

# Check This Out!

York students were founding members of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) in 1972.

Over the last three years, the relations between the OFS and the CYSF (now called the YFS) have been rocky - to say the least. Troubles came to a climax when, in 1988, the CYSF voted to pull York students out of the OFS. The OFS contended that, according to its by-laws, the only way students can join or leave the Federation is through a referendum... a referendum that never took place. The CYSF argued that it was entitled to pull out because of the special arrangement that York students had with the OFS, concerning the manner in which membership dues were collected and paid. The OFS membership fees could not be collected through a direct levy of \$3.00 per student per year because unlike every other university in Ontario, York student associations have never collected a 'per student' levy. For this reason, the CYSF had paid \$30,000 per year, from their budget, on behalf of the York student body to the OFS as membership dues.

This spring, the YFS reached an agreement with the OFS under which the OFS would waive the outstanding amount that it claimed the central student government at York still owed, and the YFS would pay \$30,000 over the next three years to be members for 1990/91. The final term of the agreement was that a referendum would be held at York this fall to let York students decide once and for all if they wished to remain members of the OFS. In addition, York students would, for the first time, be offered the choice of becoming members of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Starting next year, York student associations will collect their fees through a direct levy. This means that, if the referendum is passed, the membership fees for the OFS and CFS will not come from the budget of the YFS, but that membership in the OFS will cost \$0.60 per student per full course and membership in the CFS will cost \$0.80 per student per full course.

**All members of the York Federation Students - all York undergraduates - except those at Atkinson and Glendon Colleges (who have their own agreements with the OFS and CFS) are encouraged to vote on October 23 and 24 in the referendum concerning membership in the provincial and national student organizations.**

For additional information please contact the YFS at 736-5324, or the OFS at 925-3825.

# Vote!!!

## October 23 & 24 in the OFS/CFS Referendum