

Women fight to keep U of R centre

REGINA (CUP) — Another student council is attacking its women's centre, this time at the University of Regina.

Women's centre volunteers are fighting a recommendation from the council's student services committee to relocate the women's centre into a smaller office that lacks soundproof walls. The committee says council needs more space.

But centre volunteers vow to remain in their current location. Spokesperson Lida Perry says the new location is half the size, and lacks the privacy necessary for counselling and referral services.

Perry said she is optimistic council will not accept the recommendation because it failed to consult the women's centre and student union staff. Council has not yet met on the issue.

The committee based its recommendation on a report compiled by the women's centre which cited a lack of privacy and continual harassment from vandals who ripped down posters and notices listing hours of operation. The centre shares a phone line with the student union business office.

"The problems mentioned in the women's centre report to the

committee would not be solved by moving our offices into a 'broom closet' in the back of the student union offices," said Sharon Kellar, another women's centre representative.

If the women's centre is forced to relocate, its current space will be used as a control room and lounge for a satellite dish, said Kellar.

The women's centre in Regina isn't the only one to come under attack this year. The University of Saskatchewan student council completely eliminated its women's directorate in September and the Carleton University student council cut back the budget and restricted the autonomy of its centre.

The increasing reluctance of student councils to fund women's centres adequately comes at a time when sexual harassment and assault are more visible on university campuses. Women students across Canada have been subjected to rape, sexual assault, exhibitionism and harassment in campus washrooms.

The most recent recorded attack took place early this month at the University of Toronto.

Toronto police are still looking for a man in his 20's who

attacked a cleaning woman working alone on the second floor of Innis College. The man hit the woman on the head and raped her. She was later treated for head injury and shock.

Although universities across the country are launching sexual harassment grievance committees to develop guidelines and procedures, women don't have the proper facilities to deal with the problem.

Students at a number of institutions, however, are organizing groups to increase student awareness of women's issues. At Brandon University in Manitoba, seven women and one man recently met to form a group called "Bridging the Gap," which is dedicated to improving the relations between men and women.

At McMaster University, some women recently organized a commission to facilitate communication between women on campus, lobby for women's studies courses and recruit women for active roles in university organizations.

The commission will also try to develop a program dealing with rape and publicize a local sexual assault centre. Rai Timothy, a

volunteer at the women's centre, said the commission can also help the centre.

"We are thinking that it might improve our image if we have a lobbying group," Timothy said.

A few women at Dawson College, Quebec's largest community college, recently met to start discussion on setting up a women's centre.

"I think we definitely do need one," said Dawson English teacher Greta Nemiroff.

Young women are not aware of women's issues, and the sexual revolution in the sixties failed to make important strides for women today, she said.

"An enormous amount needs to be done in raising women's consciousness — their future, independence and body image, birth control, relationships, and asserting one's rights as a person. Consciousness raising is the alphabet of the women's movement," Nemiroff said.

Give me a home

HAMILTON (CUP) — The McMaster Students Union (MSU) is looking for a home for the campus radio station's transmitter.

McMaster students voted recently to keep the radio station, and following the vote station manager Peter Hutton promised to make changes to insure the station remains viable.

Up to now few students have been able to hear the transmissions because the station's signal is weak.

The council also discussed

changing the station's signal to stereo from mono at a cost of about \$7300, but decided to delay debate on the proposal until a complete marketing and financial study has been carried out.

However, the proposal for such a study was also tabled until next meeting. Council members couldn't decide if they want to spend \$15,000 to hire a consulting firm to do the study or hire McMaster commerce students for less money.

The debate continues.

Schnüing

(shne'ing), n. l. An enjoyable activity that combines après ski excitement with the cool minty flavour of Hiram Walker Schnapps. For schniers, the taste is a cool blast of freshness that feels like they never left the slopes!

HIRAM WALKER SCHNAPPS.
WHAT A DIFFERENCE A NAME MAKES.

IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES
THERE'S NO LIFE LIKE IT

Attention Engineers
Your engineering degree qualifies you as a commissioned officer

This is no ordinary opportunity! A commission in the Canadian Forces opens up a whole new world of possibilities for engineers; whether you become a soldier, sailor or airman. Travel. Adventure. Comradeship. Competitive salary and benefits. And best of all, a range of challenges so vast you may not believe it.

We need engineers in all the usual disciplines—civil, aerospace, electrical, mechanical, chemical and metallurgical—but we also need engineers for specialized military fields like maritime and land ordnance (weapons and equipment).

The Direct Entry Officer (DEO) plan gives Canadian men and women the opportunity to gain commissioned officer status based on an engineering degree. As an officer, you'll participate in a totally unique lifestyle. Time and again, you'll be called upon for leadership, courage, dedication and strength.

The Canadian Forces needs engineers ready to maximize their career potential. Challenge yourself and talk to your Canadian Forces counsellor today! See the Yellow Pages under Recruiting.

THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Canada

WRZ 43