

Referendum sides debate

On the current SU election ballots students will decide if they favour a fifty cent levy on their SU

NO!

NO vote articulated by Ken Maxwell.

Ken Maxwell doesn't oppose the idea of helping a refugee student. "I think it's a great charity." But he still plans to vote no.

"Some things are so private the Government has no right to make a decision for you," said Maxwell. "Charity is one of those issues."

"Nobody, no Government, no group, no institution, has a right to tell me where my charity money goes."

Maxwell also feels that, regardless of the cut control of the vote, that the whole process is undemocratic.

"Our society is based upon a respect for minority rights and minority choices — we might get a

majority to vote in favor of outlawing Trade Unions, that wouldn't make it right, it wouldn't make it democratic."

Maxwell is also fearful that if the referendum passes other will seek student money. "Why only WUSC? Why not the Food Bank, or a Battered Women's shelter." — The SU gave the Bears \$20,000 last year and they keep coming back for more.

"I'm a student, I only have limited money to give to charity — I choose to give it to the United Way — it's majority tyranny to force me to give some of it to others."

"It's my money, my choice, and my freedom. I don't like some junior politicians trying to take it away."

YES!

YES vote articulated by Curtis Beaverford. We believe it's a good program says Beaverford. "We recognize there's a problem with refugees in the world. We're doing our part to help — students helping students." "It's a small project that gives people something to contribute to which they will see results, rather than a large ambiguous project where the results aren't as immediate."

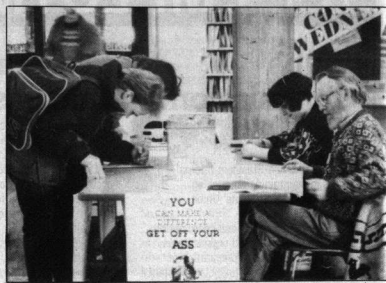
Beaverford feels that the referendum question is a personal one dictated by one's conscience. "If the camp wants this they should vote for it — nothing more."

"People complain about student apathy, here's a chance to change that for a mere fifty cents. It's such a small personal sacrifice that will make a large difference to someone's life."

"These students are forced to flee to countries where they can't work and can't study. It's a waste of human potential."

Refugee students eligible for sponsorship are selected from a registry held by the federal government and maintained by several groups, including the World University Service of Canada and the United Nations High Commission on Refugees.

Twenty-five universities and colleges across Canada are currently sponsoring 27 student refugees. The universities of Lethbridge and Calgary have sponsored students since 1982.



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Election rulings summary

The following is a summary of rulings by the Chief Returning Officer during the SU General Election

● An editorial by Dale Nagel, the current SU VP Academic, which appeared in *The Bridge*, the U of A engineering newspaper, was ruled not to be campaigning.

The Pallister Slate complained to Craig Cooper, the Chief Returning Officer, that the editorial contained a suggestion that students should "Vote Together". Nagel is campaign manager of The Together slate, which is using "Vote Together" as a campaign slogan.

Cooper ruled that Nagel did not "unduly abuse his position as editor" citing that Nagel has written for *The Bridge* for a long time.

● A request by the Together slate to have a Pallister Slate pamphlet removed because it contained incorrect information was denied.

The Pallister Slate pamphlet attacked Paul LaGrange and the current SU executive for having spent \$15,700 on travel and accommodations. The \$15,700 figure was

indeed incorrect, but because the actual amount was greater — \$18,200.87 — Cooper ruled that "The spirit of the claim in the Pallister Slate pamphlet is found to be justified" even though the amount stated was indeed false.

● Don Halina, the VP Academic candidate on the Pallister Slate was "verbally reprimanded" by the CRO after a complaint by Together against Halina for illegally removing campaign literature of the opposing slates.

● The Together slate was "verbally reprimanded" by the CRO after a complaint by the Pallister slate that Together was illegally removing campaign literature from opposing slates.

● A large Ski club banner in CAB was ordered altered by the CRO because it contained the phrase "P.S. — serious leadership needs a serious vote." P.S. is the campaign logo of the Pallister Slate.

NO side Stamped

continued from p.1

already had \$600 to spend on the first poster which covered campus, we thought we'd throw some humor into it," said Stamp, referring to the "It's Your Doughnut" poster.

When asked about the fact that he is a non-student, Stamp replied that "it makes it easier for me" and made reference to a lively debate on campus concerning the poster, where he felt that, had a student claimed responsibility for making the poster or had indicated that they were behind the campaign, "they would've got lynched."

Although Stamp claimed responsibility for the production of the posters, there appears to be some confusion among the signatories of the NO petition as to this fact.

Kevin Kolsniak, a NO supporter and former Board member stated that "very few of the people who signed the petition knew of who was organizing it."

"We supported the principle of the matter. It is not so much a campaign against WUSC, but we feel that it is oppressive to ask students for fifty cents — the students should decide on their own where they want to spend their money." Kolsniak stated that he did not know why Paul LaGrange's name was on the poster, stated that the reference to his name "is not in the best interests of the NO campaign."

When asked who else was involved in the "NO" campaign, Stamp named student Cheryl Fedderson and later named student

"Gord Stamp was the campaign manager and we were the front men." One other name was mentioned though Stamp "could not remember the individual's last name." Fedderson, when contacted, denied involvement with initiating the campaign, but said she aided in organizing petitions.

Stephanie Bishop, member of the WUSC student refugee support group, feels the NO posters have misrepresented the entire issue.

"Because of the false nature of several of the facts up on the posters, it is obvious the group has not seriously looked at the issue. I feel it is a group trying to see what they can do with a thousand dollars in less than a week," said Bishop, referring to the amount of money allocated each side of the referendum. Bishop added that "because

the facts are mixed up leads one to believe that there are other political motives behind the display of such a poster," with the end result being that the poster has shed a bad light on all political slates.

Graham Bowers, running for VP Finance for the Pallister Slate, commented that, "we're disgusted with the way the NO campaign has handled the issue in that it has blurred the lines between the executive election and the referendum." He added that the Pallister slate has "no association whatsoever with the NO campaign."

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Chocolate Mug Shot
Hot chocolate
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Top with mini-marshmallows

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Shot of Southern Comfort
Teaspoon of sugar
Top with whipped cream