

groups have organizations designed to lobby the government on a national level, why shouldn't students have such an organization?

Our political system is designed to accommodate such lobbying. We have a right as students to participate in the policy making that affects us specifically, just as bankers, manufacturers and teachers do. Therefore we need representation in Ottawa.

The real question with regard to CFS is whether it is, in fact, providing effective representation, and not if it should be doing so. Judging from the improvements that have been made in the areas of student summer employment programs, and the student aid program, I can say with confidence that CFS has provided (sic) has been effective and that it warrants our full support.

Angela V. Kalinowski
Arts III

CFS: Shifty?

One of the advantages of being a student here for five years is that it has given me the ability to realize what a shifty organization CFS really is. My comments refer to the '\$4 total' membership fee that students will vote on this Friday; i.e., \$3 to the political wing and \$1 to the services wing.

The formation of CFS took place two years ago as a result of the merger of NUS, which was to be the political wing, and AOSC, which was to be the services wing. One of the differences between these two parent organizations is that while AOSC made a comfortable profit, the political wing (NUS) carried a hefty deficit.

So why then was the services wing AOSC, willing to merge with this deficit-ridden NUS? Quite simply, at the conference of 1981, NUS supporters infiltrated the ranks of AOSC to the extent that the services wing had little choice but to become part of CFS; thus, the deficit of the political wing was nicely absorbed.

But, you ask, if the services wing has always made a profit where then is this money (going to) that is supposedly for services?

Good question. I've been wondering about that myself.

Anthony Volt
Graduate Student

(CUTS, the travel service, and not CFS-Services as a whole makes a profit. GB)

CFS: U of Sask speaks

As President of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union, I encourage you to vote "YES" on referendum day. Our 17,000 full and part-time students are members of the Canadian Federation of Students.

As members, our students have had the benefit of the services that CFS provides, ranging from Student saver discount cards to Travel CUTS to lobbying efforts that have shown concrete returns, particularly over the last year.

Students must speak out on such issues as student aid and underfunding of post-secondary institutions. Uniting students from one end of the country to the other on these issues is important in assuring that our voice is heard. CFS is an organization with vast potential, working together, students of this nation can take advantage of this potential.

Two years ago, our students voted 83 per cent in favor of joining CFS. I hope you will have the same success at the University of Alberta.

Good luck!

Beth Olley, President
Students' Union, U of Saskatchewan
Terry Garchinski, Exec Vice President
Students' Union, U of Saskatchewan

CFS: Lethbridge speaks!

As founding members of CFS, the students of the University of Lethbridge wish to endorse the Canadian Federation of Students to the students of the University of Alberta. We feel it is a necessary and viable organization but it can only work effectively if all students are willing to become involved.

Students in Alberta are still experiencing serious problems arising from government interference and funding cutbacks. It is important, therefore, for all PSE students in Alberta to maintain a high profile and present a united and cohesive voice to both levels of government. At this time, this can best be accomplished through an organization like CFS.

The vision of a strong student voice is only possible if supported by all students. Therefore, we urge you to vote YES for CFS.

Michael McPhail
President

In an article in Tuesday's Gateway it was stated that Carleton was the largest member institution of the Canadian Federation of Students. In fact, the University of Saskatchewan, which has 17,000 students, is the largest member.

WHAT'S LEFT

by Mike Walker

We do need CFS

Students here vote tomorrow on whether the U of A should become a full fee-paying member of the Canadian Federation of Students. If the referendum passes, each full-time U of A undergrad will pay an additional \$4.00 annually to the Students' Union, which will forward these fees to CFS.

If students feel they have too little information to make an informed decision, it isn't their fault. The Pro-CFS committee seems to think it has a better chance of winning if students know as little as possible about CFS. So the information available is shallow, and not very helpful.

This is unfortunate, because there is nothing to hide about CFS. CFS has established itself since its formation in 1981, as a powerful organization for students across Canada. In addition to services such as the Travel CUTS office in SUB (wholly-owned by CFS), the Federation is a strong lobbying force on Parliament Hill and provides reams of research on educational issues for the use of students and their Students' Unions. And if the U of A joins, we will probably see an Alberta wing formed to represent Alberta students to our provincial government.

Without some kind of organization, students have absolutely no influence over government policies on funding, tuition fees, student aid, and other matters that directly affect us. And we need influence right now more than ever before. Both federal and provincial governments are intensifying their cutbacks to education funding; ground lost now may never be made up.

Some idiot is reportedly putting up posters around campus urging students to vote against CFS because it is socialist. Now I am a socialist, so perhaps some will assume that any organization I endorse is socialist as well. In actual fact, CFS is first and foremost a democratic organization. Final authority rests with the member institutions, which meet twice a year to decide policy and elect a national executive, which has guaranteed regional representation.

Even with these democratic procedures, if a particular school or province doesn't like a certain policy, it is not bound to adopt it back at home. Each school can keep its own policy, and argue at the next conference for a change in CFS policy.

CFS's statement of Purpose basically pledges the

federation to defend students' interests and work for high-quality accessible education. My major point of agreement with the hundreds of thousands of CFS members is that students need to be organized to accomplish these tasks. And for this, CFS is the only vehicle.

...

Ring out the old mayor . . .

It is certainly good to see Cec Purves bite the dust.

The ex-mayor decided to take full credit for the past year's cutbacks in transit, recreation and other services, and promised more of the same to come. And he presented himself as a stars and stripes conservative, complete with red, white and blue newspaper ads. He discovered that the overwhelming majority of Edmontonians are fed up with service cuts, and unwilling to put a Reaganite back into the mayor's chair.

Good riddance, Cec.

Unfortunately, the new council may turn out to be as eager as the last one to turn council into a yes-chamber for big business and developers. There are at least six staunch business supporters out of twelve members on the new council — right-wing incumbents Olivia Butti, Ron Hayter and Percy Wickman, independent Lance White, and ultra-right wing Responsible Citizens' Committee members Lillian Staroszik and Lyall Roper.

Urban Reform Group Edmonton (URGE) returned only two councillors (three years ago they had four), demonstrating the deep trouble that organization is in. The Edmonton Voters' Association (EVA) failed to elect any companions for Ed Ewasiuk, although some other EVA candidates made strong showings in an EVA campaign many times stronger than last election.

At the next election in 1986, the RCC will probably be stronger and even better-funded (if that's possible). Most of the independents will be, as usual, big-bucks business types. That leaves URGE and EVA to head off another well-financed push from the right; with URGE apparently ready to disintegrate, Edmontonians who think City Council should do more than lick the boots of business leaders had better get ready to throw their support behind EVA. It will be the only alternative.



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Tuition Fees

If fees are still unpaid after October 17 a student's registration is subject to cancellation for non-payment of fees and the student to exclusion from classes.

Students who expect to pay their fees from federal and/or provincial government loans are referred to Section F of the Registration Procedures booklet or to Section 15.2 of the University Regulations and Information for Students Calendar.

Fees are payable at the Office of the Comptroller on the 3rd floor of the Administration Building.

Office of the Comptroller
The University of Alberta