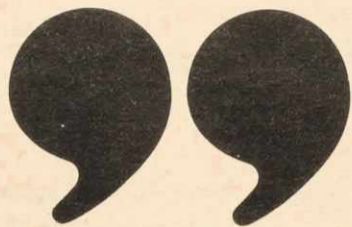




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## Housing shortage

VANCOUVER (CUP) -- Despite intensive efforts to locate student housing, more than 3,000 University of British Columbia students are without accommodation as the fall term begins.

Student housing shortages "look tighter" than last year, when students considered pitching tents at lower mainland colleges and universities to cope with the crisis, said UBC housing director Michael Davis, September 14.

The waiting list for a spot in any one of the university's residences tops 1,700, while Vancouver's rental vacancy rate hovers around one tenth of one per cent. Beyond that, the cost of rented housing has jumped by one third since last September, according to housing experts. A two bedroom suite costs an average of \$450, and one bedroom suites average \$300.

A third year science student,

who called the housing squeeze "pretty difficult" said landlords are wary of student tenants this year. "There's a very distrustful attitude on the part of people renting - less trust in reliability and ability to pay."

Another student said he walked more than 60 miles in five days before finding a room to rent.

Small apartments, basement suites and shared houses are now grabbed by non-students desperate for living space, and students face competition for rental units in a market that has not increased substantially in a decade.

Davis said the university "has done about all it can about off campus housing." Vancouver's west side citizens approached for help locating housing advertising in the local media and a campaign leafletting thousands of doorsteps.

## \$80,000 attracts establishment of student's council

ST.LAMBERT (CUP) The Student Association of Champlain Regional College's St. Lambert-Longueuil campus has been told by the Student Services Department it has until October 1 to form a Students' Executive Council. If a council is not formed, \$80,000 in student money which would normally have been used for the funding of student activities will be frozen by Student Services.

Over the course of the summer, an eight-member task force composed entirely of students has attempted to lay the groundwork for the re-emergence of student government at Champlain.

There has been no SEC at Champlain since March 1980, when the SEC folded as a result of organization problems, and asked that its funds be put under the trusteeship of Student Services Director, Andre Leblanc. Last year, the funds were managed by a Budget Committee organized under Leblanc.

On September 2, the task force held an open forum in order to provide students with information about the Student Council, the lack thereof, and the procedures for the formation of a new one.

Approximately two hundred students were present for the meeting, most of them first-year students. Although there was a great deal of enthusiasm, many of the students feared the workload would be too heavy. In spite of this, fifty students volunteered to help with the organization and publicity for an election to establish a Student Council.

Paul D'Orsonnens, task force spokesperson, expressed the need for the new council to "diversify interests -- there was too much emphasis on the president and vice-president." He added that, "By watering down the responsibilities through more committees, interested students will respond favourably without fear of an excessive workload apart from their studies."

On September 9, the students who had shown an interest in the re-establishment of the SEC separated into three groups which will be responsible for organizing publicity, finding volunteers to run for office, and forming sub-committees to handle such things as budgets.

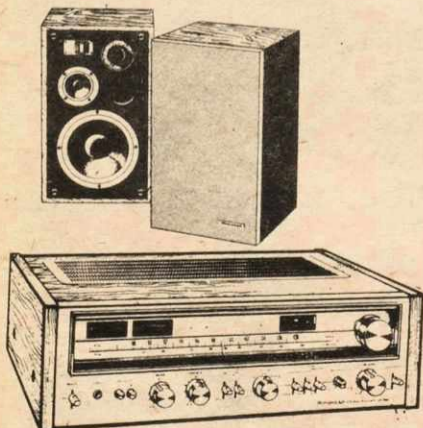
The election campaign will run from September 22 to 29, with elections being held on September 30 and October 1.

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