

FCA, Caribbean Circle host An Arawak Tale

by Veda Bowlin

The Holy Cross conference centre at St. Thomas University was the scene of an interesting event last Saturday. Anakuda Hororo (also known as Adam Azaire) made use of a fascinating narrative to inform his audience about his life as a Lokon (Arawak) growing up on a reservation in Guyana. The Lokon (Arawak) people lived along the coast of South America and also on the larger islands of the Caribbean area, centuries before the arrival of the Europeans in the fifteenth century. Today, there are only a few thousand surviving. Anakuda is on a commonwealth scholarship program at the New Brunswick School of arts where an exhibition of his pottery and

other craft work is currently underway. He is also learning about the art forms of other indigenous North American peoples.

Anakuda is a "simple, generous person with a fascinating tale" stated Keith Yhap, President of the Fredericton Caribbean Association (F.C.A.) as he introduced the potter to the gathering. The F.C.A. co-hosted the event along with the Caribbean Circle of UNB/STU. The members of the audience were informed about traditions of the indigenous Lokonos people. Anakuda also described the mixed reactions of people in Guyana's cities as they displayed their unwillingness to believe that Lokonos could achieve anything worth while away from

the 'bush' of the reserve, even in light of his success as a potter and professional worker trained in the art school of Guyana's capital city.

With the help of a slide show, Anakuda also explored areas such as traditional Food preparation, his belief in nature, his travels to other countries and his pottery making. Speaking of his work he stated "my pottery is my religion. Each piece gives thanks to the creator and to my people who gave me this great heritage". Most of his work features a combination of traditional Lokonos forms and contemporary designs with motifs of birds, frogs, monkeys, turtles and petroglyph motifs which the Lokonos people use to interpret legends. An important theme in his work is the respect

for other living species, which in his tradition are highly respected as also having a right to exist on the earth. "There's a link between all of us" stated Anakuda "and we should all look after each other."

The high level of interest by the audience was maintained by the question and answer session which followed. Among those present were Nela Rio and Maurice Holder (Faculty of Romance Languages, STU), Joy Mighty (Faculty of Business Administration, UNB) Gordon Porter and Aurelius Gordon, President and Vice President

respectively, Caribbean Circle.

Note: The Caribbean Circle was formed approximately 20 years ago at UNB, by faculty and students from the Caribbean region. Membership is open to all students of UNB and St. Thomas University.

The Fredericton Caribbean Association was officially incorporated in 1992 by people who either migrated here from the Caribbean region or have links or interest in the region. Both groups seek to foster an increased awareness of the culture of the Caribbean.

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served some years ago.

The Brunswickan was told that six or seven employees who wished to vote in the election, but who had not purchased memberships prior to election day, were turned away by the Association's Sergeants at Arms. They said that they were told that one could not attain voting member status within 24 hours of the election due to a ruling by the Labour Relations Board.

The employees then contacted the LRB regarding such a ruling and were told that no such decision was rendered. The February 15th letter states that the Sergeant At Arms were simply not "in a position (nor authorized) to sell memberships..." Those concerned said that in addition to sign-up problems, their names, which appeared on a list of employees, were highlighted for easy identification. The letter said that "...the voters list had already been prepared in the afternoon of February 10th from the eligible membership." It also said that the Sergeant at Arms were as well, in this instance "not in a position (nor authorized) to...check the employment status of these people."

The former CUPE supporters claimed that even the notification for the election was improperly organized. They told The

Brunswickan that posters were not placed, as they are normally, in many buildings such as the Aitken Centre, LB Gym, South Gym, Central Heating Plant, McGee and MacLeod Houses and the Campus Residences. The Association Executive's letter addressed this issue by stating that, "In some areas posters were put up but were later taken down...apparently by persons working against the UNBEA (we cannot control that sort of childishness)." Langin told The Brunswickan that it was not uncommon for notification of meeting posters to be removed "even when we were still a CUPE Local."

A special meeting of the UNBEA was held February 24, 1993 in Carleton Hall.

After employees interrupted Langin's prepared speech at page 10 of 18 pages, a vote was called to settle the question of whether another election was to be held in order to satisfy all employees. The count was 88 to 65 to retain the executive which was elected February 10 and not have a second election. The Brunswickan was told that some employees questioned the count.

As under CUPE representation, there are presently two unionized groups on campus. These are the General Labour, Trades and

Audio Visual group and the Secretaries, Allied Clerks and Library Assistants group. Information given to The Brunswickan suggests that the vote on whether or not to have a new election indicated the division of the two groups; the latter voting to retain the original election results.

As negotiations with UNB (the employer) continue in anticipation of a new collective agreement with the UNBEA, both those who have taken issue with the Association's practices to date and the Associations Executive Committee are seeking solutions to the internal problems. Langin stated that the executive wished to "put an end to this riff and get on with business."

He said that he UNBEA will be seeking membership in the New Brunswick Federation of Labour in the not so distant future.

Several employees claim that much has to be considered before there can be harmony among the bargaining unit employees at the University of New Brunswick.



UNB Amnesty International to celebrate Women's Day

Women around the world are being silenced. They are victims of intimidation, illegal arrest and detention and torture by governmental and paragonmental agents. They are victims of official campaigns to deny human rights and to crush the human spirit.

Governments all around the world take illegal and extra-legal action against women who speak out or women who are perceived as potential opposition.

These women are of all ages, from all walks of life. They are trade unionists, agricultural workers, office workers, housewives, journalists, physicians, and lawyers. Most are on the forefront of social and political change, and many are leaders. But others are victims of human rights abuses simply because they are wives, mothers, daughters, or friends of those

deemed "dangerous". What is happening to them should not be happening to anyone.

Amnesty International is a worldwide human rights movement which is independent of any government, political grouping, ideology, economic interest or religious creed.

The Amnesty International, UNB group will hold an event on March 8, The International Women's Day, to celebrate the abuses. There will be guest speakers who will speak on women and human rights abuses. It will be a candle light vigil on behalf of the latest Amnesty files about women prisoners of conscience. This event will be held on March 8 at 7:00 p.m., UNB, Tilly Hall room 102.

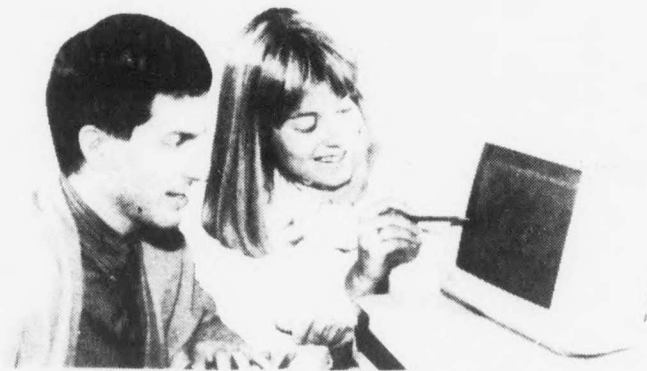
For more information please contact: Kourosh Mohseni: 451-6407.

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NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

Nominations are invited for the election of student representatives as follows:

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: (Graduate or Undergraduate Students)

Two seats -- terms ending 30 June 1994

FREDERICTON SENATE: (Undergraduate Students)

Five seats -- terms ending 30 June 1994

ELECTION DATES: 23 & 24 MARCH 1993

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Wednesday, 10 March 1993, at 4:30 p.m.

ELIGIBILITY AND PROCEDURES: Inquire at offices of Student Union, SUB, or University Secretary, Room 110, Old Arts Building.