

Bovey report ignores York's fiscal woes: Levy

By ELLIOT SHIFF
and GRAHAM THOMPSON

The Bovey Commission has done nothing for York, said University administrators when York President Harry Arthurs held court for the first time at Monday's Board of Governors (BOG) meeting.

Sheldon Levy, from York's Office of the Associate Vice President, produced a number of graphs to illustrate that the commission has done nothing to change what former president, H. Ian Macdonald, called the "gross inequities in the operating grants formula system used for funding Ontario's universities."

"The upshot of all this analysis is I think the commission hasn't done one iota to help us," said Levy.

The number of underfunded units (Basic Income Units) we have at York is almost as big as the total enrolment at Brock (University)," Levy continued. The total number of BIUs not funded at York is 9,000, he said, which leaves York with a total annual cash shortfall of \$15-million.

Commenting on a Bovey Commission recommendation that the monetary percentage

students pay for their education rise from 16.1 to 25 percent (if accompanied by a new student loan plan), Vice President (Academic Affairs) William Found said York students already pay 25 percent of their educational costs.

Found had some positive and negative assessments of the report's effect, in a strictly educational sense, on York.

Found criticized Bovey's desire to increase funding for Universities that carry out a lot of "resource-intensive research."

"That has the result of giving very special treatment to universities specializing in sciences, medicine and engineering," Found said.

Although Found was encouraged that the commission was not fostering the development of a hierarchically structured provincial university system, he said "reading the report, it's hard to see York getting a bigger piece of the pie."

President Arthurs said he will be issuing a comprehensive response to the Commission's report "within the next week or two." Because of the provincial Tories' leadership race, culminating this weekend, Arthurs said "the

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IS THAT WHAT GRASS DOES TO YOU? This precocious, pint-sized pachyderm was immortalized in mid-munch by Excal's Patty Milton-Feasby on her recent trip to Sri Lanka.

New job program criticized

By RHONDA SUSSMAN

The federal government has announced a new summer job program to replace the Summer Canada student job program eliminated last November.

Jane Youngson, executive assistant to MP Robert Kaplan (who represents the riding containing York University), said details of the program are not yet available. However, according to information released by Employment Minister Flora MacDonald in last Friday's *Globe and Mail*, more emphasis will be put on training.

The delay in presenting the program may present a problem, said federal NDP education critic Howard McCurdy. The "lag time" that occurs between the announcement of a program and its implementation could mean that it may be too late for employers to make use of the program.

McCurdy also believes that the new program package is a "de-emphasis on the university students" and will not replace the Summer Canada program but is aimed at a different target—unemployed youth who are not in school.

With the cutting of the provincial-level Ontario Youth Employment Program last month, approximately 50,000 potential summer jobs could be lost. Ontario Liberal researcher Phil Dewan believes it was shortsighted for the provincial government to cancel these programs.

"The government," said Dewan, "should have negotiated new programs (to be) phased in while other programs were going on," rather than cutting all programs in favor of a future package which may or may not provide the same number of jobs."

PATTY MILTON-FEASBY

YUFA money may be spent on new Faculty club

By KEN MOORE

The York University Faculty Association (YUFA) say they may fund the building of a Faculty Club on both the York and Glendon campuses.

YUFA has been considering the possibility since 1983 when a questionnaire was sent to YUFA members to determine how the monies from the YUFA Trust Fund would be spent.

The choice of a Faculty Club easily topped the list of possible uses for the money, which consists of rebates from the Unemployment Insurance Commission. The rebates amount to approximately \$40,000 annually, and now totals \$200,000. Other projects such as a Benevolent Fund, grants to the library, and Leave Fellowships finished well down on the list.

"The choice of a Faculty Club would tie up the entire fund as well as needing additional funding," said YUFA President Bob Drummond. "The annual rebates and the interest collected on that money would go to the continued upkeep of the Club." Drummond said if one of the other choices were selected a different project could be pursued each year, but, he added, "because it is YUFA's money, it is important to spend it on a project that will directly benefit its members."

The idea of a faculty club has received enthusiastic support from new York president Harry Arthurs, and the administration has pledged assistance in its creation. If the result of a second vote, begun in December, yields a similar result in favor of building a club, as Drummond expects, York's Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting on the issue.

TTC considering half-price fares for students

By LAURA LUSH

Students could be paying half price for Toronto Transit Commission MetroPasses if a TTC study to be released in February recommends the move.

Ward Six alderman Jack Layton called the study "a major breakthrough by the Half-Price MetroPass Coalition."

The coalition, formed in late September to lobby for reduced fares for students and the unemployed, is made up of between 50 to 100 groups and individuals, ranging from university students' representatives to unemployed workers.

The coalition has "made an important impact," Layton said, referring to the TTC's agreement to hire a major Toronto consulting firm to conduct the \$10,000 study. If the study finds that there is the "logistics and rationale for a half price fare scheme for the unemployed and students, then possibly an experimental period would begin," Layton says.

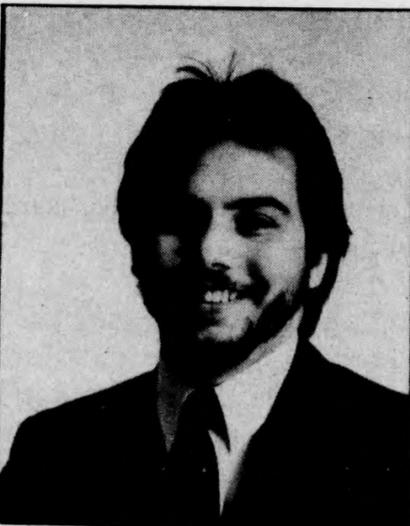
According to a November 23, 1984 brief submitted by Layton on behalf of the coalition, students and the unemployed cannot afford rising TTC fares.

"Given the high cost of education, university and college students are finding it increasingly difficult to afford high transit fares," the brief reads.

Transit users must now pay \$38.50 a month for a MetroPass, a jump of \$2.00 from the \$36.50 fare in 1984. Senior citizens and students under 19 already receive transit discounts, and students under 19 with a TTC identification card can buy eight tickets for \$2.95 or pay 55¢ instead of the standard 95¢ fare.

To implement such a program, funding would have to be subsidized from an external source, the coalition's brief reads. Layton is

asking that the costs not be absorbed by the TTC, but be subsidized by the provincial or municipal governments. Layton recommends that the funding be provided at the provincial level rather than the municipal level, because funds could be taken from income taxes.



MARIO SCATTOLONI

York's representative on the coalition, CYSF Director of Finance Valance Ellies.

CYSF's Director of Finance Valance Ellies is organizing a meeting of representatives from Metro's colleges, U of T, and Ryerson. Next Tuesday's meeting in the Graduate Student Lounge is designed to "solidify our stance" when the lobby group meets with the TTC consultants in two weeks, he said.

Bill Marsh, a Marketing and Relations representative of the TTC, said, "We are willing

to work with anybody that can provide the funds," but until such funding can be found, the program could not begin implementation.

The brief recommends a plan that would offer students a four-month MetroPass for 50 percent less than the usual cost, to be purchased as part of the incidental fees at each university. Cooperation of university administration would be necessary, the brief reads, to lessen the TTC's administrative costs. A liaison person appointed by the TTC and the coalition group to "ensure that the system is operating smoothly for users," is another way to limit administrative costs by the TTC, the brief reads.

According to coalition press releases, similar programs have been successfully run in cities such as Guelph, Hamilton, and Kitchener-Waterloo where universities have offered reduced rates for students.

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