

Don't throw out this paper-recycle it



Ecology Action Center

by Pam Berman

Participation in the Ecology Action Centre's paper recycling project in the Spryfield area has been so responsive that they are expanding their service into Fairview on February 27.

"We're hoping to cover the whole city by September," said Jennifer Point, one of the project coordinators from the Ecology Action Centre.

A feasibility study of paper recycling was done at Dalhousie which showed that in the long run it could economically maintain itself and even achieve a small margin of profit. Ecology Action then decided to pick a trial area and chose Spryfield because of the enthusiasm shown by Mrs. Earlcroft, a leader of the local cub / scout group. Pick-ups began in October and have continued on a bi-monthly basis.

Through the help of Coalition Supportive Services, who supplied the truck and their labour, they have to date collected 50,000 pounds of paper. On one particular day as much as 10,000 pounds was picked up.

The paper is recycled at L&B Recycling on Kempt Road, a local warehouse that sheds or bales it and then it is transported to Hantsport

where the material is used to make cardboard. In the winter season, some of the material is used to make cellulose insulation by Burt Controls in Truro.

Point also said that besides saving the provinces' trees, when you use recycled material to make cardboard you save up to 40 per cent on energy. There is also significant reduction in the amount of air and water pollution.

Other materials such as glass and metal scrap can be recycled, but there are no local recycling operations for these materials and it is too expensive to ship them to the nearest outlet which is in Moncton. Jennifer Point added that there's no reason why Halifax could not set up its own outlets for recycling glass and metal.

"Bluenose operations (a bottle exchange outlet) on Herring Cove Road, was, before Christmas, seriously thinking of expanding to take in all glass for recycling. So it is coming, it's just a matter of time", Point continued.

One of the primary values of metal recycling is the amount of energy it saves. Recycling aluminum, for example, uses 96 per cent less energy than exacting it from the ground.

Dal defends research

by Nancy Ross

Dalhousie University and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty (to Animals) (SPC) were summoned to a meeting on Wednesday, February 6, by Halifax City Council to answer allegations that the SPC has been selling pets indiscriminately to Dalhousie for research, some of which were allegedly still wanted by their owners.

Alderman Terry Sullivan of Halifax, who urged City Council to have the meeting, has proposed that the city, which along with the county of Halifax has an animal-control agreement with the SPC, forbid the Society to sell impounded animals to the university.

In reference to the requirement that animals picked up by society's dog catchers be kept 72 hours before the society can claim ownership, Elizabeth Croft, a former employee of SPC said last week on *Newsday*, a CBC news production, that this sort of thing went on all the time.

Croft said that when an owner calls the SPC inquiring about a lost pet that has already been sold to Dalhousie he is simply told his pet is not in the shelter. Then the record is falsified, with the information sheet destroyed and replaced by a new one with the animal's original number but a fictitious description. "I've seen that done."

Both Croft and former SPC receptionist, Rita MacKenzie, said concerning our relationship with Dalhousie "we were instructed to say, 'No, no animals go to Dalhousie'".

Donald Parsons of Kentville, who worked at the SPC in 1977, said Croft's statements are 'definitely true'.

Parsons said that in one case of two impounded dogs sold before the allowed time, both owners arrived at the pound shortly afterwards to

claim them—and one was a member of the SPC board. The board member was able to get his dog back from Dalhousie, but the woman who owned the other was too late.

Dr. Jim Love, vice president of the SPC and also in charge of the Animal Care Center at the Tupper Building, says he can't be sure if this is the case but doesn't believe it to be so. He said the majority of animals which the SPC are instructed to kill are old or disease ridden and inappropriate for research use. They sell about 10 dogs a week to the Tupper Building from a large surplus of dogs so there is no reason why people's instructions about their animals should not be followed, he said. The Tupper Building uses between 500 and 600 dogs a year and the SPC has yearly numbers which far exceed this.

Dr. Love stated the fact that the SPC has been selling animals for research purposes has not been hidden. "I myself even mentioned it on a radio program," he said.

Faye Bradley, an owner of a private animal shelter in Dartmouth, said she saw a Dalhousie worker at the SPC collecting a cat that a society employee told her had been taken in for mercy killing. Curious, she followed the Dalhousie van until it disappeared into the basement of the university's medical building.

"Fraud, I call it, because they had two payments for the cat", one from the university and a fee from the owner who took it in for mercy killing.

In addition, Croft said poor recording practices on occasion make it easy for animals taken in for gassing or new homes to be sent out in a Dalhousie van.

Andrew MacKay, vice-president of Dalhousie, said the arrangements with the SPC meet Canada Council of

Animal Care requirements as well as those outlined by the university. If the SPC can't find homes for these animals, MacKay said they have no alternative but to dispose of them, whether by killing them or selling them to Dalhousie for research. When asked where else Dalhousie could buy research animals, MacKay replied that his impression was that the SPC was the only local place to obtain them.

Fifteen minutes after the *Newsday* production had been aired, the producers began getting calls. One irate Dalhousie professor called claiming that the show would destroy their research program at Dalhousie.

Another professor from Dalhousie mentioned that if research animals could not be obtained from the local SPC, a black market could result in which animals would be purchased from people off the street. However, Love and Dr. Phil Dunham, chairman of the University Animal Care Center, said that Dalhousie would never resort to purchasing animals in this way.

Dunham said "somehow the SPC has been made out to be an evil organization doing evil things." He said in actuality they are very concerned about the welfare of the animals; constantly calling and inspecting the research areas to see just how the animals are being used and to insure no undue pain is caused. This type of concern was good for the professors, as well as reminding them of the ethics involved. Dunham believes that if Dalhousie had to buy animals from commercial buyers that you could be sure they wouldn't show any concern in how the animals were used. Also, the Medical school would be in difficulty if they could no longer obtain their dogs from the SPC.

Nominations reopen

by Paul Clark

The nomination period for five Dalhousie student council positions, including president and vice-president, has been extended until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 8 due to a lack of nominations in these areas.

The only president and vice-presidential team to be nominated so far is that of Gord Owen for president and Jeff Champion for vice-president. The constitution requires that more than one team must run for these positions and that they can't be filled by acclamation.

One remaining position is open for a representative on the Arts Society and no nominations had been received for president or vice-president of the Science Society as of Monday, February 4, when the original nomination period ended.

13 council positions have already been filled by acclamation.

It was also decided at an earlier date that nominations for the three positions on the *Gazette* Publishing Board will be received until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 8.

Gill Whitehouse, Chief Electoral Officer for the student union, said he was disappointed at the poor turnout of candidates and the large number of positions filled by acclamation.

He said he wasn't sure why the turnout was so poor because the elections have

been well advertised.

"To a certain extent this happens every year," Whitehouse said, "it was worse this year than last year, but not necessarily the worst on record".

Student council president Dick Matthews said this was the third year in a row the nomination periods has had to be extended.

Last year the president and vice-presidential team of Matthews and Graham Well was the only team to be nominated before the original deadline, but four more teams applied after the deadline was extended. Consequently, Matthews said he is "quite sure" more candidates for president and vice-president will appear by this Friday.

People think because they don't know enough they aren't qualified to be a council member, but all a candidate really needs is an opinion on what would be good for students, Matthews said.

Gene E. Ignacio, Tom Kurovski, W.C. Scott MacDonald, Graeme W.G. Scott and Umesh Jain were elected by acclamation to Senate on Monday.

Also acclaimed Monday were Burton McCann, as Law rep, Shirley Murray as Arts rep, Atul Sharma, Cardine Zayid and Sunil (Sonny) Umat as Science reps, Bruce MacGowan as Commerce rep, Keith Wellband as Engineering rep and Sandy Houston as Health rep.