No nukes are good nukes

Elliott Lefko

Tired of watching fanatical Americans storm the Seabrook Nuclear power station? Disappointed you missed Bruce Springsteen's anti-nuke rockathon? Want to get involved in some direct social change right now? Well, put away your apathy and listen.

David Bell, a Mclaughlin political science professor, is president of the Grindstone Island Co-Op, a unique conference centre for groups and individuals concerned with peace, justice and development. Grindstone Island is a scenic twelve-acre island in Ontario's Lake Rideau, lying halfway between Ottawa and Kingston. This past week Professor Bell has been at a table in Central Square promoting the Anti-Nuke demonstration in Ottawa on October 13, and talking to people about getting involved with Grindstone.

"We are inviting both individuals and groups to come to Grindstone this summer," offers Bell. "You'll find a lot of people there who are involved in efforts to bring about a new global community based on egalitarianism, economic and political justice and peace.'

Grindstone offers workshops and programmes designed to raise consciousness and promote social change. Among the last two years' activities, Grindstone offered a workshop for community organizers on the disarmament question; a seminar on nuclear energy and its alternatives; a meeting of English Canadians with young Quebecois to discuss the future of Canada as one country or two; a conference of activists working on alternatives to the prison system; and a summer school for university students on research, education and action for social change. Says Bell: "A number of



students have gone to Grindstone and have subsequently done reading courses under my supervision. The school discusses a number of ideas that relate to university courses. In fact many schools give course credits for time spent at the summer school. I'd like to see the summer school formally recognized as a York Course - possibly under Atkinson College.'

Peter Brickwood, York Board of Governors representative. attended Grindstone last summer. He offers these candid insights: "Thinking back on Grindstone I would really support people going there. It's a good opportunity to meet other people with the same concerns. You can really have some of your typecasts broken down. The place itself is like an old country

people don't disturb. Really it's great for morale.'

The Grindstone Co-Op is probably unique among cooperatives. It provides neither services nor goods to its more than 200 members who hail from as far afield as Australia and Africa. Operated as a non-profit organization it has recently been granted charitable status by the Federal Government. Membership is open to those who support the Grindstone Co-Op's purpose, and share cost \$100 each (joint shareholding is possible).

So as Elvis Costello would say: "Wake up Canada and stir it up."

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For the first time in York's history. a student has been elected onto the executive of the National Union of Students (NUS), the national voice of students in

The Vice-president of External Affairs for the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF), Barb Taylor, is serving on both the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and NUS executive.

She believes it will give the CYSF a further opportunity to review its relationships to the national organization and increase its services from NUS.

"I will serve as a liaison person,

basically," explained Taylor. "My job is to understand what the OFS viewpoint is and represent Ontario students on a national level.'

Taylor believes past dissatisfaction with NUS arose because of a lack of communication between NUS and CYSF. She commented that the difficulties arose because the last person to be involved with NUS "did not do his job. CYSF did not receive enough information about NUS activities.

The fall strategy, in addition to the postcard campaign, includes a Cutbacks Hurt Ontario Children rally at Queen's Park on October 23.

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Wednesday Oct. 17, 2:00pm Ross Building South 105

