

# Housing report suggests changes

by Portia Priegert

A student housing development in North Garneau and renovations to Lister Hall are the main recommendations of a nearly completed consultants' report on university housing.

The approximately \$80,000 report compiled by Woods-Gordon Consultants for the university administration, was undertaken to find solutions to such problems as the low occupancy rate in Lister Hall, increased student housing demands and changing accommodation expectations.

The report says there is "considerable scope" for increasing the acceptability and operating efficiency of existing university housing.

In particular, the Lister Hall complex is "lifeless, visually unattractive and unexciting" the report adds.

It recommends increasing the size of the rooms, interior redecoration and development of 'community activity' areas.

For instance, it suggests providing media pod with photo labs and studios or a physical activity pod, with saunas and table tennis.

The report also notes that commercial operations, seminar rooms and graduate student offices could make Lister Hall more a part of the university community.

The cost of revamping Lister could do as high as \$2

million. Most of the work would be done during the summer.

The consultants' report also says the best place for developing additional university housing would be North Garneau, where Woods-Gordon recommends constructing a student housing facility which could accommodate as many as 1700 students.

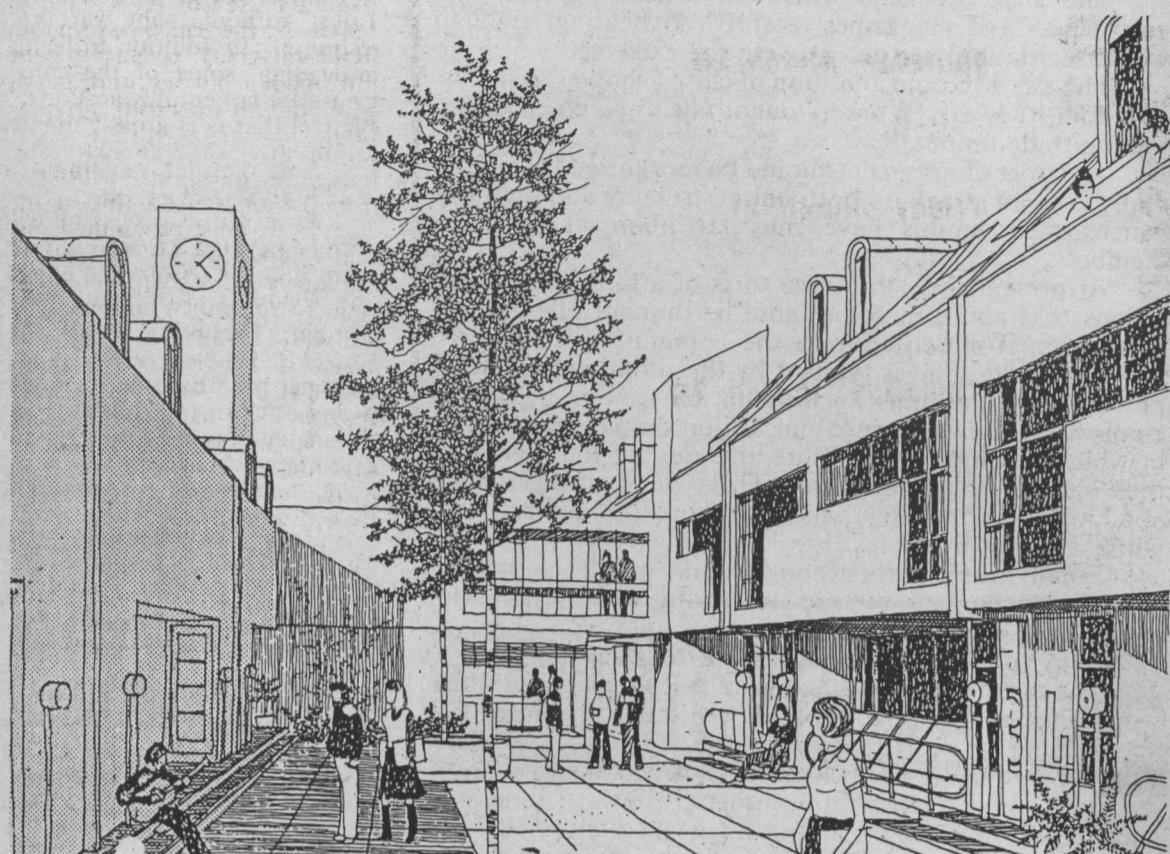
The facility would be located between 88 and 89 Aves. and 110 and 111 Streets and would mean the demolition of some of the existing houses in Garneau during phased-in construction of the student housing.

The report says the housing should be centered around a major academic center and playing field or green space.

The housing project would be limited to pedestrians, although underground parking would be provided. The solar-heated project would include recreational and service areas and all-weather corridors to other facilities.

The report recommends a 10 per cent increase in rental rates on existing university housing, making accommodation in the new units five per cent more expensive than current university housing.

The report also recommends the university seek a capital subsidy for the balance, in the form of an outright capital grant, and/or a loan at below



An artist's conception of proposed North Garneau developments.

market interest rates.

The final consultants' report is expected in two weeks.

University Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Mel Poole says the report will be considered by the Housing and Food Services Committee of

General Faculties Council (GFC) and then by the Board of Governors.

"There is a need for additional housing. The study established that need," says Poole. "I'm hopeful additional housing can be established."

Poole says there is "general support" for the report's recommendations thus far.

However, any decision on the proposals will be made by the Board of Governors, probably not before the end of March, according to Poole.



Flushed with enthusiasm, campus Aggies summed up a career in Law by mounting a toilet bowl on top of a piece of sculpture outside the Law Building. The only thing missing is a dispenser that says, "Law Degrees; take one." The stunt was part of Agriculture week activities, which will culminate with Bar None this Saturday.

## Quebec has own rights

by Peter Michalyshyn

Quebec does have a right to special status in Canada, said professor C.S. Mackinnon of the Department of History.

Mackinnon and professor Garth Stevenson of Political Science, both former Montreal anglophones, spoke on the Quebec referendum at a Political Science Undergraduate Association (PSUA) forum Friday.

"There was a duality built into pre-confederation," Mackinnon said. And even after confederation this equality continued, at least at the upper levels of society.

However, French Canadians began losing their influence around the turn of the century, said Mackinnon. The loss of their school privileges in several provinces made them feel

unwelcome in the rest of Canada.

And their foreign policy views were submerged in the pro-British sentiment of the time, and topped by the World War I conscription crisis.

"French Canadians turned off the rest of Canada 50 years ago," said Mackinnon.

But during Quebec's 'Quiet Revolution' of the 1960s French Canadians began reasserting their nation within a nation status, he said.

"Even Claude Ryan, the man English Canadians expect to keep Quebec in Canada, says there are two founding nations," Mackinnon said.

But while Quebec leads the country in consensus toward increased provincial rights, there is no inexorable movement

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## Games decision postponed

by Keith Krause

The University of Alberta's bid to host the 1983 World Student Games has been put in neutral for now.

The uncertain world situation has resulted in postponement of the decision on the Games bid which was to be made in Moscow by the International University Sports Federation (FISU) in April.

No new date has been set for the decision, but university officials are hoping the meeting will be held before the end of the

summer.

"We've indicated it is important to hold the meeting soon, the sooner the better," said U of A president Myer Horowitz.

The change in federal governments has also held up any formal funding commitment from the Trudeau government.

"Trudeau has given general support to the bid, and I expect to meet the new Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sports, Gerald Regan, in a few weeks," said Horowitz.

But the U of A proposal is otherwise complete.

"We would have been ready to go to Moscow," Horowitz said.

"It's important to continue the momentum we have developed," he said.

Games committee chairman Mel Poole is not worried about the consequences of the delay in the decision, however.

"I don't think postponement adversely affects our chances," he said. "I'm still very optimistic."

## U of A cult symposium clouded by religious liberty controversy

Controversy surrounds the U of A Chaplaincy-sponsored symposium on cults to be held later this week.

An organization called Canadians for the Protection of Religious Liberty has called a press conference for Wednesday afternoon to rebut the opinions of one of the symposium's guest speakers, Reverend Colin Clay, an Anglican clergyman.

And yesterday morning, posters violently denouncing cults appeared on campus bulletin boards. Reverend Clay is quoted on the posters.

The person or group responsible for the posters is not identified, and the Chaplains' Association has denied responsibility for them.

"We don't know who has put up the posters," says Eric Stephanson, one of the U of A chaplains. "Someone has obviously seen articles written by Colin Clay and taken one or two paragraphs from them."

Clay has written several articles about the possible dangers of some cults.

The poster lists a number of groups ostensibly considered to

be religious cults. The list includes such disparate groups as the Lutheran Student Movement, the Campus Crusade for Christ, Hunger Project, the Mormon Church and Mennonites. The People's Church, Scientologists, Zen, Yoga and Hare Krishna are also named.

"We wouldn't call a lot of those groups sects," says Stephanson. "Generally, we consider a cult to have a Messianic leader, requiring total personal commitment, including the transformation of the in-

dividual."

Meanwhile, the Canadians for the Protection of Religious Liberty have scheduled their press conference as a "response to the conference being held at the University of Alberta... with guest speaker Colin Clay," according to their press release.

Wesley Wakefield, a Vancouver evangelist, will be the speaker at the press conference.

A spokesperson for the organization could not be reached at press time.

## Soviet dissident Kuznetsov to speak on campus

Soviet dissident Edward Kuznetsov will be speaking Wednesday March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Dinwoodie Lounge on his experiences as a Soviet political prisoner.

Kuznetsov, one of five dissidents traded for two Russian spies in April 1979, served nearly nine years of a 15-year sentence for his part in a failed attempt to steal a Soviet airplane

and fly to Israel.

During an earlier imprisonment (for participating in a public poetry reading), Kuznetsov wrote a book titled *Prison Diaries*, which outlines his treatment and the development of his Jewish commitment.

Kuznetsov, now living in Israel, has just completed work on his second book about life in a Soviet gulag.