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## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

The Faculty of Education is now receiving applications for the 1977-78 academic session. Students currently registered in undergraduate faculties are invited to apply. Since the number of spaces available is limited, candidates are encouraged to apply by February 18.

Applications are available from:

Office of Student Programmes  
 Faculty of Education  
 Ross Building N802

## A.C.T.I.O.N.

(Atkinson College Travel in Other Nations)

Some students of Atkinson College  
 have decided to form a travel club.

### An Inaugural Meeting

will be held

**Sunday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m.  
 in Curtis Lecture Hall "A"**

to elect an executive and to formulate bylaws etc.

The second half of the meeting will be devoted to the consideration of funding. A proposal to be made at that time will show that enough funds may be accumulated so that members will have to pay very little, if anything, for a vacation anywhere in the world.

## Gov't offers playgrounds and puppets as student employment

By PETER BIRT

Canadian University Press  
 OTTAWA (CUP) — Although the newspaper advertisements say Young Canada Works is a summer employment program for students, officials with the department of manpower and immigration admit they don't expect to see many students apply directly for the \$30 million available.

Instead it will be up to established social agencies to sponsor a project which will be funded by the government with students paid the minimum provincial wage and hired through the existing student manpower centres in their areas.

Young Canada Works is manpower and immigration minister Bud Cullen's answer to the defunct Opportunities for Youth program which provided money for groups of students to plan and carry out community projects during the summer.

Cullen says Young Canada Works "will be oriented to the interests and aspirations of young Canadians" but the national secretary of the National Union of Students (NUS) says "This (program) is exactly what students don't want." Dan O'Connor says students want to be part of a year-round activity.

#### "SUMMER FUN THING"

"They don't want a job as a summer fun thing," he said. O'Connor says the program will only be useful in giving students "fringe skills."

Young Canada Works was unveiled in a debate on the throne speech October 21, 1976 as part of a year-round employment program called Canada Works, costing \$200 million. In that debate Cullen said he hoped to see 21,000 jobs created in the summer program which "will have many of the same basic features as the year-round program." Those features, creating jobs in areas not now covered by the private sector community input in project selection and allotment of funds in relation to the degree of unemployment in the area will also be part of Young Canada Works.

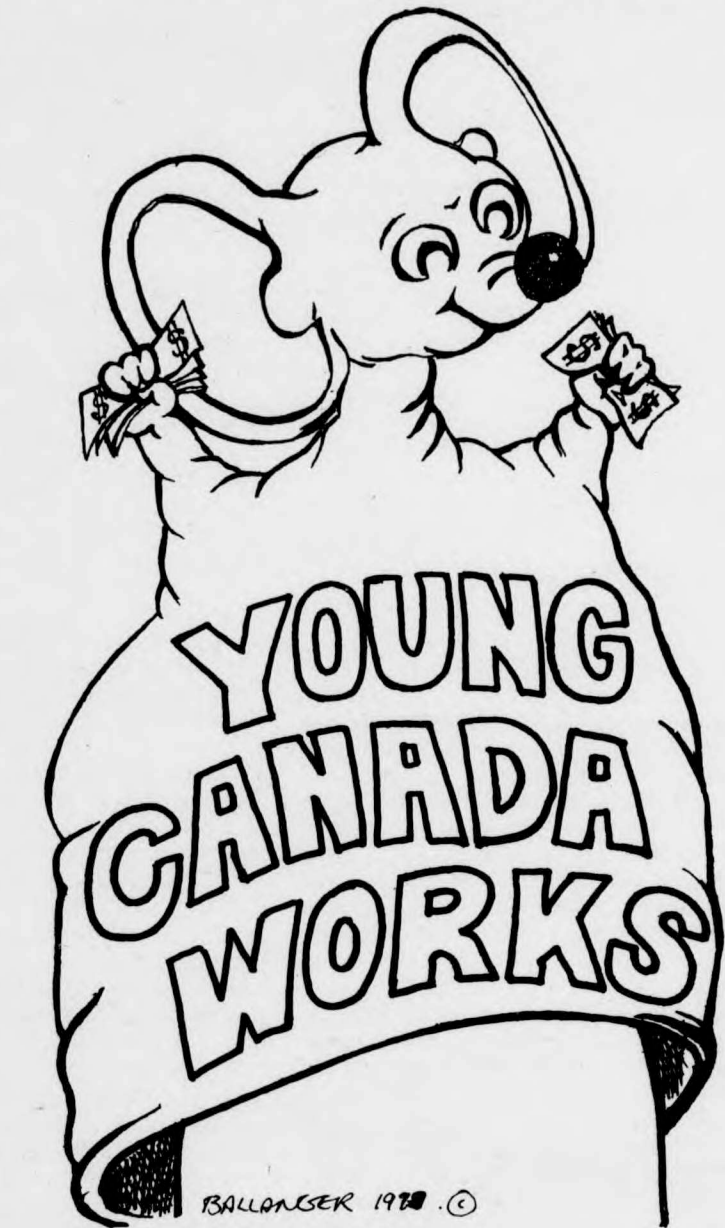
The summer program will consist of projects from six to 14 weeks in duration with a federal allocation of not more than \$25,000 and minimum wage salaries for students ranging from \$106 in Ontario to \$120 in Saskatchewan. The deadline for applications to reach regional centers is February 4.

According to the Young Canada Works guide to applicants the program is designed to "reduce student summer unemployment by enabling established organizations to sponsor generating projects in areas of community need."

The key description to the kinds of projects which will be funded is found in the statement that projects must "provide worthwhile service or facilities to the community that do not duplicate or compete with existing services or facilities."

But under the heading 'what kinds of projects will not be considered for funding' comes the statement "that projects must not create a community dependency that will cease to be responded to at the termination of Young Canada Works funding." Projects that "create jobs which are over and above those that would normally exist in the community" will be considered for funding, but projects that are of the "same activity in the same community as a job creation project that was funded the previous year" will not be considered. NUS's O'Connor says the list of qualifications and conditions listed are often contradictory and are "almost impossible to meet."

He said he suspects that when the final applications are considered



the government will be forced to loosen the guidelines or be politically embarrassed by the lack of funded projects.

#### PUPPET SHOWS

Travelling puppet shows and adventure playgrounds will be the kind of projects again supported through this kind of program O'Connor says because, like the OFY program, it does not help in long term or continuous projects which are needed by the community but not already there.

Federal New Democrat MP John Rodriguez (Niquel Belt) is less critical of Young Canada Works. He says he thinks the program will help to "take up the slack of 30,000 students when that (the OFY program) was cancelled."

Rodriguez says he hopes this program will attract more lower income students and he thinks the program can generate some necessary projects.

He cited the lack of recreational programs in his Sudbury area and the difficulty of getting dramatic arts programs in French as examples of possible projects. He says he is dissatisfied with the early closing date for applications.

"I hope to extend that date to the first of March," he said.

As part of the overall Canada Works program Rodriguez says it "sounds sound."

Ottawa student manpower centre supervisor Brian Curry said he thinks about 120 students will find jobs through the program in the Ottawa area this summer. He said the system forcing project managers (they are the leaders of the projects and get paid slightly more) to hire their students through the student manpower centres will make it difficult for people simply to hire their friends for a project.

#### NO APPLICATIONS IN

Although there is a provision for individuals to apply for funding, provided they get letters from local organizations or agencies stating why they would not sponsor the project Curry said bluntly, "You have to have a sponsor, really." He

said although applications have been available in the main Ottawa centre since the middle of December, only a few students have picked them up. Another centre in the city reported that only a few requests about the program had been made. That centre had never received any application forms.

Curry said most of his time had been spent sending the applications out to area social organizations and groups which he thinks might take advantage of the money.

He said he thought there was no need to extend the deadline. Supervisors of projects for the Eastern Ontario region reported problems in the publicity for Young Canada Works program.

They seemed to agree with statements made by a public relations officer for the department who said the main problem was not difficulties with the program planning but with the attempts to explain what it was all about. Criticisms of this kind of student summer employment plan have not just recently been voiced however.

On October 13, 1976 in a letter to Cullen the National Union of Students stated that job creation projects "should be funded on a long-term basis."

"This (new job projects suggestion) should not be taken as opposition to assistance for existing community services, but rather the suggestion that new programs must do more than that," the letter said.

In conclusion the letter, signed by NUS president Riel Miller stated that he hoped it should be possible for "Canadian students, through their representative organizations, to make a useful contribution to the development of federal employment policies."

In his reply Cullen "requested that officials of my department contact you to determine a mutually convenient date when we might meet."

No such meeting was ever requested by his officials. None is planned.