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YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

York students' reaction mixed over Goods and Services Tax

By James Hoggett

While many students don't seem to mind paying the Goods and Services Tax on small items such as snack foods and parking, it is a much different story when it comes to textbooks and meals.

"I'm not very pleased," said Lisa Paulinic, a third-year BBA student. "I think books should be exempt from the GST."

Paulinic was in the book store buying textbooks for her second term courses. She purchased nine books and had to pay almost \$30 in GST.

I agree with the principle behind the GST, but I don't think that it's fair to charge it on textbooks," Paulinic said.

United Cigar Store manager Steve Sparks was expecting a much bigger backlash from customers having to pay the GST in his Central Square store.

"Things are going a lot smoother than I thought they would," Sparks said.

First-year history student, Ken Moran paid his GST on a can of juice which he bought at UCS.

"I don't like paying the tax, it would be a lot easier to swallow if it was lower than seven per cent," Moran said. "But what can you do, you got to pay it."

UCS has lowered most of their taxable products five to seven per cent, which has aided in this transition says Sparks.

"My biggest beef about the GST is that since prices are supposed to work out the same as before this tax, then why is the government having every retailer go through all the work in changing their prices?"

Another Central Square retailer that is unhappy about the tax is Donald Dianeza, owner of Onde Hair Design.

"I don't like being a tax collector for the government," Dianeza said. "I don't feel very comfortable charging the tax but thankfully my customers seem to understand that there is nothing that I can do."

"I'm not very happy about paying the tax," said third-year PhD student Rae Anderson, whose haircut cost her \$17.12 rather than \$16. "I'm really suspicious about the tax," Anderson said. "I have my doubts as to whether the government will use the money to lower the deficit."

Connie Morton, a third-year anthropology major objects to the GST being charged on campus cafeteria meals.

"Students have it tough enough without having to pay the GST," Morton said. "While I don't see a problem charging GST on restau-

rant meals, students shouldn't have to pay GST on meals bought in campus cafeterias.

Morton says that while she doesn't buy her lunches often, she will be cutting this down now that the GST has been implemented.

"I usually couldn't afford to buy my meals, even before the GST, but now it looks like I'll be buying them even less."

For some however, the GST is not a big concern.

Michell Geisler and Elliot Newman, both first-year students, eat out on average seven to eight times a week. They say that the GST won't stop them from eating out.

"I don't look at the GST as a problem," Geisler said. "I think that it will hurt us the most for the first half of the year, but since we can't do anything about it, we will eventually accept it."

Students also seem to be accepting the tax on parking rates. Parking in an unreserved lot now costs \$3.75, up from \$3.50, while reserved lot prices have increased 50 cents to seven dollars.

"Drivers are definitely not happy about the increase," said parking attendant Chris Larson. "They don't argue with us or blame the university, they just say that it's unfair and then pay the increase."



PHOTO BY CLIVE COHEN

Geez, that's a little more than I thought

United Cigar Store cashier Kim LeClair rings in a customer's purchase and charges him the eight per cent GST. Although students are disgruntled, most are agreeing to pay the extra cost.

CHRY recognition at national level

by John A. Vink

York's community radio station has received honorable mention for a current affairs broadcast dealing with sexual assault.

CHRY was one of four finalists in the 1990 Media Human Rights Award competition sponsored by the B'nai Brith League of Human Rights.

CHRY was chosen for its five part series "It's Not A Dick Thing" which aired last year during Sept. 17-21. The radio series was part of CHRY's current affairs programming, *Bread and Butter*.

The Media Human Rights Awards are presented to Canadian print, radio and television media for outstanding contributions in the area of human rights.

Out of a total of 77 submissions in the radio category, CHRY was the only community-based radio station to enter. The other three finalists in this category were all CBC affiliated radio stations — CBC Vancouver, CBC Toronto, and CBC Saskatchewan.

"This nomination has been great for us," said CHRY station manager Paul Conroy. "It helps people understand that we are on a competitive



Members of the Sexual Assault collective that produced the program, l to r, back row: Sherry Rowley, Kelly Rico, front row: Lavinia Lamenza, Denyse Stewart, Mary Jankulak PHOTO BY LISA RNR

level with so called professionals, and not just a bunch of kids having fun spinning records."

Although two other CBC stations won the award, CHRY was awarded an honorable mention at a gala dinner on December 10.

Denyse Stewart, the station's spoken word coordinator, said that the competition was difficult because CHRY has a considerably lower budget for programming in comparison to CBC affiliated radio stations.

"We can say we were one of the four finalists, so when we apply for money again, it adds to our argument," Stewart said, explaining that although CHRY did not win the award, becoming a finalist would provide good leverage in trying to obtain programming funding.

Several groups helped fund the project, including York's Office of Student Affairs, the Status of Women Office, and the Ontario Woman's Directorate.

According to Conroy, external funding constitutes approximately thirty per cent of CHRY's budget.

"Very often when a woman or child is assaulted, the argument has been that it's an isolated case, such as a man who is sexually frustrated," Stewart explained. "We say that it is a societal problem in terms of the way women are perceived."

The group that created the series met during the summer to discuss concepts they wanted to integrate into the project as well as performing much of the necessary research.


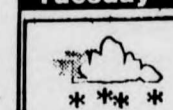
The first segment of the five-day series was an introduction concerning feminism and the relation of sex to power, called "Power Structure and Sexual Assault."

The following broadcast, "Social Attitudes Toward The Sexual Assault of Women," discussed the role of the family and domestic pressures in explaining the concept of sexual assault.

"The Role of the Family in Perpetuating and Supporting Sexual Assault" contained interviews with a woman who had survived an assault, while the fourth segment, "Systems That Deal With the Aftermath of Sexual Assault" defined some of the procedures after assault including the police, hospital and judicial system.

The series ended with a live interview with two women from the Woman's Legal Education Action Fund and the Rape Crisis Centre.

Weather Swammy

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| Monday  mostly sunny, windy High -2 Low -12 | Tuesday  mostly cloudy, with flurries High -3 Low -7 |
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