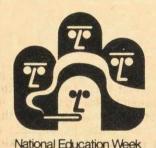
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on Smoking

Jan. 22-28, 1978

## At SFU

## Students win tuition battle

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Students at Simon Fraser University have won the first stage of a fight with the university and the B.C. government over a 25 per cent tuition fee increase levied last April.

B.C. Justice Macdonald ruled Jan. 5 in favour of a hearing for the SFU injunction which would halt collection of the tuition increase and force the university to return fees already collected. The students' society is contesting the increase on the grounds that the

university, which has the sole right to set tuition fees, was forced into the increase by budgetary pressure from the provincial government.

Macdonald ruled that the Nov. 16 injunction in fact dealt with an issue that greatly concerns the community at large, and should receive a closed hearing later this month to decide if the case should go to open hearings. The justice said the increase could be an injury to potential students at the university.

If the injunction passes, it will set a precedent for students in their fight against tuition fee increases, which are expected in more than half of the country's provinces in the next year.

The Simon Fraser students have received moral and financial support for their court case from the student councils at B.C.'s two other universities. The B.C. Student Federation and the National Union of Students also support the Simon Fraser action.

## Banks still lending to Chile

NEW YORK (CUP)—Another Canadian bank has lent financial support to Chile's military dictatorship despite growing public criticism of such investments.

It was learned last month that the Bank of Montreal belongs to an international banking consortium which is lending \$125 million to the junta of General Pinochet.

The \$55 million loan is to finance an iron ore mine in Chile's Huasco Valley.

There will also be a sizeable loan to support the infrastructure in Chile. Such loans are crucial to a Chilean economy which is suffering from a high rate of inflation and depressed prices for copper.

In 1976, the Royal Bank, the Toronto-Dominion Bank and the Bank of Nova Scotia loaned the Chilean government \$125 million.



European banks were unwilling at that time to extend credit to Chile because of human rights violations that had taken place in that country.

The loans to the Chilean government are being guaranteed by the Export Development Corporation, an agency of the Canadian government. Although the Canadian government has condemned the junta in the United Nations, it apparently still considers the regime to be a good credit risk.

The Task Force on Churches and Corporate Responsibility plans to challenge the Bank of Montreal on its investment policy at its annual general meeting this month.

The Bank of Montreal is also involved in a consortium of banks which has lent money to the South African government.

