

# \$\$\$ for AIDS line?

by Padraic Brake

HALIFAX (CUP) — As Atlantic provinces invest in new services, existing AIDS counselling groups are asking if they'll get any help.

"At a time when AIDS is here to stay, we need to establish core funding from the provincial government," said Robert Allen, a representative of the Halifax Persons with AIDS Coalition (PWAC).

Nova Scotia recently set up an

AIDS counselling hotline, run by the Halifax Metro Committee on AIDS (MACAIDS). MACAIDS support coordinator Leon Chubbs said most of their calls come from "educators, health care workers, and people asking for information."

Allen said his group performs a different, but equally necessary function.

The PWAC would like its own support line, but it won't be able to afford one for at least another six to twelve months, Allen said.

"We are not an alternative to the MACAIDS, but we quite clearly have a different focus," he added.

In Alberta and Ontario, about two thirds of the core funding for community based organizations comes from the province. In Ontario that amounted to \$3.4 million for 18 different groups and projects in 1989.

Allen said 90 per cent of his group's budget comes from the federal government. The rest comes from donations and the municipal government.

Chubbs said that MACAIDS does refer people to the PWAC because they run a hostel in the city, and they have all the information that we have.

"I don't think that there is a need for two lines in the city," said Chubbs. "I think that it would be a duplication of services."

Allen said that the PWAC line would provide support to people who have been diagnosed HIV positive, their lovers, friends, and care givers.

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# King's to cap arts course

HALIFAX (CUP) — King's College will limit enrolment in its liberal arts program next year, to keep the university's "community atmosphere."

The King's Foundation Year program gives students one elective credit and a four credit course on the history of western thought as year one of an undergraduate degree.

King's registrar Patricia Howison said the university imposed the limits because of increasing enrolment, a lack of classroom space, and a desire to maintain the school's "community atmosphere."

Nova Scotia's student federation chair Lara Morris blamed the cap on inadequate provincial funding.

Last year an all-Atlantic post-secondary commission said funding for universities in Nova Scotia should increase by 8.2 per cent. The government granted a 5.4 per cent increase.

"Of course a cap is a bad idea," Morris said. "No student should be denied a post-secondary education because of financial or other reasons beyond academic qualifications," she said.

King's student council president Mike Wallace said the limit is to "keep King's small."

He said funding from the provincial government is a secondary issue. "It's not how many, but who they are," he said.

Howison said the limits are designed to be as fair as possible. She said everything possible will be done to not turn people away.

The changes will not affect King's science program, Howison said, because the faculty does not want to discourage the already small number of science students.