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SCC York Lanes Resolution

by Brent Poland

The controversy over competition between the Student Centre and York Lanes has been resolved.

In negotiations between the Student Centre Corporation (SCC) and York administration an agreement was worked out to compensate the SCC in the event of revenue lost to competition from York Lanes.

The main focus of the dispute centred around revenue that would be lost by the SCC from its food services due to this competition.

These food services would make up a majority of the SCC income in the first year of operation.

In the agreement reached, the administration under direction from Bill Farr vice president of finance, now admits that competition will take place between the SCC and York Lanes.

Administration would compensate the SCC if their revenue from the food services drops below the projected income level of \$400,000.

"The long-standing dispute over product to product competition between the SCC and York Lanes is now over," said SCC chair Chia-Yi Chua. "We can now move on."

The SCC had been told that any food service offered in York Lanes would not compete with those offered in the SCC. This promise was offered by provost Beth Hopkins but was not kept by the York University Development Corporation (YUDC).

The SCC board is comprised of 14 members, including two members of the administration, provost Beth Hopkins and Brian Rideau.

Hopkins and Rideau sit on the board representing the administration because the University donated the land upon which the Student Centre is built as well as providing a \$3.8-million grant.

The resolution does not withdraw the product to product competition, but any existing space in York Lanes will not be leased to competitors.

The agreement further binds the YUDC to the decisions of the provost and the administration on matters concerning the SCC.

Hopkins would not comment from an administrative point of view and Bill Farr was not available for comment.

Hopkins stated that the agreement was not yet finalized and the Student Centre was waiting on a paper from Farr before the agreement could be finalized. This paper will be ready in a couple of weeks.

"The Student Centre won the 1989 Canadian architecture award for excellence," says Chua. "York Lanes is a mall."

Chua feels that because the issue is resolved York Lanes will not represent a serious threat to the Student Centre.

The Student Centre costs each student \$45 per full course load (five courses).

Three students are elected each year in March to represent the student body on the board. The other nine positions are filled by the York Federation of Students (YFS) and various student governments and organizations.

