

# SLS move to HUB for more visibility

by Thomas Olsen

In an attempt to increase their profile, the Student Legal Services have considered establishing a satellite office in HUB mall, to work in conjunction with their existing office in the Law Centre.

Peter Michalyszyn, chairman of the SLS said, "We want students to know where we are, and to know what we can offer the student population."

Michalyszyn admitted that the SLS have not promoted themselves as well as they could have, but said an office in HUB mall would increase their profile far better than any promotional devices.

SLS offers free legal advice, and free legal services to those unable to afford a lawyer. The Student OmbudService, funded by the Students' Union, helps with academic appeals.

In a meeting of the Council on

Student Services last February, the Student Legal Service and the Student OmbudService both broached the subject of a move to HUB mall, and asked for input from the council members.

"We want people to realize that we are impartial in any conflicts that may arise between a student and a member of the student body," said Shauna Stonehouse of the Student OmbudService. "Because our office is right across from the SU office, people automatically assume that we are affiliated, which we are not."

Student Union Vice President Internal Barb Higgin, who professed no knowledge of the discussed changes, said that before any decisions on the matter could be made by Student Council, a formal proposal would have to be submitted to them by the parties involved.



HUB International, future home of SLS satellite office

photo Ron Checora

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## Drinking age in Ontario to stay at 19

**TORONTO (CUP)** — Ontario students can heave a sigh of relief now that a provincial advisory committee has recommended retaining the current drinking age of 19.

The report, submitted to Consumer and Commercial Relations Minister Monte Kwinter, also calls for extended hours of operation for drinking establishments, tougher restrictions on advertising, and looser guidelines on the sale of alcohol at sporting events.

"A philosophy of moderation and responsibility" was the driving force behind the committee's initiatives, according to project manager Rosemary Grange. Many of the report's more than 90 recommendations aim to reduce drinking and driving, cited as the most important alcohol-related problem.

Student reaction has been almost universally positive, following months of intensive lobbying to prevent an increase in the drinking age.

"We're very pleased," said University of Toronto student council vice-president Titch Dharamsi. "An increase would have been a big mistake."

Guy Giorno, president of the Young Progressive Conservatives in Ontario, also embraced the recommendations enthusiastically.

"We find it very positive," said Giorno, whose group had pushed to reduce the age to 18. "The majority wanted to raise it, and leaving it required willpower. Statistically, it is still inequitable, but holding the line is, to us, acceptable."

John Bates, president of People to Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (PRIDE), said he found the report deplorable.

"It's disastrous," Bates said. "Not only will the extension of drinking hours surpass subway closure times, but the refusal to increase the drinking age will cost many people, especially teenagers, their lives."

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