

CFS seeks to have native rep

SQUAMISH (CUP) — The Canadian Federation of Students-Pacific Region may soon include a representative on native issues

on its executive.

The idea of having a non-voting representative from the native community came up at a

CFS summer conference during a discussion of under-represented groups within the organization.

"There has been a feeling by

some of the members that we're not adequately serving some constituencies within the Federation," said Stephen Scott, executive officer of CFS-Pacific Region.

"What is needed are at-large positions for groups like women, natives and grad students," said Scott.

CFS-Pacific chair Rob Clift says the organization does have a voting women's liaison position on its executive, and is now looking at creating a women's setting committee, with representatives from each member campus.

"What is needed," said Scott, "is for student unions to provide more resources to native people. We have to make it a long-term project rather than a quick fix."

Clift said the CFS-Pacific is contacting native student groups to find a possible representative.

"We're hoping to establish ties with the native community," he said.

Clift said native students and education programs are mostly funded by the Department of Native Affairs, which places numerous restrictions on their ability to choose courses and curricula.

He said CFS is interested in dealing with these issues, and in finding a representative "to address (native students') concerns not only as students but as indigenous people."

The proposal will be brought up again at the CFS fall conference.

Women barred entry

MONTREAL (CUP) — The reporter: If I were to go upstairs now, what would you do?

The manager: We wouldn't let you. We'd stop you.

Reporter: Why?

Manager: For obvious reasons.

The reason may not be obvious. It is because the reporter is a woman.

Since it was founded by McGill University in 1907, the University Club has excluded women from its membership. Only in the past year has the policy received significant criticism.

While McGill does not have official ties with the club any more, half of the club's membership are McGill graduates and at least 40 faculty members belong to the organization. Until last year, the membership fees of several McGill administrators were paid by the university.

"The fact that McGill (for 43 years) has paid fees from members of the McGill community — in the knowledge that there was a discrimination clause — could be nothing by a stamp of approval," said Professor Sam Noumoff, a member of the University's Senate Committee on Women.

"In the absence of opposition, once can only assume endorsement," said Noumoff, who described the club as "an old boys' network club in Montreal".

Due to financial problems, the University Club granted partial access to the premises of the University (UWC) in 1970. For a yearly fee of \$35,000, women were allowed into the building but denied access to the grand staircase, the second floor, and the billiards room.

But recently, the University Club became solvent and asked the UWC to leave, creating controversy among members.

Although some club members proposed a bylaw change to allow membership to women, the proposal was defeated last May by 69 votes for allowing women in and 50 against, short of the two-thirds majority.

According to UCW president Leslie Forrester, "Initially, when the club came, asking the women to join, they came cap in hand and said, 'can you help us out?'"

"But it was not a landlord-tenant agreement. It was just called 'the arrangement,'" said Forrester. "When they asked us to leave, there were no legal ties to break. We were nothing. We had no status."

Richard Cruess, the Dean of McGill's Medical Faculty, says

he joined the club in 1970 but intends to withdraw.

"I think we have to actively resign," said Cruess. "I don't intend to just let my fees run out."

Another members, McGill secretary-general David Bourke, says he will remain with the club, adding that the issue of women's membership is "an open question".

Club management refused to speak to the press, and

employees asked not to be quoted for fear of losing their jobs.

Many critics are concerned not only with the club's sexist policies but also with its elitism.

According to a UWC member who asked to remain anonymous, "I don't think I've ever seen a black man in the University Club. And they've only recently begun to admit French Canadians. They want people who will add to the ambiance."

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