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CLOSING DATE: December 31, 1972.

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fee referendum

YES

In addressing this letter to you as member of The Students' Union, I hope to make clear some essential points regarding the Fee Referendum on Wednesday. First of all, to explain the need of the Referendum.

Like any organisation, The Students' Union is faced every year with increased cost of operation as a result of inflation. These increasing costs compete with an income that has been virtually static over the past several years due to the levelling off of enrollment. Consequently, the services and programs offered by The Students' Union are threatened. We can do nothing to halt inflation; we can only reduce expenditures in all areas. Unfortunately, the point has been reached where further cutbacks will only cripple many operations so much so that their

value will be lost.

I believe most students would agree that the future continuation and expansion of Students' Union services is essential if the organization is to be a useful entity to its members. To do this, an increase of income is required. Normally, this would necessitate an increase in fees, but as shall be explained, this need not occur.

Three years ago, students decided by referendum to increase their fees to pay for the proposed expansion of SUB. At that time, SUB was unbelievably overcrowded and unbearable. The construction of Central Academic, the static enrollment, and the development of HUB has and will reduce the load on SUB to the level it was designed for. Expansion of SUB is no longer realistic, or, in fact, desirable.

Therefore, in the Referendum on Wednesday, you will only be asked to release the building expansion portion of your fees (\$3.00 for most members) into the general revenues of The Students' Union. I must emphasize that if you approve the Referendum, fees will NOT be increased. You

will also be asked to allow money already accumulated in the SUB Expansion Reserve to be used for the purchase of new equipment, furniture, and other capital equipment in SUB.

Approval of the Referendum will permit continuation of present operations for at least three years. Thus, the Fee Referendum, will, to a large extent, determine the future course of The Students' Union. I urge your support in favour of the Referendum. Garry West

NO

Tomorrow we are being asked to vote on a referendum which, if it passes, will have the effect of turning the \$100,000.00 SUB expansion fund and the annual \$3.00 contribution that we make to the fund over to the students' union council. They are making this move in this way because they know full well that they don't dare openly ask students for a fee increase because they know they wouldn't get it. We have nothing against the students' union having more money to operate on if they will in fact spend that money wisely. But we know where their priorities lie. Last year, students gathered together 1600 strong to pressure to change the priorities from a secretariat to student

organizations and services like Gateway and the Art Gallery. The present council said that they wouldn't hire the secretariate. When students voted down a fee increase last year, they cut the Art Gallery and reduced Gateway and Photo directorate and hired two executive assistants and a research assistant who recently resigned because he wasn't given enough work to do. Having sat on Students' council for the better part of this term of office we have seen these policies and priorities continue. Our student papers have documented well how members of this council have wasted or risked thousands of dollars of students' union money.

Now we hear members of

the executive turn around and say that Student services will be further slashed if we don't come across with this money. This is nothing short of blackmail. The money is there—it simply needs to be re-distributed according to more reasonable priorities. First they, who are supposed to represent us, ignore us and now they blackmail us. How can we have anything to do with giving them more money for their warped priorities. We urge all students to vote no confidence in the present executive and no confidence in their priorities. Vote "no" on the fee referendum.

Mark Preigert
Chris Bearchell



The Gateway

student health

newspaper of the students, university of alberta, edmonton
published by the students' union

November 26, 1972

Jim Foster
Minister of Advanced Education
Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta

Dear Mr. Foster:

The Board of Governors of the University of Alberta recently ruled that the Graduate Students' Association was not legally entitled to representation on the Board until it is formally incorporated. The university solicitors have suggested that those decisions made when the Board included an "illegal" member are subject to challenge.

Given that the decision to put budgetary restraints on Student Health and to levy a supplementary fee were made when the G.S.A. was represented on the Board, we challenge that decision with an aim of having the future of the service reconsidered.

Since the decision was made behind closed doors, we have no information on the G.S.A.'s position on the issue at the meeting.

Yours truly,
Terri Jackson
Terri Jackson, editor

copy to John Nicol
Secretary to the Board of Governors