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# soundoff continued

Dear Sir or Madam:  
Could you please publish the enclosed as an open letter to your university community. Thank you for your help.  
Yours truly,  
Fraser Homer-Dixon

Russell and Albert Einstein in 1955 calling upon the scientists of the world to meet at a conference to discuss and appraise the threat of nuclear weapons. The first of these conferences was sponsored by Cyrus Eaton, and it took place in the small town of Pugwash, Nova Scotia, in 1957. Since then, this informal movement has grown considerably, and its perspective has broadened to include the sources of international conflict and the responsibilities of scientists in society.

Dear Faculty Member or Student:  
I am writing to ask for your help in establishing a new national student organization.

As you may know, the Pugwash Movement was sparked by a manifesto issued by Bertrand

Last June, I was the sole Canadian to attend the first Student Pugwash Conference on Science and Ethical Responsibility held in San Diego. I was inspired by the enthusiasm of the student and faculty participants and also by the theme of the conference. In today's world, the scientist often plays a pivotal role in social change, yet the moral responsibility of this role is frequently overlooked. Work that might pose ethical problems for the scientist ranges from recombinant DNA research to designing nuclear missile guidance systems, from the development of new pesticides to drafting intelligence tests. Among students, there is great scope for a discussion of these ethical issues. With the support of the senior Pugwash organization in Canada, I decided that I would try to encourage this discussion by establishing a Canadian Student Pugwash group. The goals of Canadian Student

Pugwash are:--to establish a network of young social and natural scientists across Canada who are concerned about the ethical issues relevant to their work;--to promote an educational discussion of these issues between young and older scientists through correspondence, workshops, and conferences; and--to encourage scientists outside the organization to consider the ethical implications of their work.

As part of a program to establish a network of contacts, this letter has been mailed to department heads, senior administrators, professors, and students throughout the Canadian university community. I hope that you can pass the word along to those students and professors who might be interested in participating in Canadian Student Pugwash, asking them to forward their names and addresses to me. Participation by professors is very

important; although most of the organization work will be done by students, I hope that interested professors can maintain the momentum of Canadian Student Pugwash from year to year. Too often student organizations suffer

along because there is little continuity in their memberships.

In one or two months, I will send a letter to all those people who

have expressed an interest in Canadian Student Pugwash with

information on possible future programs and funding, and details on the response to this campaign.

Your support will be appreciated.

Thank you.

yours truly,  
Fraser Homer-Dixon

Student, Political Science  
Carleton University

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## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Attention all interested students. There will be a Leadership Conference on March 9th, 1980 at the Faculty Club in the Old Arts Building. The conference starts at 10:00 a.m., and the only prerequisite is your interest and concern about the campus.



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