

# Excalibur

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## Another CRO, another election

### Glendon in the dark; elections suspended

By PAUL KELLOGG

In an eleventh-hour decision, this Tuesday's balloting to elect a student representative to the Board of Governors, was indefinitely postponed by the CYSF election tribunal, though council by-elections slated for the same day will still be held.

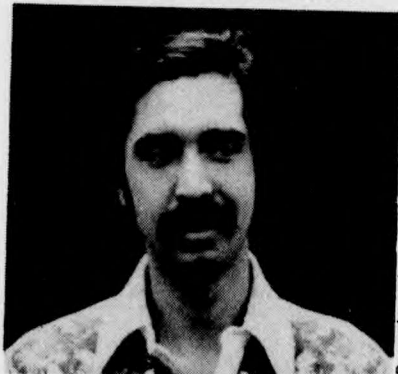
The decision, made late Tuesday afternoon, followed a protest from the Glendon College Students' Union, (GCSU) charging that CYSF's handling of the election notice had effectively prevented students at Glendon from running for the position.

In a press release dated Monday, Terence Takashima, Chief Returning Officer for Glendon College, said he was not notified about the scheduled election until Friday November 12, three days after the opening of nominations, leaving only two full school days for Glendon students to be nominated.

According to George Manios, speaker of CYSF and chairman of the tribunal, "it left us with no choice. If one of the relevant councils (Atkinson, Bethune Glendon, Osgoode or CYSF) challenges the elections, there's nothing we can do but put it off until agreement can be reached."

The tribunal decision was unanimous on grounds of insufficient notice. The tribunal is composed of Manios, CRO Larry Freedman, and Jewish Student Federation head, Lou Garber.

The five declared candidates were also left with no choice but to spend the day phoning campaign workers to halt work on election material and to hope that some of the work already done could be salvaged for whenever the election is finally held. Said incumbent BOG representative, Shelley Rabinovitch, running for re-election, "I feel like I've become the meat in a political sandwich."



New CRO, Larry Freedman.

As a stunned council office gradually realized that the election would indeed have to be postponed, explanations, accusations, and "no-comments" were the order of the day. Said Rabinovitch, "I am disgusted that CYSF couldn't get it together with Glendon to hold the election. It was a careless oversight on someone's part," she continued, declining to mention any names.

ULS candidate Mary Marrone (currently CYSF representative for Calumet College) characterized it as "just another episode in the somewhat tragi-comic history of the Edson Council. First they vote to not even hold by-elections on cost-cutting grounds, and they finally bungle it so well, that they'll end up holding two at twice the cost it would have been if they'd done it right in the first place."

President of CYSF Barry Edson, disclaimed responsibility for the mix-up. "It was advertised in Excalibur and they read Excalibur over there, they knew about it if they wanted to run. It's quite obvious that they [GCSU] didn't even know there were Board of Governors elections." Pro-Tem, Glendon's weekly paper, was not advertised in by CYSF.

The mix-up stemmed from a general confusion concerning jurisdiction over student elections for the Board. Until last year, student positions on the Board were determined by the student senate caucus. Last year, for the first time, the positions were opened for general election from the York student body, the caucus asking CYSF to conduct the election. The council contacted all the relevant student councils, including Glendon's, before deciding on a date, getting agreement from them to have the election organized by the CYSF.

This procedure was never formalized. At least some points of it were neglected by this year's council.

Compounding the problem was a last-minute change in the CYSF's Chief Returning Officer. First choice of Edson and his executive was last year's CRO, Alex Ahee. In his letter to council recommending Ahee as this year's CRO, Edson noted that under Ahee's supervision, "Last year was the first year in CYSF's history that the elections were not challenged."

Ahee's nomination never came

before council, however. The meeting of October 28 that was to elect a CRO was dominated by an attempt by some members of the "Edson Team" (opposed by Edson, Evan Leibovitch, and members of the ULS) to cancel the by-elections for the six council vacancies. When this was finally defeated, quorum was broken and no other business could be discussed leaving the question of the CRO in the air.

A week later, Ahee withdrew his name, citing "academic concerns". However, "what finally made up my mind," said Ahee, "was picking up a copy of Excalibur November 4 and reading that Hayden and Madden (members of CYSF executive) and a few of the others were against even holding by-elections."

"If they don't understand the importance of holding elections,

then how can they expect to be able to run one."

Larry Freedman, last year's CYSF speaker, was finally selected CRO to replace Ahee by the council executive. Although Edson knew of Ahee's decision Friday, November 5, it was not until the following Monday that Freedman was asked to serve as CRO. He wasn't officially appointed until the ninth, the day nominations opened.

"That whole weekend I tried to get in touch with Larry," said Edson, "and I couldn't until the Monday when I got his number from George (Manios)."

When asked why Glendon wasn't informed of the election until Friday, Freedman said he couldn't contact anybody on the GCSU until that date. "I called every half hour all day on Thursday," said Freedman, "and no one answered."

Friday I finally got through to Takashima. I asked him if he had seen the November 4 Excalibur, and when he said he had, as far as I was concerned he was notified."

Freedman agreed with Edson that the ad in Excalibur constituted sufficient notification and denied that the ad was misleading. "It's true that it didn't specifically point out, like last year's, that all York students, not just those in CYSF, are eligible to run and vote in the election, but it doesn't matter. As long as it was announced, it doesn't matter."

At press time, the future of the board election was still in doubt. "All I know", said Freedman, "is that my hands are tied. As far as I can tell it's up to Mel Ransom (Secretary of the University) and the Board of Governors. It's out of students' hands."



Santa Claus shrugs his shoulders to Premier Bill Davis' request for a majority government this Christmas. Claus was in the Queens Park area last weekend as part of parade festivities held in his honour.

## York's radio station to apply for low watt transmitter, licence from CRTC

By DEBBIE PEKILIS

Radio York Station Manager, Richard Gould is applying to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission (CRTC) for a 1000-watt licence that would enable CKRY to broadcast within a six mile radius of the York campus.

Gould said, if all goes well, "we will have our public hearings with the CRTC in June and we can begin broadcasting in September of 1977".

He decided to try for the licence in August after John Becker, assistant vice-president of student affairs almost took CKRY off the air.

Becker said he had talked with

Gould about his plan for the radio station but had not received any written proposals from Gould.

"There are a number of things that have to be worked out before you can talk about proposals. We must find out from the CRTC whether there is room in this part of Toronto for a low-watt radio station", said Becker.

Gould said he had received "nothing in writing" from the CRTC except a copy of regulations. These contained a grid "which shows there is room for a low-watt station in this part of the city". He added that when he first approached the CRTC in October they were sympathetic to the idea.

Gould couldn't say what the exact cost of the licence will be because "there are too many factors involved". He did say he needed \$31,000 to cover the cost of new equipment.

"I know I can get the \$31,000 from five reliable sources," said Gould. He declined to name these sources.

To ensure that he can guarantee the money to the CRTC, Gould is trying to get Radio York incorporated as a non profit organization. This should be achieved next month and is necessary not only to guarantee that Gould can get the money, but also to make binding all negotiations between the radio station and the

CRTC.

Gould said when the incorporation comes through, he plans to create an 11 member board of directors for the radio station.

Gould said CYSF plans to hold a referendum on the question of raising the money at the time of their election in March. "The students will be donating a dollar or two of their student fees to Radio York to cover the costs of maintaining our licence, if the referendum passes."

CYSF President Barry Edson said that he knew Gould was applying for licence and "I think it's a fantastic idea."

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