

# the gateway

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interm plan

## "restore houses"

Residents of North Garneau met at 11011-88 Avenue on Thursday, November 23 to discuss the University's policy of encroachment into their community.

Originally the North Garneau area had been considered by Campus Development as the proposed location for a large stadium and other recreational facilities. However, with the advent of such factors as declining enrolment, an interim study was called for by the Board of Governors. This study was conducted by Diamond-Myers Architects and Planners who recommended that the North Garneau area remain a primarily residential district. In its report Diamond-Myers introduced the notion of "an academic village" resplendent with restored and upgraded houses, boutiques, stores and parkades. Under the auspices of Campus Development sundry aspects of the report are now being scrutinized by a number of committees as to their validity. They should be finished their investigations by March of next year.

Another party has expressed an interest in utilizing the North Garneau area, namely the City of Edmonton's Commonwealth Games Federation. Earlier this year it was contacted by an anonymous bureaucrat high up in the University's echelons about the feasibility of constructing a so-called cycle track for the 1978 games. The proposed site for this track is in the area north of 87 Avenue, between 110 and 111 Streets.

At the moment, residents of North Garneau are particularly upset by this plan. At the Thursday meeting they felt that the so-called cycle track is merely a euphemism for a large stadium. Indeed, it is common knowledge that the Physical Education Department of the U of A has an interest in expanding its facilities: the

Dean of Phys. Ed. himself has stated that he would like a larger football field and an all-weather track; by bypassing Campus Development and dealing skillfully with B of G and the Games people, his department could very easily realize its dreams of expansion. And, as North Garneau residents say, "There would go the neighbourhood."

Former provincial Liberal candidate Jim Tanner also derided the University's present policy towards North Garneau. "They don't want to spend any money on upkeep," he said. "They just want to tear the houses down." Another resident felt that the University's course was one of "functional obsolescence." "It has its own pernicious logic," he stated, "which ends in the formation of one great big parking lot."

An individual who had aided in the formation of the North Garneau Tenants' Association last year mentioned the difficulties of organizing against the multiversity monolith. "It's all well and good to organize tenants in the winter," he said, "but it's hard to maintain the vestiges of organization in the summer when everyone's away. And that's when the University does its dirty work."

Nevertheless, residents at the meeting decided to form a committee to draw up a position paper expressing their desire to see North Garneau exist as a prime housing area for the student body. This paper will be drawn up November 30 at 7:30 at 11011-88 Avenue. In addition, the residents expressed a desire to contact such groups as the Garneau Community Association, HUB Tenants' Association, Campus Co-op and Garneau United Church in an effort to broaden their base as an alternative to University policy.

Remember People's Park! ja

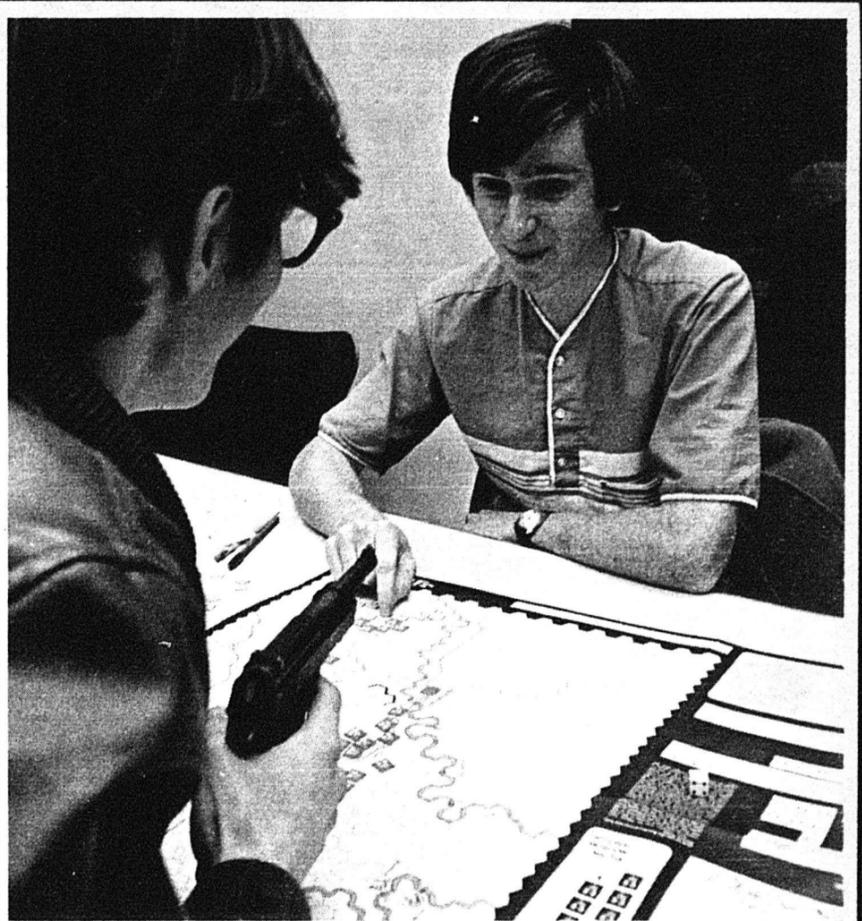


photo by Chuck Lyall

If as we have been led to believe the Viet Nam war is drawing to a close then at first glance it might appear that war itself is becoming obsolete. Now all that is left is for the old wars to be fought over again. There is a club on campus that is devoted to just that. Known as the War Games Society they meet each weekend and do battle with little ships and tanks and cannons and jeeps and aircraft and even little toy soldiers that they often paint themselves.

President of the War Games Society Allen Leander said he began playing war games when he became disatisfied with chess. Most often played on a board many of the war games have a strategy similar to chess.

If your tensed up and feel aggressive or have a bone to pick with a particular nationality or perhaps just in the market for a new hobby maybe you should look into the War Games Society. Boom, pow, pow, bang, gotcha.

## B of G clash over fees

The two most significant events at last Friday's Board of Governor's meeting weren't on the agenda. One was the transfer of three items from the confidential to the open part of the meeting. The other was a squabble over the amount of time available for discussion at the meetings.

The disagreement about how the meetings should be conducted erupted when Board chairman F. T. Jenner objected to Board members' "philosophizing" on the topic of student fees, a subject raised in the Board's response to the Worth Commission Report.

● during debate on the Board's response to the Worth Commission Report-

Jenner (to Riskin who had stated an opinion on the length of degree programs; at first condescending, then firm) You chaps, get your little typewriters out and write it down, and I will refer it to the vice-president academic who can have his day in court. I can't decide on this matter. I'm not an expert.

Student rep Frans Slatter protested that the Board was being prevented from discussing a "complex matter" in a "rational manner". His request that the discussion be continued at another meeting was denied and Jenner chided Board members for not coming to the meeting prepared to vote.

● on the approval of the budget for the Provincial Laboratories

McTavish (of McTavish Business School fame): If we're just rubber stamping the budget, we should refuse to pass it. That would be the best way to emphasize that we don't want to have anything to do with it any more.

Jenner: That isn't in the spirit of progress - that doesn't show faith in the community.

Law prof Barker: (referring to meetings being held to discuss the university's involvement in this budget) I'm all for progress too, and while you're having your meetings and making all this progress, you may be forgetting that those labs employ a number of university people.

Jenner: (sanctimoniously) The welfare of our people is our foremost consideration. (An executive member of the Non-Academic Staff Association who was attending the meeting as an observer snorted audibly and doubled over with laughter.)

Fireworks had begun when the other student rep Gerry Riskin asked the Board to replace the brief's assertion that increasing fees to 25% of programme costs is "apparently justified" with a request for the abolition of tuition fees. The motion was received with hostility and finally withdrawn.

The Board did approve Max Wyman's motion which asked that the government not make any changes to student fees without first undertaking a detailed study.

The Board also approved the sending of a letter charging the Universities Commission with "the obstruction of a program which we earnestly hope will be expedited."

Protesting that the Commission's questions on the Canadian Studies proposal were merely "questions for the sake of questions," Arts Dean R.G. Baldwin admitted that he "won't be sorry to see the Commission go."

Wyman reported that in recent talks both Worth and Foster had agreed that the Commission was going "too deeply into the University" by scrutinizing this program which only requires the addition of one course.

But Burke Barker of law suggested that the university "will attract government approval course by course unless we become less elitist in our approach to community educational resources."

● on student fees

McTavish: I ran a private training school for more than 30 years and my students didn't pay fourteen or twenty-five or forty per cent of the cost. They paid 100%. And no student who meant business was ever deterred by the fees.

Students can get loans with ridiculous ease from the government and from usual commercial sources. I'm not worried about the size of the debts people incur. University students expect to be able to earn enough after they graduate to take care of their debts. I know my own kids don't seem to be bothered by it.

● later in the same debate.

Jenner: The tempis is fugeting up there on the wall. (to Riskin, who was asking the Board to approve the abolition of tuition fees) I can't allow any more discussion. You and your seconderer will get one chance to speak and that is it. (on protests from student rep Frans Slatter and others who wanted more discussion time) We've gone through all the philosophical discussion that you can get on this topic in the last twenty-five minutes.

Slatter continued to object.

Jenner: (brusquely) Are you finished? I'm looking for a seconder. . . Every meeting we have this procedural problem. (emphatically) The way you run a business or something, you come prepared to vote, and then once at the cat, and you vote. (still later Jenner to Riskin, again:) I must call you to order. You are philosophizing on things which won't change my mind if you talk until next Wednesday. (Riskin asks a rhetorical question) Can you answer that question yourself? Then how can you expect us to?

The Board also heard an interim report from a committee studying the "cumbersome and inefficient" university administrative process. Committee Chairman Allen McTavish admitted that he "did not want to go after the administration generally" but had instead chosen to examine working routines in three high personnel departments, purchasing, the comptroller and the registrar.

D.C. Ritchie M.D. objected to the committee's use of U.B.C. as a standard against which to measure the U of A since "Bennett was not very generous with education." McTavish replied that "somehow or other U.B.C. is struggling along with less costs." cs