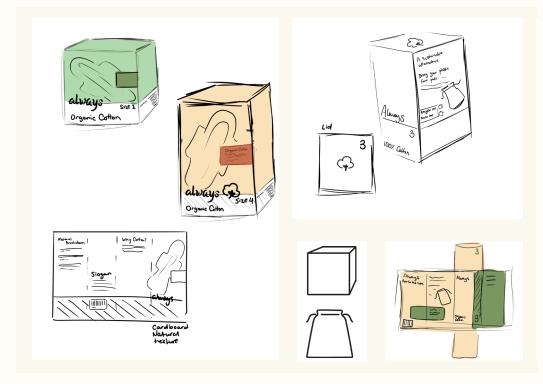


Brand Ideation





Moodboard ideation based off of competitors



First sketches

These are exerpts from my process book that goes into detail on how we re-designed the Always brand into a more ecoconsious option without stepping out of its current position in the market.

To read more about our research into existing pad companies, material resesearch, and our final designs, click here.



Final Product









The biggest take away from this project is holding the brand accountable with the amount of waste it produces.

Even with a small manufacturing change like getting rid of the plastic wrapper, would change its amount of waste drastically.



PERING WITH (INSON'S

ISER HOSTED BY PD CYCLE. | HALIFAX PUBLIC LIBRARY, NS.

OGETHER

Smash-a-thon" to d share your stories son's as a woman.

and heal souls! rithParkinsons

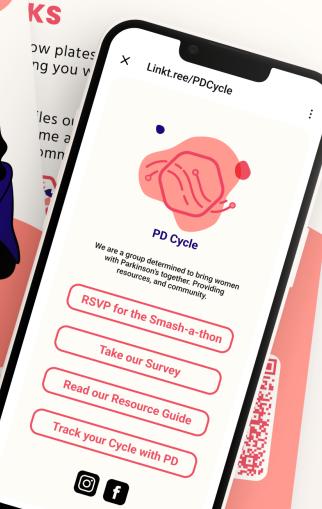


SPERING WITH (INSON'S: H-A-THON

ER HOSTED BY PD CYCLE.



ith Parkinson's



OU KNOW?

omen with Parkinson's ook in a survey said r symptoms got the week prior to their al bleed.

hers need more data!

IUS!

n more about this fundraiser, ır instagram @PDCycle

Prospering With Parkinsons

Creating an awareness campaign within the sister brand "PD Cycle"

Graphic Design

UX/UI Design







Prospering with Parkinsons is a campaign that exists physically and digitally with the end goal to bring more awareness and community around women with Parkinson's Disease via a "Smash-a-thon" fundraiser.

Branding

Logo

Primary



Secondary



Fonts

Poppins Extra Bold

THIS IS A EXAMPLE OF HEADERS...

Poppins Regular

This is a example of descriptions...

Colors

Primary Colors



Secondary Colors



Graphics



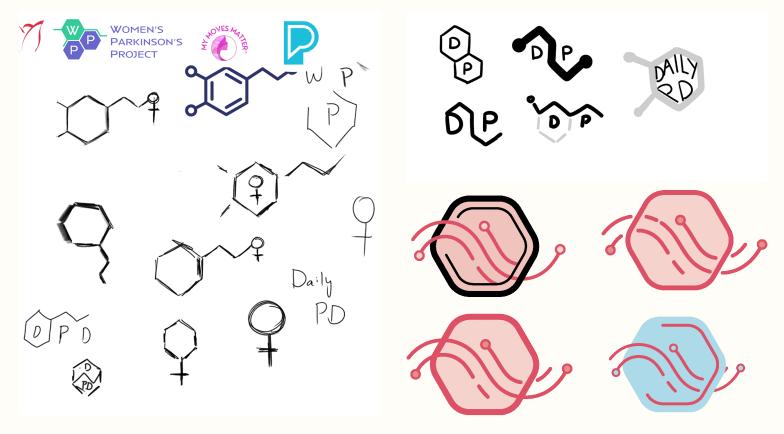


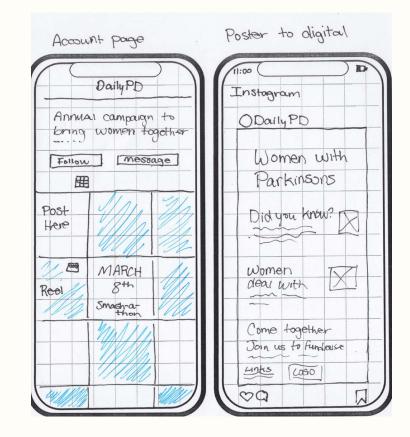


For this project, as a group we designed the PD Cycle brand, and I adapted it to my own individual concept. The Campaign is considered a "Sister Brand", that links back to other parts of the company.



Process behind the concept







Logo sketches

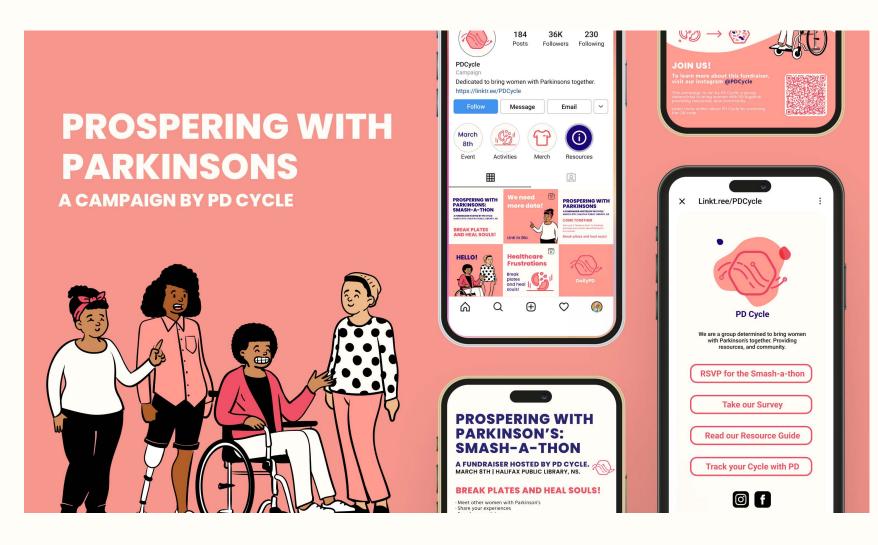
Paper drafts

First digital draft

Developing the name and brand as a group allowed me to easily work out what I needed for content for the campaign I wanted to design. I started with paper sketches and went into indesign with the developed brand and easily created a first draft with the created elements.



Final Product



Prospering with Parkinsons is a campaign that can exist online and in person. The graphics are purposefully kept simple to be able to transfer it to a variety of posts or posters. This Smash-a-thon concept shows my ability to take existing branding and apply it in diverse methods.











Flaxmobile

Adapting existing branding to social media

Graphic Design

UX/UI Design

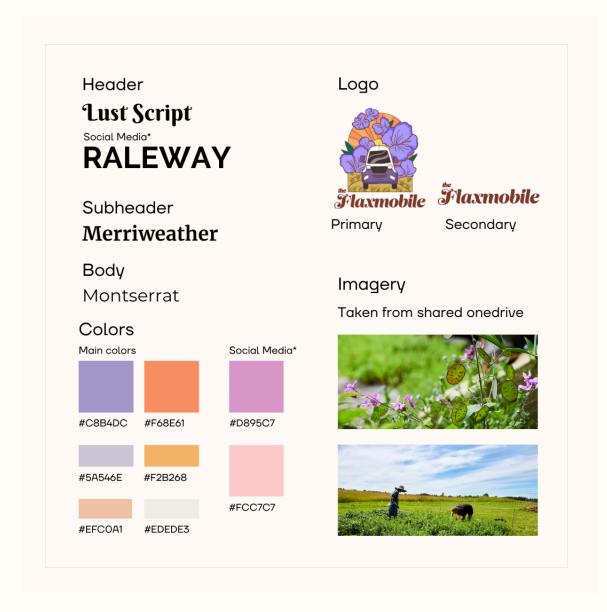






I created digital assets for publications, social media posts, and helped establish a market display following existing brand guidelines for the Flaxmobile Research Project.

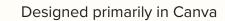
Social Media Work



Based off of already set branding, I was tasked to create various posts for Flaxmobile's social media.





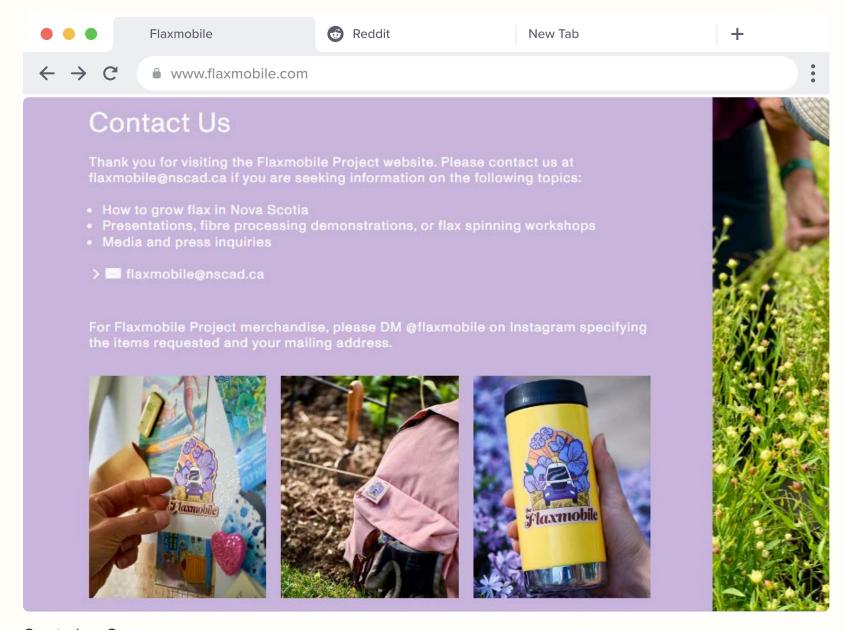








Adapting Branding



Created on Cargo



Concept Mockup of merch stand

I was also tasked with adding this branding to the Flaxmobile website, and creating a concept for the merch stand.



Thank You

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