

# New plans for Quinpool

by Michael Greenfield

Four weeks ago when the City of Halifax bought the 15 acre Quinpool site from Centennial Properties for the sum of \$5.3 million dollars it marked a major victory for the residents of Wards Four and Two. Since then many determined citizens have pursued an even greater victory for Ward Four and Two residents. The challenge now placed before the groups involved is to come forth with a viable alternative to the now extinct Centennial Properties plan.

The original Centennial project consisted of high rise apartment houses plus shopping and commercial areas. The project would have brought in a tremendous amount of new residents plus those people both shopping and working in the Quinpool Road project. This would have created increased traffic and noise problems, and eventually turn what is now a medium density, middle to low income residential area into a commercial center. The trouble with this proposal was that the only problem it solved was that of the developers thinning wallets, it did not deal with what should be the major concern of the City, which is the lack of family housing.

The Ecology Action Center, Neighborhood Housing Association, Residents Council, and concerned citizens fought a two year battle to preserve the existing community. And now that Centennial Properties is out of the picture, the citizens involved have been at work to meet the two basic requirements for any project that is to go up on the 15 acre site. (1) The plan must fit in well with the surrounding community, and (2) it must be economically feasible.

Planners stress that the most important factor in any project built on the Quinpool site

is that the basic colour of the Community must be maintained. To do this any plan will have to include houses rather than apartments. The population density will have to be in the medium range and commercial development must be kept to a minimum. One of the major aspects of the new project being developed is that it would reverse the tide of the family housing exodus from downtown metro areas. A tide that has effectively eliminated downtown residential communities throughout Canada's major cities, Montreal and Toronto. This makes a residential Quinpool Road project an innovative and challenging concept.

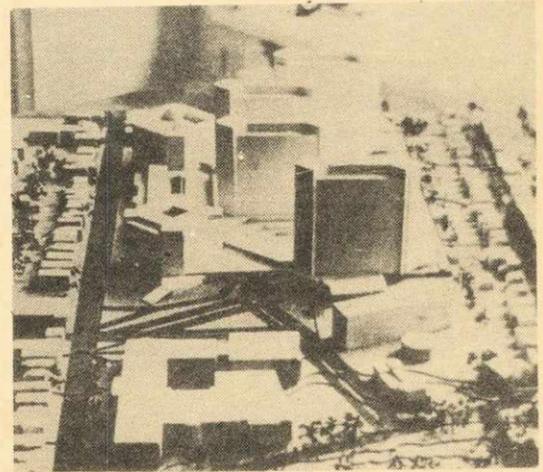
However, no project will be able to get off the ground without the necessary funding. The City clearly cannot afford to finance a development. The money will have to come from other sources, namely the Provincial and Federal Governments. The Provincial government has already agreed to pay 90% of the 5.3 million cost of the land. Money is now needed for construction costs and also to subsidize the housing built so that it will be inexpensive enough for low and middle income families. However the main source to be tapped will be the Federal Government.

On either the 10th or 11th of February Mayor Edmund Morris, Ward 2 Alderwoman Brenda Shannon, and Grant Wenzell, a representative of the Neighborhood Housing Association, will travel to Ottawa. They will go with a sketchy Quinpool Road plan and try to obtain financing from the Feds. The grant source they are primarily interested in is the Urban Demonstration Program, which provides \$200 million dollars worth of grants for innovative and progressive urban development. The program is set up to fund demonstration projects for the Canada showcase in the

upcoming Habitat '76, sponsored by the United Nations and hosted by Canada in Vancouver. To meet the requirements for obtaining the grant the Quinpool plan must primarily be innovative and useful as well as meet certain other secondary requirements. Grant Wenzell told the Gazette that the Quinpool plan would "meet all the primary and secondary criteria." In addition it is believed that once the project is constructed it would generate greater business development and be economically beneficial to the surrounding community.

Although no concrete plans have been drawn up it is generally assumed that any project built will somewhat resemble the QR2 plan. The QR2 plan was brought before the City as an

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Defunct Centennial Project

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# Atlantic Students Unite

by Roger Metcalf

The Atlantic Federation of Students was launched last Saturday, January 25, at a conference in Truro, Nova Scotia.

The Federation proposal was approved by representatives of approximately 30,000 post-secondary students. It will now go to the Student Union Councils for ratification.

The conference culminated eight months of preparation, including conferences in Halifax and Fredericton.

The Federation is the first such organization to exist in over five years, and student leaders are confident that it will prove worthwhile.

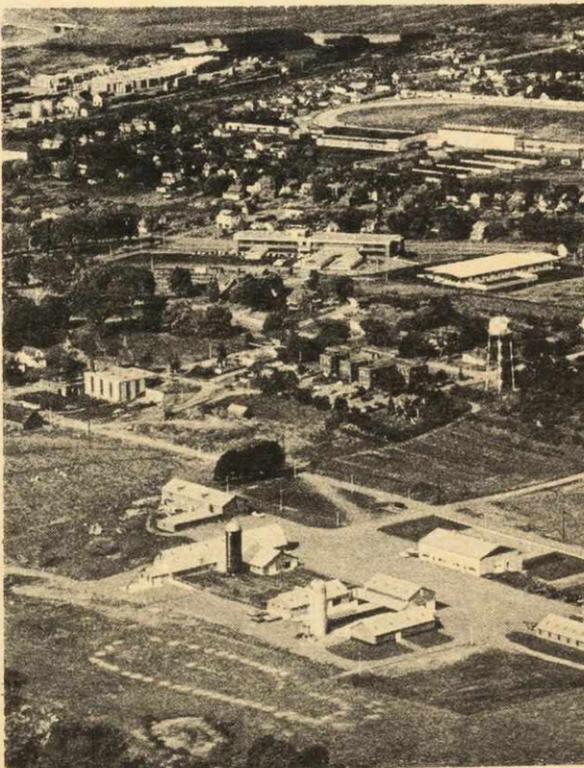
The Dalhousie delegates in Truro were President Dan O'Connor, Vice-President Lorne Richardson, Community Affairs Secretary Cathy Dyke and External Affairs Chairman Ron McCabe. They joined with delegations from twelve other institutions to unanimously approve the Federation constitution.

Creation of the Federation is expected to result in greater student influence on the four provincial governments. Its purpose includes promoting co-operation and common effort among students in the Atlantic region. Another aim is to foster communication among the various student governments.

The student governments at all post-secondary educational institutions are eligible for membership in the Federation.

Warren McKenzie of the University of New Brunswick was elected to serve as the Federation's interim Chairman until the first annual conference, to be held in May at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The interim Chairman of the Nova Scotia caucus of the Federation is John Stuart of St.



Nova Scotia Agricultural College,  
Truro, N.S.

Mary's University.

The delegates voted to seek recognition of the Federation from the National Union of

Students. The proposed Federation activities tend to parallel the work begun by NUS and the Ontario Federation of Students. It is thought that through co-ordination and contact with the national organization the Atlantic Federation will be able to use its time and money more effectively.

There are no plans to hire staff for the Federation. Membership fees are kept low, and will be used to pay duplication and mailing costs primarily. Dalhousie's fee would be \$200.

The establishment of the Federation comes at a time when student governments are once again devoting a reasonable amount of their resources to external matters. Many that had removed external affairs positions have restored them.

For this region it is the first time since September 1969 that there has been both a national and regional effort to work together for common goals, and to lobby governments for better educational policies.

The conference was hosted by the Nova Scotia College of Agriculture Students Council. The other institutions represented were from the University of New Brunswick, St. Thomas University, Universite de Moncton, Mt. Allison University, Nova Scotia Teachers College, St. Mary's University, Dalhousie University, Mount St. Vincent University, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, University of King's College, St. Francis Xavier University and Memorial University.

Also participating in the process that led to creation of the Federation were University of New Brunswick (St. John), Acadia University, University of Prince Edward Island and College of Cape Breton.