

CUP Briefs

Welcome to McBC

VICTORIA (CUP) — "Customers" can get McMaps to tour B.C.'s newly privatized public parks thanks to a new "corporate partnership" between the parks ministry and several companies, including McDonald's.

Parks Minister Terry Huberts said the partnership is a "marketing tool" designed to increase public awareness of the provincial parks.

"It is a one-year contract," Huberts said. "We want to target the same audience that McDonald's has. It is solely for promotion of the parks."

B.C. government employee union official Soren Bech said the companies are exploiting the parks to advertise their own services.

For example, McDonald's "McMaps" show the various locations of the restaurant in relation to the parks.

While the province has been privatizing security, maintenance and fee collection services in parks since 1983, the "partnership" wasn't inked until this spring and naturalist programs weren't privatized until this summer.

Huberts says privatization won't give control of the parks to the private sector.

"The responsibility of the parks hasn't changed. I haven't given up authority," he said.

Union president John Shields said the province privatized park services without any public consultation.

"There is no longer a stable level of service, knowledge and expertise in the naturalist programs — there is no supervision," Bech said. "We have had hundreds of people writing to complain."

Bech said people were less safe in the privatized parks.

"Park employees are peace officers," said Bech. "Private contractors don't have the authority to enforce the Park Act. They have to call the RCMP and there can be times when there is a long wait between the call and when the RCMP arrive."

The BCGEU has asked Huberts to conduct a "formal public consultation" regarding the privatization of park services.

Huberts refused, saying "it was a management decision; there was never a question of public meetings."

"We manage and (private companies) maintain that's all they do," he said.

Press a problem

CRANBROOK, B.C. (CUP) — East Kootenay Community College's student council president has apologized for evicting a rumoured troublemaker of a reporter from an open meeting.

Mike Sutherland expelled the college paper, Insights', news editor Erik Pederson from a council meeting last month because he was a "disruptive force."

"This is strictly an informal meeting; we don't want the pressure of the press," he said at the meeting. "Already you are a disruptive force. Traditionally you have been a problem. If you want to be a problem, we can be a problem for you as well."

Council meetings are supposed to be open to all, but council president Sutherland said that didn't apply to the campus media. "If students want to sit in on some of the meetings, they're welcome, but not the press," he said.

One candidate for a council position dropped out of the race over the incident.

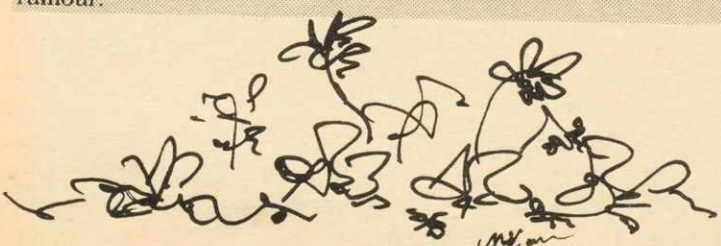
"I don't want to be involved any more. I don't think I can put up with such secrecy," Cecilia Teneese said. "I'm a very open person."

Sutherland later apologized to Pederson.

"I think we overreacted," he said. "I was worried about what (he) might print in the paper about my council. They're just ten kids; they're not polished politicians."

Sutherland said the paper was welcome to cover council meetings.

"I was worried about (Pederson) because (he has) a reputation for being a disruptive influence, rightly or wrongly; that's been the rumour."



CFS goes 'round the world

by Alastair Croll

At a recent conference in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, students and administrators from several countries got together to share ideas and discuss common problems.

The student organizations of five nations bordering the Atlantic Ocean attended a five-day conference at Acadia University. On the agenda were topics as diverse as campus environment, time management for executives, AIDS on campus, and control of tuition fees.

The conference, which was

attended by close to two hundred students and staff, was organized by the Association of College Unions International. It was just one of many in a growing trend towards unifying student unions around the world. More and more, administrators and members of student groups are sharing their ideas and innovations at similar conferences.

Students from the United Kingdom travelled through Canada during their stay, visiting universities in Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Wolfville.

Only recently has the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) moved towards international ties.

"The CFS has been concentrating on getting ourselves organized," said Tom Digby, vice-president external of the Dalhousie Student Union. "Now, we're concentrating on establishing our links."

Digby feels the stronger communications will benefit students everywhere. Unions will be able to discuss their problems, learn techniques for political lobbying, and apply successful ideas from other universities on their own campuses, he says.

DSU vice-president academic Kim Vance, who also attended the conference, said it was an interesting experience. Vance, a student of ecology, delivered a workshop on campus environmental issues.

Where your cash goes

GAZETTE BUDGET

Description	88/89 Actual	88/89 Budget	89/89 Budget
REVENUES			
Local Advertising	38,000.00	30,992.18	36,500.00
Gazette Graffiti	14,000.00	6,838.38	8,000.00
National Advertising	13,000.00	14,061.77	14,000.00
DSU Advertising	5,000.00	5,311.10	5,300.00
DSU Grant	33,400.00	33,400.00	34,700.00
RJ Clegg	0.00	243.00	250.00
Total Revenues	103,400.00	90,846.43	98,750.00
EXPENSES			
Salary — Editor	7,250.00	7,196.00	7,825.00
Salary — Bus./Ad Mgr.	14,040.00	11,785.29	13,500.00
Salary — TS full-time	8,400.00	6,823.50	9,000.00
Salary — TS part, Summer	2,955.00	2,017.90	500.00
Salary — TS part, Winter	2,000.00	1,516.00	1,700.00
Salary Benefits	2,255.00	2,255.00	2,500.00
Printing	23,500.00	22,326.54	24,500.00
Distribution	5,000.00	5,031.00	5,125.00
Processing Supplies	3,200.00	2,200.34	2,700.00
Production & Office Supplies	2,500.00	1,478.78	1,800.00
Postage	1,400.00	747.20	1,000.00
Telephone	1,650.00	1,336.48	1,500.00
Misc. Printing	1,100.00	854.11	1,000.00
PMTs	1,200.00	846.48	1,000.00
Repairs	400.00	0.00	300.00
Photo	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Misc. Travel	250.00	90.70	200.00
Service Contract	3,000.00	3,213.00	2,500.00
Rate & Business Cards	75.00	56.50	75.00
Associations	125.00	100.00	125.00
Staff Retreat	200.00	196.98	200.00
Conference	2,400.00	1,521.84	2,500.00
CUP Fees & Travel Pool	7,200.00	8,103.10	6,000.00
Bank Charges	75.00	0.00	100.00
Loan Payment	4,000.00	3,996.60	2,805.80
Honoraria	2,200.00	1,850.00	2,500.00
Dun & Bradstreet	125.00	135.00	135.00
Subscriptions	325.00	169.00	200.00
Fonts	350.00	0.00	0.00
Bad Debts	1500.00	1798.59	1,500.00
Contingency	1,400.00	0.00	2,059.20
DSU Debt	1,825.00	1,825.76	1,825.00
Professional Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	103,400.00	90,991.69	98,175.00
Net Revenue (+ or -)	0.00	-145.26	0.00