

Thompson upset by allegations

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Brunswickan Staff

Dean of Students Barry Thompson was "More than upset," by allegations in last week's *Brunswickan* that he had not acted on a case of sexual harassment.

He said he had no way of identifying the particular case being complained about. He added he wished the person involved would contact him to clear things up.

"There have been cases over the years," said Thompson, but he did not recognize the details as presented in the letter to the editor. He said he had discussed the situation with other members of the administration, and had decided to maintain a stance of "no comment" for now.

He admitted that for years he has been asked to do a job that is, "more than humanly possible," to do properly. The Dean of Students is required to

fulfill two separate functions which place him in a conflict of interest position. He must both act as an ombudsman when students come to him with complaints about services, faculty or administration; but he must also be a part of that administration making decisions affecting students.

Thompson stated ideally the position should be divided into two separate positions. He envisions a dean performing the administration tasks of the

present Dean of Students, and another person acting as an ombudsman for one third of his time, and as a professor teaching and doing research the rest of the time.

Thompson said the demands of the present office are too great, but declined to say which opposition he would prefer if the position was split. He said he has tried hard in the past to take the time on an issue to understand both sides. Where there was a conflict he

has tried to reach a compromise he added. But in some cases his conflict of interest would have prevented him from reaching such a compromise.

In such cases said Thompson, his office was bypassed and the problems were dealt with by the university secretary. This has happened in cases of appeals by students to decisions in the residence system.

(Continued on p. 8)

Forestry complex land purchased

by GORDON LOANE
Brunswickan Staff

The New Brunswick government has purchased 80 acres of land from the University of New Brunswick for the proposed Maritimes Forestry Complex.

Natural Resources Minister J.W. Bird, UNB President Dr. James Downey and other officials of the natural resources department, forest ranger

school and the university were in attendance at a recent ceremony where the purchase agreement was signed.

Natural resources minister Bird said the UNB land purchase was a first step in making the complex a reality. But Bird called on the federal government to announce its contribution to the complex. The federal government is expected to contribute 55 per cent of the total cost of the structure. Ottawa is expected to announce its contribution

soon. But the Natural Resources Minister invited the federal government "to join the provincial government, the university and the forest ranger school with a firm commitment."

The Regent Street facility will eventually house the New Brunswick Natural Resources Dept, the Maritime Forest Ranger School, laboratory facilities for the university's faculty of forestry and the Maritime Forest Research Centre and a federal government

research facility.

Bird said the Forestry Complex has been discussed by various parties for nearly a decade. Bird predicted the complex will provide funding for the university that will ensure "almost triple the activity" in forestry research.

Meanwhile, UNB President Dr. James Downey said the three million dollars obtained from the government for the land will be used to support and maintain UNB's contribution in the Forestry Complex.

The agreement also called for a 250,000 dollar contribution for the next ten years to forestry research at the university.

Natural Resources minister Bird said the agreement also provides "for the consolidation of more than 7,000 acres of prime New Brunswick woodlot land, to be owned by UNB, but to also be jointly available for access and use by the Forestry Complex participants to serve their educational, scientific and experimental purposes".



Artist's concept of the Maritimes Forestry Resources Complex to be built on Regent Street