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CHSR funding request denied by Jonathan Stone

When it comes to funding, CHSR FM and the Student Union are on different wavelengths.

The Union has turned down CHSR's request for a \$2500 grant to continue the programming director's salary for the remainder of the school year.

This has disappointed CHSR members, who say they depend on the position to keep an acceptable standard of radio quality.

An added conflict was that the Union's vice-president of University Affairs, Anna MacDonald, was also the chair of the station's Board of Directors.

She has since resigned from the Board, and has been temporarily replaced by vice-chair Barry Cameron.

"I found it very difficult to remain calm, collected and non-biased towards this whole issue," said MacDonald.

According to her, the station was given the responsibility by last year's council to come up with alternate solutions to fund the position.

'They've had six months and they're not ready to operate on their own," she said, "Right now they're just concerned about keeping their full-time paid position, as opposed to working on possible solutions. I guess the objection that council had is that those schemes were not ex-

plored.' CHSR's station manager Jeff Whipple maintains that the station has been actively seeking money from elsewhere, and has succeeded in gaining some in-

"We're still trying to arrange funding through other sources for the position," he said.

Whipple mentioned some of the station's efforts, including an Alumni fund-raiser and donations from the Graduate Student's Association, to fill the gap until the end of the year.

"Then we'll have to really look at our options to see what we're going to do," he said.

MacDonald stated that the station runs on a \$76 000 budget, which comes from the Student Activity Fee.

"I don't think people realize how much money they do receive," she said.

The council voted overwhelm-

ingly against the grant at last Wednesday's meeting.

At that meeting, MacDonald abstained from the vote because of her conflicting positions, but spoke against Whipple's activities at the last National Campus and Community Radio Association regional conference, where he took part in a discussion group entitled 'Student Union:

Friend or Foe'. "If someone from the radio station has the prerogative to go to such conferences and chew this organization up and spit it out, and then has the audacity to come back here and ask for

money wanting to be independent, let them be independent. I think we've been bitten," she

Whipple, who happens to be the NCRA president, refuted

"My comments were just simply 'make sure that when you setup your radio stations, and when you develop your policies and vour administrative structures, that you separate yourselves as far away as possible from the Student Union, simply because those conflicts are going to develop. There have been problems

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## McKenna: another year of zero increase funding possible

## **UNB** budget crunch coming?

by Gordon Loane

New Brunswick Premier Frank McKenna says provincial operating grants for UNB and other universities may be frozen for a second straight year in 1993.

In a recent letter to UNB President Robin Armstrong, McKenna says "There is a real possibility that when the fiscal forecasts for 1993-94 are done, we will again find we are unable to raise the level of funding provided for universities through the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. One would hope that this would not turn out to be the case."

"However, another year of zero increase funding through the MPHEC is a possibility which must be taken into account in university budget

planning," McKenna said. The contents of the Premier's letter to Armstrong were released at a recent meeting of the UNB Fredericton Senate by James O'Sullivan, University Vice-President Finance and Administration.

In an interview with The Brunswickan this week, O'Sullivan says if the provincial government decides to freeze UNB's operating grant next year it will create one of the worst financial problems the university has faced in many years.

There are indications the university is taking the Premier's letter seriously, hoping for the best yet preparing for the worst. As a part of what O'Sullivan calls "a prudent and normal yearly budget process" Academic Deans and Department Managers have been

asked to submit 1993-94 proposals that add not a penny to their 1992-93 base budgets.

The base budget does not include an allowance for inflation next year. In addition, all Deans and Managers have been asked to adjust their budgets in the event that cutbacks become necessary. Budgets are to be adjusted to take into account a three percent, six percent or 15 percent cut back. While a similar system has been used in other years, O'Sullivan says last years worse case scenario was 9 percent and this year it's 15 percent.

On the other side of the coin, Academic Deans and managers are being asked to prepare long range plans that include a "rosy scenario". Proposals for increases to the base budgets are

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