

# the Dalhousie Gazette

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The Dalhousie Gazette is Canada's oldest college newspaper. Published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union, which also comprises its membership, the Gazette has a circulation of 10,000.

As a founding member of Canadian University Press, the Gazette adheres to the CUP Statement of Principles and reserves the right to refuse any material submitted of a libelous, sexist or racist nature. Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor and announcements is noon on Monday. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o Dal Gazette.

Commentary should not exceed 700 words, letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request.

Advertising copy deadline is noon Friday before publication.

The Gazette offices are located on the 3rd Floor SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on.

The views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor or the collective staff.

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## editorial

### The prince and the pauper

One Royal Commission after another, on into infinity. Just what every political party in power can rely on to divert public scrutiny away from the very subject it is mandated to study.

That's the MacDonald Commission for ya. It's supposed to be looking at the present economy and gearing up for changes to come in the next century while right now it is spending 10 million dollars of taxpayer's money.

They're selling us a product. It's a quite a parcel all right, in pretty packaging with lots of reassuring platitudes in the form of nationalistic pride and catchy slogans. Yes, you too can... Be a part of it...

A lot of students wish they could be. What MacDonald earns in two days would cover a year's tuition and a night out on the town to celebrate the fact they got into a university.

The commissioners themselves can't even 'Be a part of it'. Granted they tried. They rented most of the rooms on the second floor of the SUB to get out into the community. They succeeded only in reinsulating themselves from the very people they had invited to come and make presentations. Instead of 'venturing into new territory beyond the limited horizon of a politician' they remained sequestered behind the mikes and glaring lights of the McInnes Room.

The Commission was invited by Women Against Poverty to come eat lunch in a soup line to know what it is to be one of the statistics they so blithely bander about. Only Dr. Catherine T. Wallace tasted the homemade soup and the bitter truth behind the stats. Yet another indication of the Commission's participatory hype.

The hearings were conducted with little direction. Confrontation was avoided - or maybe it just wasn't possible because the commission's mandate is too broad.

Without a direction you can't get to a conclusion. And it's a damn shame. Going through the motions of asking your constituency for information, without knowing what to do with it, only leads to more frustration when they don't see results.

Or when the report gets shelved - along with the info- because the government changed hands.

S.B., E.D. and C.R.



How do you spell economy? E...C...O...?



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OUR TYPE?

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