

Here we go again:

# New council meets

by Mary Pat MacKenzie

On Sunday March 9 the recently elected Students' Council held their first meeting. Many of the old council members were present on the sidelines, contributing advice and humour to the proceedings.

Lorne Richardson presented the Vice-President's report for the past year. He outlined several of the accomplishments of the Task Force established by the past executive, including separate convocations for the health professions. Mr. Richardson recommended that the Lower Campus Task Force be continued and possibly be expanded to include the Grad Students. The report was not discussed at great length but was accepted by Council.

The reports of the Communications and Academic Affairs Secretaries were also accepted.

Council privileges was again discussed by Council. At the last Council meeting before the election the outgoing Council voted to limit Council privileges to a monetary limit of \$100. per year, per Councillor. The new Council voted to set up a committee to examine the practicalities of the new limitation and set up some kind of ticket arrangement that will effectively control any possible abuses. Richard Coughlin was appointed to the Committee, which also includes the Vice-President Ann Smiley, and the Interim Treasurer, Barry Ward.

Touche Ross and Company were appointed as auditor for the Student Union for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1975. Barry Ward was approved by Council to act as Interim Treasurer until a successor is appointed.

It was approved in principle that Council

would rotate its meetings throughout the campus in the upcoming year. Some discussion was generated by this motion as apparently the past Council had tried this last year without much success. Bruce Russell explained that the Council would not move to different locations unless invited by some segment of the campus. Ann Smiley further explained that Council would probably only be invited to other areas when something of interest to that area was listed on the agenda (e.g. Howe Hall would be encouraged to invite the Council to hold its regular meeting at Howe Hall when an issue of interest to Howe Hall was scheduled for that meeting).

Council was asked to appoint members to three committees — Recruitment, Grants and Constitution. Past Council members who sat on these committees gave the new members brief descriptions of the committees before they made their appointments. Peter Greene (Grad Studies), a council member several years ago, described both the Recruitment Committee and the Grants Committee as "the most important committee" of Council. Mr. Greene was later appointed Chairperson of Grants (no doubt Grants has now taken precedence over Recruitment). Alan Turnbull and Peter Clarke were appointed to the Recruitment Committee, which is chaired by the vice president, Ann Smiley.

Glen Robertson, Peter Greene, Lynn Fitzgerald and Russ Stewart were nominated for the Grants Committee. Mr. Greene withdrew his nomination when it was pointed out by Bruce Russell that he would be ineligible for the Executive appointment as Chairperson if elected as a member. Russ Stewart and Lynn Fitzgerald were elected to

the committee.

Paula Kinley, Derek McKearney and Steve Campbell were appointed to the Constitution Committee. This committee is responsible for helping all Societies, etc. establish constitutions and for maintaining contacts between the society executives and the Council.

Nominations were put forward for the two Council Executive positions. There was some discussion as to whether or not *ex officio* members of Council could be appointed to the Executive and it was decided that although this has not been the practice in the past it was feasible. Valerie Dyer (Senate, and thus an *ex officio* member), Helen Spinelli (Senate also), Peter Greene (Grad Studies) and John Hamilton (Medicine) were nominated for the positions. A second ballot was called for and Peter Greene and John Hamilton were elected. Greene was appointed Chairperson of Grants and Hamilton was appointed Chairperson of the employment Committee.

Mike Bowser a member of the Entertainment Committee, presented Council with copies of a survey he is presently carrying out for Entertainment and asked Council to assist him in getting some student feedback. Copies of the survey questionnaires are available at the Council offices, the SUB Inquiry Desk and from Council members.

Various announcements were made by Bruce Russell at the end of the meeting and the new Council members were encouraged to ask questions about Council either then or to drop in to Bruce's or Ann's offices later in the week. It was announced that there would be a regular meeting next Sunday to appoint the new Executive and Council adjourned.

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## Ward 1 Residents' Association

by Roger Metcalf

Ward One residents are concerned about preserving the residential nature of their community.

That was one clear message from the March 5 public meeting organized by the Ward 1 Residents Association.

Much of the meeting was devoted to presentations on traffic and land use, two areas where the Association has been concentrating its efforts. Both presentations centred on means of changing policies and procedures in a way that fostered preservation.

The Residents Association has other interests, of course. It was founded out of public concern with recreation and open space issues. The Municipal Development Plan, Graham Report, citizen involvement, crime and pollution are also concerns of the association.

However, the most emotional issue is traffic, especially the Northwest Arm Bridge aspect of the traffic problem. A director of the association, Peter Robson, explained current traffic

patterns, and the impact of the Dunbrack Street extension which will be finished within two and a half years.

The Dunbrack extension will be a four-lane limited access highway running from Kearney Lake Road in the Wedgewood subdivision area to the Old Sambro Road in Spryfield. Construction is about to begin.

Mr. Robson then illustrated how a further extension, which the provincial government calls Northwest Arm Drive, is proposed to extend from Old Sambro Road in a curve to the Arm. Every planner's map seen by Mr. Robson included an Arm crossing, and a link between that crossing and the downtown area.

As would be expected, the Ward One residents are not very excited about a bridge coming over their heads, carrying cars that will overload the south end streets. Peter Robson's analysis of the proposed Municipal Development Plan policies found them favouring a different approach, although he proposed some changes to

strengthen the concept of protecting neighbourhoods from new roads.

The meeting gave approval to the association directors' approach of opposing the Arm bridge; trying to strengthen neighbourhood protection and bridge abolition in the development policies; lobbying for investigation of alternatives to the Arm bridge as the solution for mainland traffic problems.

Among the uninvestigated alternatives are concentration of industrial development on the mainland, rail transit, much more efficient bus transit, only a rail bridge over the Arm, staggered work hours in downtown Halifax, an upgraded ferry system.

**It is clear that the Ward 1 Residents main aim is to turn the Arm bridge from a foregone conclusion into one of many traffic alternatives.**

During the traffic discussion Ward One Alderman Dennis Connolly was called upon to explain how he could both support the City's pro-transit policy and vote to reduce by \$50,000

the City's support of Halifax Transit. Connolly's first reply was that the reduced support would not force a reduction in transit operations, and that \$50,000 was only tokenism anyway. When pressed about whether his positions were consistent, his explanation was "Sure".

Land use proposals were explained by Association head Rob Smith. The proposals, although general, advocate a wide range of methods to encourage preservation of the residential communities in Ward One.

These methods would include a different type of zoning, to stop encouraging high-rise buildings and start encouraging low-rise "in-fill" construction. Preservation of historic buildings, encouragement of rehabilitation and restoration, rigid containment of industry to the waterfront area, strong and regular building inspection to prevent deterioration — all of which were suggested at the meeting.

Feeling was not as high as it had been for the traffic debate, but it was obvious

that land use carries the potential for conflict within the Residents Association. This is because restoration of the old south end, if not done carefully, would drive out the present residents and bring in the kind of middle-class white paint crowd that is plaguing downtown Toronto.

The large number of people at the March 5 meeting is a good omen for the future of the Ward 1 Residents Association. March 5 was the first day that people could become paid members, at \$2.00 each, and over 40 joined on the spot. The next Board of Directors will be elected at the annual meeting on April 2 in the Morris St. Annex of Tower Road School.

A further indication of the Association's importance might be the presence, in addition to Alderman Connolly, of Alderman Wilf Moore, Ben McCrea of the Municipal Development Plan Committee, Dr. John Graham of the Commission, Hon. George Mitchell, the

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