council executive rejects budget



"Administrative costs" personified, the SU managers defend budget proposals at Tuesday's budget meeting. From left, building operations manager Chris Gates, games area manager Art Warburton, general manager Darryl Ness, finance manager Burt Krull, HUB manager Fulton Fredrickson, and arts area manager Cec Pretty.

Thursday, March 15, 1973 DOWSTDD Edmonton, Alberta vol. 63 no. 43

north right of choice defended

by Art Neumann

The government of the Northwest Territories is not building a "northern ghetto". Rather, they would emphasize the importance of Article 26 of the United Nations Charter: "Parents have the prior right to the choice of education for their children.'

Speaking before an audience of about 50 people at a regular meeting of the Boreal Circle Tuesday evening, Norman McPherson, the Director of the Department of Education for the Northwest Territories, went on to emphasize that this "right to choice" did not refer to southern Canadians, but to the parents of the children themselves. "We believe this and we intend to put it into practice," he said.

To bring this programme into "listen to the parents, become effect, involved," he said. "The home and school are partners in the educational process." Thus it becomes important for the home to be accepted, understood, and not changed.

To get the parents involved "meaningfully", the northern educators have set up advisory boards in the settlements, whose responsibility it will be to control education, and ensure that Indian and Eskimo culture will be

felt in the schools.

McPherson called this program "cultural inclusion."

In the Keewaitin region, for instance, parents already have a say in the extent to which their culture is to be present in the schools. For this privilege, the parents supply funds.

"But the advisory boards are not enough," he went on. "We must bring Eskimos and Metis into the school as teachers and assistants." Some are already doing this, teaching arts and crafts. This must be extended until they can take it over.

The language issue surfaced as very prominent both for McPherson personally and as a program for the

"Where a parent wishes it," he explained, "we will teach the child in his native language, for the first three years of school."

A "bilingual-bicultural" education system would ideally have 90% instruction in Eskimo, 10% in English for the second year; and 50/50 for the third year. In subsequent years English would be the language of instruction, and a native tongue would be given as

"We cannot develop from southern Canada." he said, "the number of teachers required to teach the twelve

or so languages in the Territories.

Native teachers must be brought into

the classroom, beginning as assistants to

the white teachers, and gradually taking

over to teach the native children." There is room, he said, to bring people in-even now, without formal teacher training but with particular "gifts" that a southern Canadian does not have. There are 76 such classroom

Rank heresy? The Choctaw Indians in America in the 1890's he said has "over seventy academies" in which their people received instruction. The Cherokees in Oklahoma had a higher English literacy rate among them than continued on page 7

assistants now.

By a margin of three to two, the Students' Union preliminary budget was rejected by the council executive at Tuesday night's special meeting.

Poor attendance by council members resulted in the designation of the budget as an executive matter so that it could be discussed without quorum on council.

In the final vote, president Gerry Riskin, executive v-p Rob Spragins and vp-services Beth Kuhnke opposed the proposed budget for '73-74, while vp-academic Patrick Delaney and vp-finance, Garry West voted in favour.

Councillors present were allowed to speak and ask questions, but their vote on the budget had only the power of 'recommendation" to the executive in the final vote. The vote of councillors present was four/two in favour of accepting the budget.

Because of the negative executive vote, the budget will be dealt with as the first item at the changeover meeting next Monday night.

"If we don't get quorum at that meeting, we'll be in violation of the constitution," a disgruntled West commented yesterday. He said that during campaigns, "finances are always one of the favourite targets, but in the crunch, no one gives a shit." A similar problem with quorum developed last fall when the final budget for the current year was considered.

Most vocal during the meeting was outgoing vp-services Beth Kuhnke, She voiced concern about a proposal contained in the budget to move the arts and crafts programme into space formerly used for the art gallery, and sharply questioned the necessity for a new delivery van proposed as part of the building operations capital budget. Also under fire from Kuhnke were administrative salaries, a proposal to eliminate photographs from the student phone directory, and the proposed budget for the Women's Programme Centre.

Joining in the protest against removing photos from the phonebook were Nursing B.Sci. rep Brenda McNally and Rehab. Med. rep Peggy Nesbitt. McNally said "You hardly get anything for the money you put in," and added in an interview after the meeting, that she had recommended against accepting the budget because 'we didn't really have a chance to discuss it, and there are some things I can't go along with."

In spite of West's warning printed on the cover of the 55-page document more budget on page 3

legal advice on contract disclosure

Council decided Monday night to seek the advice of solicitors before disclosing the contract of the SU Business Manager.

The contract with Darrel Ness had been a major issue in the recent election campaign.

President Gerry Riskin brought up a motion for disclosure on the request of a student, but said he personally was against any such action.

"I don't want to show it and I don't think I should."

Patrick Delaney, who had been put on the spot about the contract during the election rally, objected to the way in which the matter was brought about.

thought the document was available, but now I understand it isn't."

Delaney wasn't the only person confused over the availability of details of the document. During the past week, Gateway

reporter Bob McIntyre tried to track down the contract. Salary estimates from various people ranged from \$18,000 to \$22,000 a year.

According to Beth Kuhnke, vice president services, Ness's salary is \$19,800 plus an unlimited expense

Riskin denied the existence of the expense account.

At the Council meeting, Kuhnke vigorously supported the motion to reveal the contract.

"Students are the employers, they



should have the right to see it. Who knows what secrets are hidden," she said. She noted that C.U.P.E. is willing to openly discuss contract matters.

Later, Kuhnke moved that a commission be set up to look into Ness' contract, which apparently is up for renewal this summer.

Riskin asked her to withdraw the motion until the matter was discussed with solicitors.

self - assessed grades 'credible'

According to one student in the class, a new section of Political Science 390 in which the basic mark would be at least a seven has been offered to former poli sci students of Conrad Morrow who was recently relieved of teaching duties for allowing self-assigned marks.

Any extra work done for the course will raise the basic seven.

The new section was set up as an alternative to Morrow's class where self-assessment has been accepted.

Dennis Crockett, another student in the new section, said "this guarantees each person who attends the new class at least an 8 or a 9."

When asked why they transferred into the class, several students replied that they were considering law or graduate studies and they needed all the credibility possible.

Though other students suggested

that is was unfortunate that they and others left Morrow's class, Crockett replied, "It is our best strategy to

leave the class but it is quite ironic: we leave an excellent learning situation because we receive so-called credible marks in the other."

The head of the admissions in the law faculty, E.W.S. Kane, was asked how these types of marks would be considered.

He replied that they would consider a self-appraised mark if it was consistent with the other marks on the transcript. If it was very high or much lower it probably would not be considered.

When asked what kind of treatment would be given to the two different 390 sections, he replied that no matter which class a student was in the mark would be considered in relation to the other marks.