

Thorbourne issues report

By **SUSAN REED**
Assistant News Editor

SRC President Perry Thorbourne went on record during the presentation of his summer report at Monday's first regular SRC meeting to say "the union provides no real service which benefits the student body as a whole."

"The union provides no real service to its members other than being a clearing house for funds for the different clubs and organizations," said Thorbourne. "What in fact has happened over the years is that this responsibility has been slowly passed on to the clubs and organizations to worry about."

Thorbourne said in his summer report that because of this, he and executive had tried to arrive at ideas and programs to offer the student body.

After discussions with Dr. Norman Whitney, a member of counselling services, it was decided to create the Ken Fuller Memorial Fund, named after the first director of counselling. Thorbourne said the union will contribute \$1,000 per year to the fund. The associated Alumni and the university are also involved. The fund will give loans to students whom the staff at counselling service feel require funds. The loans will be handled by counselling and administered by the awards office.

In his report, Thorbourne said he has involved the union but not committed it to peer education workshops through the student health centre.

What is required is the creating of an ongoing committee of council dealing with the issues and presenting to council directions to take in this matter," said Thorbourne.

Thorbourne said the union had been neglectful in its interaction with the Fredericton community and to remedy this, he and SRC comptroller Steve Howes met with a local promoter to organize meetings with the city. Thorbourne said he hopes these meetings, which will occur in October will involve the union more directly with the community.

The report mentions a cheque for \$200 which the union received from the Dept. of Youth, Recreation and Cultural Resources to help support a scheduled

appearance by Dance Makers, a Toronto Dance troupe.

Thorbourne said he had been in contact with Malcolm Early the intercollegiate athletic director during the summer concerning support for this year's athletic programs. At present the union does not fund athletic events or programs, said Thorbourne, but this policy should be reviewed. He said he had turned it over to Steve Howes for further consideration.

In July, Thorbourne said he tried to organize a meeting of the Atlantic Student Presidents. However, this failed to come about due to a lack of interest, he said.

Thorbourne said the union executive had been involved with the *Brunswickan* in looking into the acquisition of a new typesetting machine.

Thorbourne mentioned the creation of CHSR Broadcasting Inc. "Unfortunately, due to misinterpretation of the working in a second set of bylaws, they were delayed in being sent to the CRTC, which will cause a delay in any decision being made. Personally, this could have been ironed out if I, as an individual, sought out information person to person rather than dealing with it at an impersonal level."

Thorbourne said the union sent three representatives to the CRTC Applications Hearing in Hull, Quebec - SRC Vice-president Chris Earl, Doug Varty and CHSR station director Vaughn Fulford.

Thorbourne said he and Dean of Students Barry Thompson, acting as co-chairmen worked on the student disciplinary code and arrived at what they felt is "a much fairer, more workable method of handling disciplinary problems on campus."

Thorbourne said they had intended to have the code approved at the July board of governors meeting in order that it might be passed by September 1. However, the topic was not reached at the meeting, said Thorbourne and this means a regular session of council will be able to question it. Thorbourne said this desire was expressed by some members of council during the summer.

The report said the union was without support staff of any type during the majority of the summer months. The union's bookkeeper Doris Wu, and administrator Ted Hudson left to seek other jobs. At this time, the report said, both Thorbourne and Comptroller Steve Howes were employed by Physical Plant. Thorbourne said he was placed in the position of trying to do two jobs at one time and it didn't work out. The report notes the office was closed for the first two weeks of summer operation.

Thorbourne said he left his job at the physical plant as well as forgoing the salary he was entitled to receive.

"During the summer I was believed that I should receive compensation for this financial loss. Due to the structure of summer council in particular that all its actions must be approved by regular council, I had a salary paid to me in lieu of a motion or mention of it to summer council. It was my intention to make the presentation to a regular session of council."

"I was wrong, my actions were pointed out to me as being a violation to the union and I accept that. I have now made arrangements to pay this money back as by law I am not entitled to it. Again I will

state that I do not regret the action I took this summer or that which I take now," Thorbourne said.

The report said the union had no choice but to hire Steve Howes on a full-time basis to work in the office as well. Since no allowance is made for the comptroller financially during the summer by the union, the report said, Howes was hired and paid under the same constraints as he worked at physical plant and received an equivalent salary.

"Regardless of what others may feel or say, both Stephen and myself put in 40 or more hours in the office per week and managed to keep it open and running during generally accepted office hours. However there was a one week period in which both Steve and myself were away. During this time the office was open and administered by Margo Disher, the Orientation Chairperson," said Thorbourne.

Of the "UNB Community Involvement Project," Young Canada Works Project, Thorbourne said, "At no time did I let the project take priority from the union and allocated very little office time to it. At most four hours per week, usually in the morning, of union time was spent on the project. I carried out the duties of my position on the project on my own time and therefore is not in conflict with the union or subject to the union."

The summer report, which Thorbourne said was "not a testimonial or evidence on behalf of the accused," ended with his belief that great number of changes need to be made in all areas of the union.

"As well, council, in order to perform, must become highly visible and informed in the union. This can be achieved only when council accepts its responsibilities and the work that accompanies that position," said Thorbourne.

He said he intends to carry on duties in keeping with his position, that is to preside and set direction for the union as well as becoming more visible and vocal to and for the student body.

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