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DIE-IN AT MARRIOTT

by Jeannine Amber

A planned protest by a newly formed AIDS activist group has angered officials at the Marriott corporation.

"We do not liked being picked on especially by someone who doesn't have their facts straight," said Marriott's York manager Eric Cameron who accused the group of not doing proper research before planning their demonstration.

The demonstration is the first protest planned by ACT-UP Toronto. The group plans to stage a "die-in" at one of the many campus cafeterias run by the Marriott corporation.

According to ACT-UP founder Ron Kelly, the demonstration is in protest of Marriott's alleged support of a defeated U.S. congressional bill allowing HIV positive individuals to be removed from food-handling positions.

The York Federation of Students (YFS) and Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) are lending their official support to the demonstrators from ACT-UP Toronto.

The bill, known as the Chapman amendment, was defeated in the U.S. House of Representatives last June.

Kelly says the purpose of the demonstration is to act as a warning against Marriott and other corporations "not to consider this type of tricky legislation in Canada."

Society of the Spectacle

Cameron told *Excalibur* that Marriott's policy on life threatening illness clearly states that people with AIDS are free to remain in their positions within the company as long as they are able to fulfill the job requirements.

Cameron said pushing for a piece of legislation in conflict with Marriott's policy would be "a waste of time."

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