



Campus backlash

VICTORIA (CUP) — Posters demanding a safe campus for women at the University of Victoria drew rape threats and vandalism instead.

Last month, threats such as "Shut the fuck up or I'll rape your sorry ass! Asking for a rebate?!? Fuck just for that women should pay double," were scribbled on posters designed by a group of women at the U Vic.

The posters, intended to draw attention to violence against women on campus, read "Tuition rebate for women only. UVic is a dangerous place for women. At night the unsafe environment limits access to facilities and restricts their freedom. Are women not entitled to a tuition rebate?"

The Women's Centre received a number of direct responses.

One letter said women should pay double tuition, and half the money should go to men so they can be funded to rape women.

"The [posters] were a tool to get people thinking," said Susanne Klausen, a member of the group that designed the posters.

"It was the shock value that got people to stop and look. It gets them talking."

Klausen said though a more fundamental change must take place in the way people address the problem of violence against women, the tuition fee idea is a beginning.

The Women's Centre collective is taking the graffiti as a threat, said Nettie Hayter, a member of the collective.

"It was interesting to see how the [posters] were received," said Roshni Narain, a spokesperson for the poster committee. She said 200 posters were put up, and one week later the posters still up had messages on them.

"Violence against women is a real thing. Women do have something to fear," said Narain.

"When you see a poster that has been ripped in half or vandalized, it is scary to think about the anger and hate behind [the action]," said Narain.

Although sponsored by the Women's Centre and stamped by the student council, the poster project was privately funded. The posters were displayed only on public notice boards.

Klausen said women do not have equal access to university facilities. She pointed to a sign posted in the women's locker room that reads "Attention all female joggers. You are advised to refrain from running during non-daylight hours. This is in your best interest. Athletics and Recreation Services."

"If the UVic experience was equal for women and men, then women would pay equal tuition," she said.

**WOMEN ARE:
COURAGEOUS, AGGRESSIVE,
STRONG, LOGICAL, INTELLIGENT,
CONSTRUCTIVE, CREATIVE AND
INDEPENDENT
HUMAN BEINGS.**



Born With A Tooth brings message to east

BY MARY JANE HAMILTON

Milton Born With A Tooth had about 28 speaking engagements in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick since February 15. His visits included Wolfville, Antigonish, Eskasoni, Annapolis Valley, Kelly's Mountain and Fredericton.

Born With A Tooth is part of the Peigan tribe in Alberta and the young leader of the Lonefighters, an an-

cient society of the Blackfoot Confederacy. He has led a group of people who have been trying to stop the construction of a dam (which is both environmentally and economically unsound) being built above their land by diverting the Oldman River back into its original channel. The redirection of the river does not allow the natural and necessary flooding of the surrounding area. He is now out on bail for his involvement in his plan to

redirect the river in 1990.

Ishbel Butler, of the Nova Scotia Environmental Network and one of the organizers of his visit, said, "He's been a breath of fresh air. He brought the Native and non-Native environmentalists together... We got a chance to talk with each other... because we're fighting the same issues."

Butler said there has been a really good response because he is so powerful. About 150 people showed up for a rally on Saturday, February 29 which started at Grand Parade Square and marched on to the Micmac Friendship Centre despite the rain, sleet and snow.

About 20 people met in the Art Gallery of the Rebecca Cohn Arts Centre on Friday night to hear Born With A Tooth talk - but he also listened. The people in a circle were invited to speak to Born With A Tooth with the "talking stick."

There were many rules. As the "talking stick" is handed from one person to the next "in the direction of the sun", no one may interrupt while someone else is talking, no one may repeat what someone else has said, no one can criticize, and no one can agree with what anyone else has said (one can pass the stick on without saying anything).

Many people were moved by Born With A Tooth's words and found it difficult to speak. By the time the "talking stick" reached Born With A Tooth, it was "heavy" with emotion.

"He [Born With A Tooth] understands that we've got to work together if we want to protect and maintain our part of the environment," Butler added.

Born With A Tooth agrees. He said, "We're no different. Our enemies [corporations and politicians] are the same. Our problems are the same. Our solutions [may be] the same. Together we are the family of the country of Canada... We need a united stand... We need to share the strength. We were put here to protect... His natural world."

He described the real criminals as including Scott Maritimes, McCain's, Irving, Sobey's, and politicians who allow environmental destruction. "Someone has to pay. Someone has to be held accountable," he said.

About coming to Nova Scotia, Born With A Tooth said, "It's been pretty awesome meeting my neighborhood." He described the Mi'kmaq, the "People of the Dawn," as his neighbours and "the natural environmentalists". He believes that we should create a friendship first and then work together.

"I came to look and see what's wrong. And there's a lot wrong [in Nova Scotia]... The media told me that I came to promote violence... With all the pollution, racism and all the rest of it, it certainly does not need me to set it off," he said.

While in Nova Scotia, Born With A Tooth spoke about the environmental catastrophes at Boat Harbour, Point Aconi and Kelly's Mountain. He said Nova Scotia's licence plates should be renamed "Corporate Dumping Ground" rather than "Canada's Ocean Playground".

His message for environmentalists was to start enforcing the law - the Natural law, that is. He said we should respect Nature. "Nature still controls and rules... We need to follow the Natural laws."

"If it means you have to fight, enjoy the fight. If it hurts, that's just the way it is."

He said although we cannot do everything in our generation, "we can do our part. The work is passed on to the next generation."

He is tired of Nature being desecrated. "We [Natives] have been passive too long... Environmental assessments are no damn good! We have to do something about it."

Born With A Tooth explained the importance of making sure environmental desecration is not merely interrupted, but ended completely. "When I go out hunting, I don't wound a bear - I kill it. So when you fight [against environmental destruction], don't just wound it [the issue]. Kill it."

But he says the fight has been fun. "I've had an awesome time here. I've met some awesome people. I will take something back home."



Milton Born With A Tooth in the Green room.

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