

# Blood & Thunder

Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain a phone number where the writer can be reached. **Deadline: Monday 5:00pm**  
 Length: 300 words max. The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit for clarity, grammar and length.

## ACOA AND REFORM

Dear Editor,

No one has answered the call of the new economy better than New Brunswickers. However just as we are starting to stand on our own two feet the Reform Party threatens to eliminate regional economic development by abolishing ACOA which is the government agency in charge of assisting Atlantic Canadian entrepreneurs. Small and medium sized businesses could obtain direct financial help, loan interests, loan guarantees and interest buy-downs to modernize and grow.

Their (sic) has been some criticism concerning a few failures that drew bad publicity. However the government of Canada should not apologize to the sceptics of ACOA such as the Reform Party for investing in Atlantic Canadians who are trying to create jobs, diversify the economy and become self-sufficient. The success rate of business start ups assisted by ACOA is much higher than the national average.

The Reform Party claims to have a regional economic policy which is based on Free Trade and a new Highway. In any event both level of governments have already committed to this passive role. In other words Preston Manning does not offer anything to Atlantic Canadians except the elimination of ACOA and reductions of transfer and equalisation payments.

He believes that an Atlantic Canadian who is unable to get a job should move to what he calls "better economies". He does not offer any mechanism or tools to help Atlantic Canadians stay in Atlantic Canada. His policies indicate that he wants to replace the immigrants (sic) going to Western Canada by Atlantic Canadians.

Manning seems to listen to the grass roots of his party but we must remember that Atlantic Canada is not the roots of Reform. Reform was created to represent the special interests of the West, which explains why their policies are so harmful to Atlantic Canadians.

Real de Ste Croix

## ADOPTED AND PROUD

Dear Editor,

**Abortion** As the (sic) my birthday approaches it was with great sorrow that I learned that Dr. Morgentaler will be able to set up shop here in Fredericton.

I believe in equal rights, I believe that all humans are important. However what is more important, the right to choose or the right to life?

I'm proud to say that I am adopted (not aborted). My birth mother was unable to raise me when she became pregnant. Instead of trying the quick fix, she stuck it out and gave birth to a child that would latter (sic) go on and attend university being proud of his background; for there is no shame in being adopted, for I know what I am, and where I come from.

In sticking it out and giving birth to me Brenda is able to know that she made the right decision and gave a family that wanted another child a chance.

My family sees me as their own; for I

am, there is no doubt, I talk like them, I share many of their principles, and I love them as they love me.

For the record, I would like to thank my birth mother and all those like her, for choosing life for me and others. I hope that someday all people will see that respect for life in whatever form is one of our most important jobs here on earth.

Andrew J. Dykeman

## RESIDENCE COMMUNITY

Dear Editor,

The Residence community can be a great experience to a University student.

The only problem with the system are some of the rules which have been institutionalized. Some of the new rules contradict the laws of Canada's Democracy and the human charter of rights. To whom it may concern, and they know who they are, please keep Eric in residence. This man may have to leave residence for voicing his opinion and trying to make residence life as enjoyable as it was in the past.

Deeply Concerned

## TAN RESPONDS

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to a letter last week entitled "Environmentalism Drive!" in which Geoff Peters took issue with an article on my experiences at Clayoquot Sound. I would like to respond to a few accusations.

Mr. Peters has classified me as someone without any scientific understanding of the forest. In reply I would like to say to Mr. Peters that I have a degree in physiology and ecology and I was employed for two years as a technician in forest regeneration research. Clearly if there is one in this debate who lacks experience in the area it is not me.

Mr. Peters describes environmentalists as "radicals (who) seem to take pleasure in preventing people with legitimate jobs from earning their wages". This characterization can only be described as, in his words a "distortion of facts". Environmentalism is a legitimate endeavour to prevent injury at the hands of greed. It stresses concepts such as need and ecological impact in the true accounting and business. It is an expression of concern and changing paradigms as we learn more about the world that we try to manipulate. As for harassing legitimate businesses I suggest that when any business engages in practices that may ultimately lead to injury then harassment is completely justified. After all, racism was once entirely legitimate.

The Black Hole has not regenerated. To say so ignores obvious reality. The pictures which appeared in my article show the opposite. Those pictures were taken this summer. He then goes on to write that there was a natural burn which, was considerably "uglier" than the black hole has gone on to regenerate. Mr. Peters selectively ignores key elements in the same manner in which he accused environmentalists. Aesthetics are purely subjective and likely not a good indicator of health. Furthermore, a clearcut involves soil compaction and erosion from vehicles. Finally clearcuts are usually replanted with a single species.

Eugene Tan

## CLAYOQUOT REVISITED

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to last weeks (sic) article in the Brunswickers entitled "Environmentalism Drive!" by Geoff Peters. This article is a *Prime* example of the *Ignorance* that some people have today towards the environment. In the article he states, "environmentalism or 'the green religion' has become a 'fad' among young persons in North America". If this is a 'fad' it's definitely a fad that we can't and won't let die for it may be one of the last fads will have.

I have been actively involved with the environment for close to five years now and in no way do I harass anyone. I strongly believe that solving our environmental problems lies in educating people such as yourself Geoff. If you think our goal is to prevent people from earning their wages then you are sadly mistaken. People need money to survive yes but if and when it conflicts with the well being of others then action must be taken and unfortunately sometimes the government either is unaware of what's (sic) going on or looks the other way. By forcing companies to look for alternatives we are in a sense creating jobs.

The forest industry... Now you claim to be a forestry student learning the complex sciences involved in it's management. That's *Great!* You say you know that the forest is a dynamic structure, that is constantly changing over time. This is true! What you mention about the 'Black Hole' is correct. The forest greening up... 'NO!' They still clearcut today my friend and that you could never justify to me. Yes they do re-forest the areas but usually with one or two different species. You ever hear of the term 'Bio-Diversity'? Why not strip cutting or selective cutting instead. This way the areas are small enough for the existing trees near by to help with the regeneration. And you were talking about jobs! If we went to selective cutting that would increase the amount of manpower needed.

I am by no means a specialist. (gee... maybe I should get a headband!) But I do keep myself informed about what's going on in not only Canada but around the world. Presently our forest (sic) are stable but at the rate we tear them down not only will be at loss for it's (sic) beauty, it's (sic) air production, ozone rebuilding, wood and paper products but you may be out of a job. You may say it won't happen but that's what the fishermen said about the fish stocks. When they started to diminish they tried to blame everything from the ocean warming up to the seals and ignored to the fact that over-fishing was to blame. Now they've done all but close down the east coast fisheries. This problem was pointed out to the government long ago by environmentalist (sic) and could have been avoided if the government would have listened when they had a chance. Now could have been avoided if the government would have listened when they had a chance. Now thousands of people are out of work and you're saying that were preventing people from earning their wages! We could have saved them!

Most environmentalist (sic) will agree that were (sic) not looking for society to

give up the technology we have today. We just want safer alternatives. Can you dispute the hole in the ozone, the green house effect, the destruction of Rain Forests, or how about the most recent issue of Radio Active dumping of waste material off the coast of Japan by the Russians.

There are a lot of issues we need to deal with in our world and I will agree with you that there are some radicals out there but these issues cannot be ignored. The reason why so many young people are involved is because it's our future at hand here.

"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors."

"We borrow it from our children."

Daren Nowlan

## HEMP MISUNDERSTANDINGS

Dear Editor,

This letter is in regards to an article in the October 1 issue of the Brunswickan. I would like to take this opportunity to remedy certain misunderstandings, that may have been incurred by the less than professional article that was submitted by Jonathan Stone. The article was what would appear to be some sort of negative reaction to the distribution of informative industrial hemp-related pamphlets. With no intention to insult the integrity of Mr. Stone, or of creating a slanderous debate we would like to take the time to say that, not only did the individuals involved in this environmentally conscious endeavour seek permission from the proper authorities on campus but they received it. Contrary to what Mr. Stone would have his readers believe, there was never any intention to become associated with the National Organization for the Reformation of Marijuana Laws (NORML), in fact this pamphlet was handed out in the hopes of enlightening the student population on certain possibilities that could help alleviate the environmental problems that we are faced with today.

No where in this pamphlet is there an endorsement of the use of hemp for recreational use, as Mr. Stone has pointed out, the recreational use of hemp is illegal in this country and we

applaud his vigilance in keeping the minds of students on campus safe from fringe group rhetoric.

The facts regarding the countless applications of industrial grade hemp as an alternative source of fibre and oils are irrefutable. The U.S.D.A. Bulletin #404 states that one acre of hemp will produce 410% more pulp for paper than as an acre of conventional species, also an estimated 50% of the agricultural chemicals used in the US today are for the production of cotton. Hemp is more ecologically viable and has far fewer natural predators and therefore would be both environmentally and economically beneficial to produce.

We encourage any questions or investigation into the information provided in the leaflet, which was written and produced by members of a University of New Brunswick Student Environmental Group. (E-Mail S9 SL)

Andrew McCullum

## CLAYOQUOT AGAIN...

Dear Editor,

This is regarding "Environmental Drive!", a letter in the October 15 issue of *The Brunswickan*. Several points by Geoff Peters are the products of a bias.

In reality, a Vancouver Island forest harvested in the early 1980's is not "a new young forest" it is a tree farm. Logging in Clayoquot Sound will result in elements of a dynamic ecosystem to be destroyed. Present forest management policies promote the complete destruction of existing natural cycles. Notably, clear cuts are difficult to measure using "ugliness" as a scale. Most are indulgently large, some are sprayed with frighteningly potent chemicals and others are cut on steep slopes rendering manual reforestation ineffective.

The B.C. Forestry Service must recognize that maintaining a diverse ecosystem is the primary role of a forest, and operating within these boundaries is essential for the protection of Clayoquot Sound. This issue cannot be reduced to jobs verses (sic) special interest groups; preserving one of Canada's last ancient temperate rain forests is an undeniable priority of the future.

Mark Robichaud

## Blood and Thunder

**SUBMISSIONS MUST BE 300 WORDS OR LESS, AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF NO LATER THAN 5 P.M., MONDAY.**

**LETTERS CONTAINING RACIST, SEXIST OR HOMOPHOBIC MATERIAL, OR ATTACKS OF A PERSONAL NATURE, WILL NOT BE PRINTED. ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE AUTHOR'S NAME, STUDENT NUMBER, PHONE NUMBER, AND SIGNATURE.**

**WE DO NOT CORRECT SPELLING MISTOOKS (SIC), AND ONLY EDIT FOR LENGTH (I.E. WITH A CHAINSAW).**