

University City is not for students

By JAMES BRENNAN

Cadillac Development Corporation's University City was built to provide "suitable" housing for York students, faculty and staff even though, according to a recent estimate of a Cadillac Fairview employee, barely 10 per cent of its apartments are rented to students.

Cadillac's application in 1968 to rezone the land south of the York campus so that apartment buildings could be constructed explicitly cited the presence of the growing university as the pretext upon which Cadillac appealed for the rezoning. The rezoning application was found in the North York Planning Board office last week.

In a brief attached to the rezoning application (see page 3) Cadillac claimed that "the fundamental factor determining the basic development concept for University City is its proximity to the main campus of York University."

Despite the document's emphasis on a "university-related community" oriented to the housing requirements of York, "Cadillac City" as many people cynically refer to it, presently rents a nominal percentage of its apartments to students. Growing numbers of students regard Cadillac's renting procedures as discriminatory to students and fewer can afford to live there.

York University, contrary to popular belief, did not own the land on which University City is now built. Stan Fisher, director of the communications department told Excalibur that the University had never owned the land and that even if it had, York would have been unable to sell it. He suggested, however, that the University may have petitioned with Cadillac to have the land rezoned.

Director of University Planning Ross Dawson said last week that though York and Cadillac co-operatively decided on the

positioning of the buildings, "York had nothing to do with Cadillac" regarding the rezoning of the land. The minutes of the June 26, 1968 Planning Board meeting to discuss the rezoning application however, show that the University was not only represented at the meeting but that it was Dawson himself who acted as York's spokesperson.

The minutes said, "Mr. Ross Dawson was present representing York University and advised that the University is enthusiastic about the application..."

When asked about this contradiction, Dawson said on Tuesday, "Well I suppose we were there. They just ask you questions, I guess. When I said we didn't have anything to do with it, I just forgot that I'd even been there. We didn't really participate — they just ask you questions like "Do you object?"

Later in the conversation, Dawson said,

"Although we did make a strong plea for its use for students, we were also concerned about faculty because at that time we didn't really have any good areas in the neighbourhood for faculty housing. We thought it might be a bit expensive for students but we really needed somewhere for faculty."

Asked how he felt about the University City complex now, Dawson answered that he could think of nothing that upsets him about it. "I would say that there's an advantage having Cadillac there. I mean, we'd have had a lot more pressure to put more residences on campus."

Currently, 15 per cent of York students actually live on campus and the residences are invariably full by September. Consequently, many students are forced to look for accommodation in the surrounding community.

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Council calls for vote on OFS and NUS membership

By TED MUMFORD

Councillors of the CYSF (Council of the York Student Federation) voted Thursday to hold a campus-wide referendum to determine the future membership of CYSF students in OFS (the Ontario Federation of Students) and NUS (the National Union of Students).

OFS and NUS are respectively the provincial and national student organizations, both formed in 1972. Their work, which in the most part consists of representing student interests to the government, is financed by a fee paid by each member student.

At York, all members of the CYSF and Glendon Student Union are members of both NUS and OFS. Atkinson College students are members of OFS. Bethune College and Osgoode Hall Law School students do not belong to either organization, although Osgoode will hold a poll this spring to consider entry into OFS.

The referendum, which will be held concurrently with the elections for student positions on the CYSF and the Board of Governors on March nine and 10, will consist of two items and two sub-items: (The exact wording was not available at press time.)

1. I want my membership in the Ontario Federation of Students to be: (a) continued, or (b) discontinued. If you answered (b), do you want your \$1.50 membership fee transferred to CYSF?
2. I want my membership in the National Union of Students to be: (a) continued, or (b) discontinued. If you answered (b), do you want your \$1.00 membership fee transferred to CYSF?

A previous draft of the referendum's wording, rejected before the meeting, asked York students if they were in favour of establishing an FM radio station at York, and if so, if they wished to fund it by increasing the present student activity fee by \$2.50 or by transferring the NUS and OFS membership fees to the station.

CYSF currently pays \$1.50 annually for each of its members to belong to OFS, and \$1 to belong to NUS. This money is drawn off CYSF's share of the per-student activity grant received from the

university. The total of the fees is about \$20,000, which is between a fifth and a sixth of CYSF's annual budget.

The council also voted to endorse withdrawal from NUS and OFS and to allocate \$500 towards a pro-withdrawal campaign.

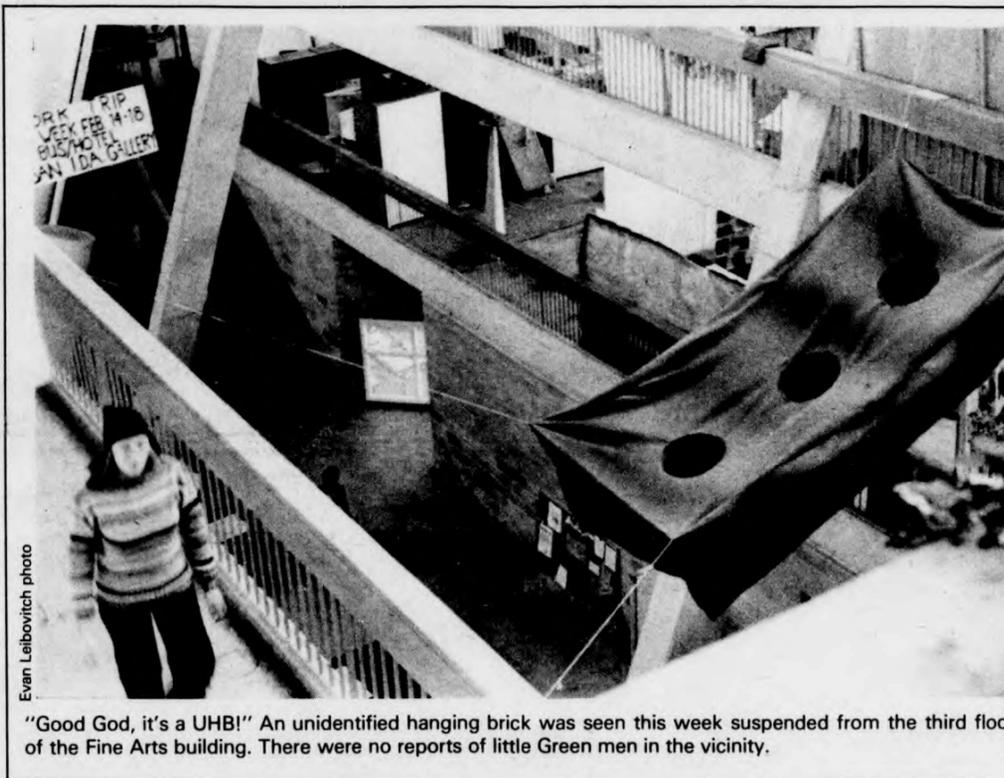
Scarcely a peep of opposition was heard in the senate chamber as the council rolled through the referendum motions presented by Vice-President for External Affairs, Stan White. Of the members of the United Left Coalition, which favours continued membership in NUS and OFS, only Calumet College representative Mary Marrone was present, and she arrived too late to vote on the referendum motions.

The meeting barely maintained quorum during its two-hour duration, with only 12 of the council's 25 members staying throughout, two more arriving late, and another two leaving early.

CYSF President Barry Edson made it clear he was in favour of withdrawing from the provincial and national student organizations, he told the meeting, "OFS is a body operating in a vacuum. It operates within the confines of the student movement of the 60's."

Several councillors expressed their dissatisfaction with OFS and NUS, stating they saw no evidence of the organizations' work at York, and their constituents were largely unaware of the two groups' existence.

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"Good God, it's a UHBI!" An unidentified hanging brick was seen this week suspended from the third floor of the Fine Arts building. There were no reports of little Green men in the vicinity.

BOG ignores senate motion, plans to implement fee hike

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

The Board of Governors of York, rejecting a Senate recommendation to ignore the Ontario government's position on differential tuition fee increases voted unanimously to increase fees for foreign students by 150 per cent, Monday.

The Board did however, accept another Senate recommendation to explore the feasibility of establishing a bursary fund for needy foreign students.

York president H. Ian Macdonald said that the bursary fund would be directed at those students who are not sponsored by the Canadian International Development Association and the Commonwealth Scholarship Programme.

For the foreign student studying in Canada, the new tuition fee structure would mean approximately \$1,590 in fees for an undergraduate and \$1,950 for a graduate student enrolled in a programme for the first time. Students sponsored by the Canadian International Association (CIDA) and the Commonwealth Scholarship Programme are exempt from the increases.

Macdonald told Excalibur that the Board members considered that, if York did not implement the tuition fee increases the absorption cost would reach two million dollars over a period of four years," he said.

"The cost to the university would be in the order of \$350,000 to \$380,000 or three quarters of a million dollars over a period of four years," he said.

Another member of the Board of Governors who did not want his name used, said that the absorption cost would reach two million dollars over a period of four years.

Macdonald expressed his concern over the problems that might arise when a Canadian and a foreign student apply for bursaries

to enter a limited enrolment programme such as law or medical school.

He said that though the Board agreed in principle to the examine the bursary programme recommendation, it should look carefully at the priorities of the Canadian and foreign student over different bursaries.

The administration and the Senate committee on scholarships and bursaries will be responsible for examining the bursary recommendation.

At the meeting, Macdonald also spoke on the recent speculation that Glendon College might be moved up to the main campus. He said "there was never any suggestion that Glendon college would be closed nor that the bilingual programme at York be discontinued."

"The concern over Glendon's future probably came from a series of discussions of the Presidential Commission on Goals and Objectives at York," he said.

"We had discussed the advantages and disadvantages of moving Glendon but the commission isn't a decision-making body."

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