

# letters

Opinions expressed in this leaflet are not necessarily those of the Student's Representative Council or the SUB board.

## Dictatorship of the SRC!

Dear Sir:

"We are now in University, and Elementary School is a memory"! Show me some evidence of this, Mr. Finnan! The SRC is acting like an "elitist" party with regards to the SUB referendum.

In the first place, the student body is being treated as if it were comprised of idiots - or at most, elementary school children. The SRC wasted a fat sum of money sending us all a postcard with a picture of the Student Union Building and "Yes" written on it. This is hardly an intelligent or effective campaign for making us approve the renovations the SUB Board seems to think we need the most. In fact, it was an outright waste of money. At least one good reason for voting "yes" could have been added!

In this comedy of errors, not only were the first referendum ballots somehow misworded, (which resulted in a further waste of money), but they contained no references to the total sum of money to be raised or any other such vital information.

Far more important is that the fact that we are not voting for a FINAL PLAN was not made plain. The SUB administration can make changes where they see necessary. What IS clear is that the renovations, however they are finally effected, will result in a reduction of TOTAL space available for student lounges. May I point out that at lunch-time there isn't enough space as it is!

Even by reducing the seating space only 10% (one of the numerous figures that has been bandied around in this matter) a large number of students will be unable to find space at lunch. Furthermore, this "10% reduction" only refers to seating space - the actual reduction of space amounts to much more

than this. Another objection immediately plain to any student is that the proposed pocet lounges (to make up for the Blue Room being cut by 70%) will quickly come to be dominated by cliques of people - the access to many will thus be further limited.

I am all in favour of renovations - if they occur as they are truly needed. In fact, my first reaction to the Bruns headlines was "at last!" - that is, until I read the plans in the article. I have no idea why the SUB ballroom floorspace needs to be enlarged - I wasn't aware that it was used frequently for such large conferences. Tell me, are students usually involved in these conferences? The main benefits from these renovations will be to the SUB administration, as far as I can see. (I haven't been informed otherwise).

The SRC has decided that final plans will not be submitted for student approval by referendum. We don't get any direct say. One of the points made in the November 4th SRC meeting was that the council is the "student's friend" so a referendum won't be necessary. These "friends" hardly have my vote of confidence! Surely, no intelligent student would vote for a renovation plan that is not binding, and for the expenditure of an unspecified amount of money.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Coghlan

## Matter of Principle

One week before the referendum for SUB renovations was held, St. Thomas University held its referendum with a carefully thought-out wording on their ballots. The issue was clear and well understood by all. The vote took place without a hitch and a result was found.

When they did this at UNB, the students there voted on a totally different end result. Which election result is the right one? Any student knows that in order to collect a representative result, consistency is to be maintained. So stop wasting our time and money on "dud" ballots and do something constructive. There is already a bad enough threat of rising educational costs. We don't need this undue hassle to compound our problems. Maybe you bureaucrats who are in control of this situation at UNB should mull this over a bit.

Concerned and upset,  
Asied Debly  
STU-SRC Comptroller

