Young Canada Works - a drop in the bucket

OTTAWA (CUP)—With preliminary totals of Young Canada Works applications now available, the same story as last year is told—three times as many applications as there were jobs.

According to a YCW official, applications processed as of March 2 requested a total of approximately \$160 million for 12,969 projects. However, only \$55.5 million is available under the program.

Although the application deadline date was Feb. 16, he said, a final total of applications will probably not be ready for another week. Already, however, "you can see

we're way over-subscribed."

The applications will now be checked to see if they meet the program's standards, and then priorized within each constituency by ministerial advisory boards. The official said decisions would be reached on each project by April 30, but could not give a more definite date.

Last year, only 5,029 of 14,291 applications (or 35 per cent) were approved. According to the National Union of Students, this figure, conbined with the 17 per cent student unemployment rate last summer, showed that the program is not working.

"This is a program that remains drastically underfunded and therefore unable to meet students' needs and demand for employment," said a brief from NUS to employment and immigration minister Bud Cullen last September. And, although funding is increased this year, NUS still says it will be insufficient.

"We expect students to be even more dependent on government programs this year than last year in light of high unemployment rates and the fact that unemployment insurance has been cut back," said NUS executive secretary Pat Gibson.

"Students will now be scrambling without unemployment insurance protection. The least this government could have done was to provide the amount of money requested last year so that all worthy projects could be funded."

The preliminary figures also show a shift in applications this year, away from the Atlantic provinces and the West and towards central Canada. While the percentage of applications from Ontario and Quebec increased from 55% to 61%, the percentage from the Atlantic decreased from 23 per cent to 18 per

cent, and the percentage from the West dropped from 22 per cent to 21 per cent.

Wiggle makes marks higher

(ZNS-CUP)—You may be able to wiggle your way to good grades.

Lawrence Morehouse, a University of California physiologist, says he has spent 40 years observing students who squirm during exams, and he says they earn better grades than their more placid peers.

Morehouse says that toetapping, jiggling, wriggling and weightshifting supply fuel to the brain by increasing blood circulation. He suggests that this keeps students alert during the last lap of an exam or in a tedious lecture.

Says Morehouse, "Students who just sit have a tendency to do badly, even stupidly, on the final few exam questions."

Morehouse hopes his observations won't incite a rash of ambitious writhing in exmaination room, however.

He says that a mere tap of the toe—instead of largescale fidgeting—should do the trick.



classified's

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