

## Government fails to boost summer job programme

By PIERRE IMLAY

For the second consecutive year, the federal government failed to increase funding for the student summer employment programme — "Challenge '88." Not since 1985-86 has the federal government increased its funding to the programme which stands presently at \$180 million.

"Our biggest concern," according to Tony Macerollo, President of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), "is that the funding level is still the same." Macerollo said that the federal government has not raised the funding level despite the annual increase in educational costs.

Another issue for Macerollo is the inadequate job creation through the federal Summer Employment/Experience Development (SEED) programme, comprising of 127 of the \$180 million for summer employment. SEED is designed to provide wage subsidies to businesses who hire students. Aside from questioning the degree to which SEED creates jobs, he also said that the federal government is ignorant of the real costs of post-secondary education for returning students. The national average income which a student can earn through the SEED programme is around \$2,100 for the summer.

However, Jean Charest, federal Minister of Youth, said, "The four-year 'Challenge' programme is an unqualified success, and tens of thousands of students have come to depend on it." Supported by statistics from Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC) he added that the programme has been successful in reducing the employment rate for returning students while being sensitive to regional disparities, meaning the higher the level of unemployment the greater the level of federal funding.

According to EIC statistics, the unemployment rate in Ontario for returning students dropped from 10.1% in the summer of 1986 to 9.7%

in summer 1987. At the same time the national level experienced a decline from 13% to 11.9%. EIC is expecting to receive approximately 250,000 applicants in Ontario alone, which is up 4%. Through EIC's lobby efforts to encourage businesses to adopt the SEED programme and hire students, they expect to have about 190,000 jobs available for summer employment.

Challenge '88 also includes funds for student business loans, money in order to run Student Employment Centres, promotions to encourage businesses to hire students, and the creation of summer jobs within the federal government. 24 summer employment centres will open on May 1st across the Toronto Metropolitan area, listing roughly 60,000 jobs.

## CYSF pushes for direct levy

By STACEY BEAUCHAMP

A "school-wide referendum" conducted by the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) will determine whether students would prefer to pay student government fees in the form of a direct, per-student levy rather than through the present grant system.

The decision to hold the referendum was made in the January 13 CYSF meeting after a motion was presented by President Drew McCreadie. According to McCreadie, York is the only university in Ontario which has a grant system. Under this system, students do not pay any funds directly to student governments, but rather they pay a blanket "activity fee." The university then takes the money and distributes it to the student governments based on the number of

courses taken by each student.

The problem is that the university is not required to give a specific amount of money to the governments. "It is this distinction that prevents student government at York from being truly autonomous, and therefore truly effective," says McCreadie.

In his report, McCreadie states that "the number of courses taken by a student cannot be used to determine the level of involvement that the student will derive from the services that the student government provides." After it was pointed out at the meeting that students with only one or two courses are not on campus as much, McCreadie said that a part-time fee may be considered.

A student levy system would take directly from the student's tuition,

an amount of money specifically intended for student governments. The university would be required to forward this money to CYSF and the various college councils.

Julie Marchant, CYSF Director of Finance, agrees with the idea of a direct student levy, but strongly disagrees with McCreadie's current motion. She feels that CYSF should approach the administration before considering a referendum. Concern was also expressed by a College representative that under the revised system McCreadie proposes all of the student money would be controlled by CYSF, thereby threatening the autonomy of the college governments. At this time the procedure by which funds will be distributed to each of the colleges and CYSF is unknown.

Another topic raised at the meeting was a survey on the "Food service provided by Beaver Foods" prepared by Dean Furzeczott, Director of Internal Affairs. Furzeczott found that students are generally pleased with the hours and the types of services provided, but are displeased with the quality of the food. They are also very much against the proposed five-year contract with Beaver Foods which stipulates that they will have a monopoly on scrip. If approved, the five-year contract would prevent students from using scrip to buy food in any outlet other than those run by Beaver Foods. The survey was compiled from questionnaires chosen at random from 88 residence students. It was conducted because CYSF felt that "certain issues had to be addressed, and a different perspective taken."

## Pres. sole opponent to photo ID

By GARRY MARR

In an effort to combat the problem of academic dishonesty, photo identification cards are being called for by student representatives and administrators alike. Concerns have been raised, however, that the cards would be an invasion of civil liberties.

Proponents of the photo cards includes the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) and Mark Webber, associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The idea to install photo cards at York has been proposed for the last four to five years; York is one of the few universities without a photo ID system. The growth of York's student population has risen considerably in the last few years to the point where "a distressingly high number of students are cheating," according to Webber.

The CYSF is also supporting the proposal on the grounds that in addition to policing students on

examinations the cards can also be used at pubs and library circulation. Marion Stehouwer, Director of Academic Affairs for CYSF, said the cards would provide "a good method of policing students." When asked whether this would include security being allowed to stop students and ask for ID, she responded "Perhaps security wouldn't be allowed to do that." Stehouwer also stated that the cards could be used to ensure honesty for student elections. "Right now you can use other people's ID or get a new card and all you have to do is sign to vote," said Stehouwer.

York Provost Tom Meininger said the issue constitutes a "thin edge of the wedge for the diminution of civil liberties." He went on to state that photo ID would "help some security problems." It has yet to be decided when and where the cards would have to be produced. Meininger added that there was no use in having photo ID if it did not have to be

shown on reasonable grounds. He also recognized the danger of a bureaucracy forcing the ID to be carried at all times.

One of the main opponents of the proposal, based on the grounds that it violates civil liberties, is York President Harry Arthurs. He fears that authorities who are over zealous may abuse the system by demanding to see a student's photo ID anytime. "That's not a healthy society," Arthurs explains, and while this does not take place on other Canadian campuses with photo ID, he says it "does happen in other countries that have it." Presently, a presidential committee is investigating the matter.

In order for photo ID to become a reality approval will have to be granted by the senate of the university and the president's policy committee. Meininger stated it was unlikely that approval would arrive in time for the next school year.

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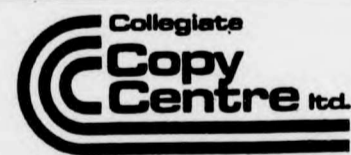
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