

# DOWN !!!

New Brunswick students from every institution were effective. A giant protest rally was staged in Fredericton, and three thousand people, nearly 40 per cent of the student population of the province, marched on the Centennial Building.

'Freeze the Fees' was the cry as the throng moved through the streets.

But it was too late. The protest was lodged, the briefs were sent, the crowd was addressed by various speakers and it was over. Some, to be sure, were in the corridors and lobby, hoping by their presence to impress the government with the urgency of their feelings. One chap had a sign pulled by a minister of the crown, and another, allegedly on instruction from the president Dave Cox, threw a few people out when they refused to clear out, and the rest of the hangers-on were dispersed by the next day.

But the fees were still rising.

The cost of a Bachelor of Arts increased from \$570 to \$612; a Bachelor of Engineering from \$600 to \$642. Even in boom times of expanding enrollment, by money a fee increase was found necessary. What possibly can remain to be said when trying to get money from the government is like pulling teeth and enrollment is falling?

In 1971, the Higher Education Commission projected enrollment figures for the following six years. The commission which established these figures was composed of eight university representatives. The figures were subsequently adopted by the commission and are used by both the commission and the university for planning purposes. Can these projections be labelled as planning? Can these planners read the minds of the young to determine future attendance? Most of the short fall in enrollment is due to students dropping out or taking a year off after a couple of years have passed. This is a reflection on the relevance of the courses offered?

The budgetary deficit this year is slightly less than \$900,000. This deficit were to be made up by 5,000 students next year that would amount to \$180 per student. That is an increase of approximately 30 per cent over the present cost of a BA. Will the students accept this?

Perhaps it might be to ask the university to absorb some of the shortfall. Are not the administrators and other part of this community as well? Five years ago was there an Office of Information? Dean of Students, an Admissions Office? How many assistants, associates, acting associates are now receiving remuneration for a job one time may have been considered as a part of the job of being a staff member of the university?

It is probably safe to say that some of the more prestigious universities in Canada are received from McGill University of Toronto, Carleton, and U.B.C.

A BA from each of these institutions costs \$460, \$550, (approx. including student fees), \$485, and \$457. Do we get what we pay for? It is unfair of course to cast dispersions on the academic staff. The purpose of this comparison is to indicate by inference, the amount of financial support available to other institutions in the country. Bluntly speaking, must New Brunswick students always bow when the government goes first class? The budgetary deficit at UNB could have been wiped out

had there been no M.A. pay raise, no government airplane, no liquor cartage deal, and if Charlie Van Horne had been fired six months earlier

The university community, the Higher Education Commission, and the government have some soul-searching to do over money. If everything runs according to tradition the students or their parents will get screwed again. Must it always be so, Dick, Desmond, Roy, et al?

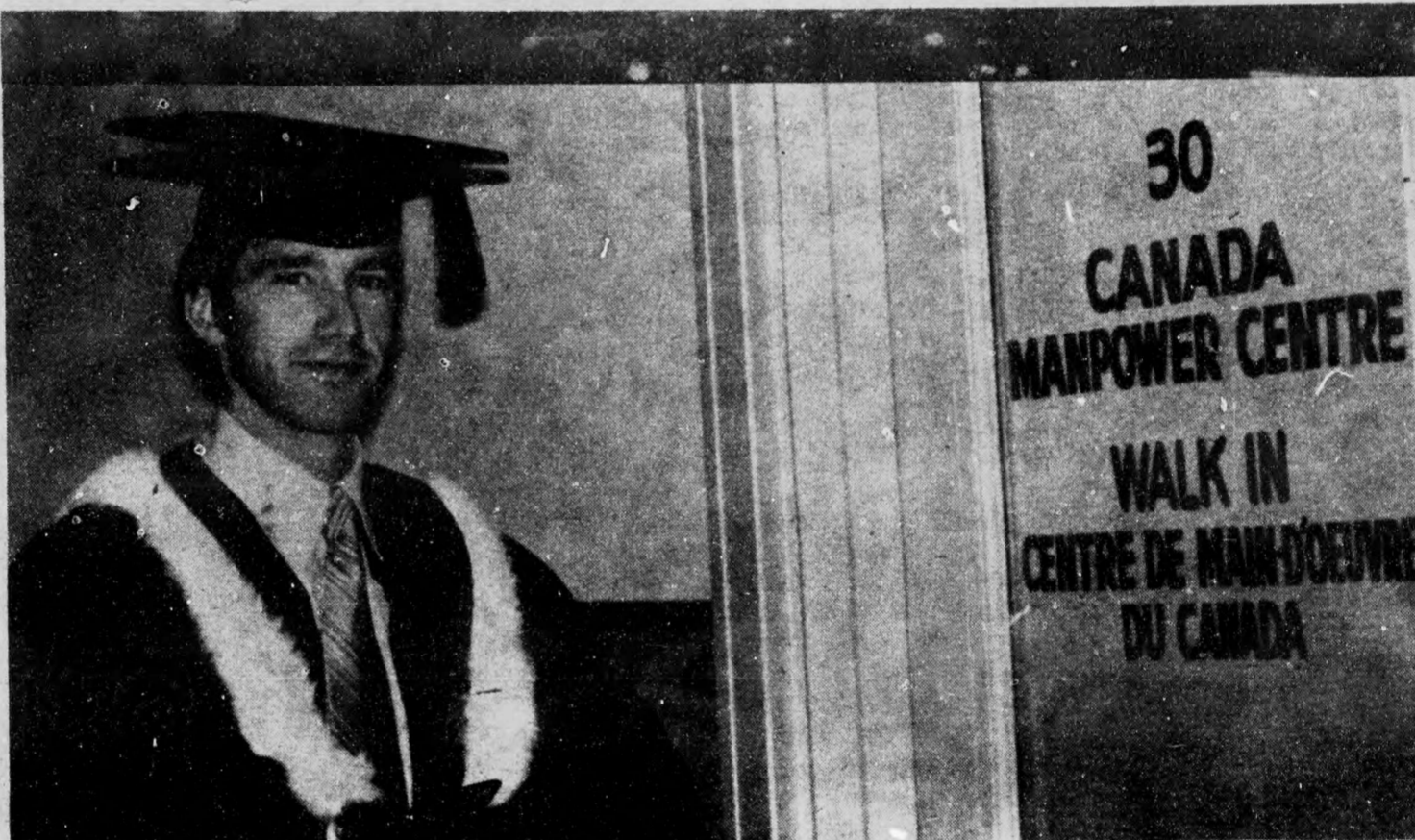


Photo by Ken DeFreitag

Okay folks, here's a quiz: What do you get when you graduate from UNB? A job? Security? Don't bet on it. Chances are excellent, however, that you'll end up with a large bill and an empty wallet.

### UNIVERSITY FEES ACROSS CANADA (One Year of Arts)

Acadia	\$635
Alberta	\$400
Bishop's	\$530
Brandon	\$425
Brock	\$515
U.B.C.	\$457
Calgary	\$400
Carleton	\$485
Guelph	\$485
Lakehead	\$616
Laurentian	\$490
Loyola	\$540
McGill	\$636
McMaster	\$537.50
Manitoba	\$425
Mount Allison	\$635
Saskatchewan	\$425
Sir George Williams	\$450
Toronto	\$550
Trent	\$555
Waterloo Lutheran	\$520
Waterloo	\$624.80
Western Ontario	\$542.50
Windsor	\$640
Winnipeg	\$425
York	\$570