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Debate on Indian Affairs

by Kris Klaasen
Harold Cardinal, president
of the Indian Association of
Alberta said there is a misconception that Indians want to
build isolated communities.

Speaking at a University of Calgary sponsored dialogue with Federal Minister of Indian Affairs Judd Buchanan, Cardinal said according to Indian elders being Indian means "a person of the land" and that it is

Council to honor Major Hooper

The Students' Union will be contributing \$500 toward a student award created in honor of retiring dean of men Major Hooper. This will be in addition to \$2000 that some members of the university administration are proposing the university contribute to such an award.

Students' Council approved the \$500 contribution as an amendment to a motion that the Students' Union pay \$462.50 for a testimonial dinner in honor of Major Hooper. This original motion arose from a representation by E. Slatter on behalf of several campus organizations including Inter-fraternity council, Lister Hall students' Association, and a number of foreign students' associations.

He said these organizations would do the actual organization of the testimonial and, in addition, most would be presenting gifts.

Phys Ed Rep Gerry Hunt objected "I am not against the principle of spending \$460 ... on Major Hooper; I am against the money being given for a luncheon." Hunt and several other councillors felt those attending the luncheon could pay their way.

Slatter said that he realized "free-grub from the union does not come across too well," but the idea was to make it as easy as possible for people to attend.

However, Hunt amended the motion to the \$500 grant contribution, and both the amendment and the amended motion passed unanimously. their obligation to work things out "for all time and with all people"

"That philosophy rules out a separate entity that will have no contact with Canadians and other people," he said.

His comment was in marked contrast with that of American Indian Movement (AIM) leader Dennis Banks, on the U of C campus last February, who said he expects Indians will be moving to self-sufficient communities in coming years.

Cardinal, author of a Canadian bestseller *The Unjust Society*, called for a joint battle with federal-provincial governments to "wipe out Indian poverty within 10 maybe 15 years."

In his main address Buchanan asked what to do with "uneconomic reserves". "You can pour dollars into them until hell freezes over" and still not get at the root of the problems.

Cardinal said that a "crash upgrading program" is necessary to equalize Indian income earning capability with white society and he posed a challenge to "ensure that our young people will be able to enjoy the same success rate in education as whites."

He said that Alberta is facing unprecedented wealth and "as Indian people we want to participate and benefit." Pointing out that white society uses its homes as a base for jobs located elsewhere he said, "let us use our reserves as home communities as well."

Concluding his speech Cardinal asked, "Why can't people realize that development of Indian country means development of Canada as well?"

During a question-answer period with the audience of over 400 Buchanan said he had pressed charges of public mischief against Indian leaders Ed Burnstick and Roy Littlechief for their participation in the occupation of the Calgary Indian Affairs Office last November, because "a sit-in as a peaceful mode of protest does not extend to occupying offices."

He said that the occupation

cost the Department of Indian Affairs \$1500 to \$2000 in lost salaries, while Stony Chief John Snow said the minister seemed more interested in money than human value.

"As our trustee, you should take into account the frustration of the Indian people; not the inconvenience to employees or the money lost," he said.

Cardinal said, "It does not seem proper to discuss the issue at this time," and that he thought the "courts should decide whether the law was broken or not."

A member of the audience replied that the courts will "only decide the legal issues not human ones."

One question asked why

Indians receive only 25 per cent of the Indian affairs budget. Buchanan said that Indians will be administering a quarter of the 400 million dollar budget themselves. He said that 120 million dollars is spent on education and a "far too big chunk" totalling 160 million dollars goes to social assistance.

Cardinal replied saying that the education money benefits the towns, cities and province but that very little is actually used on the reserves. He added that Indians currently administering money are "doing little more than following a programme devised by the Department of Indian Affairs" continued on page 2

Board holds up HUB deal

The Board of Governors approved grants Friday totalling \$700,000 to go to the Students' Union to help ease the financial burden caused by the HUB residence complex.

The grants will go to repay the balance of a \$250,000 mortgage loan provided the students from the university's consolidated investment pool and to repay another \$450,000 loan provided for HUB from the university's operating funds. The mortgage loan, at nine per cent interest, was to come due May 1, 2008; the \$450,000 loan, at seven per cent interest, was due May 1, 1974.

The grants are subject to the Alberta department of advanced education providing a grant of \$300,000 to the Board to be given to the Students' Union to retire their existing bank loan and provide additional working capital for HUB for the 1975-76 fiscal year.

Other conditions are that the Students' Union make a grant to HUB equal to all loans, cash advances or other payments made to the project from its inception and that the union make a written commitment to maintain the HUB rentals at competitive market

The grants are part of a refinancing arrangement for the complex agreed to earlier by the Minister of Advanced Education and representatives of the university and students' Union subject to final approval by the appropriate authority for each party

WRIP gets resistors off

Tim Maloney, the Outreach Co-Ordinator for the War Resistor Information Program (W.R.I.P.) will be travelling to most towns and cities in Alberta during April in an attempt to reach war resistors and encourage them to contact W.R.I.P. to clarify their legal status in the U.S.

Draft dodgers and Military AWOLs from the Vietnam War era should contact W.R.I.P. in Winnipeg immediately if they wish to clarify their legal status and attempt to have their charges, (if charges still exist), dismissed at no charge to them, said Tim Maloney, Outreach Coordinator for the War Resistor Information Program.

Because President Ford's Clemency Program was proven not applicable to war resistors in Canada, the National Council of Churches in New York has undertaken their own program of reconciliation, he stated.

Four counselling centres have been set up in Canada as well as two draft counselling centres and one Military counselling centre in the U.S. They are staffed by full-time lawyers and counsellors.

Most of the draft charges can be dismissed while the men remain in Canada, and administrative discharges are available for most AWOLs which would only require a safe, short-term visit to certain military bases, he added.

An interesting figure revealed by Mr. Maloney, is that of the 192,000 men who evaded the draft, only 4,400 men are still under investigation or in-

dictment for a Selective Service violation. This means, he said, that thousands of men are living needlessly in exile as they are unaware that they no longer face prosecution. W.R.I.P. has the official list of men who are wanted. To determine their legal continued on page 2

Residence fee increased by 25%

Students living in the residences will be paying 25% more for their housing next year

At the Friday meeting of the Board of Governors, an increase of \$243 room and board fee increase for double occupancy rooms was approved. The new rate, effective September 1975, will be \$1,199 plus telephone.

This year, Housing and Food Services, which operates the Lister Complex, lost about \$80,000 in unexpected food cost increases, and increased wages for the non-academic staff. Next year, despite the fee increase, and an expected 30% increase in summer business, Housing and Food Services predicts a loss for itself of about \$60,000 in the Lister Complex, which will likely be made up in the other operations it runs.

Other changes will also include the discontinuation of hot breakfasts during weekdays, and the complete elimination of breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays.

The board also approved a second finance committee recommendation of a standard room and board rate of \$1,275 and a large room and board rate of \$1,435 in the Pembina Hall residence.

The rates are for the 1975-76 winter session and were established on a basis that is projected to result in a breakeven operation over a 12-month period.

Pembina Hall is currently being refurbished and its 140 rooms are scheduled for occupancy on September 1, 1975.