

# Crosswalk 15 feet away from paved walkway



André Souroujon

by Randy Dearlove

Perhaps York University should hire crossing guards, with all the problems people are experiencing at a crosswalk on campus.

Some people at York are unhappy with the conditions of the crosswalk located on Fraser Dr. below Niagara Dr.

The crosswalk is positioned approximately 15 feet away from the paved walkway, which runs from Assiniboine Rd. to Fraser Dr. Before construction began in February 1989, it was adjacent to the walkway. This movement of the crosswalk has given both pedestrians and drivers problems.

Individuals cross the road from the end of the walkway instead of the beginning of the crosswalk. Lawrence Euteneir, a graduate student with a visual disability, said, "They [members of the administration] should stand down there [crosswalk] and watch where people cross. They should consult people who use crosswalks when they build them." He has

had difficulties crossing because his seeing-eye dog follows the other pedestrians.

A female graduate student in law, when asked what she felt of the crosswalk said, "It is the stupidest one on campus." She explained that she and her roommate were almost hit by a car the previous night. She feels that drivers don't know where to stop because the crosswalk has been moved.

Euteneir said that there is mud on the crosswalk from the construction. He also said that there sometimes are work vehicles on the road, which he feels are blocking the view of drivers.

Debbie Kee, communication officer for construction said the work crew was responsible for keeping the crosswalk clean and to have a flagman directing traffic around work vehicles. She pointed out though that it is impossible to keep the area completely clear of mud. Kee admits that sometimes she has to remind work crews to have someone directing traffic.

Euteneir feels the best solution to the problem is to move the crosswalk closer to the paved walkway. However, construction administrator Bob

Binnie said that it cannot be moved due to a catch basin in the area. Binnie said that it is located at its present position to get people use to the configuration that will exist after the construction is finished. He said the hardest part is educating drivers and pedestrians.

On October 9 members from Security, physical plant and others went out to inspect all the crosswalks on campus. They also looked at the lighting, which is not totally agreed upon. Binnie said, "There are several schools out on what type of lighting should be used at crosswalks." He said that some people would like to see light banners, the type found on some crosswalks on public roads. The problem here is that the banners would provide too much light for some people, he said. Binnie explained that the Petrie Observatory would not be able to view anything in the night sky because of light pollution. He feels the lighting at the crosswalks is adequate. He wants to see consistency — the same type of lighting at all crosswalks, so that people will not have any troubles identifying crosswalks.

# AIDS policy provision causes controversy

by Maria Krakower

York's AIDS policy has finally been passed by the Vice-presidents' Committee. The policy is now in its final stages of amendment and will probably be implemented after the President's Committee meets on the issue in a few weeks.

The York administration has been met with strong opposition to parts of the AIDS policy. Ron Kelly, founder of the York Council for the prevention of AIDS says that the university "is completely misinformed. They lack the medical input from the community which would enable them to formulate an acceptable policy."

At an open forum in the east bearpit last Wednesday, Kelly confronted Bill Farr, vice-president (finance and administration), on the issue. He told Farr that the policy is discriminatory and that he has serious reservations about the "need to know" section. This section states that an individual's results on AIDS tests will not be released to the individual's parents or any member of the university "except in cases where the information becomes necessary for the purposes of the administration responsibilities."

Kelly says the university will definitely utilize the policy of disclosing information about which individuals test HIV positive. Kelly feels that this is discriminatory and points out that this is not the practice regarding students who have measles or any sexually transmitted disease.

Billie Mullick, the coordinator of the AIDS policy, says such information will only be given out

in extreme cases. Kelly believes the university has no right to decide when and where it will release such information and that the policy only paves the way for discrimination. Furthermore, he believes that the policy violates the individual's rights as outlined in the Ontario Health Act, and plans on suing the university on these grounds.

Mullick says the policy recognizes AIDS carriers as "disabled" individuals and aims at protecting them for their benefit. Part of this protection would be manifested in an effort to educate people on campus about the disease. Mullick says that education "is of prime importance, since a number of people have ridiculous fears about AIDS"

Once the policy is implemented, a special committee will be formed to oversee the direction of education through workshops, video presentations and open forums. This committee would work closely with the Department of Human Resources, and the Department of Occupational Health and Safety.

As far as releasing confidential information, Mullick says that "what Ron Kelly said [to Bill Farr] is not entirely true." Health Services on campus is bound by ethics not to release information regarding the results of AIDS tests. Such information is, and will continue to remain, confidential. However, in circumstances where students are requesting academic concessions, such as the permission to extend an examination date, the administration may request such information.

# Vanier hopes to solve problems by writing new constitution

by Michele Greene

Vanier College is negotiating a new constitution, says Vanier council president Kate Collins, since it is currently "straddling" two constitutions. In 1986, the Vanier constitution was amended and ratified, and, again in 1988, was amended but not passed.

Stan Taman, Vanier student liaison officer and member of the Vanier constitution committee, says Vanier wants to "get a constitution in place" that will be effective and will not have to be amended every year. Currently, Vanier is operating under the 1986 constitution.

Council wants the job descriptions in the 1988 constitution of Vanier's CYSF representatives amended, says Collins. Two representatives for each college are elected during the CYSF general elections. But, because

Vanier's expectations of its representatives are not outlined in its current constitution, its council cannot interfere when it feels its concerns are not expressed at the CYSF.

The lack of job descriptions for these positions has posed a problem for Vanier in the past. According to Vanier master Mary Sue McCarthy, Vanier "want[s] [its CYSF representatives] to really represent [Vanier] and they're not." She says they do not attend the council meetings to become aware of Vanier's concerns and positions.

Collins also feels the way McCarthy does. One of the representatives, she says, voted, at a council meeting, to support fraternities and sororities as recognized clubs within the university community. The Vanier College Council opposes this stand, says Collins. Based on its high membership fees, the college sees these groups as elitist organizations that undermine the

college system. Fraternities and sororities represent only the social aspect of university life whereas colleges stand for both the social and academic side, she says.

Reciprocity with the CYSF is also to be considered in the new constitution. Collins says the university wants a uniform constitutional arrangement between the CYSF and the college councils so their constitutions can be legally binding. This would mean councils and constitutions would have an arranged structure like the CYSF. Stong and Calumet College would have to reorganize their student governments since they use general assemblies as their governing bodies.

McCarthy says that Vanier's mandate has to be worked out in the constitution. According to the White Paper on Student Government Reforms presented last year by York president Harry Arthurs, each college would have an academic focus and its clubs

would be related to that mandate. Vanier would represent humanism and creativity since it houses the psychology, education, philosophy and creative writing clubs. As a result of the new academic focus involving clubs, new guidelines have to be worked out with them such as financial support from the college council, space and publicity.

Guidelines for the management board for the college pub The Open End, and for the publication board (*Existere* and *Van-doo*) will also be more clearly outlined.

Grant Wagman, chairperson for Vanier's constitution committee, says the committee plans to meet once a week to work through the entire document. Changes to the amendment procedure of the constitution are now being discussed.

The committee plans to present the revised constitution to the Vanier College Council in January, said Wagman.



Can you help Craig? Craig is a seven year old boy in Royal Marsden Hospital. He has a tumour of the brain and one on his spine. He has been sent home as incurable and has very little time to live. His last ambition is to get into the *Guinness Book of Records* as the recipient of "get well cards". If you would like to help, please send your name and address on the back for verification. Craig's address: Craig Shergold, 56 Selby Road, Carshalton, Surrey, England. SM5 1LD.