

ACTION



CANADA

By ROLAND and GEORGE MORRISON

If present plans ever see the light of day, 'Action Canada', rapidly becoming a strong political force in this country, could replace the NDP as the third party in Canada.

Mike McCafferty, a STU student and the local chairman of Action Canada, said that within five years Action Canada would be the third most powerful political party in the country. "We have all kinds of means for mak-

nessmen and industrialists, especially in Toronto, Montreal, and B.C. With these funds, Action Canada is attempting to make itself a viable political party.

McCafferty says that Action Canada is "sort of a populist movement." What he means by this is that unlike the other political parties in Canada, Action Canada's policies are not determined at the top of the party, but rather at the bottom, by the rank and file. The party is so

The councils have rotating responsibility for administrative duties, and are autonomous in their rights to act. They provide a complete discussion of issues, and are also an outlet through which minorities can gain in the decision-making process.

The next level of organization is the Provincial Advisory Council. In N.B. this body has 10 members whose main job is to hold each federal riding up to electoral standards (200 Action Canada



ing ourselves felt", he stated, and added that this rise in power might occur as early as the next federal elections, rumoured to be November, 1972. This would indeed be an incredible leap forward for the four-month old party.

Although youth forms a large portion of the party, membership is varied. Farmers, the unemployed, businessmen, industrialists, and people from all other walks of life have flocked to join. Action Canada presents to them a means of expressing their discontent with the present government, a means of providing the individual



organized that its membership, rather than its executives, decide priority of issues, and party policies.

The party is organized locally into "Action Councils," which are composed of all the members within a single federal riding. These councils have the objectives of:

1. Stimulating discussions related to the future well-being of all Canadians.
2. Formulating and executing local action programs to bring pressure on government of-

members. Currently, there are slightly under 100 members in the Fredericton area. Next is the Regional office. Until recently, Fredericton was the seat of the Maritimes Regional Office, but it has since been transferred to Halifax. The purpose of this office is to assist members in setting up local Action Councils. In this way, the Regional Office is in the disposal of the local members of the party.

On the national level, the party consists of a president, a vice-president, and executive di-



with the opportunity to express his views and criticisms.

The party derives its financial support from two main sources: 1) membership fees, and 2) donations. Membership fees are: Regular, \$10; Student, \$2; Patrons, \$50 and up; and unemployed, Free (requested to pay \$2 when employed). These fees are not mandatory, and are paid voluntarily by members. Perhaps the largest source of income comes from monied busi-



officials.

3. Engaging in educational programs designed to seek new alternatives in policy areas - involving all citizens in the decision-making process for a better Canada.

4. Participate in the electoral process through the active support of candidates who endorse the Action Council's position.

So, the main purpose of each Action Council is to provide a forum locally for participation in political life for every Action Canada member.

rector, and other officials and officers. Their job is to co-ordinate the local forums, organize meetings, spread publicity, conduct membership drives in new areas, etc. They have no authority over the Action Councils, but are instead directed by them.

The goals of Action Canada are numerous, but are mainly concerned with inflation, energy

a populist movement ...