

## Government seizes tax refunds

# Students must pay loans

by Farhan Memon  
Canadian University Press

TORONTO — If you have a Canada Student Loan make sure you pay all of it off.

Under new provisions announced in last year's federal budget, Revenue Canada can now seize the income tax refunds of students whose loans are in arrears. And they're doing it.

"We received a lot of calls from students and former students who were depending on their refund cheques to finance their education," says Van Buchanan, a constituency assistant for British Columbia NDP MP Lynn Hunter.

"These people received a rude surprise when their cheque was garnished. In many cases most of them thought that their loans had been paid. But since most student loans are divided into a provincial and a federal portion, only the provincial share had been cleared."

Fortunately for British Columbia residents, a provincial law sets a time limit of six years from the point of last contact, after which seizures of this sort are not allowed.

Students in other provinces are not so lucky.

Richard Bruce, vice-president academic for the University of Regina student government, said he was dealing with one case in which a student's refund cheque was grabbed by the government.

"What's really weird," said Bruce, "is that this student's loan dates back from the 1970s. I mean it's prehistoric."

Bruce said the statute of limitations provisions in Saskatchewan are unclear, and that his organization is deciding whether or not it will go to court to force the government to return the student's cheque.

"There is no question in our mind that students should be paying off their loans in full," said Bruce, "but taking money away from students who really need it, out of the blue, is really unfair."

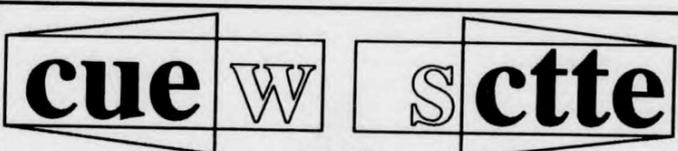
Kelly Lamrock, chair of the Canadian Federation of Students said the cases from B.C. and Saskatchewan are not isolated incidents.

"We're dealing with a phenomena of harassment on a national scale," Lamrock said. "The government's own figures show the repayment rate

for student loans is 91 per cent and there's usually a good explanation for those loans that aren't paid."

Lamrock also said the nine per cent of loans classified as being in default are usually held by the students who needed loans the most, and their failure to repay these debts indicates what's really wrong with the Canada Student Loan system.

"If someone's making \$600 per month, and the government's asking for \$400, how does the rent get paid? How does he eat?"



Local 3

Representing 2,000 Teaching Assistants and Part-Time Faculty  
D140 West Office Building, York University, 4700 Keele Street,  
Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P3 (416) 736-5154

## STRIKE VOTE

Thursday October 15, 12:00 to 2:00pm  
Burton Auditorium

After months of bargaining, the York Administration has offered CUEW nothing but concessions. In accordance with the instructions of the last General membership meeting, the Executive and the bargaining team of Local 3 have called a strike vote to give the union a mandate to make further progress in contract negotiations.

Support CUEW's fight for job security, a tuition freeze, class size limits, employment equity, and job safety. If you cannot attend the meeting you are encouraged to vote after 2:00 pm on Thursday or between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday in the Union office. If you have not signed your card, contact the Union office. Members with childcare needs are encouraged to use the Part-time Daycare Centre. These costs will be covered by the Union. Other childcare expenses should be discussed with a Union representative.

**Disability Awareness Week**  
Tuesday October 13 from 7-9 pm  
in Student Centre Common Room,  
Rm 307. A workshop on utilizing  
services on campus.

**Remembering David Conrad**  
On Tuesday October 13 from 1-3  
in the Calumet College Common  
Room, ABLE hosts a memorial  
service. They will be accepting  
donations for the David Conrad  
Memorial Bursary at this time.

**Calling All Nations Monday**  
October 12, at 11am, at Queen's Park  
and then the Bickford Centre.  
Sponsored by 500 Years/October  
1992 Coalition including the YFS.  
Celebrate 500 years of resistance  
and survival. For more information  
call David Harmolin 736-5324.

**The Goddess and the Celtic**  
**New Year** Wednesday October  
14, at 5pm, in room 315C Student  
Centre. Hosted by Cerridwen-  
Hecate. Samhain is a generally  
mis-understood holiday. We will  
talk in detail about this holiday,  
the neo-pagan movement and  
where the goddess fits in.

**Create the Goddess in Clay**  
Hosted by Cerridwen-Hecate,  
Wednesday October 22 from 6 to  
9pm, in 315C Student Centre. "Get  
down and dirty with the Goddesses"  
by coming out to this event. All  
materials will be provided free of  
charge and everyone is invited.  
Space is limited. Visit 441 Student  
Centre to reserve your space by leaving  
us your name and phone.

**Bible Study** Old testament, Mondays  
at 12:35pm, in suite 463  
Student Centre. Hosted by the York  
Catholic Community.

**York Fencing Club** - Fencing  
practices and lessons. Mondays  
and Wednesdays, 7:30 to 10:30pm,  
in the Upper Gym, Tait McKenzie  
Building. Call 771-0646 for information.

**York Alcoholics Anonymous**  
Every Tuesday and Wednesday  
from 5:15 to 8:45pm, in 103  
Founders College. Open to anyone  
who has a desire to stop  
drinking or who thinks they may  
have a problem with alcohol. There



Submissions to Drop Everything must be printed on the forms provided, and be in the envelope in the Excal Production Room by noon on Wednesday

## DROP EVERYTHING

are no fees for AA memberships.  
Contact Graham at 654-5517.

**Bisexual Lesbian and Gay Peer Support Group** Discreet and confidential. Addressing personal issues. Tuesday 6:30 - 7:30 pm, at 315C Student Centre. Any hesitations call Doug at 736-2100, ext. 20494.

**Le Cercle Français** The official club of the French Department and all other persons interested in French culture and language. Our office is at 343 Student Centre, 736-5086, contact Louise Chaput, or 833-1576, contact Alexandre Sévigny. Et tout ça, parce qu'on est jeune!

**York By Cycle** A York-based bicycle user group. The ring-posts are popping up everywhere. The more bicycles come on campus, the more they will be planned for. For more info call Ed or Mel at 322-8440.

**Student Christian Movement** Support third world cooperatives and alternative trade. We carry Bridgehead coffees, teas, and Rainforest Crunch. 214 Scott Religious Centre, 736-2100 ext. 77275.

**Interested in Tutoring?** The York Portuguese Association is offering you the opportunity to tutor inner city youths. For more information contact Christina E. or Victor at the YUPA office, 124A Winters College or call 736-5584.

**Ride Board** Going somewhere? Need a ride? Have extra space in your car? Announce it and reduce your costs. Located outside the YFS office.

**Usherettes/Ushers**  
The Royal Winter Fair Horse Show  
**excellent wages**

Contact Only  
Liz Mets  
**773-4820**

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## A word from the Registrar's Office

Have you obtained your student card yet?

Sessional Identification Cards are available for pick-up at the following locations:

- Law  
Student Affairs Office, Osgoode Hall Law School
- Glendon College  
Office of Student Programmes, Glendon College
- Administrative Studies, Arts, Environmental Studies, Fine Arts, Pure and Applied Science  
Registrar's Office, West Office Building
- Graduate Studies  
Faculty of Graduate Studies
- Grad Administrative Studies & Environmental Studies, Atkinson, Education

Card will be mailed to you

**Office of the Registrar**  
**October 7, 1992**