

SUB Expansion Planned

By Allan Carter

The Student Union has struck a committee with the expressed mandate to investigate the feasibility of an expansion of the Student Union Building. The 20 year old building has become increasingly cramped for space with the growing student population and there has been much debate about the nature of space allocation in the building.

According to Wayne

Carson, Student Union President, expansion is the key if the well-being of the students is to be met. The Student Union is committed to supporting any move to expand the building and is involved in the spearheading of the project. At this point, funding sources have not been finalized, but the expansion is expected to cost in a range of 3 million to 5 million dollars.

The Joint committee for the expansion of the SUB is made up of 15 people. All of these

people are from the SUB committee, UNB Student Union, STU Student Union, UNB Administration, and The Graduate Association. The committee is also looking into the history of the building and two previous SUB expansion proposals. The committee will determine whether or not expansion is feasible. According to Carson all this is supposed to be completed by the end of the first academic term.

Carson feels that if this is to be successful they must "increase awareness of inadequacy of (the) building" to the student population and get their opinions also. Carson would like to see students pay 20-30 dollars annually until they raise their fair share for the expansion of the building. Just what the student's fair share will be in this project is still undecided. He also would like to see significant amounts of

financial support from corporate donations and also the University of New Brunswick. According to Carson, many organizations have expressed desire to have room in the SUB. He feels it is "the most important issue that the Student Union will be active in this year". Because of the overcrowded conditions, student activities, interest, and attitudes towards UNB are being stifled, Carson claims.

Youth Centre Opens in Fredericton

Press Release From Access, Province of New Brunswick

Fredericton, N.B. - Bud Bird, M.P. for York-Sunbury-Fredericton, on behalf of the Honourable Jean J. Charest, Minister of State for Youth, Fitness and Amateur Sport and the Honourable Russell H.T. King, M.D., provincial Minister of Advanced Education and Training, today officially opened a Youth Strategy Access Centre for Fredericton and the surrounding area.

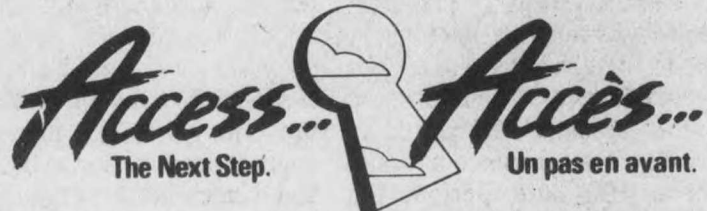
One of 11 centres being set up throughout the province, the Access Centre serving the Fredericton area is a key element

in the Canada-New Brunswick Youth Strategy. It provides young people between the ages of 15 and 24 with counselling, assessment, and access to federal and provincial programs which will enhance their employability. In opening the centre Mr. Bird said, "The Access Centre is here to help the youth of this region to take the next step towards a productive and fulfilling future. Today's opening is the culmination of many months of successful co-operation between our two levels of government, the young people of this area, and individuals and groups who have a stake in New Brunswick's future labour force."

During his address Mr. Bird referred to the tremendous effort that has already been put into the Youth Strategy. Since the agreement was signed between the federal and provincial governments in November 1988, extensive consultation have taken place with young people, youth organizations, educators and the business community. "By working together, we will all contribute to the success of our Youth Strategy," said Mr. Bird. "The Access Centres will help young New Brunswickers obtain the education and training they need to find meaningful employment," Dr. King added. "By being responsive to their

needs and giving them individual assistance, we will help them achieve their goals and at the same time we will create a skilled labour force for New Brunswick and Canada. These centres are an investment in our most important resource, our young people." Other centres were also officially opened today at Woodstock and St. Stephen. The remaining centres are located in

Edmundston, Campbellton, Richibucto, Bathurst, Chatham, Moncton, Saint John and Shippagan. The Canada-New Brunswick Youth Strategy is a joint initiative of the federal and provincial governments which will provide up to \$70 million until 1991 to assist youth in making the transition from school or unemployment to the workplace.



Children and Human Rights Violations

An essay Raymond Shred

Child abuse has been a topic such in the news lately. However, child abuse is not limited to violations of a child by a parent, teacher, or other individuals. In many parts of the world, children are also abused by their governments and by the soldiers and police employed by those governments.

The progress that has been made in combatting child abuse has been and killed because of who their made in part because children's parents or relatives are advocates and children themselves In Guatemala, Iris Yomila Reyes have spoken out and made us all aware of what takes place behind too many closed doors. Similar progress can be expected by taking the first step of becoming aware of the child abuse that is perpetrated by governments -- we must let abusive governments know that we can see what they are doing and that we are watching.

It is upsetting enough when we hear of a woman or man who is arrested, detained, tortured, and frequently killed because of their words or actions such as asking to be recognized and treated as a human being. However, many of the human rights violations against children are not even directed at the children for anything they have done.

Children are arrested, tortured, and killed because of their ethnic origins.

In Chad, two young brothers were arrested along with 180 other persons because of their ethnic origin and because of family connections with a suspected government opponent. Abderahmane and Dari Tchere were 13-years-old at the time of their arrest in 1987; they have been held in a secret detention center for two years and it is highly likely they have been tortured. The army in the

Philippines calls this "salvaging." In some cases, children (infants) have been deprived of food with the expected result that hearing their child's distress will force a parent to confess when torture of that parent did not. In a recent report to Amnesty International, a former political prisoner in Iraq said, "Usually they keep [infants] in a separate cell next to the mother's or father's cell and deprive them of milk in order to force their parents to confess. I saw a five-month-old baby screaming in this state."

Children are arrested, tortured, and killed for no reason at all. In March 1988, a group of Ticuna Indians in Brazil were waiting for a meeting with the military to complain of harassment by loggers on their reserve. They were attacked by 20 gunmen reported to be led by a timber merchant. Of the 14 Indians killed five were children. Six-year-old Leila Valentin Marcos was in a canoe with a number of other people who were all killed. Although she had more than 12 pieces of gunshot lodged in her head she survived by pretending to be dead. Her nine-year-old brother Aldemir was killed.

Effects upon Children

Whether a child is directly violated or witnesses the violation of a parent, there will be important effects on their psychological development.

Some of these effects include:
a) Children's ability to trust is severely compromised.
b) Children often feel responsible for what happens, they may feel that they did not do enough to help their parents -- even

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though there was nothing they could do.
c) Children are often angry at their parents for not protecting them and for allowing them to be violated. These and many other responses are not unusual when children have been subjected to or witness violence. Frequently they affect children for life. Elizabeth Marcelino is psychologist in the Philippines who has opened a treatment center for children who have been traumatized by the on-going turmoil in that country. She has found that children who are treated at the Children's Rehabilitation Center exhibit some or all of the effects listed above.

What you can Do...

1. Ignore the issue. Pretend you haven't read this article and pretend that all is right in the world.
2. Become involved in Amnesty International or one of the other human organizations that works toward ending human rights abuses. One of the questions that people frequently ask is "Does human rights work make a difference?" A very relevant story was told by the Rev. Allan Boesak of South Africa, President of the World Council of Churches and prominent anti-apartheid activist. During a campaign in Soweto to protest against the torture and disappearance at the hands of the South African authorities, local residents were to place a lighted candle in their windows every night for a week. On the first night of the campaign, Rev. Boesak sent his 8-year-old son out with a friend to alert the neighbors that the vigil had begun. As 6 the two boys ran

from house to house reminding people to set out their candles, they were stopped by police officers who scolded them and sent them home. Returning home from his mission the 8-year-old asked his father: "Why is the South African government afraid of candles?" One moral of this story is not to underestimate the effect of the work that one can do. Governments don't like to be the target of negative publicity and will go to great lengths to avoid that. During the summer, I met Faustino Lambe of Zambia. He had been a political prisoner in that country for several years. In December 1985, he was the focus of a world-wide letter writing campaign sponsored by Amnesty International. In addition to the many of letters the Zambian government received, Faustino received 16,000 personal letters from AI members, as many as 6,000 from Canadians. These letters had the immediate effect of improving his conditions in prison and the longer term effect of leading to his release. Henry Wu is a former Prisoner of Conscience who described the cumulative effect that letter-writing can have with the following: "Accumulated feathers will sink the boat."

For further information or if you are interested in joining the local Amnesty International group, contact Hannah Lane at 455-0723 or Raymond Shred at 454-9607.

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