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Opposition builds to loss of Katimavik

By ROBIN GENEAU
News Editor

Several weeks ago, the Special Senate Committee on Youth published a report which included the recommendation that programs such as Katimavik be expanded. The federal government responded by cancelling the program altogether, disregarding Katimavik's current contract.

Katimavik, which was established 10 years ago, was funded entirely by the federal government, giving the government the right to cancel their contract at any time. This contract would have been up for renewal next year.

Jacques Hebert, Chairman of the Special Senate Committee on Youth and founder of Katimavik, is extremely upset with the government's decision. Said Hebert, "They don't know what's happening in this country."

Brunswickan Editor on hunger strike for Katimavik

By ROBIN GENEAU
News Editor



Editor-in-Chief Ken Quigley

Protests against the cancellation of Katimavik have taken the form of a hunger strike.

Last Monday, Jacques Hebert, founder of Katimavik, began his hunger strike as an attempt to get the federal government to reconsider its

The purpose of Katimavik has been to help young people make the transition from high school to the 'real world'. The program consisted of participants spending 3 months in different cities for a total of 9 months. Hebert feels that both the young people and communities benefited from this arrangement.

Over 20,000 youth have participated in Katimavik, as well as 50,000 families and 1,350 communities. It has also been copied by countries such as Australia and the United States.

The cost of the program to the government was \$9,540 per participant. This included paying them \$1 per day for performing valuable community services and \$1000 when they completed the program.

Hebert cited an example of how that money has been

spent. Nine years ago, three city boys learned through the program that they enjoyed farming. After completing the program, they pooled their \$3000 and invested it in a small farm in New Brunswick.

According to a letter prepared by Friends of Katimavik, an organization devoted to bringing the program back, each \$1 invested has produced an economic output, in the form of community work, of \$2.43. When asked why the government would cut such a program, Hebert replied, "No reason but pure stupidity."

Government officials have

suggested that responsibility for Katimavik be passed on to the private sector. Hebert feels that this will not work, "The private sector doesn't give a damn about youth - all they care about is profit, profit, profit."

Hebert is hoping to get support from the public, especially students. He urges those concerned to write to their MP's, asking for a reversal of the decision. Friends of Katimavik also has a petition available for circulation.

Hebert is certain that the government will eventually reconsider and say "we were wrong, we have changed our minds."



Senator Jacques Hébert

GSA to be autonomous

By Mark Lutes
Secretary, G.S.A.

The Graduate Student Association is now in the final stages of becoming completely autonomous from the undergraduate Student Union. As a result the graduate students will have an organization devoted exclusively to their concerns. The GSA will then have a sound financial base and have the same political standing as the SRC.

The GSA has been preparing for this move for some time, and early in 1985 conducted a referendum of the graduate students in order to ascertain the level of support. The result was overwhelmingly in favor of autonomy for the GSA.

This development corresponds with what has been occurring at other universities across the country. Graduate Student organizations at most universities are independent, and more are preparing to separate. A recent survey of graduate student organizations showed that the independent organizations were much more satisfied with their ability to serve their members than those which were still a part of the undergraduate organizations.

At many universities, the process of gaining autonomy has been characterized by much animosity and even lawsuits. UNB's GSA and SU

have wisely chosen to avoid this route, and the negotiations have thus far been undertaken

Continued on page 3

Summer Residents Receive Fee Hike

Brunswickan Staff

Due to an unprecedented increase in UNB summer residence rates, some students will be finding themselves digging deeper into their pockets to pay their monthly rent.

The increase for single room rental is from 140 dollars to 195 dollars per month - a 40% increase. Inflation must be taken into consideration as the present rate has been in effect for several summers; however, a \$55 increase will probably cause financial difficulty for some students.

The decision to increase the rates was made by Roy Brostowski, as Director of Summer Residence, appointed last year. Brostowski compared UNB's summer rates with other universities' and found that UNB's were basically lower. The Board of Dons was not approached on this matter, nor was their opinion asked.

Brostowski is also in charge of food services and conferences at UNB. He also decided that if summer conferences occur simultaneously with the graduation ceremonies and rooms are needed, graduating students will be asked to move to another part of their residence or to another residence.

Inside

UNB Professor receives \$50,000	pg 2
Abbie Hoffman at UNB	pg 3
CHSR fund drive	pg 4
Mugwump & Editorial	pg 8
Opinion	pg 9
Blood & Thunder	pg 10, 11
Feature	pg 12, 17
EXAM SCHEDULE	pg 13-16
Distractions	pg 18
Viewpoint	pg 19
Entertainment	pg 21, 22
Sports	pg 23, 24, 25
Classifieds	pg 26, 27