

# The way we were...

North American architects and planners are keenly interested in the U of A's HUB (Housing University Building), the first student-owned housing project on the continent. According to Diamond and Myers, the university's long range planners who designed HUB in association with R. L. Wilkin of Edmonton, a US magazine, "Progressive Architec-

ture", plans to devote a major portion of an upcoming issue to urban planning in Alberta, using the U of A and HUB as examples.

HUB merits the interest. It is the biggest single dome structure in Canada, the first major commercial development allowed on the U of A campus, the first link in the system of covered walkways called for in the long range plan and the first residence on campus which will not attempt to regulate the behaviour of its inhabitants.

HUB was originally proposed to provide convenient and economical housing for the then growing U of A student population. According to HUB manager, Fulton Frederickson, HUB will in fact be economical, but he

cautions that it is "definitely not designed to be 'low cost'." He predicted that the on-campus location will mean significant savings in both time and money for residents.

Rents in HUB range from \$90 for a bachelor suite to \$150 for a 2-man unit and \$240 for four. Furniture is available for \$11 per month. This is slightly higher than the "average" rates of \$70 per person quoted in the SU Housing Guide.

Eventually about 1000 students will be housed in the 956 foot long building. Despite the phenomenally high vacancy rate in apartments around the University (10.8 percent according to an *Edmonton Journal* report),

demand for apartments in HUB is healthy.

All the suites which are now scheduled for completion in September and October have been

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leased, but there are still vacancies in those to be finished in November and December. Frederickson recommends that those who wish to move into HUB later in the year take temporary accommodation now. This will guarantee first option on an apartment for next fall.

Tenants whose apartments were not ready on time and who cannot find temporary quarters are staying in St. Stephen's College. About 75 percent of the space in the shopping mall has been leased but much of the commercial space will not be ready until December. Some stores will not open until next spring. There is still room for two 'boutiques'.

HUB will cost about \$6,300,000, half a million more than was originally planned. According to Jim Humphries, chairman of the housing commission which did the original planning for the building, university specifications were one reason for the increased cost. Had the univer-

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sity not objected the building would have had aluminum siding, a 'futuristic' and inexpensive finishing.

HUB will cost nearly \$3.50 a square foot more than another apartment complex which is currently under construction. Of this, about ninety cents a square foot will be borne by the university which is responsible for road work, lounge furniture and landscaping.

The main reason for the relatively high cost of HUB is the

plan itself. In a recent telephone interview Humphries explained that high rise developments are less expensive because the same unit is repeated over and over again. HUB, on the other hand, contains commercial space and lounge areas as well as apartments.

Edmonton architect Peter Hemingway, the designer of the Coronation Pool and Central Pentecostal Tabernacle, has chided HUB planners on the extravagance of their design. "The basic fact of student life has to be economic," Hemingway asserted recently. "This was pointed out to the planners by more people than just me two years ago."

He charged that the commercial space had been "designed for expensive Yorkville boutiques. What kind of stores do students need? Low, low cost stores. The concept of HUB is not low cost."

Hemingway predicted that the horizontal design would raise the costs of operation and maintenance. As one administrator of the city's low cost housing projects remarked, "Someone has to pay for the dome and the heating of the mall."

reprinted from The Gateway, September 12, 1972.

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 percent interest, was to come due May 1, 2008; the \$450,000 loan, at seven percent 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 levels.

The grants are part of a re-financing 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.

reprinted from The Gateway, April 9, 1975.



## Canadian Rock History Challenge by Labatt's

As the son of a Canadian diplomat this artist lived in various countries throughout the world before settling in Vancouver, British Columbia.

In 1980 he cut a demo tape for which he received a record contract. Shortly after he released his first album which was titled "B-y--d-s". In 1981 a second album was released this one called "You want it, you got it" and was followed by a North American tour. The next album entitled "Cuts Like a-n-e" (Feb. 1983) did very well in Canada, the U. S. and Europe partly due to a world tour which was launched that same year to promote the album. The title track from the album was a smash hit, as well as the single "Straight from the Heart", both of which went gold in Canada with the album itself going double platinum.

In late November 1984 he released a fourth album which was a monumental success. This album is the only album by a Canadian ever to reach NO. 1 on the American Billboard album charts for two consecutive weeks. Some of the hit singles which were released from the album were: "Run to You", "Heaven", "Summer of 69", "Somebody", and "One Night Love Affair" the first three of which were gold sellers in Canada. The title of the album - "Reckless". A year after this album's release he set a record for Juno Awards, receiving seven nominations and winning four including: Best Album, Best Songwriter, Best Male Vocalist, and Best Producer. As of September of 1985 he had sold over 750,000 albums in Canada alone which was more than any other artist in Canadian Musical History.

His latest album was released in 1987 and was called "Into the Fire". This album also went platinum and boasted the hit singles "Heat of the Night", "Hearts on Fire", and "Victim of Love".

Researched by D.W. Laurie

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