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York's an attractive place for holding conferences and conventions. Delegates include businessmen, bagpipers, and, in 1975, the Shriners.

University

The greatest wacking resort in Canada

"It's like being the manager of the greatest wacking resort in Canada."

The resort in question has room accommodation for 1800 people, eight dining rooms seating anywhere between 150 and 300 people each, a couple of hundred electronically equipped meeting rooms, plus lounges, shops, swimming pools, and tennis courts.

The "resort" is York University.

The manager is Jack Moore, hired by the University in 1969 as Conference Director and Ancillary Services Director.

Business is business. And York is into the conference business to the tune of one-half million dollars gross revenue for the period of May 1 to September 1.

The "conference and convention business" pays off in other ways too. If business is good at both the York and Glendon campuses over the summer months resulting in excess revenue, the money is poured into the food services and residence coffers. The result is food and residence service costs remain stable.

According to Moore, should the operation just break even over the summer, the university still makes money. Staff is kept on the job, operating costs are met, and the food services operation can buy at a cheaper rate by purchasing larger quantities. And the better the profit during the summer, the less chance of a fee or price increase over the winter.

Universities first got into the conference and convention business by default. People

were looking for facilities, the universities had them and weren't using them over the summer months the months when most Canadian campuses look their best.

York decided to go after this business and, for all intents and purposes, seems to be getting its fair share. There was a better than 80 per cent increase in dollar revenue from conventions and conferences in 1972 over 1971.

But what makes York attractive for these functions?

Moore suggests a variety of reasons.

"The mere fact that York is a university has a lot to do with it, the connotation of education and learning, the learning atmosphere, the availability of instructional aids. A convention or conference is (or should be) a learning experience, with an emphasis on learning, not on the social aspect."

No doubt price has something to do with it too. Moore indicated that the university's prices are considerably less expensive than commercial properties (hotels) because of the lack of frills like a T.V. in every room and a private bathroom for guests. Conventioneers use the residences and the cafeterias, just like students do, unless there is a specially catered meal.

He was quick to point out, that in this time of cost cutting for business, an inexpensive convention or conference is a bonus, especially when delegates don't have a tendency to miss or skip sessions because of the availability of various downtown distractions. The structure and geographical locations of the campuses are more conducive to the conferences. But, he added, the campus can be a swinging place during the summer now that the campus has its share of pubs.

Glendon is an attractive spot, says Jack Moore, because of its trees, older buildings and attractive grounds. Practically all the Saturdays in June are already booked for weddings.

Both campuses offer plenty of open space and complete recreational and athletic facilities, attractive to groups holding basketball seminars, aquatic meets, and sessions for athletic trainers. The Federation of Ontario Naturalists meets at Glendon.

Delegates seem to like York. As Moore says, there's substantial return business, some on an almost traditional basis, such as the Ontario Department of Education Principals' course which will again have 200 people on campus for the month of July.

Groups that have some form of educational background or format have priority at York for the use of facilities, but York has accepted a variety of other groups as well — companies holding sales seminars, for instance, or industrial training sessions.

And who can forget the 1200 bagpipe competitors who were housed on campus during the Scottish festival at last year's C.N.E.?

Equally colorful should be the Shriners who have already reserved facilities for 1000 members at their 1975 Imperial Council Session of the A.A.O.N.M.S. to be held here on campus.

A number of conferences are arranged for on-campus groups too, such as the Centre for Continuing Education, the Green Bush Inn, and the Department of Physical Education.

Although May 1 - September 1 is the prime time for holding conferences, functions can also be held during the academic year. Eight hundred educators concerned with teaching reading at all levels were on campus last week for the Reading '73 Conference.

Most events are booked only a year in advance, but the university already has several (such as the Shriners Convention) booked for two years hence. Hotels in the Toronto area, incidentally, are booked two to four years in advance.

All of which adds up to the fact that York must be doing something right when it comes to offering modern conference facilities.

It was the first university, for instance, to ever take out an ad in a commercial publication in Canada and the United States advertising these facilities.

And, says Jack Moore, it has paid off beautifully.

—From an article soon to appear in the Alumni quarterly, *Communique*.

Over 280,000 lbs. of waste paper recycled on campus since April

What does 280,000 lbs. of waste paper look like?

Physical Plant can answer that question. They've collected more than that since York's paper recycling program got underway last April.

During the academic year, York produces 5 tons of garbage a day, half of which is paper that could be reclaimed for recycling. The main aim of the campus recycling program, according to Cedric Dobbin, Superintendent of Grounds, is to keep recyclable paper out of garbage containers.

The program has been most successful in the 25 buildings which have participated this year. Special cardboard boxes have been provided by Physical Plant to each office for waste paper. The boxes are emptied into burlap bags every Tuesday and Thursday by the cleaning staff. The paper is then sorted, baled and delivered to the purchaser, Abitibi Paper Company.

Prices paid for the waste paper depend on the quality ranging from \$45 per ton for IBM cards to less than \$10 per ton for newsprint and corrugated cardboard.

Financially, the program has just fallen short of breaking even. Operating costs including pick-up and baling of paper plus delivery to Abitibi totalled \$6,547 for the period of April to November, 1972. Revenue, including saving of refuse pick-up time totalled \$5,044. Up until now the program has been concentrated in offices, but if extended to include the entire campus, as proposed for next year, the revenue for York would be substantial.

In a reciprocal arrangement with Abitibi, York buys back recycled paper. Most of the paper used at York is recycled — from paper towels to high quality white bond stationery made from IBM cards. Recycled paper is slightly more expensive because of competition from saw mills.

Once de-inked, paper in combination with chemicals can take many forms. When compressed and mixed with rosin (also obtained from trees) it can be made into wooden fibre for use in shelves, roofing and walls.

The Grounds Department at York mixes recycled paper with fertilizer before spreading it on grass.

The wheels that support York's huge garbage containers are made of compressed paper. They can support as much weight as steel wheels, but will not damage the floors

they roll on.

Enriched with nutrients, recycled newspapers are even fed to cows which means as one student says, "We aren't the only ones who re-hash the news before swallowing it."

Negotiations with CUPE workers last fall and rumours of a possible strike delayed plans for a campus-wide campaign to boost the recycling program. During a strike no paper would be collected, baled or delivered.

Plans for next year include special coloured containers for waste paper to be placed in study and lounge areas. Physical Plant hopes to claim all discarded campus papers which are now thrown into garbage cans because special receptacles have not yet been provided.

Also being considered is an automatic baling machine which would be fed by a conveyor belt.

City of Toronto Alderman Ying Hope, Chairman of the Toronto Recycling Action Committee said recently in a letter to the Toronto Star that paper companies are willing to build recycling facilities only if they can count on a regular large supply of wastepaper — about 200,000 tons per year.

According to Physical Plant, "York



Campus newspapers will be recycled.

University should be in the progressive position of being an established supplier of waste paper to the present and future market. It should make every effort to encourage the entire York Community to take part in this most essential program for the dual purpose of cutting costs of refuse disposal and making our exemplary contribution to the problem of pollution control and the environment."

Winters' program success

Mardi Tyndall and Doug Tindall (no relation) are Winters Residence students concerned with improving the environment.

They contacted Physical Plant last summer about the pilot project of paper recycling at York. The Grounds Department said they would supply them with jute bags to hold waste paper and would pick up the bags every week. The rest was up to them.

Mardi and Doug placed signs in Winters' six common rooms and in the main lobby asking students to please place scrap paper in the boxes provided. The boxes were then emptied into the jute bags.

Within a few weeks the entire residence was involved and Winters' voluntary program was a success.

Winters is the only undergraduate York residence with an organized program of waste paper collection, but several concerned students such as Ron Jacobs in McLaughlin take their own waste paper to special boxes in

their college residence offices.

Physical Plant plans to provide containers for waste paper to all residences next year as part of a regeneration campaign.

The graduate residence apartments are in their second year of a paper recycling program started by Bob Watson and carried on by Phyllis Stevens.

Tenants bundle up newspapers and other recyclable paper and stack it in the residence basement. York's Grounds Department later collects it.

The program in the graduate residences has been a success "if the amount of newspapers in the basement is any indication," says Doug Moore, president of the Tenants Association.

Non-resident members of the York community are urged to bring newspaper and other waste paper to the back of the Workshops Building, Monday to Friday, for baling and recycling.