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# Dal scholarships unclaimed

by Sylvia Kaptein

Scholarships—something we all could use and yet one that only a lucky few ever receive. Have you ever wondered how the selection process about who gets what is carried out at Dalhousie?

For returning students, all grades, which are given out as letters, are converted to a numerical scale. For example, an A plus becomes a 97 and an F becomes a 35. The others, of course, fall in between.

The student's marks are then averaged, and the computer prints out a list of names according to these results, with the student receiving the highest grade first on the list. The scholarship committee, which is made up of 13 members including two students, awards money to the top students on the list.

To make the chances of getting a scholarship more fair, a student only has to

compete with others from the same faculty. In fact, even Arts and Science has been broken up due to complaints from Arts students that it is extremely difficult to get full marks in a history or an english paper.

The total in-course scholarship money is divided among the faculties, with each receiving an amount proportional to the number of students in the faculty. The top student of each faculty receives the \$1750 top award. Others receive \$1250, \$850, and \$400 scholarships, with the money being distributed down the list until it is all gone.

The selection process for entering students is somewhat different. Because marking systems differ so widely from high school to high school, the committee places a higher emphasis on how the student fared in relation to others in his school. Another

important factor is the assessment the student has received from his teacher or principal. Each applicant is automatically considered for a scholarship, with those having an average over 75% being scrutinized by the committee.

There is no quota system for handing out these scholarships. Entrants from outside the Maritimes are treated on an equal basis with those from the Maritimes.

Contrary to what many believe, entrance scholarships are not of higher value than in-course ones. They both range from \$400-\$1750.

Twenty-one \$1750 scholarships were offered to entering students this year, out of which 62% were accepted. Dalhousie is one of the few universities that does not pass declined scholarships on to the next highest applicant. Instead, the money saved from refused awards is tacked on to the in-course allocation.

Two sources contribute to the \$300,000 given out annually. Many individuals have left scholarships in their will, specifying what type of student is to receive the award. The rest of the money comes from the university itself.

Besides those scholarships the university supplies, there are many others, offered by other universities, governments, or companies, which the student may take advantage of.

A few of these actually have to go begging for applicants. According to G.G. Steedman, Director of Awards, many students don't apply for these scholarships because they don't think they would ever receive one. Others, it seems, are unaware of their existence.

Several of these scholarships are listed each week on the back page of University News. The Awards Office in the A&A has further information on them.

## Your health insurance plan

by Susan McKinley,  
Health Plan Chairperson

By now most of the full-time students of Dalhousie University should have received their Dalhousie University Health and Accident certificate or Policy Number. This is the policy number which must be included on all claim forms for health coverage.

Note: This plan has already been paid for by the Student Union with your student fees; but if you would like to add your wife, husband or children to this plan you can do so for \$8.50. Just come to Room 222 of the Student Union Building and ask for the accountant.

Those of you who are

registered as full-time students and have not yet received your policy number can also pick it up in Room 222 of the SUB.

Be sure your policy number and all the correct information is on the claim forms before mailing to the—  
National Office  
University Health &  
Accident Plus Life  
710 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5G 1N4

The claim forms for **prescription drugs** are available at various places around campus. If you have any questions or do not understand something, please go to

either:

1. Room 222 of the SUB.
2. Student Health at Howe Hall.

All other claim forms (dental, extended health care) may be obtained at the above places only. If during the year you find you are having problems please phone this direct free number to John Ingle Company, who supplies the insurance—1-800-268-9059.

The Health Insurance Plan basically covers:

1. every prescription prescribed by a legally qualified medical doctor, less a deductible fee of one dollar and excluding the birth control

pill. The prescription drugs must be filled for a one month period only.

2. dental expenses for accidental damage to natural teeth.
3. hospitalization or treatment.
4. loss of limb or sight.

There is an optional Life Insurance program for \$22.00 a year. To enroll for this additional life insurance complete the application form in the brochure and mail to the National Office.

I hope this has explained the Health Insurance program for Dalhousie students. Remember, it has been paid for and is there for your advantage.

## Indian activist seeks refuge

reprinted from *The Peak*  
by Bob Everitt

John Trudell burned an American flag outside the Washington FBI building on February 11, 1978. It was part of a vigil for Leonard Peltier; a protest against his conviction for aiding and abetting in the murder of two FBI agents.

Twelve hours after the vigil a fire broke out in Trudell's home on the Duck Valley Reservation in Idaho. His wife, mother-in-law, two daughters and son were killed inside.

Incidents such as these are the evidence on which Trudell will base his plea to Canadian Immigration for refugee status. The plea is not to escape actual charges as in the case of Peltier, it is to escape, what Trudell believes to be, a co-ordinated attack against himself and other Indian activists.

In an interview with the

Peak, Trudell talked about a document drafted in 1976 by the Senate sub-committee on internal affairs. It claimed the American Indian Movement (AIM) of which he was chairman, was a radical group dedicated to the violent overthrow of the American government. It is this document that Trudell uses as evidence that the events that have rocked his life are other than just mere chance.

During a 1977 trial for Peltier, Trudell cursed and was charged. His sentence was served in five state prisons. In some cases, he said he was in the wrong prisons and at one point confined to a maximum security ward. "For a misdemeanor (all this happened)" he shrugged.

Later, the judge of this trial was appointed to a post in the FBI.

Trudell believes that because of his activities with AIM he is a target of the American Government and other powers that want him out of the way. He claims open threats of violence by FBI agents were made to members of his group. One story described how an AIM member was acquitted for his part in the Wounded Knee incident and afterwards was confronted by two agents who threatened to kill him.

Trudell questions the investigations into the fire that killed his family. The findings were that the accident had begun in the fire porch. Trudell asked that the porch be unaltered because he believed this to be the starting point, but before he could return to verify this, officials disturbed the porch, allegedly searching for remains of his daughter. Later it was discovered that the girl had been found in the

living room earlier, so these disturbances were unnecessary.

Canada will not give political asylum to a person from a democratically elected government. Because of this Trudell has applied for refugee status under the U.N. provision for refugees. He believes he has the qualifications for refugee status but worries about behind the scene activity of the FBI. Peltier was extradited because an FBI agent purged himself and lied in Canadian court, according to Trudell. He believes that the same lies and pressures are on Immigration now.

Even if there are no pressures, Trudell is likely not to be overly welcome by a country who has pressing issues on Indian rights itself. Taking in Trudell would be bringing fuel very close to an already kindled fire.