

Whistleblowers: Defending Academic Freedom

The Threat to Public Research

Public-private partnerships in the university research setting are on the increase. Recognising the opportunity to gain access to high quality researchers at a fraction of the real cost, private companies have taken advantage of public-private funding models. As research institutions become reliant on private sector money, corporate interests have come to influence both the direction and the reported results of research. Researchers unwilling to tailor their work to the needs of private sponsors are increasingly becoming the targets of public smear campaigns, reprisals and academic censorship.

Sounding the Alarm on Corporate Influence

In the last decade, many researchers across Canada have faced corporate and institutional interference with their work, but several have successfully fought back. The following examples document some high profile cases of "whistleblowers" who have fulfilled their ethical obligations as researchers to confront institutional and corporate pressure to suppress research findings and curb objective academic analysis.

Stifling Dissent: The Noble Case

Dr. David Noble is a historian at York University who has gained notoriety for his uncompromising analysis of the effects of technology on the classroom learning environment. In his book, *Digital Diploma Mills: The Automation of Higher Education*, Noble argues that the drive to digitise North American classrooms is actually a pretext for the commercialisation of higher education. Noble contends that the justification of the "virtual classroom" as a cost saving device runs against existing empirical evidence. In Noble's view, online education is popular with university administrators because it provides them with an opportunity to "get a piece of the commercial action for their institutions or themselves, as vendors in their own right of software and content."

Academic freedom should ensure Noble's right to work, irrespective of his criticisms of emergent trends in higher education. It was

therefore disturbing to the research community when Noble's appointment to the prestigious J.S. Woodsworth Chair of the Humanities was blocked by the Simon Fraser University administration. The official search committee had unanimously recommended Noble for the position, and the SFU Humanities department had accepted the recommendation.

Noble refused to acquiesce to the SFU Administration's attack on his academic rights, and initiated a series of communications that resulted in the striking of a committee of inquiry by the Canadian Association of University Teachers. Meanwhile, 120 historians from the United States signed a letter protesting the SFU administration's actions, joining the chorus of Canadian voices who have voiced public support for Noble. Future researchers are indebted to him for his vigorous challenge to the practice of punishing academics critical of university policy.

Corporate Interference: The Olivieri Case

Scientific inquiry requires the free flow of information. But industry sponsored contracts at public institutions often include secrecy clauses that attempt to prevent the dissemination of research results. In some cases, this enforced secrecy poses a serious threat to the health and well being of Canadians.

While working at the University of Toronto affiliated Hospital for Sick Children (HSC), Dr. Nancy Olivieri signed a contract to test a new drug for the pharmaceutical company Apotex. Upon discovering that some of her child subjects were experiencing high levels of iron overload that could compromise liver function and lead to life threatening liver cirrhosis, Olivieri immediately stopped the tests and insisted that these health risks be communicated to her patients' parents. Citing the contract's secrecy clause, Apotex not only refused to do this, but also halted all further drug trials at the HSC, confiscated the trial medicine, fired Olivieri from the study, and threatened her with legal action if she divulged any information to her patients.

Acting on her ethical obligations and confident that the University and the Hospital would support her, Olivieri informed her patients of

that the Globe and Mail would later refer to as "Canada's worst academic and research scandal in decades"¹.

Olivieri and her supporters began receiving anonymous threatening letters that were later proven to have been sent by a co-worker who was a known recipient of Apotex funding. Anonymous letters containing unfounded allegations against Olivieri were also sent to the media and the HSC disciplinary committee. Apotex and certain senior hospital and University administrators later used these allegations as a basis to level misconduct charges against Olivieri. The drug company also used these allegations in attempts to discredit Olivieri and argue that concerns about their drug were unfounded. Olivieri's employers initially kept the existence of these allegations secret from her, providing her with no opportunity to defend herself or clear her reputation.

Six years after the first signs of problems with the Apotex drug were detected, an Independent Committee of Inquiry completely exonerated Olivieri of all allegations of misconduct. The committee's report included a recommendation that secrecy clauses be banned from research contracts. The report was explicitly critical of the University of Toronto and the Hospital for Sick Children for their failure to protect Olivieri's academic freedom. *At the time Olivieri came under attack, the University was in negotiations with Apotex for a \$20 million infrastructure investment.*

As a result of her experiences, Olivieri helped found the organisation Doctors for Research Integrity, and works actively to oppose the adverse influence of corporate interests on public research.

Corporate Interference: The Healy Case

David Healy is a well-known scholar at the University of Wales College of Medicine who studies a family of antidepressant drugs called Selective Serotonin Re-uptake Inhibitors (SSRI). In September 2000, Healy accepted a job offer from the University of Toronto Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), which had been actively trying to recruit him since July 1999. Soon afterwards, he appeared in Toronto as one of several distinguished lecturers to an international colloquium on the history and future of psychiatry. Healy's talk addressed concerns about conflicts between accepted clinical practice in drug testing and growing private influence in public research. He suggested that large pharmaceutical companies, like tobacco companies before them, may be suppressing research that could demonstrate hazards resulting from the use of their products.

Using data from Prozac manufacturer Eli Lilly, Healy estimates that "probably 50,000 people have committed

suicide on Prozac since its launch, over and above the number who would have done so if left untreated"². According to Healy, the suicides were believed to be due to a side effect known as akathisia, an inner restlessness that can lead to violent and suicidal behaviour in a small group of SSRI users.

Following the lecture, Healy was contacted by the University of Toronto and told that his job offer had been withdrawn. According to CAMH Physician-in-Chief, the decision was "solidified by your recent appearance at the Centre in the context of an academic lecture...[w]e do not feel your approach is compatible with the goals for development of the academic and clinical resources that we have."³

Faculty organisations such as Canadian Association of University Teachers and the University of Toronto Faculty Association believe that Eli Lilly's major financial contributions to the CAMH were behind the Centre's decision. Countless organisations and individual researchers rallied behind Healy in this important struggle against the erosion of academic freedom in institutions compromised by private funding. Ultimately, Healy was completely vindicated when the University and the Centre agreed to a settlement in a lawsuit he launched against them. In a statement following the settlement, the University said that it "underscores its support for free expression of critical views" and "acknowledges Dr. Healy's scholarship by confirming it will be appointing him as a visiting professor in the Faculty of Medicine."

Defending Academic Freedom and the Public Interest

The fight for academic and scientific integrity waged by whistleblowers like David Noble, Nancy Olivieri, and David Healy is a warning that there is something seriously wrong with the way our public research institutions are being run. Science, knowledge and the public good are not served when institutions sacrifice academic freedom to the needs of private-sector research sponsors. If the ability to conduct accurate, high quality studies is compromised, research institutions risk losing the trust and support of their most important stakeholder: the Canadian public. By speaking out against corporate interference, students and researchers can play a decisive role in defending the integrity of academic research and safeguarding the public interest.

1. Globe and Mail, Thursday, December 23, 1999

2. The Boston Globe, July 5 2000

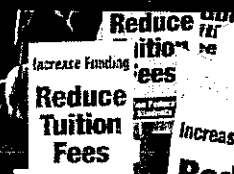
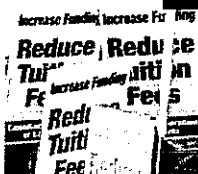
3. Canadian Association of University Teachers' Bulletin, Vol. 48, No. 5, May 2001 <<http://www.caut.ca>>

National Executive report

May 19 to November 23, 2004

du 19 mai au 23 novembre 2004

rapport de l'exécutif national



FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉTUDIANTES ET ÉTUDIANTS (-SERVICES)
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS (-SERVICES)



Letter to Members



Dear Members,

As we embark on our 24th year as a Federation, we find ourselves with a unique opportunity. During the spring 2004 federal election, we succeeded in putting post-secondary education on the map. Paul Martin was forced to admit the need for a dedicated post-secondary education transfer of as much as \$8 billion. Now, as the head of a minority government, Paul Martin must carefully negotiate each and every measure he wishes to undertake.

In this new government, opposition and backbench MPs have taken on a new importance. For our Federation, this provides many new opportunities to advance our goal of a fully accessible, high quality post-secondary education system in Canada; however, supporters of privatisation and user-pay post-secondary education still dominate the opposition benches. This makes the work that we will do on our campuses and in our communities all the more important. In the coming year, we must convince the majority of MPs of the merit of our arguments and of the political necessity of making post-secondary education more affordable.

Since the May meeting, the court has heard our challenge to the constitutional validity of the prohibition on student loan bankruptcy, but has yet to rule. While we await the ruling, we remain confident that our position is just. No matter how the court rules, we must continue to bring attention to the unfair design of the Canada Student Loans Program and laws that treat student debtors as second tier citizens.

We have continued to improve the programs that fall under the Federation's mandate to offer not-for-profit services. Homes4students.ca, our online searchable housing resource, has been redeveloped and launched in a format that sets the standard for web housing services. The National Student Health Network's new members since May will save more than \$1 million additional dollars collectively, this year alone. And Travel CUTS has turned the corner after sweeping changes wreaked havoc on the entire travel industry.

As we prepare for the work ahead, we can look back confidently at a record of solidarity and strength that has generated numerous political successes, and at an expanding portfolio of services that has provided tangible benefits for Federation members. In the next six months, let's take advantage of our opportunities and build on our record.

In solidarity,

The National Executive

November 2004

Table of Contents

►►	Campaigns and Government Relations.....	1
	2004 Federal Election	2
	Federal Budget Process	4
	Student Financial Assistance.....	6
	National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance	9
	Millennium Scholarship Foundation	10
	International Students.....	13
	Post-secondary Education Transfer	14
	Meetings with Opposition Critics	15
	University Research.....	15
	Amendments to the Copyright Act	16
	Privatisation and Trade Liberalisation	17
	Aboriginal Students	19
	Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.....	19
	Campaign Tools.....	20
	National Opinion Coalition	20
►►	Solidarity Work.....	23
	Canadian Consortium for Research	24
	Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives	24
	Common Frontiers.....	24
	International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group.....	25
	Canadians for Equal Marriage	25
	World March of Women	25
	Solidarity Network	26
	National Anti-Poverty Organisation	26
	National Educational Association of Disabled Students	27
►►	Communications	29
	2004-2005 Students' Union Directory.....	30
	Website	30
►►	Programmes	33
	Discount Programme	34
	homes4students.ca.....	38
	National Student Health Network	39
	2004-2005 Handbook Project	41
	Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP)	42

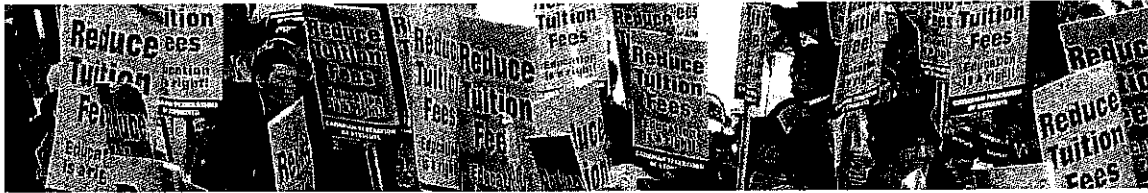
WORKING TOGETHER

Table of Contents

▶▶ Travel CUTS.....	45
Canadian Universities Travel Service Board Composition	46
Financial Issues	46
Operational Issues	46
▶▶ Internal Affairs.....	49
National Executive.....	50
Federation Staffing	50
Federation National Congresses	51
Operational Partnerships.....	51
Office Organisation	52
Legal Affairs.....	52
▶▶ Membership Development	55
Membership Stability and Growth	56
New Prospective Members.....	56
Extension of Prospective Membership.....	57
Other Membership Issues.....	57
Outreach to Non-Members.....	59
▶▶ Finances	61
Overview	62
Membership Fees	62
Programme and Travel CUTS Revenue.....	63
Expenditures	63
Fund Allocations.....	63
Membership Fee Issues.....	65
Third Party Election Advertising Report.....	66
2003-2004 Audited Statements.....	66
▶▶ Appendix I - Media.....	67
▶▶ Appendix II - Motions	71

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations



Campaigns and Government Relations

The Canadian Federation of Students works in a variety of ways to change public opinion and change public policy. Solid research and information sharing are the beginning. But, as has been shown time and time again, the Federation's real strength is our membership.

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Campaigns and Government Relations

2004 Federal Election

Every federal election is an opportunity for organisations like the Federation to get exposure for their issues and commitments from political parties and candidates. To some extent the Federation is always preparing for the next election campaign.

On May 23, when the election was called, the Federation was ready not only with a general plan of action, but with a campaign kit and materials. Unfortunately, the federal election was once again called when students were not on campus, thereby reducing the Federation's ability to disseminate information and mobilise the student vote.

The election was marked by negative, American-style campaign advertising, and thus did not lend itself well to a frank national debate on post-secondary education. The Federation was ultimately successful in forcing Prime Minister Paul Martin to commit to a substantial reworking of transfer payments (see below), despite the absence of any new policy proposals in the governing Liberals' election platform.

Materials

CAMPAIGN KIT

The Federation's campaign kit provided both the overall strategy for local organisers and specific information for running the campaigns including election campaigning tips, an overview of federal post-secondary education issues, and sample questions for local candidates was distributed at the May 2004 general meeting.

REPORT CARD AND PLATFORM ANALYSIS

Following the release of the national parties' platforms, the Federation published a "Party Report Card". The report analysed the platforms on post-secondary education and research. A letter grade was assigned to each party based on its commitment to improving the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education.

The political legacy of the modern Conservative Party is rooted in a retreat from the federal government's role in funding universities and colleges, and the implementation of massive tuition fee increases to replace that funding. Before the Canadian Alliance subsumed the Progressive Conservative Party to form the Conservative Party in December 2003, it was a strong proponent of lifelong debt through Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes (ICLR).

Throughout the election campaign, the Conservative Party was unwilling to admit (or deny) that Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes would be part of a Conservative government's plan for student loans. The Conservative platform promised to "reform" the Canada Student Loans Program but failed to provide any details. Inquiries to the Party's headquarters seeking clarification were not answered. Despite the party's elusiveness on the issue, several Conservative candidates made specific references to ICLR on their websites and in public venues such as candidates' forums. In the 2000 federal election campaign, income contingent loans had been the only education policy put forward by Alliance Leader Stockwell Day. For this stealthy commitment to ICLR, the Federation issued the Conservatives an "F".

The Liberal Party received a "C" for its record on post-secondary education and research. The Liberal platform contained no new initiatives for university and college students, rather, the Party promised to maintain its course of action on grants, savings plans, and research funding. The Liberal record could have very easily been assigned a failing grade if it were not for its steady contributions to the three federal granting councils and new funding for graduate students introduced in 2003.

The New Democratic Party (NDP) earned an "A" for its vision for post-secondary education and research. The NDP was the only party that promised to establish a role for the federal government in reducing tuition fees. For student financial assistance, the NDP promised to abolish the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and replace it

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

with a national system of needs-based grants. The NDP platform also included a clear commitment to increasing public funding for the granting councils in a manner that would minimise the commercialisation of university research.

VOTE FOR A CHANGE

In December 2003, the Federation joined a coalition of organisations in order to prepare a joint campaign for the upcoming federal election. The coalition is composed of labour organisations, anti-poverty groups, progressive faith organisations and a variety of other groups.

The coalition launched a campaign, Vote for a Change, and produced a variety of materials including posters, stickers, postcards and lawn signs. The Federation helped members to purchase lawn signs bearing the message "Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence" by assuming part of the cost. Many member locals also purchased additional campaign materials directly from the coalition.

WEBSITE: VOTEEDUCATION.CA

The Federation's online election resource for students, VoteEducation.ca, was launched in summer 2003. Since then, it has been used to post information about organising efforts in the Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador provincial elections.

As with previous elections, the site served several purposes. First, the Federation's analysis of the federal Liberal Party's record in government since 1993 was posted online. The site had information about federal funding, student financial assistance, university research, students with disabilities, aboriginal students, part-time students, and international students. In addition to the Liberal record and party platform analysis, the parties' responses to a questionnaire, submitted jointly by the Federation and the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec (FÉUQ), were also published online as a resource for campaigners and voters. Information on how to vote, including a direct link to



Elections Canada's searchable riding database, was also included on the website.

Organising resources, such as fact sheets and sample questions for candidates, were included on the site. Radio ads produced by a Federation-led coalition in Manitoba were available for downloading from the Action section of the site. Member locals could learn what other organising was happening across the country by reading updates posted on the site.

Media and Coalition Work

Much of the Federation's nationally co-ordinated media work was done cooperatively with the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec. A joint media conference was held at Parliament Hill on May 26 to launch the campaign and to issue a list of joint demands.

Cooperation with the FÉUQ was also crucial during the lead-up to the "Great Canadian Job Interview" in St. John's on June 4. The Interview, jointly organised by several voter education groups, was billed as an opportunity for young Canadians to discuss issues of importance to youth with the major party leaders. The event was broadcast live on CBC television and simultaneously interpreted for viewers at home. New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton and Liberal Leader Paul Martin attended the event, but Conservative Leader Stephen Harper refused to attend.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

Initially, event organisers selected only one question on the subject of post-secondary education. Together with representatives from the FÉUQ, then National Chairperson Ian Boyko and Newfoundland and Labrador Chairperson Jessica Magalios convinced the organisers to modify the selected question as well as add a second question about post-secondary education. On air, Guillaume Lavoie of the FÉUQ asked a question about

writing will figure prominently in the Federation's federal funding campaign in 2005.

Federal Budget Process

As in previous years, the Federation was invited to submit a written brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance. The Committee is responsible for preparing a report for the Department of Finance for consideration during the federal budget preparation process. The Federation's submission was divided into four main sections: financial barriers to post-secondary education, federal funding, Aboriginal education, and tax credits.

The first section, financial barriers to post-secondary education, addressed the diminishing access to post-secondary education for those students from low- and middle-income households. The brief recommended the elimination of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation, the Canada Education Savings Grant, the Registered Education Savings Plan and the newly proposed Learning Bond, in order to fund an increase in the value of the low-income grant to 100 percent of tuition fees and an expansion of the program into a comprehensive national system of needs-based grants.

This section also focused on the discriminatory practices still employed by the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP). Credit checks and the ten-year prohibition on bankruptcy for public student loan holders still plague students and graduates, and must be removed if the most economically marginalised Canadians are to benefit from higher education. In addition to calling for the elimination of these regressive regulations, the Federation also called for improvements to the Debt Reduction in Repayment program so that it would help those with the greatest need, as was originally promised in the 1998 federal budget. Finally, this section explained that the federal government's move to increase loan limits would only serve to exacerbate the problems



BC CHAIRPERSON SUMMER MCFADYEN TALKS TO MEDIA AT BC CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

transfer payments and Magalios asked a question about student debt. In response to Lavoie's question, Paul Martin stated that the Canada Social Transfer should be split so that post-secondary education has a separate transfer payment, a core demand issued earlier in the campaign by the Federation and the FÉUQ. Moreover, he added that the value of this transfer should "eventually" reach "\$7 to \$8 billion". Neither of Martin's positions, the funding envelope nor the increased value of the post-secondary education transfer, were in the Liberal Party Platform.

Immediately following the event, the Federation and the FÉUQ published a joint open letter to Paul Martin. It urged Martin to elaborate on his comments in St. John's and commit to the idea in writing. Martin's reluctance to commit to the transfer in

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

with the CSLP by giving universities justification for increasing tuition fees.

The section on federal funding addressed the Federation's long-standing call for the creation of a dedicated post-secondary education transfer payment to the provinces. This campaign was strengthened when, during a national television appearance during the federal election campaign, the Prime Minister commented on the need for such a transfer. The Federation highlighted the diminished federal investment in core funding for post-secondary education and demonstrated that, despite seven years of federal budgetary surpluses, cash transfers for post-secondary education are currently more than 50 percent below 1993 levels, when accounting for population growth and inflation. The Federation argued that, in order to achieve the goals of financial accessibility and quality to which the federal government had expressed a commitment, an immediate investment through a dedicated transfer is required.

The third section outlined the Federation's analysis of Aboriginal post-secondary education funding. This year, there is additional cause for concern because the federal government intends to impose income taxes on the funding that Aboriginal students receive from their bands. The Federation recommended that the government abandon this violation of previous agreements and meet its treaty obligations to Aboriginal students.

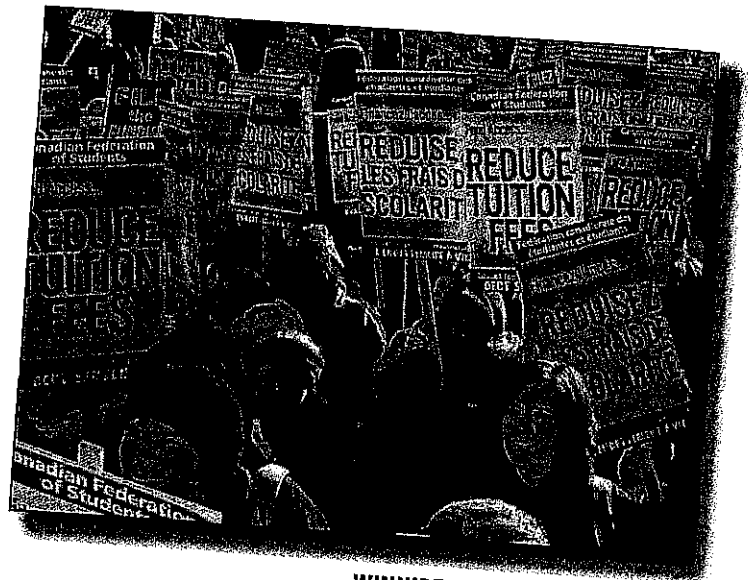
In the final section, the brief detailed the utter failure of tax credits as a means of addressing the student debt crisis. The Federation argued that tax measures are only a policy afterthought on the part of federal government and offer no benefit to those most in need. The Federation recommended the elimination of the education and tuition fee tax credit for those earning over \$70,000 and the allocation of any savings to a comprehensive needs-based grants system.

The Federation made an oral presentation of the brief before the Standing Committee on Tuesday, November 23.

Alternative Federal Budget 2005

Since 1996, the Federation has been a participant in the Alternative Federal Budget (AFB).

Coordinated by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, the Budget provides an analysis of existing resources and priorities and demonstrates how the federal government could amend its current revenue generation mechanisms and



WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 4, 2004

expenditures to adequately fund public services, advance environmental protection, and create full employment. The annual release of the AFB is timed to coincide with the release of the federal government's budget.

Representatives from a number of sectors including organised labour, the environmental movement, the women's movement, anti-racism, anti-poverty, and health care activists, and researchers from various public interest research and policy organisations participate each year in the production of the AFB.

The 2005 Alternative Federal Budget will focus on federal Liberal election promises and highlight how many of the promises were insufficient, as in the case of the affordable housing promise, or totally misguided, such as the promise of Learning Bonds. The Federation committed to writing a chapter on

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

post-secondary education and contributing to the chapters on federal-provincial relations and the Canada Social Transfer.

Student Financial Assistance

Charter Challenge on Student Loan Bankruptcy: "Don't Bankrupt a Generation"

The Federation's charter challenge of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, first launched in 1999, was heard in Ontario Superior Court on June 16. The Federation argued that the law prohibiting students from declaring bankruptcy on student loan debt for ten years after graduation violates Section 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The federal government's legal defence of the law mirrored their public policy response. It argued that the law was justified given the programs that the government already provides for borrowers in repayment. The primary programs to which they referred were Interest Relief, Debt Reduction in Repayment, and the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. The Federation has argued that the government's position ignores the fact that those in default (that is, those who cannot pay their loans) are ineligible for most relief programs. Moreover, two of the three programs offered as a defence of the prohibition, the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and Debt Reduction, are widely recognized as policy failures.

Though a substantial amount of preparatory media work was undertaken, media coverage of the challenge was lighter than expected because of the federal election campaign; however, the Federation received coverage in several newspapers, campus media, and mainstream radio outlets. Many reporters were keen to be informed of the decision and committed to covering the issue at that time. A media strategy has been developed in anticipation of the judgment, which is expected within weeks. The Federation's response will depend on the court's ruling but, regardless of the judgment, the response will emphasise the basic unfairness of

the law while stressing the importance of having undertaken the challenge in the first place.

Canada Student Loans and the U.S. *Patriot Act*

In spring 2000, negotiations for a new contract between the federal government and the two banks administering Canada Student Loans broke down. In essence, the two banks decided that they were not making high enough profits on public student loans and refused to continue student loan services without a massive increase in contract fees. The federal government responded by taking on the role of lender for Canada Student Loans and contracting-out the disbursement and collection services to a Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce-owned corporation called Edulinx. Since 2000, Edulinx has been responsible for issuing loans to students and collecting the "direct" loans on behalf of the federal government.

On October 26, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce announced that it had sold its controlling share of Edulinx to Nelnet Canada, a subsidiary of Nelnet Incorporated of Lincoln, Nebraska in the United States of America (U.S.). Nelnet is one of the largest student loan servicers in the U.S., with over \$13 billion in total assets.

The sale of Canada Student Loans service provision to the subsidiary of a U.S. corporation has serious consequences for the privacy of students in Canada. According to Canadian civil rights researchers, Canadian student loan and banking data could be subject to the U.S. *Patriot Act*. The *Patriot Act* was passed in 2001 at the height of U.S. paranoia and the protection of the U.S. "homeland". The *Act* gives U.S. police forces unprecedented powers of surveillance and removes most of the checks and balances typically applied to police powers of search and arrest. One such power is the ability of U.S. law enforcement agencies to demand records from any American corporation, or records to which any American corporation can gain access. Furthermore, according to the *Patriot Act*, companies ordered to surrender records are

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

prohibited from revealing that they have been the subject of a search.

Similar cases are coming to light in other areas of record keeping: in investigating the contracting out of British Columbia's medical record storage, the government's BC Privacy Commissioner stated unequivocally that BC's privacy laws were unlikely to protect information held by American companies if they were subject to a search carried out under the *Patriot Act*.

The Federation attended a meeting with Edulinx senior management on November 5 at which officials provided assurance that, because student loan data would remain in Canada, the *U.S. Patriot Act* would not apply to Edulinx loan information. Keeping student loan data in Canada is already a requirement of the service agreement signed with the federal government in 2000; however, Edulinx admitted that no new measures have been employed to protect student loan information since being subject to the provisions contained in the *U.S. Patriot Act*.

Following the Edulinx meeting, the Federation met with Canada Student Loans Program Director General David Cogliati to discuss privacy concerns arising from the reach of the *Patriot Act*. Cogliati told the Federation that his department had been working with the federal Department of Justice to maximise the protection of students' privacy. In the coming months, the National Executive will be consulting with coalition partners in the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group to fully explore the implications of Nelnet's ownership of Edulinx. Before the 2005 re-procurement process for the Canada Student Loans service provider contract, the Federation will be seeking stronger penalties in the new contract for breaking Canadian privacy law.

House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources and Skills Development

In the 2004 federal budget, the federal government introduced the Learning Bonds program. The federal government will deposit a \$500 bond into a Registered Education Savings Plan account for each child born into a low-income family. For every

subsequent year a family qualifies as low-income, \$100 is added to the account. As previously reported, the overall effectiveness of the Bonds is questionable in the climate of increasing tuition fees, and the program was unanimously denounced by anti-poverty organisations as woefully inadequate to address financial barriers to university and college.



SAULT STE. MARIE, FEBRUARY 4, 2004

This fall, the federal government introduced amendments to the Canada Education Savings Act to initiate the Learning Bond. On October 28, the Federation presented to the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills Development, Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities about the Learning Bond. The Federation argued that the program is a misguided attempt to impose an upper-middle class philosophy of "personal investment" onto families who have more immediate survival concerns than long-term savings. In addition to the Federation's concerns, the Committee also heard from the Canadian Association of University Teachers and social policy researcher Richard Shillington. Each supported the Federation's view that the Learning Bond will be of little benefit in the face of increasing tuition fees caused by federal underfunding.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

It is anticipated that the Learning Bonds Bill will receive a third reading and likely become law in early 2005.

Meeting with Canada Student Loans Program Director General

On November 9, the Federation met with the Director General of the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP), David Cogliati. The Federation called the meeting to explore the potential impact of a new Cabinet and minority government would have on federal post-secondary education policy. Specifically, the Federation inquired about Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes (ICLRs) and whether the government had been investigating their feasibility. Cogliati was unequivocal in stating that the federal government was not interested in implementing these schemes. However, he did indicate members of the post-secondary review panel in Ontario had been investigating the possibility of implementing ICLR for the provincial portion of the Ontario Student Assistance Program. Cogliati admitted that it would be possible for a province, even one whose student loans program is harmonised with the CSLP, to implement such a scheme for the provincial portion of a student's loan.

In addition to discussing ICLR, the Federation pressed Cogliati on a number of other issues relating to the delivery of the Canada Student Loans Program. On a positive note, Cogliati agreed with the Federation's concerns about the limit on in-study interest relief. Under the current regulations, student loan borrowers are forced into repayment after 520 weeks (pre-1995 loans) or 320 weeks (1995-2000 loans) of in-study interest relief. The policy allows for an additional 60 weeks of interest-free status for PhD students; however, 60 weeks is still an insufficient extension for many students. As a result, an increasing number of students, particularly those in doctoral programmes, are being forced to make student loan payments while they are still full-time students. The Federation informed Cogliati of several cases in which students have been forced to withdraw from their studies in order

to make payments on their loans. He committed to investigating the policy and possible changes that would take the growing reality of extended study into account.

The Federation also sought to clarify an inconsistency in the eligibility criteria for the revised Debt Reduction in Repayment (DRR) program. As reported previously, the program was amended in the 2003 federal budget to relax eligibility requirements and add further debt reduction. Under the revised program, borrowers can qualify for debt reduction of \$10,000, and re-apply for subsequent reductions of \$10,000 one year later, and \$6,000 after another year. The inconsistency pertains to how applicants could be successful in receiving the second and third reductions. The problem is as follows: once a DRR applicant is successful in qualifying for the first debt reduction, the applicant must make payments on her loan for twelve months before being eligible for the second reduction; however, the applicant has to prove in the second application that she is unable to make those very payments that she has been making for the previous year. Cogliati responded that for direct loans (loans issued by the Government of Canada after 2000), the minimum payment required is \$25 per month. In the case of risk-shared loans (loans issued and financed by banks between 1995 and 2000), Cogliati suggested that it was in the banks' best interest to keep loans in good standing between the reductions, because the reductions are direct payments to them. Thus, if an individual was successful in her first DRR application, and a favourable payment schedule was reached for the twelve intervening months, the banks could look forward to a second large payment on the loan.

In the end, the proof of the accessibility of the second and third debt reductions will be reflected in the annual program review of the Canada Student Loans Program. Given that the DRR program has been helping only five percent of the 12,000 students per year promised in the 1998 Federal Budget, it will not be difficult to improve upon this performance.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance

The National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance (NAGSFA) meets twice a year to discuss policy changes to the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP). The Advisory Group is composed of representatives from government and organisations representing students, administrators, institutional financial aid staff, and faculty members.

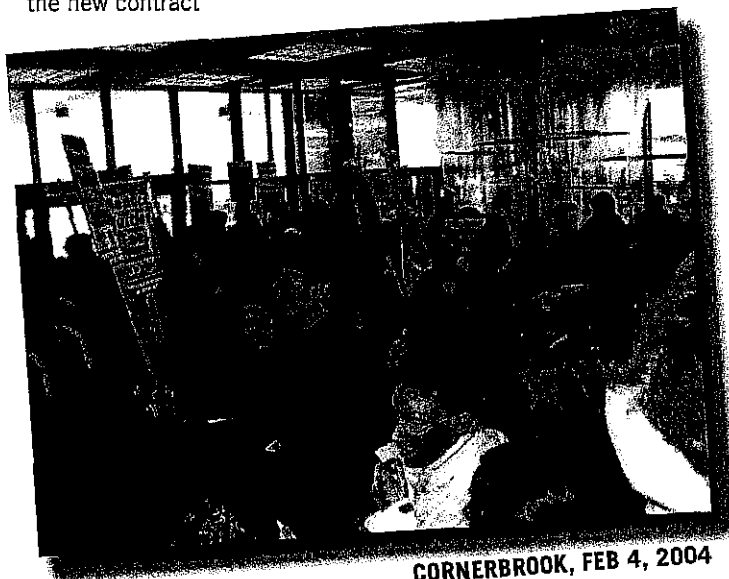
At the November 15 meeting CSLP officials reviewed a research project that they have commissioned EKOS Polling to undertake and reported on a number of other program updates.

The EKOS survey will investigate enrolment and financial decisions students and their families are forced to make with respect to post-secondary education. As well, the survey will enquire about student satisfaction with the Canada Student Loans Program. It was reported that the study includes part-time students and students who are ineligible for Canada Student Loans. The study will also engage in participant consultations on a monthly basis rather than annually, which has become the standard. CSLP officials said that NAGSFA members would be kept abreast of results as they are compiled.

The Advisory Group heard reports about a number of operational issues. As discussed in the previous section, the most significant event was the sale of Edulinx to a subsidiary of an American company, Nelnet Incorporated. The Federation was joined by other members in expressing grave concern about the security of Canada Student Loan information and whether it was subject to the U.S. *Patriot Act*. CSLP representatives admitted that this was a legitimate concern and that they were working with the Department of Justice to ensure the security of all Canadian documents.

It was reported that the process for tendering a new service provider contract would begin in December, with a request for proposals in April and the contract set to commence in August. There are currently two five-year service provider contracts coming

to an end: one to administer loans to students in public institutions (Edulinx); and another for those attending private career "colleges" (BDP Business Data Services Ltd.). The new contract will combine both loan categories into a single agreement and will include options to renew for up to five additional years. The Federation raised concerns about the details of the transfer of student information from one company to the other and how security would be ensured. CSLP representatives informed the Advisory Group that there are CSLP employees who work on-site with both of the current service providers who will oversee the transfer of all information after the new contract



CORNERBROOK, FEB 4, 2004

is awarded. It was noted that the government was working to update their internal files so that duplicate copies of all student loan information will be stored in government offices.

The implementation strategy for the low-income grant was reviewed. The up-front grant, which is worth half of an eligible student's tuition fees up to \$3000, will be implemented for September 2005. Students' eligibility for the grant will be determined through their applications for Canada Student Loans. If a student's family income falls below the national child benefit benchmark (approximately \$35,000), the student's total financial aid allotment will not

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

change. That is to say, the student will still receive the same amount in financial aid from the CSLP; however, the value of the grant will be delivered as non-repayable assistance, thereby reducing the amount of the loan. The Federation expressed support for the grant as the first small step toward the implementation of a national system of grants administered through the CSLP, but added that the value of the grant would depreciate quickly as tuition fees increase. Concern was also raised because students' unmet need will not change as a result of the implementation of the low-income grant. Students will still be forced to seek alternate sources of funding, including private loans.

NAGSFA members received an update on the designation policy framework that had been approved by provincial governments. As stated in previous reports, all of the provinces have agreed to implement a provincial designation policy that will "manage" the "financial risk" associated with student loans. Institutions that fail to meet the guidelines of the federal framework run the risk of losing student loan designation. In other words, if an institution is de-designated, students attending that institution will be ineligible for Canada Student Loans. The framework, developed by the federal government in consultation with provincial loan officials, has set the minimum standard. Individual provincial governments can choose to add criteria or complexity.

The national default criteria state that institutions whose graduates default on student loan payments at a rate greater than 29 percent could potentially be de-designated. The Federation raised concerns about all-encompassing de-designation policies, arguing that while the federal government's frustration with the low quality education at private career colleges was valid, the implementation of a broad approach to a designation policy that applies to public institutions is counterproductive. Universities and colleges in many regions serve communities that may be economically depressed from time to time. Because default is strongly related to employment trends, students outside of Canada's major urban centres are at a greater risk

of defaulting. Removing student loan eligibility from students attending public post-secondary education in these regions, based on default statistics, does not recognise the importance of these institutions, or the right of students who want to remain in their home region to obtain an education.

David Cogliati, Director General of the CSLP, remarked that under the proposed framework, provinces retained the ability to exercise discretion in revoking an institution's designation, adding that he did not envision the de-designation of any public institution as a result of the new policy.

The meeting ended with an opportunity for members to discuss issues of concern to their organisations. The Federation raised concerns about government programs that purport to increase access to post-secondary education, such as Registered Education Savings Plans and retroactive debt reduction in repayment, and the fact that this money could be better spent by increasing the non-repayable funds available to students through the CSLP. Cogliati agreed with the Federation that many of the families who received education and tuition fee tax credits did not need them, and that there were more effective ways to use those public funds.

Millennium Scholarship Foundation

Pan-Canadian Consultations

As reported at the previous general meeting, the Millennium Scholarship Foundation began a series of regional consultations in mid-April on the future of its bursary programme. Consultations were held in 16 cities and concluded with a national meeting in Ottawa. Participants in the consultations were presented with three proposed non-repayable student financial aid frameworks. The fundamental problem with the Foundation's consultation strategy was that it left little room for a comprehensive examination of the forces shaping the financial needs of post-secondary students. The Federation prepared a brief that was distributed to member locals that participated in the consultations.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

The Federation attended the Foundation's national consultation on September 1. While the questions presented for discussion to national organisations sought a broader view than those in other consultations, the discussion was still bound by strict parameters. Despite the concerns raised by a number of participants regarding the consequences of high tuition fees and student debt, the facilitator dismissed these concerns as irrelevant to the discussion.

Foundation representatives were intent on discussing the relative merits of giving bursaries to low-income students or high-need students. Although participants agreed that this distinction only exists as a result of tuition fee levels that have risen to the point where even those with modest to high-incomes are unable to afford the program of their choice, the facilitator would not entertain discussion about tuition fees. The issue of allowing first-year students to be eligible for bursaries in future years was raised and Foundation staff reacted positively to the idea, a decidedly different response than the one taken by Foundation officials previously. The Federation has been critical of the exclusion of first-year students from up-front grants since the inception of the Foundation.

The Federation raised concern that Aboriginal students who are often ineligible for Canada Student Loans are excluded from Millennium Scholarships. In order to be eligible for Foundation bursaries, students must first qualify for federal student loans, at which time their need is assessed. Foundation representatives expressed great concern about the cost of implementing their own needs assessment mechanism in order to determine Aboriginal student need.

The Foundation released the report on the consultations at its annual general meeting, held October 21 in Ottawa. The report outlined a number of changes that the Foundation will be implementing in response to the consultations. Of note, the Foundation has committed to working with the provinces and territories to extend eligibility to first-year students. The report also stated that

eliminating displacement of existing provincial student aid programs is a priority; however, given the Foundation's failure to achieve this in the past and in the absence of any plan to improve the existing provincial "agreements", it seems unlikely that Canadian students will see any improvement in the Foundation's effectiveness.

Research Conference

The Federation attended the third annual research conference of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation, from October 22-24. This year's conference was co-hosted by the Canadian Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA). Although the exact relationship between the Foundation and CASFAA remains unclear, it is likely that its contribution to the conference was that of vital political capital to legitimise the Foundation's political campaign for increased fees and higher debt. As front line student financial aid workers, CASFAA members process loans and assist students applying for emergency loans at the local level.

Of late, however, CASFAA members have taken a more active role in advocating for specific policy amendments. Though they are particularly well placed to witness the effect of high tuition fees and high student debt, they rarely advocate in favour of lower tuition fees and have not spoken out against the ten-year prohibition of declaring bankruptcy on student loans. In addition, CASFAA members often offer ill-informed analysis about the financial barriers facing students and the role the student movement in Canada. More worrisome is the fact that the majority of CASFAA members are oblivious to the political agenda being carried out by the Foundation.

The theme of this year's conference was "The Invisible Student". In theory, the conference set out to examine how to encourage more students from underrepresented groups to pursue post-secondary education. The first day of the conference included presentations from several agencies working with "at risk" youth. Two projects based in Winnipeg were featured as well as a project based in Toronto's low-income Regent Park neighborhood. Each

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

of the presenters focused on success stories that emphasised the role of counselling and mentoring in promoting access to post-secondary education. The two speakers from Winnipeg focused on specific, individual success stories with little emphasis on larger policy issues. On the other hand, Marni Schechter-Taylor, Director of Development and Communications for Pathways to Education based in Toronto, addressed the point that barriers like chronic unemployment and shoddy, overpriced housing were fundamental issues that needed to be dealt with.

The Federation echoed this view by arguing that, while there is nothing wrong with mentoring programs in low-income communities, they very often obscure the long-term social, racial, and economic inequities faced by low-income Canadians. The Federation also raised concern about the degree to which the Foundation's promotion of these programs as the solution to creating equality of access to post-secondary education is motivated by their ongoing campaign for higher tuition fees and student debt. The Foundation's interest in early intervention programs is part of its larger goal of diverting attention away from financial barriers. Millennium Scholarship Foundation Executive Director Norman Ridell has gone so far as to say the federal government should invest no more money in student financial assistance until these so-called non-financial barriers are addressed.

In addition to emphasising the financial barriers faced by low-income students, all of the presenters noted that their work was, ostensibly, a very small pilot project with no stable source of funding. Each speaker agreed that an effective program of early intervention would require a massive investment of public funds. In the end, while the original intent of the conference was to bolster the Foundation's contention that access for poor families could be increased without more public spending, each of the speakers demonstrated the folly of this position.

The second day of the conference consisted largely of Foundation officials presenting on their own

early intervention pilot project in New Brunswick. A Foundation staff person reported that he found three barriers facing students, which he listed in order of perceived importance: lack of information; grades; and least important, finances; however, the polling technique was highly suspect resulting in massive underreporting of financial barriers.

During his update on the project he reported that three control groups were established: students with no counselling or mentoring, students with mentoring but no increased financial aid, and a third group that received both mentoring and a \$5000 grant upon entry to a post-secondary institution. The results were not surprising. The third group was the most successful and it was clear from interviews with the students in the control group that the promise of the \$5000 grant was vital to their success. Thus, the Foundation's own research actually made the case for a national system of needs-based grants, despite the Foundation's political desire to downplay the effects of financial barriers on access to post-secondary education.

The research is also further proof that the Foundation should stop expending substantial amounts of grant money attempting to push its political agenda of early intervention and counselling as the key determinants of access to post-secondary education.

Price of Knowledge 2004

The Millennium Scholarship Foundation released the second edition of *The Price of Knowledge* at a news conference November 8. The new document is largely a compendium of existing national research on post-secondary education, offset by a few pieces of original research. Co-authors Sean Junor, the Foundation's Senior Research Officer, and Alex Usher, Vice President of the U.S.-based Educational Policy Institute and former Research Director of the Foundation, presented the findings. As in the past, the Foundation analysis of the data sought to justify higher tuition fees and student debt. Unfortunately, it was this interpretation that

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

was reported in editorials in both the National Post and the Globe and Mail.

During the news conference, Foundation officials faced some questions from incredulous reporters about their positive spin on the data. Several reporters pressed them on the issue, but the Foundation held firm to its contention that increased tuition fees and student debt amounted to a "good news" story. One reporter quoted from the Federation's news release calling the report a "public relations sham". At the close of the news conference, most reporters present sought out the Federation for comment and almost all stories written on the event noted objections to the Foundation's bias. The Canadian Press article, which appeared in many newspapers in smaller communities, ran with the headline: Students Slam Foundation Report.

Since the news conference, several member locals have received invitations to hastily called consultations to discuss the research. The "consultations" have, for the most part, been little more than a sales pitch for the report.

International Students

The Federation has a seat on the Advisory Committee on International Students and Immigration (ACISI). ACISI is an advisory group that provides Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) with recommendations on policy pertaining

to international students. Participation on the Advisory Committee allows the Federation to be kept abreast of developments in federal immigration policy, regulations, and program. In addition, membership on the Advisory Committee further strengthens the voice of the Federation when lobbying the federal government on immigration issues that affect international students. The Committee meets twice a year to discuss immigration regulations pertaining to international education.

At the most recent meeting on November 8 in Ottawa, the discussion focused on three main issues: students as a source of skilled workers/permanent residents; work for international students; and security and the international student program. Issues ranging from international certification to regional requirements for work visas (requiring immigrants to live in rural areas) were discussed. Many members agreed that a balance had to be struck between affording international students the ability to stay and work in Canada and ensuring that Canada continues to expand its role as a global educator by allowing students to study in Canada before returning to their countries to contribute to their respective communities. The role that accessible post-secondary education should play in long-term immigration policies was also discussed.

The ability for international students to work off-campus was discussed at length. CIC representatives reported on the ongoing pilot projects in various jurisdictions. At the time of the meeting, there were "labour market access" pilot projects underway in

	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Quebec*
Implementation	October 31, 2003 – October 31, 2005	May 1, 2004 – April 31, 2006	May 21, 2004 – May 20, 2005
Conditions	Regular Academic Sessions: 20 hrs/wk (maximum) Scheduled Breaks: Full-time	Regular Academic Sessions: 20 hrs/wk (maximum) Scheduled Breaks: Full-time	Regular Academic Sessions: 15 hrs/wk (maximum) Scheduled Breaks: Full-time

* International students who live inside the census metropolitan areas of Montréal and Québec City (approximately 90% of international students in the province) are not eligible to work off-campus.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

three provinces: Manitoba, New Brunswick and Québec.

Government officials reported that it was too soon to provide analysis about the New Brunswick and Québec projects. The Manitoba pilot project has proven to be quite labour-intensive for the institutions, though both levels of government agree that it has had positive results.

Pilot projects have also been implemented in Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Saskatchewan to extend post-graduate work permits from one to two years. Most programs are still in their infancy and have a minimum of two years left in their mandates. Thus their effectiveness can not yet be adequately assessed.

Finally, the Committee discussed the implications of student visas, and concerns about those who use them as gateways into Canada. Initially, discussions centred around issues such as "homeland security". The Federation pointed out that the actual issue was one of program accountability and that "security" was too value-laden for the discussion. There was agreement that what was missing from the current program was a means by which CIC could confirm an individual's status as a student on an ongoing basis.

This problem of confirming ongoing full-time student status is compounded by the difficulty in developing policy on international students and immigration without a national list of "bona fide" private institutions. The federal government has very little sense of what quality of education is offered by for-profit enterprises because private education businesses are so poorly regulated by the provinces. The regulation or accreditation process for private institutions varies widely from province to province, making any comparisons between jurisdictions meaningless. In response to the persistent concern over the quality of education sold by private career colleges and second language centres, a working group was established after the April 2004 ACISI meeting to investigate ways to enumerate the private education industry for immigration issues. It was reported that little progress had been made on this project to date.

Post-secondary Education Transfer

Meeting with Member of Parliament Michael Savage

On November 15, the Federation met with MP Michael Savage (Dartmouth-Cole Harbour), the new Chair of the Government Caucus on Post-Secondary Education and Research. The Federation presented Savage with a copy of its submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and fact sheets on tuition fees and the Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

Savage indicated that he was anxious to familiarise himself with the most pressing issues facing students. He seemed receptive to the idea that the federal government has been under-investing in social transfer payments, and he expounded on the economic and social benefits of investing in post-secondary education. He indicated that the Caucus would be meeting early in 2005 to set out an agenda for the coming year. Savage also indicated that he would like to meet with Federation representatives again after he has had an opportunity to familiarise himself with the position.

Meeting with the Prime Minister's Office

On November 1, the Federation met with Jonathan Weisstub, Policy Advisor for the Prime Minister's Office, to discuss the Federation's priorities and campaign goals for the year. Federation representatives presented him with a copy of the Federation's submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and highlighted each of the recommendations. Weisstub was particularly drawn to the section that outlines the Federation's concerns with the use of taxation policy as a means of improving access to post-secondary education. He explained that much of his time was devoted to taxation issues and he was concerned about the criticisms of these expenditures in the post-secondary education context.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

Meetings with Opposition Critics

Meeting with Member of Parliament Alexa McDonough

The Federation met with New Democratic Party Post-Secondary Education Critic Alexa McDonough (Halifax) on September 10. McDonough replaced Libby Davies (Vancouver East) in the Critic's portfolio after the 2004 federal election.

McDonough was presented with the Federation's Research Digest and recent fact sheets. The Federation provided a review of its campaign goals for the coming session of Parliament, including building opposition to Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes and mobilising support for a dedicated post-secondary education cash transfer payment.

The Federation also briefed McDonough on the status of the constitutional challenge to the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. McDonough expressed a willingness to put forward a private members bill to eliminate the ten-year prohibition. The Federation agreed to meet with McDonough's office again in order to discuss the strategy.

Meeting with Member of Parliament Peter Van Loan

On November 3, the Federation met with Conservative Party Human Resources and Skills Development Critic Peter Van Loan (York-Simcoe). The Federation presented Van Loan with its submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance. While highlighting the priorities outlined in the submission, the Federation emphasised concern about Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes and the ten-year prohibition on claiming bankruptcy on Canada Student Loans.

Van Loan was unable to respond to most of the concerns raised, explaining that as he was new to the position and he had not yet been briefed fully on all of the details pertaining to his portfolio. With respect to the creation of a dedicated federal

transfer payment for post-secondary education, Van Loan said it was unlikely that the Conservative Party would support the idea because it does not support a federal role in establishing conditions for transfer payments.

University Research

Whistleblowers

The Federation has a longstanding campaign that supports those researchers who expose corporate interference in research and other forms of research misconduct. The Federation has produced posters that identify the negative effects of public-private partnerships on university research and developed a fact sheet providing information on the importance of protecting academic freedom. In February 2004, the Federation launched a website, www.cfs-fcee.ca/whistleblowers.ca, containing information on public-private partnerships in research and encouraging students to report infringements on academic freedom and research misconduct.

In summer 2004, a graduate student, Christopher Radziminski, contacted the Federation seeking support in publicising various incidences of research misconduct by his supervisors at the University of Toronto and in seeking whistleblower protection legislation.

Radziminski completed a Master's of Applied Science (Civil Engineering) at the University of Toronto in 2000. His research focussed on testing a chemical alternative to chlorine for disinfecting drinking water. Following the publication of his thesis, Radziminski discovered two journal articles published under his authorship (without his knowledge or consent) consisting of extensive copyright violation of his thesis, with results skewed in favour of the disinfectant under study. He initiated litigation on the grounds of research misconduct



WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

against his supervisors who have financial connections to the chemical company Sterling Pulp Chemicals Ltd., the maker of the disinfectant under study. This fall, the University of Toronto settled out of court with Radziminski on the allegations of copyright violation.

Radziminski has discovered further publications with false research conclusions using data from his Master's thesis. He is now pursuing another case of research misconduct and the improper treatment of whistleblowers by the University of Toronto. When Radziminski approached the University with his complaints of research misconduct, he was threatened with a defamation suit. Currently, there is no legislation in Canada that protects whistleblowers when they expose university research misconduct. Such legislation does exist in many other countries, including the United States of America.

Radziminski has maintained a comprehensive file on his allegations and the issue may warrant further legal action. In October 2004, the National Executive resolved to allocate resources from the Kevin Coleman legal defense fund to fund a consultation with a lawyer in order to review the legal merits of Radziminski's case. Further consideration is required regarding the role the Federation should play in securing whistleblower protection legislation in Canada.

Amendments to the Copyright Act

The federal *Copyright Act* is currently being amended, in part, to respond to technological changes. In spring 2004, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage released "The Bulte Report" (name coined after the author of the report), which overwhelmingly favours the interests of copyright owners at the expense of the public. If enacted, the proposals will hinder access to public information online and impose new fees on educational institutions. It will also infringe on individual privacy by requiring Internet service providers to play a larger role in monitoring

users' activities. A membership advisory has been developed to inform members of the implications of restrictive copyright law.

In addition to informing members about the importance of resisting the changes proposed in the Bulte Report, the Federation has been meeting with other national organisations that are also concerned about the proposed reforms. On September 28, the Federation met with the Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) to discuss its response to the Federal Standing Committee on Heritage's proposal for copyright reform. CARL represents 27 Canadian university libraries, and the National Library of Canada, and its main goals are to improve scholarly communication, to preserve access to research materials, and to increase the capacity of individual member libraries to provide effective support and encouragement to research at local, regional, and national levels. Librarians are particularly concerned that this type of legislation would put researchers and students in Canada at a disadvantage to those working in other countries (namely the United States of America, Great Britain, and Australia) thereby compromising the quality of education in Canada.

On October 26, the Federation met with the representatives of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) to discuss strategies to halt the amendments. One of the approaches agreed upon was lobbying Industry Canada, the other federal department with a stake in copyright law, to play a stronger role in protecting the rights of copyright users. CAUT emphasised the need to advocate for legislation that maintains fair access to public material on the Internet and prevents increasing copyright fees for educational institutions.

The Federation is in regular discussions with the Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic (CIPPIC) through its listserv. CIPPIC is a research centre composed of academic and legal experts dedicated to providing legal assistance to organisations and individuals on matters involving

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

the intersection of law and technology. CIPPIC is strongly opposed to the recommendations of the Bulte Report, and participants are currently drafting a statement of principles on copyright and the public domain.

Privatisation and Trade Liberalisation

Trade and Investment Research Project

The Trade and Investment Research Project (TIRP) is a consortium of researchers who meet quarterly to review international trade agreements and the global literature devoted to analysing and critiquing them. The project operates under the auspices of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and is composed of approximately 25 members, including the Federation.

The Project is currently one of the world's key sources for research critical of international trade agreements. It has funded research reports focussing on the impact of trade agreements on a range of sectors, including healthcare, postal services, and K-12 education. These reports have prompted a formal response from governments and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in defense of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) against the Project's analysis.

Monitoring and research conducted through the Project is helping student organisations, environmental groups, and other civil society organisations identify issues of concern much earlier in the trade agreement negotiation process than has been the case in the past. Direct involvement in the Project provides the Federation with access to a valuable resource for research, government relations and campaign work.

The most recent meeting of TIRP took place in Toronto on October 7. TIRP researcher Scott Sinclair gave a detailed report on the latest developments in the GATS.

Education Industry Summit 2004

On October 28, the Federation attended the 7th Education Industry Summit in Toronto. The annual gathering of the education industry is a day-long conference designed to develop strategies to further the privatisation of public education. The Federation attended to gather information and to remain current on the activities and plans of the industry. Past conference topics have included seminars on how to discredit local coalitions that support public education as well as government relations workshops on how to lobby for increased public subsidies for private education.

This year, the Summit's dual focus was recruiting wealthy international students to study in Canada and increasing profit-generating opportunities for public institutions abroad. In sharp contrast to previous years, the majority of participants were senior administrators from Canadian public colleges and universities. Several college presidents from Ontario and British Columbia were also in attendance. Additionally, the Ministers of Higher Education in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario addressed participants and committed to helping Canadian institutions expand abroad and expanding the use of international students as "alternative streams of revenue".

Only the Minister of Advanced Education and Training for Manitoba, Dianne McGifford, offered the caveat that an excessive focus on the monetary benefit of international students risks obscuring the exchange of culture and ideas that a diverse body of international students brings to Canadian campuses. In addition, McGifford also made the obvious point, overlooked by others, that if universities and colleges look at international students from a purely economic view point they will ultimately ensure that only wealthy students will be able to access post-secondary education in Canada.

The context for the focus on international students was set by the Deputy Minister for Higher Education in Australia. The Minister advocated for the proliferation of Australia's approach to

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

partially funding education through an aggressive marketing campaign. She explained that Australian universities generate 25 percent of their revenue from international students.

The second theme of the conference was the opportunity for Canadian institutions to establish profit-generating satellite campuses abroad. Delegates heard from several colleges that have established international campuses. The College of the North Atlantic, Qatar Campus was presented as a model success story. The College offers off shore oil and gas exploration courses in Qatar, drawing on lessons learned from the Hibernia project.

Delegates also heard from several marketing professionals on the need to sell the Canadian "brand" abroad. Ironically, the brand they wanted to sell as Canadian was diversity and tolerance. No participant raised the issue of human rights or the rights of students and faculty to organise at the for-profit branches of these Canadian branded public institutions.

Finally, participants heard from George Markin of the federal Department of International Trade. Markin, who works for the Department's Education Marketing Advisory Board, assured delegates that the Department was doing all it could to secure opportunities abroad for Canadian colleges and universities. Markin did sound a sober note about Canada's aggressive marketing strategy. He said that while Canada has no "immediate" plans to put education on the negotiating table in the upcoming General Agreement on Trades and Services (GATS) discussions, because it would be "folly" to imagine that Canada could remain immune from calls by other countries to open the Canadian market. He said it was "inevitable" that Canada would have to consider opening its market to foreign providers.

United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

Over the past 18 months, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has partnered with the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to

establish guidelines for "quality assurance in cross-border education provision". The idea is to create an international framework for assessing the quality of post-secondary institutions. The Federation has been invited to provide feedback on the current draft that will be submitted to the next round of negotiations in January 2005.

The project was a response to the refusal of most countries to support free trade in education under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). In the absence of a binding free trade agreement, organisations like the OECD and the World Bank have decided instead to push UNESCO to use its international networks to create voluntary systems that mirror trade agreements.

The current draft of the guidelines elevate the status of for-profit education institutions to that of public universities and colleges which, in the Canadian context, is inappropriate. The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) has identified sizable passages in the guidelines that establish principles that closely resemble the language in GATS, such as "least burdensome" and "transparency", or GATS' concepts like "national treatment". CAUT has also noted that the guidelines do not recognise the rights of faculty members as stakeholders, nor do they explicitly identify the role of tenured and organised full-time academic staff in the provision of quality education. As one might expect, the role of students in institutional governance is also absent from the provisions.

Given the origins of the document and its trade-like language, there is reason to believe that if Canada signs onto the guidelines for quality provision in cross-border higher education, that it will be one step closer to including education in the GATS. The Federation will caution against "trade creep" in its response, as well as highlight the importance of staff and students' rights in quality post-secondary education. The Federation's response will also oppose the proposal to give for-profit education an equal footing in the international recognition of Canada's post-secondary education institutions.

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is composed of the world's 30 richest nations. The OECD develops economic and social policy on behalf of member nations and monitors global economic trends.

In recent years, the OECD has taken a more direct role in analysing post-secondary education policy. To this end, it created the Institute for the Management of Higher Education (IMHE). IMHE membership is open to universities, national departments of education, and non-governmental organisations; however, the vast majority of members are university administrations from Canada, the United States, and Europe. Under the auspices of the IMHE, the OECD has organised a series of conferences and seminars on university governance, free trade in education, and student financial assistance. The focus of the IMHE is the reform of higher education governance and financing.

It has become clear that "reform" is an OECD euphemism for increased individual investment (higher fees), flexible repayment (income contingent loan repayment), and a greater role for the private sector in research and governance (commercialisation). At the most recent conference many delegates suggested adding commercialisation to the core mandate of universities.

In Québec City in May, IMHE brought together a group of researchers to explore new models of student financial assistance. Speakers repeatedly lauded the benefits of Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes and the British Deputy Minister of higher education delivered a promotional talk on the introduction of fees and ICLRS.

At the close of the conference the Federation confronted OECD officials about the one-sided nature of the discussion. In response to these complaints, OECD officials agreed to allow students a speaking role at future conferences.

The Federation was subsequently invited to speak in a plenary session at the IMHE annual meeting September 12-15. The Federation presented a paper entitled *The Politics of Access: Tuition Fees, Student Debt, and Social Equity*. The Federation's appearance marked the first time a national student organisation had ever been invited to address a plenary session of the IMHE. The paper presented a variety of arguments, backed by Canadian and international data, demonstrating that high debt and higher tuition fees are choking off access for low- and middle-income families. While not well received by American and British administrators, the arguments were welcomed by delegates from countries such as Ireland, Sweden, and Finland, who have resisted the OECD call for "reform" in higher education. In addition to presenting the paper, the Federation was invited to participate in an OECD working group on student financial assistance.

Aboriginal Students

Without consulting Aboriginal organisations, the federal government announced that it will impose income tax on the funding that Aboriginal students receive from their bands under the Post Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP). The decision was to be in effect for 2005, but has been delayed until at least 2006 while negotiations with Aboriginal organisations are underway. The policy moves the federal government further away from their fiduciary responsibility to fund Aboriginal peoples' education in Canada as set out in the Royal Proclamation Act of 1763, and will create a further barrier to Aboriginal people's access to post-secondary education. The Federation's Aboriginal Caucus has undertaken a letter writing campaign to the Prime Minister outlining concerns with the new tax.

Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

On September 13, the Federation met with Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) Director of Government Relations and

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

Public Affairs and Government Relations Officer. Opportunities for affecting change in the federal minority Parliament dominated the discussion, namely the renewed ability of standing committees and backbench Members of Parliament to potentially determine the course of policy and legislative developments.

AUCC raised the issue of it's "agreement" with the federal government on the issue of increased commercialisation. As reported previously, in 2002 the AUCC signed a non-binding, agreement to triple the commercialisation of university research in exchange for increased federal research funding. One of the promises made at the time by the AUCC was to undertake a performance report on the university research sector. AUCC indicated that work was beginning on this project, which the Association views as an opportunity to stress the importance and diversity of scholarly activities underway at Canadian universities and colleges.

The Federation reiterated its opposition to the deal and signalled its intent to continue to work with the Canadian Association of University Teachers to stop the proliferation of commercial research on Canadian campuses.

Campaign Tools

Campaign Kit

In light of the increased role that backbench government Members of Parliament will have in a minority parliament, the July 2004 National Executive meeting resolved that a Campaign and Lobby Kit be compiled and distributed to assist member locals in lobbying backbench Liberal MPs. The Kit will serve as a condensed version of the Federation's Organising Manual. It contains the most recent Federation fact sheets and membership advisories, sample opinion editorials, sample letters to government, the Federation's 2004 submission to the Standing Committee on Finance, the 2004-2005 Campaigns and Government Relations Strategy, and

a manual on effective lobbying practices. The Kit was distributed to members in late October 2004.

Online Fax Database

The Federation and other non-profit organisations are working to develop software that allows visitors to send faxes to Members of Parliament through the Federation's website. The software is being designed specifically to facilitate the ongoing campaigns work of the Federation and, depending on the campaign, the letters and recipients can be easily adjusted for different campaigns. Provincial components will be able to use this technology for provincial letter-writing campaigns.

National Opinion Coalition

The Federation continues to participate in the National Opinion Coalition with Vector Research, a co-operative polling group that conducts four polls per year. Each partner is allotted several questions of specific interest per poll and members agree upon a broader set of public policy questions of interest to all participating organisations. There are several standing questions each poll poses about voting preference and the standing of each of the major federal political parties. In addition, members are kept abreast of public policy developments and the results of other major national and international polls.

Since the previous national general meeting, two Coalition meetings have been held. On June 17, a meeting was convened in Ottawa that focused on the federal election. In addition to measuring support for the parties on an array of issues, the poll tracked the popularity of the leaders of the main parties.

The poll included several questions developed by the Federation related to post-secondary education, including a question on Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes. The results were informative because they found that while the public was generally supportive of a loan scheme

WORKING TOGETHER

Campaigns and Government Relations

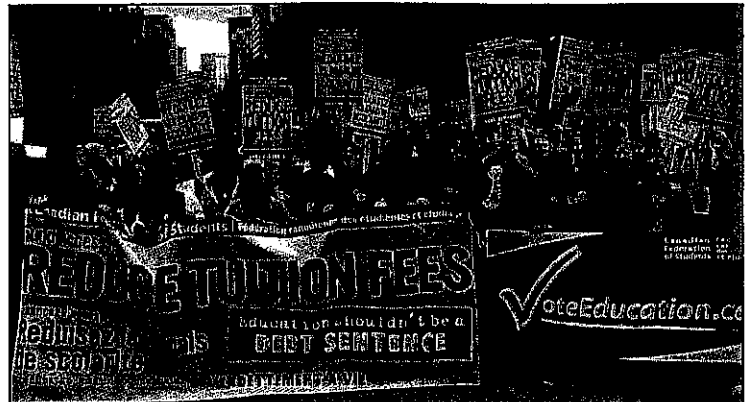
that ties repayment to income, it did not support such a scheme if it meant higher tuition fees.

The poll also tracked growing support for grants. It is worth noting that while the public continued to be very supportive of the tuition fee freeze in Ontario, support is softer for freezing fees in professional programs. Lastly, the poll found that support for further privatisation of Canadian colleges and universities remained low.

The most recent meeting of the Coalition was held on October 7. Responses to the Federation's survey questions about student debt were quite encouraging. A strong majority of respondents stated that student debt higher than \$10,000 was unacceptable; although only 11 percent of respondents said no debt was acceptable. There was a very favourable response to tuition fee freezes, with over 70 percent of respondents opposing further fee hikes. Strong support was also expressed for the reduction or elimination of tuition fees for low-income students; however, only seven percent of respondent thought tuition fees should be eliminated for all students.

The President of Vector Research, Marc Zwelling, presented a detailed analysis of polling data from the federal election. Contrary to media reports of a massive polling failure, Zwelling pointed to several polls that document the fact that many voters changed their minds during the last weekend of the campaign. Polling results also demonstrate that, while Canadians were satisfied with the minority government result, support for the Liberal Party was beginning to creep upwards again.

In the next poll, to be conducted in December 2004, the Federation will test support for Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes. In addition, several questions will be asked regarding issues raised by various provincial reviews of post-secondary education.



VOTEEDUCATION.CA FEATURED IN TORONTO RALLY



Solidarity Work

Federation members' lives continue past their campus gates and no invisible wall keeps the activities of the world off of our campuses. Childcare, workers and tenants' rights, trade, and electoral reform are among the many public policy issues that affect students directly.

Members of the Federation have consistently chosen to work on a variety of provincial, national and international concerns. And, the Federation has been most successful when combining efforts with other provincial, national and international organisations.

WORKING TOGETHER

Solidarity

It has been a long-standing practice of the Federation to work in coalition with other groups and organisations on issues of interest and concern to students. The strength in numbers that the Federation realises by bringing together students from across the country is achieved to an even greater extent when members of other organisations also support the Federation's goals.

Canadian Consortium for Research

The Federation is an active member of the Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR). The Consortium comprises 18 national organisations representing researchers in specific disciplines (i.e. the Canadian Psychological Association), the three granting councils, the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, and the Canadian Association of University Teachers. The CCR meets to discuss federal research policy issues and has submitted briefs to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance.

In November 2004, the CCR submitted a brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance highlighting the need for dedicated federal funding for post-secondary education, increased funding to granting councils, and a commitment to increased funding for indirect costs of research. The CCR secretariat has organised a number of lobby meetings throughout November and December with Members of Parliament whose portfolios have relevance to university research. On November 26, the Federation will attend a lobby session with Mary-Antoinette Fumian, Associate Deputy Minister at Human Resources and Skills Development.

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) is a non-partisan research institute that provides political analysis on issues such as education, health care, the economy and trade, and social programmes in Canada. The CCPA produces

research reports, books, opinion pieces, fact sheets and other publications, including Missing Pieces, an annual report that reviews equity, quality, public accountability and accessibility in post-secondary education in every province.

In the spring, the Federation was granted an institutional seat on the CCPA's national board. The board was seeking to institutionalise representation from youth groups, and invited the Federation to hold a permanent seat on its highest decision-making body.

Common Frontiers

Common Frontiers is a coalition of organisations that undertakes research, analysis, and campaigns to seek alternatives to the social, environmental, and economic effects of free trade in the Americas. Common Frontiers brings together student, labour, human rights, environmental, religious, economic, and social justice organisations. The Federation joined the coalition in January 2001 and has held a seat on the Steering Committee since that time.

From September 17-19, the Federation attended a coalition colloquium entitled "NAFTA: Ten Years Later", which was organised in partnership with Réseau Québécois sur L'Intégration Continentale (RQIC). Speakers highlighted the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in all three signatory countries with a focus on the environment, agriculture, human rights and privatisation.

On September 20, the Federation attended a public forum in Ottawa organised by Common Frontiers that focussed on the threat of deeper integration of trade policy and national security regimes between Canada, the United States of America, and Mexico. Maude Barlow of the Council of Canadians highlighted how public educational institutions are at greater risk of commodification in new plans for deeper integration with the United States particularly with respect to increasing privatisation of Canadian universities, higher fees and less public accountability.

International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group

Formed in 2002, the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (ICLMG) serves as a means for activist, faith-based, civil liberties, and humanitarian organisations to exchange information about the impact of Canadian security legislation and to collectively respond. The Group has 32 members including the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Canadian Bar Association, and Amnesty International.

The Group issues statements, writes letters, and engages in media relations on issues of common concern to members. In April 2004, the Federation joined the ICLMG. As discussed in the Campaigns and Government Relations chapter, the ICLMG has been an invaluable resource for research about the implications of the *U.S. Patriot Act* and Canada Student Loans.

At its October general assembly, coalition members received an update on the Group's current activities. In addition to keeping abreast of various cases of civil liberties violations both in Canada and abroad, the ICLMG is in the process of developing a position paper for an emerging international campaign *Stop Global Registration and Surveillance*.

The Group is also developing a strategy for the mandatory parliamentary review of the *Anti-Terrorism Act*. In the past, the ICLMG has argued that the *Act* was far too broad in the powers it bestowed upon the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The various privacy abuses occurring since the *Act's* adoption are evidence of its flaws. In fact, the legislation is so badly flawed, that the assembly resolved that the Group call for the *Act* to be repealed entirely and re-written.

Canadians for Equal Marriage

Canadians for Equal Marriage is a coalition of student groups, social justice organisations, labour unions, and religious organisations formed to support the right of same-sex couples to marry. To-date,

seven provincial and territorial jurisdictions have ruled that the exclusion of same-sex couples from marrying is unconstitutional: British Columbia, Yukon Territory, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, and Nova Scotia.

On Thursday June 10, the first anniversary of the Ontario Court of Appeal's decision to legalise same-sex marriage in the Province of Ontario, the Federation attended an event organised by Canadians for Equal Marriage that celebrated the provisions in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms that protect individuals against discrimination based on sexual orientation. The event was also organised to focus attention on candidates in the federal election who opposed equal access to marriage and encourage voters to support those candidates who were committed to upholding the courts' decisions.

Canadians for Equal Marriage has launched a campus awareness campaign, for which it has produced advertisements for student newspapers and distributed posters.

World March of Women

The World March of Women originated in 1995 to promote equality between women and men. The Federation has participated in the Canadian Committee of the World March of Women since 2000. In 2000, the events organised by the World March of Women focussed on the elimination of poverty and violence against women and included participants in 163 countries.

The 2005 World March of Women will feature a world relay for the Global Women's Charter for Humanity. The Charter, which outlines five principles – equality, freedom, solidarity, peace, and justice, will travel throughout five countries. The Charter will travel through Canada from May 1-9, 2005.

From September 18-20, the Federation attended a working group meeting co-ordinated by the Canadian World March of Women (CWMW) Committee and the Canadian Women's Studies Journal. The purpose

WORKING TOGETHER

Solidarity

of the meeting was to identify the significant policy issues affecting women. It was resolved to undertake a national campaign to emphasise the consequences of women's poverty and illustrate the societal benefits of a guaranteed annual income.

The CWMW Committee has met several times by teleconference since its meeting in September to discuss the World March events planned for 2005. International events will start on March 8 (International Women's Day) and run through to October 17. Although organising in Québec is well underway, active organising for the events in other provinces has just recently begun. One of the obstacles facing the Committee is the lack of funds with which to coordinate the campaign.

The organising committee is in the process of publicising the Global Women's Charter initiative by raising awareness about the Charter and how it can be used in conjunction with other campaigns. The committee is also planning activities across Canada to coincide with the arrival of the Charter.

Solidarity Network

The Solidarity Network consists of over fifty organisations and has its roots in the 1987 movement opposing the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States. The Network has evolved into a forum for action in which social justice groups, labour organisations, and territorial and provincial coalitions devise common strategies and coordinate support for campaigns organised by Network members. Over the years, the Solidarity Network has organised Solidarity Assemblies designed to connect individuals and organisations that have common goals. The Federation is a long-standing member of the Solidarity Network and a member of the Executive Committee.

On June 30, 2004, the Federation attended a Network membership meeting. Member organisations shared election campaign experiences and discussed strategies for lobbying the federal minority government. Significant concern was

expressed regarding government infringement on workers' and students' rights to organise. A committee was struck to establish a framework through which member organisations would be better able to address these issues. The Federation will be represented on this committee.

The Federation attended a membership meeting on September 17 and the primary topic of discussion was the financial position of the organisation. The Network relies on financial contributions from Network member organisations; however, in the last few years, some of its major contributors have ceased providing funds. As a result, the organisation has been fighting to survive.

The Network had intended to hold a solidarity assembly in December 2004 that would involve organisations and individuals from across the country; however, due to the Network's current financial difficulties, the Executive Committee decided to cancel the Solidarity Assembly and, instead hold a meeting on December 11 involving members of the Network and participants at previous assemblies to determine the future direction of the organisation.

Some of the options that will be considered at this meeting include: continuing to organise solidarity assemblies without maintaining a full-time staff complement and an office, facilitating Canadian input to, participation in, and feedback from the World Social Forum, adapting the mandate to engage in more political action, or winding up the Network at the end of December or in January.

National Anti-Poverty Organisation

The National Anti-Poverty Organisation (NAPO) is a non-profit, non-partisan organisation that represents the interests of low-income people in Canada. NAPO addresses a range of issues, including social assistance, social housing, unemployment, and human rights.

On September 29, the Federation attended a meeting organised by NAPO to discuss an initiative

to study youth poverty. The project is a response to Canada's growing youth poverty rate. NAPO invited the Federation, the Canadian Labour Congress, National Children's Alliance, and the Canadian Council on Social Development to form an advisory committee for the initiative. The meeting discussed the many factors that contribute to youth poverty such as insufficient minimum wages, unjust unemployment insurance policies and the increasing cost of post-secondary education.

NAPO has committed two volunteers to the project as well as a portion of staff time until it is financially feasible to hire a project staff member. In addition, the committee approved a proposal to seek sponsorship for the project and will be meeting in the coming months to provide a progress update and to discuss specifics relating to the implementation of the project.

National Educational Association of Disabled Students

The National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) encourages the self-empowerment of post-secondary students with disabilities. NEADS advocates for increased accessibility so that students with all types of disabilities have equal access to Canadian colleges and universities. The Association also provides information on services and programmes for students with disabilities and conducts research on disability issues.

The Federation was invited to participate in the NEADS Board of Directors meeting on June 13 and was asked to assist the Association with its campaign to examine the level of accessibility of extracurricular activities for students with disabilities at post-secondary institutions. The objective of the project is to develop training sessions to help campus programmers make their activities more inclusive. The Federation has agreed to assist with the distribution of the surveys and collection of information.

The Federation attended the annual NEADS conference from November 12-14. The conference

was attended by students from across the country and addressed a variety of topics including access to academic materials and the possibility of filing human rights complaints where accessibility requirements are not being fulfilled. Members of the Board of Directors expressed appreciation for the Federation's assistance in the campaign, specifically noting that a number of member locals had been very helpful in collecting the survey material.



Communications

Sharing information is key to our success as local students' union directors and as a Federation. The Students' Union Directory enables member locals to communicate with each other and the Federation's new website provides detailed information on current issues and Federation programmes and campaigns.

WORKING TOGETHER

Communications

2004-2005 Students' Union Directory

Each year since 1981, the Federation has published the Canadian Students' Union Directory. The Directory, which in its current format contains contact information for more than 280 students' unions, their affiliated campus organisations, and campus media outlets across Canada, serves as a resource for students' unions and their affiliated organisations.

Publication Timeline

For the past few years, the National Executive has worked to ensure that information from individual students' unions was collected in a timely manner. Nevertheless, publication deadlines have often been missed and the Directory has arrived on campus later than anticipated. Although some improvement has been achieved in this area, in part

because information is being solicited from students' unions earlier in the year, difficulties persist. This past year, directory information surveys were sent to students' unions in March to coincide with most local elections; however, a majority of the completed

surveys were not received until after the deadline, delaying the printing of the 2004-2005 Directory until late August.

Enhancements

As reported at the May general meeting, the National Executive resolved to include a section

with contact information for teaching assistants' unions and campus food banks at each institution. In addition, contact information for campus foot patrols was solicited for the 2004-2005 Directory. Because little information was submitted about campus food banks, it was decided to exclude this section from the 2004-2005 Directory; however, the National Executive intends to seek this information for future editions.

Production Costs & Sales

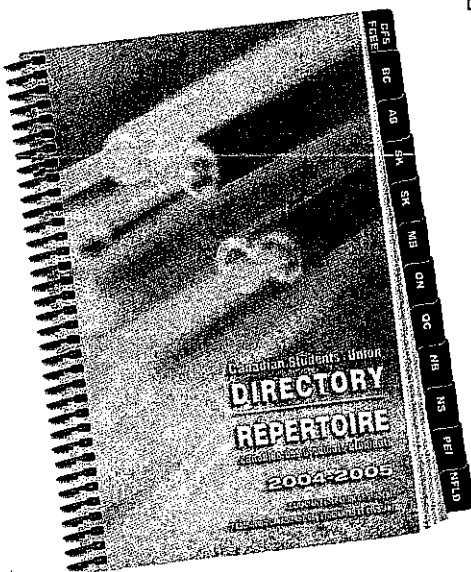
Increased survey responses and more students' union listings in the Directory has resulted in additional pages, and thus higher printing costs. In its current format, the Directory has become considerably more expensive to publish. In the coming months, the National Executive will consider options for altering the Directory format to reduce the number of pages for the 2005-2006 edition.

For the 2003-2004 year, the National Executive amended the price structure to encourage member locals to purchase multiple copies of the publication. Sales to member students' unions this year have dropped significantly, from 332 in 2003-2004 to 298, while sales to non-members remained virtually unchanged. The price structure remained the same for this year.

Website

The Federation continues to evolve and expand its use of websites to distribute information about its services, research, and campaigns. Research papers, fact sheets, and campaign materials can be downloaded directly from the site and all of the Federation's services have a separate page where visitors can learn how to take advantage of a specific programme, or read about the history of the programme. Some campaigns, like the Federation's No Means No campaign, have their own distinct website.

In June, the Federation launched a federal election component to the existing VoteEducation.ca site



(see Campaigns and Government Relations chapter). Traffic to the website increased by over 30 percent during the course of the election.

More recently, the Federation has created a distinct page so students can connect to the Studentphonestore.ca site. The new site will better “brand” the cellular phone discounts as a Federation service.

In October, the Ontario Component launched ReviewRae.ca, a response to the review of Ontario's post-secondary education system headed by former Premier Bob Rae. Research and campaign materials relevant to the review are available on the site. ReviewRae.ca is currently one of the most popular domains within the national site.

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes



Programmes

From the International Student Identity Card to Homes4Students to the National Student Health Network, the Canadian Federation of Students operates programmes to save members time and money and to improve their daily lives.

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

Discount Programme

The International Student Identity Card is the only internationally recognised and accepted form of student identification. The Card is produced and distributed by the International Student Travel Confederation (ISTC) and endorsed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). (The UNESCO logo appears on the face of the Card.) Since the late 1960s, the Federation and its predecessor organisations have served as the Canadian agent for the Card.

The agent in each country sets the price for the card, which is subject to ISTC approval. The Federation currently charges \$16.00 for the Card, a price that has remained unchanged for close to a decade. For individual Federation members, the Federation covers the cost of the cards. Roughly one-third of the pre-tax fee paid for the Card is paid to the International Student Travel Confederation.

At the most recent meeting of the ISTC, the members discussed various ways of integrating the card with other programmes and services. This is, in part, a recognition by the members of the ISTC of the need for the programmes to expand and adapt in order to provide a wider range of benefits to cardholders. The Federation is examining the feasibility of incorporating some of the ISIC initiatives undertaken in other countries. (For more information on the possible changes to the ISIC, please see the International Student Identity Card discussion paper.)

While the Federation continues to lobby the other ISTC members to remove the provision that maintains that ISIC is only available to full-time

students, there is little support for making the card available to part-time students. Consequently, the Federation continues to also produce and distribute the Studentsaver Card. The Studentsaver allows part-time students access to most of the discounts available with the ISIC.

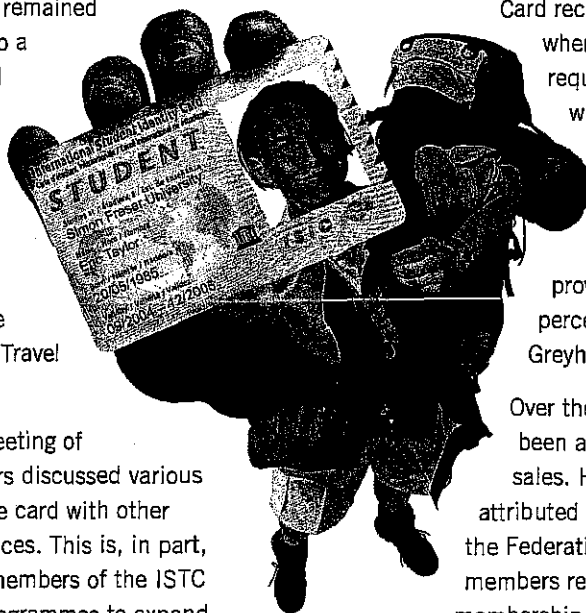
International Student Identity Card Distribution

The number of International Student Identity Cards issued each year has grown dramatically over the last eleven years. Prior to 1993, roughly 15,000 ISICs were issued each year in Canada. In 1993, student discounts requiring the ISIC as proof of student status were secured on major domestic air travel routes. This resulted in an immediate and substantial increase in ISIC sales. Demand for the

Card received another boost in 1997 when a major student discount requiring the ISIC was secured with VIA Rail. In 1998, a limited discount was secured with Greyhound Bus Lines of Canada. In 1999 that discount was expanded to provide ISIC holders with a 25 percent discount on all domestic Greyhound tickets.

Over the past two years there has been a noticeable decrease in ISIC sales. However, the decrease can be attributed almost entirely to the growth of the Federation's membership. Federation members receive the ISIC as a benefit of membership. As the Federation continues to grow, more students will receive the ISIC at no additional cost and, therefore, sales are likely to continue falling. A very small portion of the decrease can be attributed to the decline in Travel CUTS's sales of flights.

It is worth noting that while the primary benefit associated with the ISIC is the travel-related discounts, the cellular telephone discounts available through Studentphonestore.com are beginning to create demand for the ISIC. At



WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

some campuses where the phone discounts have a high profile, members are now getting the Card specifically for the deals available at Studentphonestore.com, rather than for the travel-related discounts.

ISIC Issuing

Currently 53 students' unions serve as ISIC issuing offices, using label printers supplied by the Federation. Maintaining 53 printers, in proper working order in offices across the country, continues to be an operational challenge, especially with the frequency with which students' union directors and employees turn over.

The biggest challenge has been making sure that there is someone at each issuing office who is trained to properly care for the printers, including changing ink ribbons, replacing rolls of ribbon, and general troubleshooting. The National Executive has discussed the need for member local representatives or provincial executives to be trained in the basic maintenance of the label printers so they can act as the local "point person" for this work. With each printer costing approximately \$700.00, the Federation cannot afford for printers to be rendered useless because of simple mistakes.

As previously reported, the second reason for the current printer shortage has to do with 16 additional printers, purchased in the summer of 2002, that were not configured to read the ISIC data labels. Efforts to develop software to solve this problem are ongoing.

The web-based issuing software has been operational for just over a year, and nearly all issuing offices have completed the switch to on-line issuing. Efforts to get the remaining issuing offices switched to the new system are ongoing and will hopefully be completed by the end of this year.

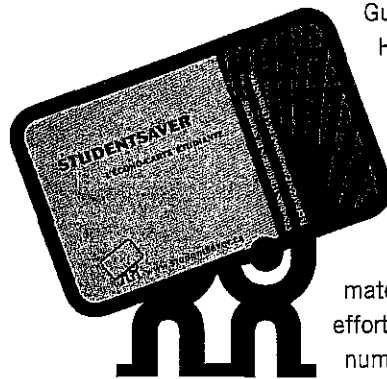
Discount Solicitation

The core of the domestic discount programme continues to be local discounts. Local discounts encourage support of community-based businesses and in turn allow those businesses to support students at local institutions. A total of 3,140 discounts have been secured this year, of which approximately 1,900 were renewals.

In the majority of cities in which Federation member locals are located, there were a respectable number of discounts secured prior to the publication

deadline for the 2004-2005 Discount

Guidebook. Two notable exceptions were Halifax and Saskatoon. In both cities, only a few discounts were secured prior to the print deadline and, therefore, it did not make sense to print and distribute the Discount Guidebook to Federation members in those cities. Instead, alternative materials were produced after subsequent efforts in both cities yielded a respectable number of discounts. The discounts were compiled on fold-out cards with the Studentsaver Card image on the front.



The National Executive has identified that offering a comprehensive range of discounts of high quality is necessary for the service to be of great benefit to Federation members. To achieve this goal it is necessary that the Federation maintain the high quality discounts that have already been secured, while continuing to secure additional discounts that benefit students.

One of the ways in which this goal can be achieved is by streamlining the renewals process. Currently, a substantial amount of time is spent by local discount solicitors securing renewals—a task that could be centralised out of provincial offices. This would increase the amount of time discount solicitors could spend on seeking and securing new discounts. It would also allow for the renewals processes to begin at an earlier date, resulting in a better picture of the

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

state of discounts in a given community as the print deadline for the Guidebook approaches.

Simplifying the application process for businesses that would like to offer discounts is another way to increase participation in the programme. The National Executive has discussed creating multiple listing contracts that would allow businesses to list all of their outlets without having to complete multiple forms. As well, the feasibility of creating a section on the Studentsaver website in which businesses could sign-up to offer discounts is currently being explored. This would enable businesses to sign-up for the programme year round and renew existing discounts with increased ease.

Discount Guidebook

Since 1999, the Federation has been producing a publication containing listings of the discounts in communities across the country. The total number of Guidebooks produced for the 2004-2005 year was 380,000: 285,000 with the Studentsaver card affixed to the cover; and 95,000 with the ISIC cover, primarily for distribution through Travel CUTS and some VIA Rail outlets. The total number of Guidebooks produced decreased by 20,000 from the year previous, due in large part to the alternate formats used in Halifax and Saskatoon.

While the Studentsaver cards and Discount Guidebooks were due to arrive on campus no later than the third week of August, delays at various stages of production resulted in materials arriving between two and three weeks late. This resulted in a number of locals being unable to insert the cards into handbooks and orientation kits, as these had already been distributed when the cards arrived. In addition, the Federation incurred increased costs expediting the shipping of the cards. The total cost of the shipping of the cards has yet to be determined as the Federation expects the printer to assume a portion of the increase.

Programme Awareness

Local promotion of the discount programme continues to be the most effective way of improving

its general awareness and growth. While a number of member locals do excellent work promoting the programme, the National Executive continues to discuss ways to improve the promotion.

The National Executive has discussed the possibility of integrating the Studentsaver card into the common handbook for interested locals. Until this time, the printer used by the Federation has lacked the necessary equipment to affix the cards in the handbooks, a problem that has since been resolved.

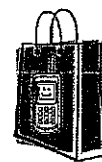
Ideally there would be a very small section with all of the discounts for the particular city or province with the card affixed to the front of the section. Besides reducing costs, the profile of available discounts, and the programme itself, would likely increase. While the Federation would continue to produce a Guidebook, this would allow the Federation to reduce the number of Guidebooks produced by at least half. The National Executive will discuss the idea in more detail at its meeting in January.

Studentphonestore.com

INTRODUCTION

For the past two years the Federation has been working with Studentphonestore.com to negotiate reduced student rates for cellular telephones and cellular service. The collective purchasing potential of the combined Federation membership has attracted the interest of several cellular service providers. To-date, a 33 percent discount off most monthly plans has been secured with Fido Networks, and all Fido plans offered come with a free MP3 or DVD player. As Fido continues to improve the discounts it offers, both Bell Mobility and Rogers AT&T have improved their discounts for students in an effort to remain competitive.

On November 8, 2004, Rogers Wireless announced its acquisition of Microcell Telecommunications, which operates under the name of Fido. This development caused some initial concern that



WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

Fido would no longer provide competitive discounts when owned by Rogers. However, it appears that Rogers will keep Microcell separate and maintain Fido discounts that had been previously secured. It is hoped that as Rogers becomes familiar with Fido's sales levels through Studentphonestore.com, that it will offer similar discounts.

In general, the response to the discounts has varied considerably from campus to campus, depending on the availability of Fido coverage and the amount of effort put into promotion. Promotional tables set up at campuses in early September, that offered additional free accessories for a limited time, combined with the already discounted plans, generated increased interest in the programme. Corresponding to these promotional efforts, participation in the programme by Local 24 members continues to be higher than any other students' union. This is largely due to the fact that the Local has made the programme directly available to its members by establishing itself as a retail outlet for Studentphonestore.com, selling the discounted phones and plans at its office. The National Executive is eager to establish other member locals as retail outlets for the phones and service.

Securing discounts with regional carriers has proven difficult where only the regional carrier provides a broad level of coverage. The market penetration enjoyed by Aliant in many parts of Atlantic Canada, and SaskTel in Saskatchewan means that these providers have little reason to offer discounts.

Exclusivity arrangements between cellular networks and some campuses also continue to pose a significant barrier to securing discounts. For example, in British Columbia Telus has negotiated exclusivity deals under which Telus pays a fee to the institution, and in some cases the students' union, for the exclusive right to advertise on campus.

The increasing quality of discounts being provided by the participating networks is a direct result of the ability to negotiate with every provider. This approach has the additional benefit of providing greater choice of carriers for Federation members; however, when service providers are permitted to purchase monopoly

rights at a campus, the incentive to offer competitive discounts is neutralised and the ability to secure cost savings for students is undermined. While a students' union may receive an exclusivity fee, its members will collectively pay far more to the carrier, in terms of lost savings, than the amount of the fee paid for exclusivity.

STUDENTPHONESTORE AND THE ISIC

A number of the discounts available through Studentphonestore.com require the applicant to be an ISIC holder, and applicants are required to submit their ISIC number for verification purposes when purchasing a telephone and plan on-line. The switch to the web-based issuing software for the ISIC was necessary in order to provide the Federation with immediate access to a database of ISIC holders so that card numbers could be verified. Several times each day the national office enters a secure section of the Studentphonestore.com site to get a list of new applicants whose ISIC numbers require verification. Since the implementation of the new system, only two applications have been found to be invalid.

While the vast majority of ISIC offices have switched to the web-based ISIC issuing system some offices continue to use the old CardMaster software to issue cards. When a card is not in the online database, a manual search of paper records in the national office is necessary to verify the ISIC number, and in cases where the paper records have yet to be returned, the local must be contacted to verify the ISIC number. The National Executive has discussed the option of designing a programme that would allow the data from CardMaster to be exported and merged directly into the database. Preliminary research on the development of such a programme has commenced.

PREPAID LONG DISTANCE

Since the previous national general meeting, Studentphonestore.com and the Federation have begun development of a discounted pre-paid long distance card for students. Pre-paid long distance cards are an affordable way to call long distance and are often used by students, particularly international

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

students, to reduce the cost of calling long distance. It is also a product that is commonly sold through students' union retail outlets. However, a number of the cards currently in the market contain hidden fees or charges. Worse still, there have been instances in which the company that produces the card goes bankrupt, leaving students and students' unions with pre-paid cards that are worthless.

The proposed card would offer a reduced rate from those currently offered in the market. In addition this card would utilise a system that looks similar to an Interact terminal and printer, whereby the card is printed when it is purchased. Locals would still be able to sell established card brands as well as the reduced rate card without having to carry any inventory.

Several member locals who already sell pre-paid long-distance cards, primarily in Ontario, have been approached to participate in a trial run of the programme.

homes4students.ca

Introduction

In March 2003, the Federation launched a national web-based student-housing database, homes4students.ca. The website was designed to allow students the opportunity to search and compare affordable and suitable accommodation, find roommates, or sublet their existing accommodation. As reported at the previous general meeting the Federation is working with Ecom Media Group (EMG) which is providing technical support for the site and rental listings with the Federation.

On June 17, the initial version of the new homes4students.ca site, integrated with the EMG software and listing network, was launched. The site combines the listings from the original site as well as the listings from EMG's partner landlord organisations. This partnership has improved the number of listings on the site as well as the interface and options available to students.



Site Traffic

The popularity of the homes4students.ca site continues to grow. Between July 17 and September 30 the site received 1,416,379 requests, an increase of almost 100 percent over the same time period last year.

Promotion

MATERIAL PRODUCTION

Over the summer, the Federation worked with a design firm that the organisation has employed in the past, to create new promotional materials for homes4students.ca. Posters and postcards were produced, one targeting students and the other landlords. Unfortunately, due to an error at the printers, the materials were shipped later than anticipated. However, despite that delay, a number of member locals have indicated that the materials have been effective in promoting awareness about the service. In addition, for the second consecutive year homes4students.ca advertisements were featured prominently in both the common handbook and the Studentsaver Guidebook.

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY HOUSING OFFICERS - INTERNATIONAL

The Federation and EMG attended the student housing conference and tradeshow of the Association of College and University Housing Officers - International on June 19 and 20 in Montréal. The conference was an opportunity to showcase the Federation's site and develop contacts with off-campus housing offices.

PROMOTION TO LANDLORDS

EMG recently hired an employee whose sole responsibility is to market homes4students.ca to property owners in Canada. To-date, this individual has focussed almost exclusively on those communities where member locals have an established local interface in order to develop a stable user base before expanding into less developed regions.

Technological Expansion

EMG's software allows for homes4students.ca to be integrated into students' unions' websites. The software that supports the website and web interface can be customised for a member local and localised to the community in which it is situated. Students' union branding with logo and other specifications can be incorporated into the localised site. This enables students' unions to showcase homes4students.ca as a service of the local.

To-date, the following member local unions have implemented the integrated local design:

- Local 01 Carleton University Students' Association
- Local 07 Student Union of the Nova Scotia School of Art and Design
- Local 35 Memorial University of Newfoundland Student's Union
- Local 44 University of Victoria Students' Society
- Local 70 University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association
- Local 78 Carleton University Graduate Students' Association
- Local 95 University College of Cape Breton Students' Union
- Local 98 University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council
- Local 101 University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association

Bilingual Site

EMG is in the process of updating the database software to allow for a fully bilingual site. However, the translation of the site poses some technical challenges. In order to be a fully bilingual site, the entire database has to be rewritten. The goal is to translate the sections of the website not directly connected to the database, while the database is being upgraded and recoded to work with translation into French.

In the meantime, EMG is preparing the interface of the site for translation.

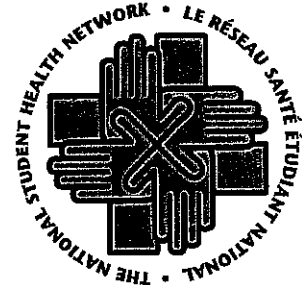
National Student Health Network

Introduction

After years of dealing with health and dental plans that were overly expensive and failed to cover many of the drugs and services commonly used by students, Federation members created the National Student Health Network, a buying consortium for health and dental insurance. The Network was formed with the goal of using the collective expertise and combined buying size created by working together to secure lower rates and better coverage for all members.

From the Network's inception it was important to members that the role of insurance professionals such as agents and carriers should be kept to a minimum so that students' unions could maintain control of their health and dental plans. Additionally, it was believed that administrative costs could be reduced if the Network assumed some of the administrative work for which insurance brokers had been charging. However, the Network could not completely replace the role of a broker because, by law, certain tasks require the services of a licensed insurance professional.

The Network has contracted these services to Heath-Lambert Benefits Consulting and Green Shield Canada. Since 1996, the Network has retained the services of Heath-Lambert to negotiate with carriers and analyse claims data. Although members of the Network are free to pursue coverage from any of the country's insurance carriers, almost all Network members have selected Green Shield Canada as their carrier. Green Shield is the only national not-for-profit insurance carrier in Canada and as such is able to offer the lowest rates for student plans in the country. The Federation has negotiated an exclusivity agreement with Green Shield. While Green Shield provides plans to some students' unions who are not members of the Network, these students' unions do



WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

not enjoy the greatly reduced administrative costs provided to Network members by Green Shield.

Network Services

HEALTH PLAN "AUDITING"

Over the past few years the Network has provided, as a service to students' unions, assessments of plans that are negotiated by other brokers. The Network began offering these assessments to address members' concerns that they were being overcharged for their health and dental plans. Through these assessments it has become increasingly evident that questionable practices, including charging students' unions administrative fees in excess of industry-standards, are widespread among student health and dental insurance brokers.

In order to determine whether the plan can be offered more affordably the Federation examines the administrative costs charged by the insurer, brokerage/agent fees, plan design, and local administrative costs. Upon completion of the audit, the students' union is presented with a quote from the Federation for a plan with coverage equal or superior to the students' union's existing plan. Although the students' union is not obliged to accept the quote, the quote does bind the Federation to offer the presented plan design at the quoted price.

Since the launch of the audit service, the Federation has conducted dozens of audits of students' union's health and dental plans. Often, the audits have shown that the students' union was being overcharged for its plan. Students' unions have responded to this information in a variety of ways. The majority chose to join the Network. However, some have chosen to retain a new broker who is not affiliated with the Network and others have used the information gained in the audit to negotiate a lower price with their existing broker.

In response to the success of the Federation's audit service in demonstrating how some prominent health and dental plan brokers overcharged students' unions, several for-profit brokers have

engaged in attacks on the credibility of the Federation's audits. These brokers claim that a conflict of interest exists when the Federation audits plans provided by for-profit brokers. To-date, no broker has provided evidence of this claim.

However, many for-profit brokers have taken steps to minimise the likelihood that they will be subjected to an audit. Some brokers have students' unions sign multi-year deals, in some cases as long as five years. Others have students' unions sign confidentiality agreements that prevent them from releasing the necessary information to have an audit conducted. In the latter case one such students' union was able to obtain the information directly from its insurer, bypassing the broker altogether.

INSURANCE FOR STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS

At the previous national general meeting it was reported that the Federation was attempting to develop an insurance plan that would cover student loan payments for a member who could not attend school due to illness or injury. Unfortunately, because there is no standard definition of "medical withdrawal" from courses, insurers are reluctant to offer this type of insurance at a fair premium level. The Network is continuing to work with Heath Lambert to develop a system through which claims can be adjudicated and, therefore, coverage can be provided affordably.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PLANS

In most provinces, international students are not eligible for basic medical coverage and must purchase the equivalent of provincial medical coverage through a private insurer. In Ontario, most international students participate in the University Health Insurance Programme (UHIP). UHIP provides coverage that is essentially identical to the coverage offered under the Ontario Health Insurance Programme. This summer the Federation, on behalf of Trent University, developed a comparable plan for international students. However, the premium for the Federation's plan is significantly lower than UHIP. If the plan is a success at Trent, the Federation intends to offer

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

it to campuses throughout Ontario. The Federation is also investigating the possibility of implementing similar programmes in the rest of the country.

Network Administration

OPT-OUTS

This year, the Federation tested a "real-time" web-based opt-out system at Local 18–Douglas Students' Union. The system, compatible with the Banner Registration software system, allows students to opt-out while registering for courses. The result was that most students who were eligible to opt-out of the health plan were never charged the fee. At Local 18, this reduced the amount of opt-out cheques issued from over three thousand to fewer than two hundred. In addition to being convenient for students, the software also reduced the administrative costs of the plan.

For the coming year, the software will be made available to Network members at colleges and universities employing the Banner Registration system. The Federation is also exploring the possibility of making the software compatible with other registration systems.

ANNUAL NETWORK MEETING

Every year, members of the Network hold a Network Meeting. The meeting is an opportunity to review the work of the National Student Health Network, examine technical changes and industry developments, develop new initiatives, and discuss ways of making health and dental plans more responsive to the needs of students.

This year, the meeting was held August 5-7 in Toronto. The meeting focused on the various funding mechanisms employed by the health and dental insurance industry.

RENEWALS

The Federation and Heath Lambert have proposed a reduction in the administrative charges applied by Green Shield to Network members. Although the charges are currently among the lowest in

the industry, the development of web-based adjudication of claims and opt-outs has reduced the administrative costs of Network members' plans. It is hoped that the reduction will result in Network members collectively saving approximately \$150,000 on their health and dental plans.

2004-2005 Handbook Project

The handbook project is entering its fourth year as a national service of the Federation after starting as a project of the BC Component in the late 1990s.

The handbook project was initiated primarily to reduce the cost of producing handbooks, particularly for small member locals. It was also viewed as a means of improving the overall content and design of the publications.

The volume of books produced allows for better quality paper, colour pages, and fewer advertisements, while achieving savings in writing and editing, design, printing and binding. These economies of scale have enabled some students' unions to eliminate local advertising from their handbook. Other locals have chosen to continue to maintain local advertising, thereby reducing their costs even further. This flexibility has proven to be a particularly attractive feature of the project.

Each handbook consists of a unique local section, a common provincial and national section, and common calendar and time management pages. Participating students' unions provide local content in text format that is then formatted by Federation provincial offices to be consistent with the overall design of the handbook.

This academic year 46 students' unions in nine provinces, including 44 member locals and two non-member unions participated in the project. 212,000 individual handbooks were produced, up from 154,000 in 2003-2004, when 40 students' unions participated in the project. In 2002-2003, 112,000 handbooks were produced for 26 students' unions.

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

All active British Columbia member local unions participated in the 2004-2005 project. In Ontario, Local 1-Carleton University Students' Association and Local 98-University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council joined the project. These locals, together with Local 26-Kwantlen Student Association, accounted for the majority of the increase in the quantity of books produced over the previous year. Forty-three versions were produced in English, two were produced in French and one version was bilingual.

Prior to 2004-2005, handbook pricing was based on a 48-page local section. In recognition that students' unions selecting 16 and 32 page local sections were reducing the cost to produce their books, it was decided that those savings would be passed directly on to those students' unions for 2004-2005. That practice will continue for 2005-2006. In addition, for 2005-2006, those locals producing more than 10,000 books will receive a volume discount.

In order to further reduce the cost of the project, a more aggressive effort was made to sell cover and divider advertising in the 2004-2005 handbook. Elections BC purchased the back page in all BC handbooks and Aliant purchased advertising in a number of handbooks in the Maritimes. Earlier deadlines for 2005-2006 handbook orders will provide the ad sales agency a longer time period in which to sell advertising. It is hoped that this will increase the volume and value of advertising sold. To that end, the deadline for renewals has been set for January 13, 2005.

Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP)

Overview

The Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP) is Canada's largest international work exchange programme. Each year, about 20,000 Canadian



students receive visas allowing them to work in other countries and the Canadian government issues a similar number of visas to students from abroad. Of the nearly 40,000 Canadian students on working holidays, approximately twenty-five percent participate through SWAP.

Traditionally, SWAP has focused on sending students to countries with strong economies that can absorb a large number of participants. While the Federation has continued to explore expansion of these programmes, it has increasingly focused on establishing new programmes in Central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia. The economic realities of these countries mean that the programmes will likely be quite small and volunteer-based.

SWAP Updates

AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK

The Federation has partnered with Visit Oz to place Canadian students on family farms in the Australian Outback. These placements will often be several hundred kilometers from the nearest community. Because of the remote location of many of these farms and the nature of work undertaken by the students, Visit Oz staff will closely monitor students throughout their stay in Australia.

GHANA VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

The Federation has secured visas for an unlimited number of young Canadians interested in volunteering in rural Ghana. Participants will receive a seven-day orientation in Accra through the Federation's partner, the Student and Youth Travel Organisation. Student and Youth Travel Organisation has established the placements as a home-stay with a Ghanaian family. During their time in Ghana students will engage in activities such as teaching in local schools and working on HIV-awareness projects.

SOUTH AFRICA VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

The Federation has, for several years, offered a working holiday programme for students interested

WORKING TOGETHER

Programmes

in a work placement in South Africa. However, the nature of the South African economy has generally limited such placements to Johannesburg.

Increasingly, SWAP South Africa participants have indicated a desire to explore other regions of the country. In response, the Federation has developed a volunteer programme that allows participants to assist in community development projects focused on the environment, education, social development, health or sports/tourism development.

Finally, the Federation and its partner, the South African Student Travel Service, are finalising a project on which students would work on a wildlife conservation reserve. After the project is complete, participants' visas will allow them to travel for an additional three weeks in South Africa.

New SWAP Destinations

BRAZIL INTERNSHIP

Intercambio STI of Bela Horizonte, Brazil is sending 15 Brazilian students to Toronto in December and has offered to secure placements for a small number of Canadian teaching interns in Brazil in 2005. Government permission had been finalised and research to identify possible internship placements is being conducted. It is expected that the internships will primarily involve teaching English as a second language.

CHILE

For the last several years, the Federation has hosted approximately thirty Chilean students, in the hopes of ultimately establishing a reciprocal programme for Canadian students. The Federation is currently negotiating with the Chilean Ministry of Education to allow up to fifty Canadian students per year to travel to Chile to work as English as a second language teaching assistants for the Ministry of Education.

SCANDINAVIA

The Canadian department of foreign affairs has been negotiating with the governments of Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway to establish a

series of "Youth Mobility" activities. Although a final agreement is not expected until 2006, the agreement will establish the framework required for the Federation to partner with Scandinavian organisations to establish programmes in each of the countries.

Other Issues

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WORK EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES (IAWEP)

In order to ensure that the organisations with which the Federation works are able to adequately monitor the needs of Canadian students, the Federation limits its partnerships to organisations that are members of the International Association for Educational Work Exchange Programmes (IAWEP). IAWEP is a division of the International Student Travel Confederation (ISTC) and the members of IAWEP undergo the same strict financial reviews as other members of the ISTC. These reviews minimise the likelihood of the Federation being owed substantial amounts of money by a bankrupt partner organisation.

The Federation's Student Work Abroad Programme Director, David Smith was re-elected as chair of IAWEP's Steering Committee. Smith has served as IAWEP Chairperson since it was founded in 1997. Smith also serves on the Steering Committee of the International Student Travel Confederation.

WORKING TOGETHER

Travel CUTS



Travel CUTS

With the downturn in world travel, rising fuel prices, and major airlines moving into web booking systems, the entire travel industry has suffered in the past three years.

Travel CUTS has responded with a new online ticket search that is so effective, Travel CUTS is guaranteeing that students won't find a lower ticket price anywhere else on the web. If they do, Travel CUTS will beat it.

WORKING TOGETHER

Travel CUTS

Canadian Universities Travel Service Board Composition

The current membership of the Travel CUTS Board is as follows:

Position	Member
At-Large Member	Jess Turk-Brown
At-Large Member (Board Chair)	Joey Hansen
National Executive Representative	Dave Hare
National Executive Representative	Angela Regnier
National Executive Representative	George Soule
Staff Representative	Robert Keddy
Staff Representative	Monica Miller
Travel CUTS President (non-voting)	J. Rodney Hurd

Financial Issues

2003-2004 Fiscal Year Results

In the 2003-2004 year, Travel CUTS sales were in excess of \$190 million, an \$11 million increase over the previous year and the highest sales level the company has achieved in three years. Unfortunately, the commissions paid by airlines to travel agents, such as Travel CUTS, continue to decline.

As a result, despite the increase in sales, the company's commission income actually declined by \$40,000. Further, declining cash flow reduced the company's interest income by approximately \$250,000. Finally, the company incurred an amortisation expense of approximately \$500,000 related to software developed to assist in the issuing of the now-discontinued Student Class Airfare on Air Canada.

All of these factors contributed to Travel CUTS incurring a loss of \$1,265,803 for the year. This loss caused the company's retained earnings to decrease from \$3,673,593 to \$2,407,790. However, the Federation's investment in the company, coupled with a strong Canadian dollar, resulted in the company's equity position declining by only \$200,000.

2004-2005 Fiscal-Year-to-Date

Travel CUTS' senior management has budgeted for a small profit in the current fiscal year. To-date, the company appears on-target to meet that goal. However, because the company is only one-third of the way through the fiscal year and derives most of its profit in the last six months of its fiscal year, this could change.

The company's senior management continues to monitor expenses closely to ensure that it returns to profitability in the current year.

Operational Issues

Update on Canadian Offices

In an effort to cut losses, Travel CUTS has closed three offices since the last general meeting. The company has closed its Union Street and Mount Royal offices in Montreal and its outlet at George Brown College in Toronto.

In addition, the company merged its two Clarence Street offices (located on the first and second floors of the same building) in Ottawa and two outlets in the UBC Village (again located in the same building) in Vancouver. The company has eliminated a stand-alone Adventure Travel Shop and merged its functions with the nearby Travel CUTS office on Granville Island in Vancouver. The newly merged Travel CUTS office continues to offer specialised adventure travel services and this new, combined Travel CUTS/Adventure Travel office model has proven quite successful.

WORKING TOGETHER

Travel CUTS

The company has opened a small office in the new student centre on the Scarborough campus of the University of Toronto.

Update on United States Operation

The company's United States offices are still struggling to achieve a break-even position. The cumulative loss of the United States operations is currently several million dollars and the struggles of the United States operations are starting to impact the viability of the company as a whole.

The company's senior management is guardedly optimistic that expanded academic group sales will improve the United States operation's financial performance. However, should the expenses continue to exceed its revenue, the Board will be forced to examine the continued feasibility of maintaining the United States operations.

Web Search Engine

For most of the 1990s, Travel CUTS experienced significant growth in both sales and profit. On several occasions, annual sales increased by as much as twenty-five percent and the company experienced annual double-digit growth in sales for the entire second half of the decade. Most of that growth was the result of a massive increase in sales of domestic airfares.

However in 2001 that growth, and a decade of profitability, came to a sudden halt. Although the decline in sales was originally a result of events occurring on September 11, 2001 in the United States, these incidents masked a change in the way students purchased domestic airfares. Students became more comfortable purchasing tickets for domestic flights on-line and did not consider it as necessary to visit a retail office. It became clear that for Travel CUTS to restore sales to previous levels it would need to develop the capability of selling flights on its website.

In summer 2002, the company began development of its web-sales engine and launched the web sales-engine on its site on October 8, 2003. Although it

did not engage in a formal, high-profile launch of the new site, the engine proved to be quite popular and generates sales levels comparable to the company's largest retail offices.

Unfortunately, the company has experienced several difficulties with its web search engine. When displaying fares, the CUTS website includes all applicable taxes and surcharges, while the advertisements of its competitors and the web sites of airlines display these fares prior to applying those charges. Because these fares often amount to fifty percent of the cost of the ticket, the fares on Travel CUTS' site can appear to be significantly more expensive than the advertised fares of its competitors. However, when the taxes and surcharges are applied to the competitor's fares, Travel CUTS is generally cheaper.

The site is also struggling to search for fares that are not included in the Travel CUTS fare database. When a customer buys a ticket from a Travel CUTS retail shop, the travel agent can search several other sources for the lowest available fare. While there is a function on the website that allows the company's search engine to engage in a similar task, it has proven far less effective than a search by a human agent. The company's technology department is continuing to develop the engine's search capacity.

Long Term Prognosis

While the last three years have been difficult for Travel CUTS, they were preceded by ten consecutive years of profit. The National Executive is guardedly optimistic that the steps that have been taken will ensure a sound financial future for Travel CUTS.



Internal Affairs

The success of the Federation's partnership of more than 75 students' unions with a combined membership of over 500,000, lies in the strength and inclusiveness of our democratic structures.

With two comprehensive annual national general meetings that each include constituency and caucus meeting time, no other national organisation of comparative size provides a similar level of member involvement in decision-making.

WORKING TOGETHER

Internal Affairs

National Executive

Current Composition

The National Executive is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Federation. The following are the current members of the Federation's National Executive:

POSITION	NAME
Aboriginal Students' Representative	Joel Koette
Alberta Representative	Jennifer Reid
British Columbia Representative	Scott Payne
Francophone Students' Representative	Mike Ouellet
Graduate Students' Representative	Tobias Whitfield
Manitoba Representative	Sarah Amyot
National Chairperson	George Soutle
National Deputy Chairperson	Angela Regnier
National Treasurer	Dave Hare
Newfoundland and Labrador Representative	Krista Park
Nova Scotia Representative	Danielle Sampson
Ontario Representative	Alex Dodger
Prince Edward Island Representative	Joy Elliott
Québec Representative	Lucia Bonova
Saskatchewan Representative	Leah Sharpe
Students of Colour Representative	vacant
Women's Representative	Shamini Selvaratnum

Students of Colour Representative Jermaine Smith, who was elected to the position in May, has resigned. A by-election will be held at this meeting to fill the position for the remainder of the 2004-2005 term.

2005-2006 Term

At this meeting, elections for the positions of the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson and National Treasurer for the 2005-2006 term will be conducted.

Federation Staffing

Prairies Organiser (Manitoba)

As reported at the previous meeting, Prairies Organiser Elizabeth Carlyle went on maternity leave in January. She has indicated that she will be ready to return to work on a full-time basis this coming January. In the meantime Elizabeth continues to assist the Manitoba Component on a part-time, volunteer basis.

Second Prairies Organiser (Saskatchewan and Alberta)

For the past several years the Federation relied on a single organiser, based in Winnipeg, to work with the Federation's member locals on the prairies. In the past three years, however, the Federation's membership has increased from zero to two member locals in Alberta and from one active member local to two in Saskatchewan, while maintaining a consistent membership base in Manitoba. In addition, the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union and the Manitoba Students' Union are becoming prospective members at this meeting.

The May 2003 national general meeting resolved that a second Prairies Organiser position, to work with member locals in Saskatchewan and Alberta, be created, freeing the other Prairies Organiser to work exclusively with locals in Manitoba. In early 2004, the position was advertised and applicants interviewed; however, the Hiring Committee could not agree on an applicant to hire.

In July, the position was advertised a second time. Interviews were conducted in late August and in early September Martha Robbins was hired for the position.

Martha is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in International Studies, and was Youth President of the National Farmers' Union for the past four years. In addition, Martha has experience working in government in Saskatchewan and with various social justice organisations.

Maritimes Organiser

As reported at the previous general meeting, Theresa Sabourin vacated the position of Maritimes Organiser in spring 2004. Efforts have been underway since that meeting to fill the vacancy. In August, the Federation advertised the position, but received very few applications in response to the posting. The Hiring Committee for the position conducted preliminary interviews in early September; however, it could not agree on a suitable candidate.

The National Executive considers filling this vacancy a staffing priority and plans to re-post the position next month. In the meantime, the National Executive has discussed the option of hiring a short-term, contract position in order to ensure that the Maritimes Office is staffed and that basic administrative work is undertaken in the interim.

Campaigns and Government Relations Coordinator

In late August, the Federation advertised a six-month contract seeking someone to assist with the coordination of the Federation's campaigns and government relations work. Interviews were conducted in September and former National Chairperson Ian Boyko was subsequently offered the position. Ian accepted the position and commenced work in early October.

Federation National Congresses

The Federation holds two national congresses each year, one in May and one in November. In addition,

the Federation's two national caucuses, the National Aboriginal Caucus and National Graduate Caucus, hold national meetings each February/March.

May 2005 National General Meeting

The spring 2005 national general meeting is currently scheduled to be held May 18-21, at Carleton University. Some consideration will be given to delaying the meeting one or two days due the British Columbia general election, already scheduled for May 17, 2005.

Winter 2005 Caucus General Meetings

The winter 2005 National Graduate Caucus general meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 17-19, 2005. The National Aboriginal Caucus general meeting is tentatively scheduled for two weeks later on March 3-5.

November 2005 National General Meeting

The fall 2005 national general meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 17-20. The National Executive will be finalising the dates at its next meeting in early January. This year's general meeting would have been the corresponding week, except that the lack of anticipated hotel availability, due to the Grey Cup football game, prompted the National Executive to move the meeting to this week when it scheduled the meeting a year ago.

Operational Partnerships

At the November 2003 national general meeting, delegates discussed a proposal from Local 5 that would guide the Federation's consideration of partnerships with external organisations or companies. The motion was referred to the National Executive for further consideration and research.

The National Executive has contacted a number of other national organisations to solicit similar policies or background information in order to develop a draft framework. During the course of the investigations however, it became clear that the majority of the organisations had no such policies.

WORKING TOGETHER

Internal Affairs

As reported in May, the Federation had approached the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) with an invitation to draft a joint policy that could be used as a model for both organisations and that the CAUT had expressed interest in working with the Federation on this initiative. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, work on the initiative has not yet commenced.

Office Organisation

Preparations for Relocation of National Office

Just over 19 months remain on the current lease for the Federation office in Ottawa. Under the terms of the lease, the Federation does not have the option to extend the current lease when it expires on June 30, 2006. All indications are that the current owner and primary tenant in the building, the Canadian Red Cross, desires to use the space for itself.

In 2000, the Federation established a capital fund for the possible purchase of office space upon the expiry of the lease. The balance in the fund at June 30, 2004 was \$900,000, an amount that should cover the majority of the purchase price on the space required by the Federation.

An initial investigation into options will commence in the next few months, with the goal of having space secured by late 2005.

Archive/Record Keeping

In anticipation of the relocation of the Federation's national office within the next two years, an extensive archival project was initiated in summer 2003. This archival project will serve two purposes: it will facilitate document retrieval on a day-to-day basis; and it will provide an opportunity to selectively cull the documents that the Federation has accumulated over the past 24 years. The National Executive expects to complete the archiving work within the next 12-months.

Trademarks and Copyrights

In 1998, the Federation commenced the process of protecting its services, research documents, publications and logos by registering them as trademarks and securing copyrights. The process for registering marks with the Registrar of Trademarks is a fairly lengthy and complex one; however, barring any opposition to the applications, it is anticipated that the process will conclude within the next six-months.

Technology Upgrades

Over the past two years, the Federation has made a significant technological upgrade in the national office. Last winter the Federation installed a Macintosh server. This alleviated many of the software conflicts and technical problems caused by the out-dated Novell server the office had been using previously. In order to protect the server and increase its longevity, the Federation has installed it in a 31.5" Deep Economy Hammond Rack storage system.

Until recently, the old Novell server continued to act as the national office's electronic-mail server, but it could not handle the volume of e-mails the national office sends and receives on a daily basis and, as a result, it crashed frequently. To solve the problem, e-mail services were relocated to an external provider. Web Networks, the company that currently hosts the national website, was been selected to serve as the provider. The process of switching to the external provider was completed in summer 2004.

Further, the Federation has begun to replace some of the older Macintosh G3 computers by upgrading to the Apple E-Mac's. This has enabled a re-organisation of the national office file sharing and back up systems.

Legal Affairs

In 1980, in an effort to unify the country's student movement, the two national student organisations

in Canada (outside of Québec), the National Union of Students (NUS) and the Association of Student Councils-Canada (ASCC), voted to amalgamate by creating a new, single organisation to replace themselves. It was agreed that the new organisation, the Canadian Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services, would initially operate in tandem with the pre-existing organisations, but that over time all activities, responsibilities, assets and liabilities would be transferred to the Federation, whereupon NUS and ASCC would be wound down. Among the assets and liabilities of the Association of Student Councils was its six-year old student travel agency, Canadian Universities Travel Service (Travel CUTS).

In fall 1997, sixteen years after the founding of the Federation, the University of Western Ontario University Students' Council, which had been a member of the ASCC, filed suit against the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, Travel CUTS and ASCC claiming that the transfer of Travel CUTS from the ASCC to the Canadian Federation of Students-Services had not been done properly.

In December 1998 and January of 1999, examinations for discovery, a process in which each party produces a representative to field questions from the other party, were conducted by both the Federation and the University Students' Council.

Following the examinations for discovery, the University Students' Council approached a number of students' unions about participating in the lawsuit. Although most students' unions declined the offer, one students' union, the University of Alberta Students' Union, joined the suit. In addition, two alma mater societies, the Queen's University Alma Mater Society and the University of British Columbia, also joined the lawsuit.

Examinations for discovery of the additional plaintiffs were conducted in fall 2001 and summer 2002. Trial preparation got under way in earnest in early spring 2003. The trial had been scheduled to commence in early September 2003, but was postponed shortly before its scheduled commencement when the plaintiffs' lawyer was

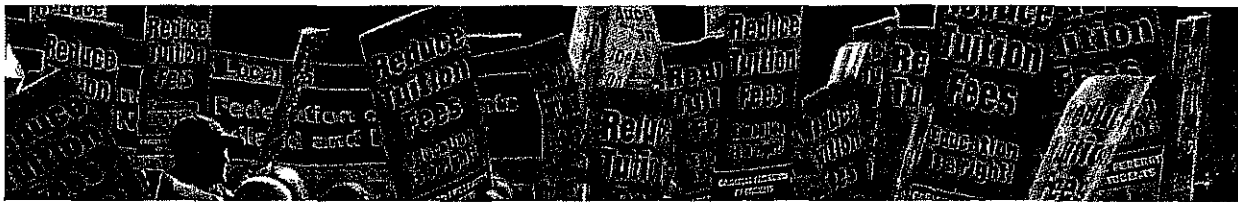
suddenly unavailable. As reported at the national general meetings in November 2003 and May 2004, the trial was re-scheduled to start earlier this month; however, in September the trial was been postponed a second time, once again due the plaintiffs' lawyer being unavailable.

Although the court in London, Ontario, where the trial will take place, agreed to plaintiffs' request for a delay, it has not yet scheduled new trial dates. With the agreement of the plaintiffs, the defendants' lawyers had requested that the trial commence in June 2005; unfortunately, the court could not accommodate a trial at that time. The National Executive is now hopeful the matter can go to trial in fall 2005 so that it will finally be settled no later than early 2006.

(For a more complete history of the suit, please see the subsection titled "Legal Fund" in the Federation Finances section of this report.)

WORKING TOGETHER

Membership Development



Membership Development

Since 1998, the members of 23 students' unions have joined the Federation. As a result, the Federation's membership is larger than it has ever been. As a Federation that anchors its organising and successes on "Strength in Numbers," our growing membership puts us closer to our goals.

WORKING TOGETHER

Membership Development

Membership Stability and Growth

The Federation continues to experience the strongest period of membership stability and growth in its twenty-three year history. As noted in the previous report of the National Executive, only two member locals have withdrawn from the Federation since 1996 and one of those, the Grenfell College Student Union, rejoined the Federation eighteen months later. During the same period over 20 students' unions have joined the Federation for the first time, rejoined or reactivated their memberships.

New Prospective Members

Trent University Graduate Students' Association

In July, the Federation received an application for prospective membership from the Trent University Graduate Students' Association. The application was accepted at the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario provincial general meeting in August, allowing the Association to participate fully at that meeting and in the Federation in the months since then.

Nevertheless a motion to ratify the Association's membership nationally is required at this general meeting. Therefore, in accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive, having reviewed the application, is recommending that the application for prospective membership be accepted.

Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students

Most graduate students at Dalhousie University belong to two students' unions: the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students, composed exclusively of graduate students; and the Dalhousie Student Union, composed of all graduate and undergraduate students at the university. While the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students is a separately incorporated organisation with its own board of directors, it has to rely on the Dalhousie Student Union to collect its membership fees because of provincial legislation that recognises

only the Dalhousie Student Union as having the right to collect student union dues at the University.

In a referendum conducted earlier this fall, the graduate students at Dalhousie voted overwhelmingly to transform the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students into a completely independent union, consisting of all graduate students, which would have the right to collect membership dues independent of the Dalhousie Student Union. Under the proposed restructuring, graduate students would cease to be members of the Dalhousie Student Union. The Association hopes to get the legislation amended in the near future to allow the Association to collect its membership dues directly from its members.

In addition to working on establishing the autonomy of the Association, the Association is working to formalise relations with other students' unions across Canada. In October, the Association's Council voted to apply for prospective membership in the Federation.

In accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive has reviewed the application and is recommending that the application for membership be accepted.

University of Saskatchewan Students' Union

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union was a founding member of the Federation, and participated actively in the organisation for more than a decade; however, in 1993, the Union's members voted to withdraw from the Federation.

For most of the past decade the Union has shown little interest in the work of the Federation. This year, though, communication between the Union and Federation member unions in Saskatchewan has increased significantly and currently the Union is working closely with Federation members organising for a provincial day of action against tuition fee increases. On November 4 this year, the Union's Council voted to apply for prospective membership in the Federation.

WORKING TOGETHER

Membership Development

In accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive has reviewed the application and is recommending that the application for membership be accepted.

University of Manitoba Students' Union

The University of Manitoba Students' Union was an active member of one of the Federation's two predecessor national organisations, the Association of Student Councils-Canada (ASCC), but never joined the Federation when ASCC merged with the National Union of Students (NUS) in 1981. In fact, the Union walked out of the fall 1980 ASCC annual general meeting in protest, immediately after the ASCC membership voted for the merger with NUS.

For the past twenty-four years the Union has remained outside of the Federation, even though the other four university students' unions in Manitoba belong to the Federation. However, in recent months the Union has been working more closely with Federation members in the province. On November 4, the Union's Council voted to apply for prospective membership.

In accordance with Bylaw 1.4-b, the National Executive has reviewed the application and is recommending that the application for membership be accepted.

Extension of Prospective Membership

At the May 2003 national general meeting, the Northern Lights College Students' Association was granted prospective membership. Due to internal difficulties, the Association was unable to hold a referendum on full membership during the 2003-2004 academic year. In May, the Association's prospective membership was extended for six-months. Unfortunately, the Association's internal difficulties have not been resolved and, consequently, a referendum on full membership has not yet been conducted.

The National Executive is recommending, in accordance with Bylaw 1-2-b-xii, that the Association's prospective membership be extended.

Other Membership Issues

Local 3-Okanagan University-College

Currently, the Federation has two member locals at Okanagan University-College: Okanagan University-College Students' Union-Kelowna and Penticton Campus Students' Association. Local 3-Okanagan University-College Students' Union-Kelowna is composed of all of the students attending the two Kelowna campuses of Okanagan University-College. The Penticton Campus Students' Association is composed of all of the students at the Penticton Campus of the institution. In addition, there are two other campuses, in Vernon and Salmon Arm, each having its own separate students' union.

In January 2004, the BC Government announced that it would be dividing Okanagan University College, with the North Kelowna campus becoming a satellite campus of the University of British Columbia and the Penticton, Vernon, Salmon Arm and South Kelowna campuses remaining as campuses of the Okanagan University College (to be renamed Okanagan College).

Despite Local 3's efforts to stop it, the restructuring is proceeding, necessitating a division of Local 3's membership into two students' unions. The students at the North Kelowna Campus will remain as the members of the existing students' union in Kelowna, to be renamed as the UBC-Kelowna Students' Union and to remain as Local 3 within the Federation. At the same time the Bylaws of the existing Penticton Campus Students' Association are being expanded to include as members the students at all campuses of Okanagan College, including those at the South Kelowna Campus.

Students at the Penticton and Salmon Arm Campuses have already approved the change to the new unified structure, and it is expected that the students at the South Kelowna and Vernon

WORKING TOGETHER

Membership Development

Campuses will do so as well next semester. For purposes of participation in the Federation, the renamed Okanagan College Students' Union will be known as Local 53, the local number assigned to the Vernon campus association when it was a member of the Federation in the late 1980s.

Local 31- University of Prince Edward Island Students' Union

The University of Prince Edward Island Students' Union was a founding member of the Federation in 1981 and was an active member in the years since then. In fact, the University of Prince Edward Island Students' Union had a representative on the Federation's National Executive every year from 1981 until this year, a record unmatched by any other member local.

As reported in May, the National Executive was therefore quite surprised when in March of this year the Union wrote to the Federation requesting proof of the UPEI students' membership in the Federation. A package of information was compiled and sent to the Union; however, prior to its arrival the Union's Council apparently passed a motion in which it declared both that the Union was discontinuing its membership and that the Union had never actually joined the Federation.

Given that the students of UPEI had voted for full membership by referendum in 1984, a fact well documented in archived copies of the campus student newspaper, a referendum vote would be required to withdraw from the Federation. Although this was communicated to the Union's new president in May, she has publicly maintained the stance that UPEI students were never members of the Federation.

On September 1, the Union commenced selling International Student Identity Cards to UPEI students instead of issuing them free to students as a benefit of Federation membership. The Union was informed that it had no right to require payment for cards issued to Federation members, but the Union refused to discontinue the practice. Under the circumstances, the National Executive felt that it

had no choice but to remove the cards and card label printer that the Federation had supplied the Union. Both have been reassigned to the UPEI Graduate Students' Association.

At this point, the Union is not participating in Federation work. Nor is it registered for this general meeting. The National Executive has issued a letter to the Union reminding it of its contractual obligations to remit the Federation membership fees it collected this year.

Local 20-Nipissing University Student Union

The Nipissing University Student Union was a founding member of the Federation and has been a relatively active member for most of the past 23 years. Unfortunately, the Union's participation has declined in recent years and the Union has not sent a delegation to a Federation national general meeting for more than a year.

In late September the membership of Local 20 served notice of its intention to conduct a referendum on the question of continued membership in the Federation. The voting will take place on March 24-25, 2005, provided that all outstanding membership fees are remitted no less than six-weeks in advance of the meeting.

The National Executive plans to produce information for distribution at Nipissing explaining the importance of being members of a strong, national organisation.

Local 30-Laurentian University Students' General Association

As with Nipissing University Student Union, participation by the Laurentian University Students' General Association has been inconsistent in recent years. At one time the Association would send a three- or four-person delegation to Federation general meetings, but in recent years the Association has had only one-person delegations.

In early October, the membership of Local 30 served notice of its intention to have a referendum on the question of continued membership in the

Federation. Apparently, the vote was initiated, in part, to demonstrate solidarity with the members at Local 20.

The voting is scheduled for April 11-12, 2005, provided that all outstanding membership fees are remitted no less than six weeks in advance of the meeting.

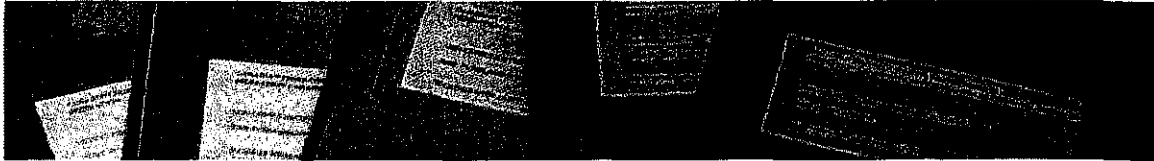
The National Executive intends to produce information for Local 30 members explaining the importance of being part of a strong, national organisation. It is not known whether the Union's Executive will support continued membership, oppose continued membership or be neutral during the campaign.

Outreach to Non-Members

The Federation's membership base remains strong in most provinces, with the exception of Alberta and New Brunswick. The National Executive is hopeful that some of the former locals from Alberta and New Brunswick, that left the Federation in the mid-1990s, will rejoin at some point, but none have done so to-date.

Since the previous meeting, the Federation has made presentations about the organisation to three former member locals: Fédération des étudiantes et étudiants du Centre universitaire de Moncton (Local 59); Association générale des étudiants et étudiantes de l'Université de Moncton campus d'Edmunston (Local 51); and, just last week, University of Lethbridge Students' Union (Local 10).

An observer from the Fédération des étudiantes et étudiants du Centre universitaire de Moncton and the Association générale des étudiants et étudiantes de l'Université de Moncton campus d'Edmunston will be present for the duration of this general meeting.



Finances

At each general meeting, member locals adopt or revise the Federation's annual budget. The National Executive must ensure that the mandated programmes and campaigns are carried out within the financial constraints set by that budget.

With net annual revenue of under three million dollars, six major national programmes to run and a wide variety of campaigns and government relations priorities, the National Executive works to ensure our Federation is an effective and efficient operation each and every year.

Overview

Membership fees remain the primary source of funding for the Federation. This past year membership fees exceeded the \$2 million mark for the first time in the Federation's history. Currently, membership fees constitute roughly two-thirds of total national revenue for the Federation.

Over the years membership fee revenue has been supplemented to varying degrees by revenue from Federation services, particularly its travel services. Starting in the mid-1990s, the Federation experienced a large increase in revenue earned from Travel CUTS. The increased returns followed several years of strong investment in the company. Between 1995 and 2000, revenue from Travel CUTS more than doubled. In the 2001 fiscal year (year ending June 30), revenue from Travel CUTS' operations exceeded \$1.15 million.

Unfortunately, the revenue from the 2001 fiscal year constituted a "high water mark" in terms of returns from Travel CUTS. Sales over the past three years have declined and, as a result, the annual investment in the company during this period has been only slightly less than the amount earned from the investment during the same period.

Fortunately, this period has coincided with a period of significant increases in membership and, with it, a corresponding increase in membership fee revenue. While it has not entirely offset the reductions in net revenue from the travel services, it has significantly lessened the impact.

On the spending side of the equation, the Federation continues to live within its means. This past year a modest surplus remained after the annual investment in Travel CUTS and the transfer of amounts to the various Federation designated funds.

Membership Fees

2003-2004 Fees

To-date, membership fees of \$2,084,857 has been collected for the 2003-2004 fiscal year, roughly \$90,000 more than was projected. The majority of the increase is due to the enrolment spike caused by the "double cohort" in Ontario. A small portion of 2003-2004 fees remain outstanding.

2004-2005 Fees

In May, the Federation budgeted \$2,087,100 in net membership fee revenue for 2004-2005. The revised budget increases the amount to \$2,175,539, based on last year's final actuals combined with some current year's actuals. Unfortunately, membership fees from Local 98, the Federation's biggest local, and Local 99 remain doubtful.

In fall 2002, the members of Local 97, the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto (APUS), Local 98, the University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council (UTSAC), and Local 99, Scarborough Campus Students' Union, University of Toronto (SCSU) voted in favour of joining the Federation; nevertheless, the University of Toronto administration refused to collect the fees for the 2003-2004 year.

One of the locals, Local 97, initiated legal action against the University to get the fee collected. After the court directed the University to put the matter to a vote of the University Affairs Board, the Board passed a motion in June directing that the Federation membership fee be collected. The National Executive is pleased to report that collection of the membership fees from Local 97 commenced this semester.

The vote by the University Affairs Board applied only to the Local 97 referendum, not referenda that the Locals 98 and 99 held. However, in light of the decision concerning the Local 97 referendum, indications are that the University's administration

may be open to revisiting the issue without Locals 98 and 99 having to pursue judicial rulings.

In the meantime, though, more than \$250,000 that should be coming to the Federation, to fund its external work and the services it provides its members at Local 98 and Local 99, is not.

Programme and Travel CUTS Revenue

Discount Programme Revenue

International Student Identity Card (ISIC) sales during the first quarter of the current year (July 1 to September 30, 2004) were roughly the same as they were during the same period in 2003. The revised budget does not project any significant change in the net income for the programme from the amount budgeted in May.

Revenue from Travel CUTS

For the 2003-2004 fiscal year, referral fee revenue was \$983,647, an increase of almost \$20,000 from last year, but down \$10,000 from the 2001-2002 fiscal year. Given the continuing volatility of the travel industry, the National Executive feels that the \$950,000 projection in the original budget remains a safe one.

Student Work Abroad Programme

The Student Work Abroad Programme (SWAP) is a Federation service that is administered by Travel CUTS. In the three years prior to 2002-2003, the Programme generated a total net surplus of just over \$260,000.

For the year ending June 30, 2003, the net revenue generated by SWAP had dropped to \$16,912. When this number was presented to the Federation's annual general meeting in November 2003, the membership sought to revise the projection for 2003-2004, to \$13,550. However, the SWAP seems to have rebounded finishing the 2003-2004 year with a surplus of \$24,983.

The National Executive is recommending no change to the current budget figure of \$20,300.

National Student Health Network

The National Student Health Network is intended to operate on a break-even basis. Though the programme inevitably generates small surpluses in some years and small losses in others, over time the programme is intended to be revenue neutral. For the year ending 2003-2004, the Network netted a significantly large surplus of \$90,436.86. The majority of the surplus is due to a staffing vacancy in one of the two Network employee positions. The vacancy was filled early in the current fiscal year. The budget projects a surplus of under \$10,000 for the year.

The National Executive has discussed the possibility of putting surpluses into a contingency fund that could be used in the event that a particular plan has an exceptional and unforeseen cost overrun.

Expenditures

The National Executive is proposing very few significant changes to the spending projections in the 2004-2005 budget adopted at the previous general meeting.

One change is in the area of bank and interest charges; an increase to \$12,000 is proposed. The previous year the Federation budgeted \$400, but spent \$10,067, after spending only \$222 in 2002-2003. Almost the entire increase resulted from charges relating to management of the Federation's investment portfolio created in spring 2003. It is important to note that the increase in expenses was more than offset by the revenue increase, from \$18,310 to \$58,752.

Fund Allocations

Capital Fund

In 1996, the Federation combined its Canadian Federation of Students' operations, based in Ottawa,

WORKING TOGETHER

Finances

and its Canadian Federation of Students-Services' operations, formerly based in Toronto, into joint office space in Ottawa. At the time, the new space was roughly equivalent in size to the combined office spaces that had housed the separate Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services operations.

Initially, the Federation paid \$90,000 per year under its original five-year lease signed in 1996. In 2001, the Federation exercised its renewal option on the space for an additional five years. Under the terms of the renewal, rates were adjusted to reflect market conditions at the time of renewal. Annual costs jumped to almost \$150,000 per year.

On June 30, 2006 the current lease expires. At that point the Federation will have spent close to \$1.2 million on rent over the course of the preceding decade with no equity to show for it. With this in mind the member locals voted in 1999 to create a capital fund for the possible purchase of office space when the current lease ends. Between 1999 and 2004, \$900,000 was transferred to the fund.

The National Executive is recommending that the proposed allocation to the Capital Fund for 2004-2005 be increased to \$100,000.

Legal Fund

In the 1970s there existed two national student organisations in Canada, outside of Québec: the National Union of Students (NUS) and the Association of Student Councils Canada (ASCC). The main role of the National Union of Students was to represent student issues and concerns to the federal government. The main role of the ASCC was to provide services, the primary one being low-cost student travel. The majority of the member associations belonging to each organisation belonged to both.

In the late 1970s the NUS and ASCC began the process of merging to form a new organisation, which would replace the existing structures and would provide both representation and services. This resulted in the establishment of the Canadian

Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services in 1981. The development plan called for NUS and ASCC to initially operate in tandem with the new organisation for the first few years, but eventually all activity of the old organisations would be transferred to the new structure. The activity of NUS was to be transferred to Canadian Federation of Students and the activity of ASCC was to be transferred to Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

By 1985 all of the activity of NUS had been transferred to Canadian Federation of Students and, thus, NUS was wound down. During the same period, most of the ASCC activity was transferred to Canadian Federation of Students-Services; however, Travel CUTS remained, technically, the property of the ASCC. In fall 1987, an ASCC meeting was convened for the purpose of formally approving the transfer the ownership of Travel CUTS to the Canadian Federation of Students-Services and the wind down of the ASCC.

The ASCC motion directed the ASCC Board to enact the transfer by June 30, 1988. The ASCC members did so because they were anxious to have the amalgamation process, first started in the late 1970s, completed as soon as possible. However, due to various unforeseen circumstances, the transfer was not actually completed until 1991.

The University of Western Ontario University Student Council (UWOU SC) and the University of Alberta Students' Union had both been members of the ASCC and, at various points in the 1980s, had been members of the Canadian Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services. Both had ceased to be members of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services by 1991. In 1997, the business managers of the two students' associations concocted the theory that Canadian Federation of Students-Services had improperly assumed ownership of Travel CUTS from ASCC. That fall the University of Western Ontario University Student Council filed suit against the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, Travel CUTS and ASCC seeking damages of \$100 million

dollars or, in lieu of that, reversal of the transfer of ownership. In 2000, the University of Alberta Students' Union and two alma mater societies joined UWOU SC in the suit.

Given the nature of the plaintiffs' claim and the amount of the damages sought, the National Executive and, indeed, the membership decided that the Federation had no choice but to mount a vigorous and thorough defense. In order to do so the Federation created a fund in 1999 to ensure that there would be sufficient resources for what is expected to be a long and expensive trial.

At this point, that fund sits at \$675,000. The National Executive is proposing that an additional \$125,000 in the 2004-2005 budget be allocated to the fund. The bulk of the fund will be used during the 2005-2006 fiscal year for what is expected to be a long and expensive trial, though some funds should remain to fund an appeal should it be necessary.

General Meeting Disabled Access Fund

At some national general meetings there may be several delegates with special needs. At other meetings there may be none. The cost of providing sign language interpretation for a hearing impaired delegate can exceed \$10,000 for a single general meeting. In the past, the dilemma for the Federation was whether to always budget for such an expense even though the need may exist at only one in ten meetings.

To allow for consistency in budgeting, the member locals established a General Meeting Disabled Access Fund in 2000. The Fund allows the Federation to allocate a consistent amount each year, rather than having costs covered from the operating budget fluctuating wildly from year to year.

The fund balance stands at \$45,000 and an additional \$5,000 is earmarked from this year's budgeted surplus.

Membership Fee Issues

Fee Adjustments for Consumer Price Index Change

When the Federation was founded in 1981, the national membership fee was set at \$2.00 per student per semester. In 1992, the Federation's member locals voted to increase the fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00. At the same time, a bylaw was adopted stipulating that, starting in 1996, the fee would be adjusted each academic year by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

The adjustment for inflation is calculated in mid-January when the previous year's Consumer Price Index (CPI) is announced by Statistics Canada. Notice of the change is sent to member locals immediately thereafter. The following table shows the adjustments that have been made to the national membership fee since the annual adjustments commenced in 1996, including the adjustment for the coming year:

Federation Fiscal Year	Adjusted Fee
1995-96	\$3.00
1996-97	\$3.06
1997-98	\$3.12
1998-99	\$3.16
1999-2000	\$3.20
2000-2001	\$3.28
2001-2002	\$3.38
2003-2003	\$3.42
2003-2004	\$3.50
2004-2005	\$3.60

As the table illustrates, the Federation's national membership fee was adjusted this year from \$3.50 to \$3.60 per student per semester.

Each year, the National Executive is faced with the challenge of trying to ensure that all member locals arrange with their respective institutions collection of the adjusted fee. In the first few years after the adoption of the CPI adjustment, the success rate was quite low. However, with each passing year more

WORKING TOGETHER

Finances

and more locals make the adjustment as a matter of course.

A few member locals are still collecting only a fee of \$3.00. In most cases, their respective institutions are either unable or unwilling to collect amounts that include cents.

Collection of the Proper Base Membership Fee

As noted in previous reports, one member local, the York Federation of Students, has not adjusted the base membership fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00, nor is the local adjusting the annual fee for inflation. As a result, more than \$450,000 in membership fees that should have been remitted by the Local since 1995 has not been. The National Executive continues to look for solutions to the problem.

Third Party Election Advertising Report

The Canada Elections Act requires that all third parties that engage in election advertising that exceeds \$5,000 must submit an audited Third Party Election Advertising Report, to the Chief Electoral Officer no later than four months after Election Day.

A third party is defined as "...a person or a group, other than a candidate, registered political party or electoral district association of a registered party". Therefore, the Federation, which engaged in election advertising, was required to submit an audited report of its election advertising spending.

The report was completed, audited, and submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer on October 28, well in advance of the deadline.

2003-2004 Audited Statements

The audit for fiscal 2004 has just been completed and draft combined Canadian Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services statements should be available for presentation later in the meeting. In addition, statements

for Travel CUTS, the Federation's wholly-owned subsidiary are also available.

As the Travel CUTS statements illustrate, Travel CUTS had its second large loss in two years. As a result, the value of the Federation's investment has been reduced from \$12,244,801 at June 30, 2002 to \$10,797,756, a decline of almost \$1.5 million. More significantly, Travel CUTS' retained earnings have dropped from \$5,710,418 to \$2,407,790. The National Executive, through its representatives on the Travel CUTS Board, is monitoring the situation closely.

Appendix I - Media Activity

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2004/04/26	Canwest Global	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/04/26	Broadcast News	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/04/26	CFRA AM	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/04/26	Globe and Mail	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/04/26	CKTB AM	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/04/26	CJUM AM	National Graduates Survey on student debt
2004/05/04	CTV	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/05/06	Rogers Television (Ottawa)	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/05/06	CHED AM Radio (Edmonton)	Stephen Harper's Absence from the Great Canadian Job Interview
2004/05/11	CJOH Television	Youth Voting in Federal Elections
2004/05/11	CJAD AM	Youth Voting in Federal Elections
2004/05/25	Canadian University Press	Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/25	Calgary Herald	Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/25	CHML AM	Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/28	CBC Radio (Ottawa)	VoteEducation.ca, Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/31	Rogers Television (Ottawa)	Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/31	Brandon Sun	VoteEducation.ca, Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/05/31	Toronto Star	Great Canadian Job Interview
2004/06/01	New RO Television	Youth Voting in Federal Elections
2004/06/01	CBC Television (for pre-recorded show – The Money Show)	Tuition Fees
2004/06/03	940 AM	Tuition Fees
2004/06/03	Vancouver Sun	Student Issues in the Federal Election
2004/06/04	Radio Canada	Great Canadian Job Interview
2004/06/04	CBC Television	Great Canadian Job Interview
2004/06/04	Canwest Global	Great Canadian Job Interview

WORKING TOGETHER

Appendix I - Media Activity

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2004/06/10	Canadian Press	Federation's Report Card on Education
2004/06/14	Georgia Strait	Federation's Report Card on Education
2004/06/15	CBC Television	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/16	CKLN Radio	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/16	National Post	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/16	Radio Canada	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/17	CKNW Radio	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/17	CBC Radio	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/06/18	Radio Canada	Student Debt
2004/07/07	Sudbury Star	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Northern Ontario Consultation
2004/08/19	CJOB 68 Winnipeg	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/08/19	Radio Canada	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/08/19	Hamilton Spectator	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/08/19	Vancouver Province	High Cost of Education
2004/08/19	Toronto Star	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/08/19	CKNW Vancouver	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/08/23	570 AM Kitchener	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/08/25	Halifax Herald	Tuition Fees and Access
2004/08/26	Times Transcript	Tuition Fees and Access
2004/08/30	Edmonton Sun	Enrolment Disparities by Level of Parental Education
2004/08/31	Country Living Canada	Statistics Canada University Finances Study
2004/09/02	Windsor Star	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	CBC Radio	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Ottawa Sun	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	CanWest	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Radio Canada	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	CTV	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Globe and Mail	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	CBC Radio	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Global News – Western Canada	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	570 AM Kitchener	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report

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Appendix I - Media Activity

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2004/09/02	680 AM Toronto	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Radio Canada (RDI)	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Global News	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/02	Radio Canada – Winnipeg	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/03	570 AM Kitchener	Statistics Canada Tuition Fee Report
2004/09/03	CKUT*	State of Education in Canada
2004/09/03	CKCU*	State of Education in Canada
2004/09/08	The Charlatan*	Politicising Orientation Events
2004/09/09	CBC Radio – Cross Country Check Up	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/09/09	RDI – New Brunswick	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/09/09	The Varsity*	Bankruptcy Charter Challenge
2004/09/24	Canadian University Press	Inter-University Competition for Top Students
2004/10/04	The Excalibur*	Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes
2004/10/04	Canadian University Press	Response to Throne Speech
2004/10/06	Toronto Star	US Report on Canadian Education
2004/10/06	National Post	US Report on Canadian Education
2004/10/06	National Post	Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment Schemes
2004/10/06	Maclean's	State of Education in Canada
2004/10/19	Sudbury Star	Rae Review Consultation in Sudbury
2004/10/25	Canadian Press	Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act
2004/10/28	National Post	Education Industry Summit
2004/11/02	The Independent	Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act
2004/11/03	Canadian University Press	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/11/08	The Excalibur*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	Humber Egccetera*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	CBC Radio	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	CTV (Ontario)	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	Toronto Star	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper

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Appendix I - Media Activity

DATE	OUTLET	SUBJECT
2004/11/08	Globe and Mail	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	Public Affairs University of Toronto*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	CBC National	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	CHTV Hamilton	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	Report On Business Television	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	The Ryersonian*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	The Canadian Press	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	National Post	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	The Western Gazette*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	680 AM Toronto	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	CIUT Radio	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	The Varsity*	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/08	The Eyeopener	Millennium Scholarship Foundation Price of Knowledge Paper
2004/11/09	CBC	Québec Student Day of Action
2004/11/15	Globe and Mail	International Students Right to Work Off Campus
2004/11/15	Reader's Digest	Tuition Fees and Funding
2004/11/15	McGill Daily	Globe and Mail Survey about Students' Unions Effectiveness

* DENOTES CAMPUS MEDIA

Appendix II - Motions

NOVEMBER 2002

2002/11:023	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:036	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:038	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:025	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:039	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:051	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:053	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:054	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:055	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:056	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:057	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:058	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:062	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:063	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:019	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:064	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:065	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:021	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:067	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:027	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:069	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:070	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:071	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:072	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:073	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:074	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:075	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:076	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:077	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:078	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:081	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:082	MOTION	COMPLETED

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Appendix II - Motions

2002/11:083	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2002/11:084	MOTION	COMPLETED

MAY 2003

2003/05:047	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:048	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:022	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:024	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:028	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2003/05:050	MOTION TO AMEND	IN PROGRESS
2003/05:051	MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT	COMPLETED
2003/05:030	MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS	COMPLETED
2003/05:032	MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS	COMPLETED
2003/05:052	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:053	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:040	MOTION	COMPLETED
2002/11:017	MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS, STANDING RESOLUTIONS, AND POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/05:057	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:058	MOTION	NOT COMPLETED
2003/05:059	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:060	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:061	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/05:071	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:036	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:074	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:042	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:075	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2002/11:087	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:076	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:077	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:081	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:082	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:083	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:084	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:085	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:086	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED

2003/05:087	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:088	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:089	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:090	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/05:012	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/05:092	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/05:014	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2003:05:093	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003:05:094	MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT	COMPLETED
2003:05:095	MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT	COMPLETED
2003/05:016	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	REFERRED
2003/05:097	MOTION TO REFER	COMPLETED
2003/05:018	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	REFERRED
2003/05:098	MOTION TO REFER	COMPLETED
2003/05:038	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/05:099	MOTION	COMPLETED

NOVEMBER 2003

2003/11:060	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:061	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:062	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:017	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:043	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:064	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:045	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:065	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:049	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:066	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:053	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:067	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:055	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2003/11:068	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:019	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2003/11:070	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:021	MOTION	COMPLETED / ONGOING
2003/11:025	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:023	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:072	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED

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Appendix II - Motions

2003/11:027	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2003/11:073	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:041	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	IN PROGRESS
2003/11:074	MOTION TO AMEND	REFERRED
2003/11:075	MOTION TO REFER	COMPLETED
2003/11:011	MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS	COMPLETED
2003/11:015	MOTION TO ADOPT STANDING RESOLUTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:076	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:013	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:029	MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTIONS	POSTPONED
2003/11:079	MOTION TO POSTPONE	COMPLETED
2003/11:031	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2003/11:080	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:033	MOTION	POSTPONED
2003/11:081	MOTION TO POSTPONE	COMPLETED
2003/11:082	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:094	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:096	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:098	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:099	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:100	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:103	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:104	MOTION	ONGOING
2003/11:108	MOTION	COMPLETED
2003/11:109	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2003/11:110	MOTION	COMPLETED

MAY 2004

2004/05:088	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:118	MOTION	IN PROGRESS / ONGOING
2004/05:124	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:080	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2004/05:125	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:126	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:012	MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTIONS	COMPLETED
2004/05:032	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:128	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED

WORKING TOGETHER

Appendix II - Motions

2004/05:034	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:129	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:036	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:040	MOTION	COMPLETED
2004/05:082	MOTION	COMPLETED
2004/05:130	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:086	MOTION	COMPLETED
2004/05:092	MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTIONS	COMPLETED
2004/05:132	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:094	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2004/05:135	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:104	MOTION	ONGOING
2004/05:116	MOTION	IN PROGRESS
2004/05:014	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:147	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:016	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:018	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:020	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:022	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:026	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:148	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:028	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:149	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:030	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:042	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:150	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:044	MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:152	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:064	MOTION TO REPEAL POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:156	MOTION TO REFER	COMPLETED
2004/05:066	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	COMPLETED
2004/05:157	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:070	MOTION TO AMEND POLICY	IN PROGRESS
2004/05:156	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:161	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED
2004/05:072	MOTION	COMPLETED
2004/05:162	MOTION TO AMEND	COMPLETED

