



An historic choice, an historic opportunity for change

NON...it was the *only* choice. And NO, sovereigntists will not stop running towards their dream of an independent, sovereign Québec.

And I share that dream. It is rare for an anglophone living outside Québec to rally with the sovereigntists...to many it is incomprehensible. But for me, Québec is the only place I feel at home. My heart and my soul will always belong to Québec.

Like all Quebecers and Canadians, I was hoping for a decisive result one way or another. What the result tells us about Canada is that we have forgotten where we've come from, we don't know where we are, and we are afraid of where we are going.

A significant portion of my family is anchored in Montréal and we stand on opposite poles of the Québec question. Yet despite my sovereigntist tendency, I was moved by the genuine concern and support for Québec expressed by *les Canadiens et les Canadiennes hors du Québec* at the unity rally in Montréal on October 27.

Many sovereigntists brushed the Montréal Rally off as *trop peu, trop tard* (myself included). Why, after 15 years, after Meech Lake and the Charlottetown Accord, did it take so long for the rest of Canada to tell Québec, "Je t'aime?" The rally was a way for Canadians outside Québec to show Quebecers that they are willing to try and accommodate Québec's legitimate concerns

EDITORIAL

within a united Canada.

And here, we must not falter. This is the opportunity federalists have been waiting for, to move beyond words to action and recognize, constitutionally, that Québec is not a province *comme les autres*. This is the chance for federalists to rebuild the nation, to live up to the Canadian creed: "My Canada includes Québec."

Such a close vote not only divided the people of Québec, it redefined the nature of Canadian federalism, *tel qu'il est*. A NO win: a mandate for change — the rejection of the status quo. A mandate for change, real change. For any constitutional changes to be successful, they must in nature, reflect asymmetrical federalism.

A simple decentralization of powers from the federal government to all the provinces is not the answer. The regional character of Canada embraces asymmetrical federalism and demonstrates that Québec must have different powers than Ontario, who in turn must have different powers than Nova Scotia or Alberta.

Rest assured, if the next round of constitutional attempts to rebuild the nation fail, the question of Québec sovereignty will be revisited and sovereignty, *sans*

doute, will prevail — *on va gagner*. Sovereigntists will not wait another 15 years before pursuing their dream. Being so close to victory, sovereigntists are ready to roll up their sleeves and continue working for that dream: *Un pays, on l'aura*.

On a raison de dire oui, et un jour on le dira.

MARCUS LOPES

LETTERS

Football folly

To the editor,

In reference to, well, what I refer to as a sick joke, there may be a few minor problems with the editorial in last week's Gazette by Sam McCaig. In the article Sam gives "a simple solution" to the simple problem of Dalhousie's lack of enthusiasm when it came to our Alumni and Homecoming weekend. There's just a few points I would like to bring up: Would Dalhousie really get more school spirit if we had a football team? NO, I don't think so!

Dalhousie is missing something, Sam's not wrong about that, but it's not a football team. And yes, Saint Mary's and Acadia have it — it's called school spirit! For anyone not familiar with the term, and this year I believe a lot of you are not, it simply means the togetherness and pride one gets and takes when we attend a school. Yes, we are here to study, but we do a lot of other things too that do not involve our school, and maybe if we did involve our school in OUR extracurricular activities, then we wouldn't have a problem getting involved in our SCHOOL'S activities! A football team would be nice, I enjoy the game and do attend SMU's games, but do you think we really deserve one? I don't!

Dalhousie offers so much to us that we don't take advantage of already. We have great rugby, basketball, hockey, etc. and most of our societies have gone down hill, economics doesn't even have a society this year, there's just no interest in getting involved. How much support would our school give to a football team when we don't have enough to go around for the teams and societies we already have? We all

should be ashamed, and Sam you should be ashamed for asking for something so ridiculous, I certainly hope you are very involved with Dalhousie at the present time, we need support like yours in activities we have now.

Cynthia Lohnes

Watergaetz?

To the editor,

It seems rather odd to me that nobody has spoken up about the Student Council's decision to dismiss Steve Gaetz (former SUB General Manager). It is scary to think that the Student Council has the authority to dismiss Mr. Gaetz without explaining to the students or staff why!

When I first arrived at Dal, the Student Union Building was falling apart at the seams. In the last five years, Steve Gaetz put in a tremendous effort to improve the quality of service and atmosphere in the SUB, and how did the students pay him back — by firing him!

When the council was voting, did they even give a minute's consideration to what he had done for the building? Why is it that the council won't tell students why Mr. Gaetz was dismissed? Student Council is only elected for a one-year period, so what is going to happen when a new council is elected and they have a new agenda? Is it in the best interest of the students — or is this a move by certain members of student council to ensure that they have a job waiting for themselves next year when they graduate?

Think about it. Speak up if you have any questions. We have a right to know why Mr. Gaetz was fired.

Lindsay Burry

Mad? Steamed? Offended?

Then write a letter to the Gazette.
It might not make you feel any better, but maybe you'll piss off somebody else.

Share the angst.

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