

# Beaver Foods: 3 more years

by Gordon Loane  
Brunswickan News

UNB has decided to renew its food services contract with Beaver Foods Limited for three years, with an option for a further three.

The new contract takes effect July 1st.

Beaver, the current food services provider at UNB, was among three companies competing for the contract. Two others, Marriot and Versa Foods had also submitted bids by the February 14th tender deadline.

"All of the bids had attractive features and were very competitive," said James O'Sullivan, UNB Vice-President (Finance and Administration).

"After an extensive review the food services committee has recommended and the Board of Governors has approved, the agreement with Beaver Foods Limited," O'Sullivan said.

Cost, service and innovation were factors evaluated by the food services committee before deciding what bid to accept, according to O'Sullivan.

"Companies were very close in their bidding and in terms of cost, there was little difference between Beaver and one other company," he said.

"The other company was a little bit more expensive."

O'Sullivan confirms that service and



Lining up at Beaver Foods will continue.

File photo

innovation were the deciding factors in the evaluation.

O'Sullivan told *The Brunswickan* that it is difficult to be exact on the annual cost of the contract because food prices, among other factors, change each year.

The latest year for which costs are complete show a total cost of \$4.3 million for 1994-95.

"The 4.3 million is the total value of food services provided in residence, the Student Union Building, Marshall D'Avary, the University Club, remote locations, and catering," said O'Sullivan.

Among the innovations in the new contract is a \$500,000 immediate capital

expenditure to renovate residence dining rooms in McConnell Hall, Lady Dunn and MacLeod. The renovations are expected to be completed this summer.

"There may well be other renovations in the future but these have not yet been decided," O'Sullivan said. There will also be a few minor changes to the facilities in the Student Union Building.

"There are a couple of other things that might happen in the SUB later, but not this summer," he said.

O'Sullivan does confirm that all three bidders proposed the addition of a Tim Horton's franchise on campus.

"A decision on this has been deferred

for now."

"We can have a Tim Horton's if we want one, but we thought we should see whether there are some better possibilities," he said.

"So the arrangement is Beaver will put in Tim Horton's if the university decides, but if we do not the amount of money that would have gone into Tim Horton's is available for spending on some other mutually agreeable project," O'Sullivan said.

Initially, if the go-ahead is given, Tim Horton's would be located in the Student Union Building, but there could be other campus locations in the future as well.

"It certainly will not be decided this summer," O'Sullivan said.

O'Sullivan also told *The Brunswickan* late last week that the new food services contract had no impact on the decision to increase residence rates at UNB next year by 4.3%.

"We made the decision on residence rates before a final decision was arrived at on the food services contract," said O'Sullivan.

"So if the question is - did the rates go up to accommodate the food services contract? - the answer is no," he said.

O'Sullivan did say that the University will be continuing with a capital expenditure program this summer to upgrade facilities.

# Multimedia: plans next month

by Gordon Loane  
Brunswickan News

Planning is continuing towards the construction of a new \$7.5 million, fifty-three thousand square foot, multi-media centre for the UNB Fredericton campus.

While construction is not expected to begin before 1997, a committee, which represents a good cross-section of the university community, is already hard at work developing a floor plan and confirming what space will be required in the new facility.

"Within about a month, I will probably have a pretty good floor plan from an architect and probably even some exterior conceptual views," Mike Ryan, UNB's associate vice-president campus planning

## Nurses get reprieve

by Gordon Loane  
Brunswickan News

UNB's Board of Governors has rescinded a \$500 extra tuition fee instituted in April 1995 for a Nursing practicum course.

The fee was to take effect this May, but 65 third year nursing students began a protest after only receiving formal notification from the administration February 26th.

The nurses organized a petition and held formal meetings with the UNB administration.

It was at this point that the administration acknowledged a communication mistake but said there was little that could be done as only the Board of Governors could overturn a tuition fee decision.

The nurses then employed media savvy to aid their cause and showed up as a group to greet members of the Board of Governors before their meeting last Thursday.

The Nursing practicum course began this week and the Board's decision last week could not have come at a better time, according to DeAnne Badcock, a third year student who has emerged as one of the spokespersons for the group since the protest began.

told *The Brunswickan* late last week.

"The site generally accepted is that it will be built between Kierstead Hall and the Forestry Building, more or less across the street from the Bank and Bookstore," said Ryan.

"The Building would sort of complete a quadrangle between the Harriet Irving Library, Tilley and Singer Hall and that area," Ryan said.

Ryan confirms that the university is looking at a few "what if" scenarios as the committee goes about the business of determining the buildings exact location.

One option would see the facility straddle the road that runs North/South past the Engineering, Bank/Bookstore, Forestry Complex, Nursing, and Services Buildings.

"There is some parking space in that area that will be affected," Ryan said.

Funding for construction of the building, to be named the Eaton Multimedia Learning Centre, appears not to be a problem.

The Eaton Foundation and UNB Chancellor Frederik Eaton, have generously committed one million dollars through the Venture Capital Campaign.

The provincial government is providing a further five and a half million dollars.

"The provincial commitment is

"We are very happy and it is good to know we do not have to pay the five hundred dollars," she said. "Raising the extra money would have been a problem for us."

"There was a communication problem and the Administration and Board of Governors are now aware of it," she told *The Brunswickan* last week.

Badcock said the group tried to conduct their protest in a professional manner.

"The unity of the group, the numbers, the amount of support we had and the way we went about it definitely had an impact," she felt. "It was certainly a learning experience for the whole class."

Badcock said the students are well aware that the protest created a difficult situation for professors in Nursing.

"They were definitely caught between a rock and a hard place because it was an issue between us and the Administration."

"But I do feel there was support from faculty members," she said.

Meanwhile, the Board of Governors has set up a task force that will review tuition policies, including whether extra fees should be charged for certain courses in the future.

The task force is expected to take about a year to report its findings.

"Not making this North/South road a public street anymore is being considered," Ryan told *The Brunswickan*.

Instead, it would be turned into a pedestrian route in keeping with the large amount of traffic in that area most days.

"We sense that a lot of the traffic using the route is not University bound," he said.

"It is simply people who use the university campus as a thoroughfare."

Ryan said discussions are currently underway with Professor Eric Hildebrand of UNB's Civil Engineering Department who, together with his students, will undertake an origin destination study of traffic this Fall.

A second scenario is determining what impact the exact location of the new facility will have on parking.

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## Neill: No answers

by Gordon Loane  
Brunswickan News

Neill House residents have still received no answer from UNB President Robin Armstrong on an appeal launched February 23rd, according to former House president, Brad Coughlin.

The residents asked Armstrong to overturn event restrictions imposed on them by Dean of Residence John Craighead following incidents in connections with a House party January 19th and 20th.

"We had been asking that the ban on alcoholic events for the remainder of this academic year be lifted," Coughlin told *The Brunswickan* on February 23rd.

The residents were also asking that restrictions imposed on next year's House committee (recently elected) be lifted.

Craighead had imposed restrictions which would require a future House Committee to submit written proposals for any event (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) to the Don for approval.

The restriction would remain in effect until December 31, 1996.



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All members of UNB's Board of Governors. Thank you, thank you so much.

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