

Glendon students may get \$103 health plan

Glendon considers new health coverage

by Jordan H. Green

Glendon students will get another chance to vote for a health care plan.

Last year, Glendon College students voted to pull out of the Blue Cross health care package similar to the one covering Downsview campus students now.

The student union has decided to hold a referendum next week to bring back a health care policy to the campus, after hearing complaints from students.

"We've had a lot of students that don't have access [to health care]," said president Sharmila Khare. "A number of students came to us in September. They were shocked as they had no way of getting insurance except as independents."

Some students feel they were not represented in the referendum that canceled health care at Glendon, where only a third of the population is made up of first year students. This means many students that voted were in their final years, and may even not be at Glendon anymore, according to Khare.

A third year student, who wished to remain anonymous expressed anger towards the entire situation.

"It is extremely pathetic when you consider most of this campus is [attended by] women, and we have to fork out twenty dollars a month for the pill. People who have to take medication are screwed," the student said.

Students already covered under their parents or from work have differing views.

"I'm not worried about it," said Nikki Yap, a first year student, who has coverage under her parents' plan.

"Students should already have a health care plan before coming to Glendon," said Darren Wright, a fourth year student.

Many students were angry at the prospect of having to pay again for the plan directly out of their tuition.

"If you want [health care] you should be able to get it. It should be optional, like when you register for a course," said Wright. "They should ask, do you want health care?"

Insurance companies won't offer

a health care plan unless it is mandatory, because many students would not participate, said Debbie Glass, director of Student Affairs.

Students will have a chance to decide whether there should be a health care plan available in a referendum to be held from Oct. 20 to 22.

The health care plan being offered to Glendon students will cost \$103, compared to the Downsview cam-

pus \$132 plan. Glendon's proposed plan is offered by Mutual Life.

The major difference between the Glendon and the Downsview plans is the amount of prescription drug coverage. Glendon's proposed plan covers 80 per cent of prescription drugs, while the Downsview campus gives a full 100 per cent coverage, according to Mike Perry, of the Canadian Federation of Students.

The federation is coordinating both the Downsview and Glendon health care plans.

Similar to the current Downsview plan, Glendon students get a refund if they can prove they are already covered.

Should the referendum approve the new Glendon health plan, it would take effect in September of 1993.

Angry professor blames alcohol for vandalism

By Trevor Burnett

A York professor is not impressed with the latest act of vandalism that left windows in the greenhouse attached to the Farquharson Building broken.

The damage is a direct result of the high consumption of alcohol on pub nights, according to biology professor Joel Shore, who believes the incident occurred on the night of Sept. 24, or early next morning.

"If it's not rocks it's beer bottles.

It happens every year that I've been here," he said last week.

According to Shore, the vandalism occurs most often during the month of September. The window-breaking usually takes place on Thursday nights and is much rarer on Friday nights.

Security manager Don MaGee acknowledged that there is a lot of vandalism on campus, but said he didn't think there was a higher occurrence rate on pub nights, or that alcohol consumption was the sole reason.



photo by RoseAnn Bailey

Biology professor Joel Shore holds a rock which shattered a greenhouse window. Shore says vandals put important experiments at risk.



photo by Matt J. Chromecki

Celebrating centuries of resistance

Demonstrators gather at Queen's Park on Monday to mark five centuries of survival. Other rallies took place Monday in the Jane-Finch area and yesterday in front of Vari Hall.

MaGee estimated 97 per cent of all crimes reported on campus are property related, but because the acts are so sporadic, it's hard to pinpoint the reasons.

It costs \$105 just to call a contractor to replace greenhouse side windows and \$280 to replace windows on the roof, according to Steve Sicluna, York's architectural supervisor.

Sicluna also stated the windows in the greenhouse had to be repaired at least four times last year due to acts of vandalism.

However, Shore said he is concerned with more than the physical damage to the property. He is also worried about the valuable research that could be ruined.

"There's a serious amount of money and time that could be lost by both myself and students due to damages to the greenhouse set up," said Shore. "We have rare tropical and sub-tropical plants that we've tried to maintain over the last ten years. Once they're lost, that's it."

"Because of the sensitive nature of some experiments if this incident occurred in winter a severe cold shock could ruin the experiments," Shore explained.

"We have nightly campus patrols by both Student Security and York Security officers," said MaGee. "That alone will not alleviate crime, the York community has to be conscious and caring and report more incidents of crime."

York students urged to be wary of recruiters

by Maggie Borch

with files from Canadian University Press

York is cautioning students to be wary of certain religious groups that are recruiting on campus.

"First year students are the main target of the recruiters," said Sharon Aldridge, chair of York's Inter-Faith Council of recognized religions.

"These groups look for above average people of this age that are young with lots of energy," said Debbie Glass, director of Student Affairs.

Aldridge warned students to be careful of invitations and investigate them. This may seem obvious, she said, but people are lonely — especially around holidays when they are separated from their family.

If an invitation from a recruiter is accepted, Aldridge and Glass say the scenario usually runs like this:

- New recruits attend an event where the other people are very open and loving.

- Next a "shadow," or a new best friend, is assigned to follow each recruit everywhere and encourages them to attend a bible group and a social event.

- Then, recruits are encouraged to confess things in front of a leader figure. The sessions are one-sided, with no feedback.

- Eventually, new members become insecure and unstable. They begin to believe everything they are told, lose their identity and are "consumed" by the group.

Student Affairs and the Inter-Faith Council have stressed the need to educate the York Community and set up a booth during Orientation last month.

"A person's spirituality is very personal and no one should be forced to defend it," said Aldridge.

If you are approached by a recruiter, you should never give out your phone number, Glass said. Get

the full name of the person you were speaking to, ask what group they represent.

Having the person's full name makes it easier for the school to launch an investigation, she explained.

"Be wary when someone seems too good to be true. They probably are," said Debbie Ham, student relations assistant. "If your personal space is invaded, of course you can complain."

According to Ham, if a student files a complaint, the incident will be investigated by student affairs and security.

University of Toronto's policy on recognized campus groups is more open than at York and Ryerson.

The group only has to agree not to discriminate or engage in illegal activity, and maintain an open governing structure to be recognized.

"We acknowledge that people have freedom of expression and association. It's okay to try to convince someone to try to change their position," said David Neelands, U of T's assistant vice president of student affairs.

York, however, places regulations on ethical recruiting practices. During the 1980s, an aggressive group called the Church of Christ lost its club status on campus and Ontario's court system upheld the university's right to charge Jews for Jesus recruiters with trespassing.

Neelands added that a definition of harassment which is currently being debated in U of T's governing council could change how the university deals with certain groups.

"There is a sense that the cult issue is passé," said U of T Jewish Students Union president Micheal Skobac, who thinks the university should follow York's lead in setting stricter controls on "higher pressure" recruiting on campus.

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