



This excerpt from the Draft Report on Post-Secondary Education outlines the proposed power structure for all universities and the proposed financial structure for post-secondary institutions.

Recommendation 49

All provincial support for post-secondary education should be funded through a single government department. The definition of post-secondary education should include the following institutions or groups: universities, colleges of applied arts and technology, agricultural and trade colleges, schools of nursing, museums, theatres, art galleries, science centres, libraries, and similar institutions.

Post-secondary education should encompass the whole gamut of educational services. The allocation of funds through one department would permit more reasonable and balanced comparisons, appraisals, and choices among programs.

Recommendation 50

A Senior Advisory Committee should be established to advise the minister of matters pertaining to post-secondary education in Ontario. The 13 members of the committee should be appointed by the Lieutenant governor in council, on the advice of the minister, to serve three-year, once-renewable terms. The committee should be constituted as follows:

- Six members of the public, selected from the nominations of community organizations such as the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Chamber of Commerce.
- Six members nominated by institutional, faculty, student, and staff organizations of post-secondary educational institutions.
- A full-time chairman appointed by the lieutenant governor in council.
- The deputy minister of the department of colleges and universities, as secretary.
- The functions of this committee should be:
 - To advise the minister on allocation of funds between

various sectors of post-secondary education upon receipt of requests from the three proposed co-ordinating boards. The advice of the Senior Advisory Committee should be made public no later than six months following its receipt by the minister.

- To publish annual reports dealing with the entire range of post-secondary education in Ontario, and to publish any other reports on post-secondary education that it deems of value and interest.
- To hold regular public hearings on post-secondary education throughout Ontario.

This committee is the institutional embodiment of the commission's desire to provide a continuous overview of post-secondary education in Ontario and to provide the minister with advice on the allocation of funds between the three main sectors within his jurisdiction. It is our conviction that such an overview is best supplied by an advisory body without executive powers and unencumbered by a large bureaucracy. Moreover, such a body would counteract any tendency on the part of the co-ordinating boards to ignore other segments of post-secondary education — a corrective that no executive body is likely to provide. By holding public hearings and publishing reports, the Senior Advisory Committee on post-secondary education can also draw attention to new needs and stimulate appropriate responses on the part of individual institutions and the co-ordinating boards.

Recommendation 51

We recommend that three co-ordinating boards be established, one to deal with universities and similar institutions, one to deal with the colleges of applied arts and technology and similar institutions, and one to co-ordinate the activities of the open sector (libraries, museums, and the like).

Recommendation 52

The Co-ordinating Board for Universities should be composed of 13 members, appointed by the lieutenant governor in council on the advice of the minister of colleges and universities to serve three-year, once-renewable terms, and chosen as follows:

- Six members selected from the nominees of organiza-

tions representing industry, labour, and other lay public groups.

- Six members selected from nominations made by provincial organizations representative of institutional, faculty, student, and staff associations.
 - A full-time chairman, appointed by the lieutenant governor in council on the advice of the minister of colleges and universities.
- No president or vice-president of a university or similar institution should be appointed to it.

Jurisdiction:

- To establish new faculties and programs and discontinue unnecessary faculties and programs, at both the graduate and undergraduate level.
- To establish a general admissions policy for the institutions under its jurisdiction.
- To distribute operating and capital funds among the institutions.

Policy:

- The co-ordinating board should hold public hearings from time to time at the institutions under its jurisdiction.
- The proceedings of the co-ordinating board should generally be public, and held in camera only when the transactions are confidential or immediately prior to giving advice to the minister. The minutes of all meetings should be made public.
- The board should distribute funds for educational purposes on an objective formula basis for both operating and capital grants. If major changes are proposed, public hearings should be held to justify them.
- The board should award five per cent of its operating grants budget for innovation in educational programs and policies. Such grants should not persist for more than five years. Following this period, successful innovations and experiments should be viable on the basis of ordinary support.

George Kerr talks about the Wright report

George Kerr, Minister of Universities and Colleges made these remarks about the Wright report in a taped session with student delegates at the founding conference of the Ontario Federation of Students, March 9 - 11.

"I don't think any new powers are being given to the government through the Wright report. All the power is there now. If anything, I think the power is being pulled down from the Minister of Education and not up from the universities..."

"There has to be a deadline for submissions, or the thing would never wind up. The target date of the end of May is not sacrosanct by any means. As a matter of fact I've had a request from the Council of Ontario Universities to extend that at least one month and I have no reason to believe it won't be..."

"We realize that this is probably the busiest time of the year for students, faculty and administration, and it's going to get a little busier over the next few weeks, so the timing is very inconvenient for you. Certainly on a report as important as that there's not going to be any inhibitions as far as deadlines are concerned to let the commission work during the summer instead of May and June..."

"I read a remark by Dr. Wright saying there would be changes in the recommendations assuming there was some valid, reasonable, constructive alternative. From the study I've done there's a certain consensus about some of the recommendations that I'm sure will result in change..."

"I don't like some of the recommendations myself... I think the thing was written intentionally in a provocative way. The language was so definite, the recommendations are so definite that you get the impression that this is it. I think this is what's caused the reaction. It's not a wishy-washy thing..."

"The recommendations are fairly definite. They were calculated to arouse, let's put it that way..."

"I think, as Wright seems to predict, there will be a levelling off of student population. And I think there can be a decrease, or certainly a hold-the-line result in capital expenditures..."

"I know that students feel there's been probably too much emphasis on the Taj Mahal aspect of campuses and let's start worrying about curriculum and scholarship and accessibility. This is what Wright was attempting to deal with in the interim report."

"If we do adopt some of the commission's recommendations and they result in a higher student enrollment, then this again will have an effect on cost. But not so much capital costs, but it will mean the government will have to budget more money for direct student support..."

"In my opinion, educational budgets in this province will continue to rise year after year — just from a point of view of salary. But the percentage won't be as great from now to 1980 as it was from 1960-70..."

"I don't think we're cutting back, I think it's a matter of proper budgeting, of cutting out waste... I wouldn't be willing to say student fees won't rise. I can't guarantee fees won't rise, this is a possibility, particularly if we implement the provisions of the Wright Commission. He recommends higher fees — offset by higher grants..."

"There seems to be coupled with the desire to help the so-called poor student, an unjust load on that student who is just above that category. So in that way, the report nullifies the philosophy of complete accessibility — and maybe even affects the whole idea about elitism..."

