

Volume 10 Issue 45
November 20, 2002

the VOICE

www.ausu.org

Quote of The Week:

“What we do today, right now, will have an accumulated effect on all our tomorrows.”

--Alexandra Stoddard



A Bug In Your Ear... **By Tammy Lee Moore**

AU PROFILES

Getting to Know One Another...

The student/staff profile of those whose lives are involved with AU is a new column in The Voice. It is our hope that reading about those who are part of the make-up of what makes AU unique will draw our students closer together although we span countries and continents. We are a part of AU, and as such, we carry a common bond.

I hope you will enjoy reading about the students and staff at AU – and be inspired to participate in our new PROFILES column!



AU Profiles:

LAURA SEYMOUR: STUDENT

Name: **Laura Seymour**

Voice: What province and city/town do you live in?

Laura: Calgary, Alberta, CANADA, North America, The Earth, The Milky Way....

Voice: Do you have a family/ kids/ pets ? **My husband and an imaginary pug dog.**

Voice: What are your hobbies / interests/ activities/ etc.

Laura: Sewing, writing, playing the lottery, learning the keyboard.

Voice: Can you tell us about the AU Courses you are taking at the moment, or a favourite course?

Laura: I have just signed for my second Psychology course Psyc 290. My favourite course will be an exotic “filler” course in Greek Mythology or was it Greek History?

Voice: How long have you been a student? (And where)

Laura: I graduated MRC from an intensive one-year course that is now defunct – Professional Writing Certificate. I have been with AU for almost one year.

Voice: What do you think of your courses/ the AU experience/ distance education?

Laura: I got my high school education in Ontario through distance ed. I wouldn't study any other way!

Voice: Do you work? What do you do?

Laura: I do Craniosacral Therapy and am a Reiki Master.

Voice: How (or) Is AU helping you towards a goal?

Laura: There is a course in Biology I can take to assist me with my Cranio studies. I also believe a LOT of people put a great deal of merit in a degree...though why is beyond me!

Voice: What are your future goals?

Laura: To be able to feel proud of my educational achievements.

Voice: Do you have any advice or words of wisdom for other students?

Laura: Never let the grade average you get deter you from your goals. Churchill's report card said he'd never amount to anything, and Einstein couldn't pass any Math exams. It's how you apply your learning that counts.

Voice: Anything else we should know? Funny stories about the dog eating your laptop/ praise for your favourite tutor/ recommendations for a course....

Laura: Sorry, my imaginary pug dog does what it's told and never pees on the floor! That's why I have an imaginary pet!

Laura is also our newest weekly contributor to The Voice, and has been writing for us for several months now. You can catch all of her articles by typing her name into the Writer Search section of The Voice, and checking out her feisty temperament and fantastic twist of humour.

Anyone interested in being featured in AU Profiles should email Tammy Moore, Editor of The Voice at voice@ausu.org My thanks for your participation and readership!



Canadian SU at the Forefront of Battle for Free Speech

Concordia Bans Political Debate

By Tamra Ross Low

As a member of the Athabasca University Students' Union, I am very interested in the activities of other students' unions – especially those that represent students of Canadian universities.

Students' unions do not operate by a set list of activities, programs, or initiatives. Instead, we have guiding principles, and ethical and financial responsibilities that help us to determine what

we can, and cannot do. Largely, however, the actions of a students' union are determined by the needs and wants of the student body that they represent. Like any elected, representative body, we look to our members for our mandate, and to determine what our students need most.

Because of this, every students' union will have unique programs and services, based on the overall needs of the student body. Some schools primarily cater to mature students; others specialize in only a few faculties. These factors, as well as differences in the regional location of the university and the number of students who are funded vs. those who are self-funded, are all factors that influence the needs of the students.

Nevertheless, there are certain needs that all students share, and these are the areas in which most student unions will function most similarly. Scholarships; bursaries; conference funding; advocacy in matters of disagreement with the University; and watch-dogging of changes to government and school policies effecting tuition, entrance requirements, and marking norms; are needs common to students everywhere. Accordingly, most students unions have programs and initiatives in place to address these concerns.

Another area of similarity between students' unions are the basic principles of education, free-speech, human rights, and the need for a safe and effective learning environment. These are basic human needs, but also they are very specifically the foundations of education and the freedom of thought that a quality education should imbue. Students' unions should work to protect these basic rights whenever possible.

The right to free speech is arguably the most valued by students all over the world. Countless times, it has been the students of oppressed nations that have launched the most vocal protests, and sometimes – as in Tiananmen Square in 1989, [see: <http://www.christusrex.org/www1/sdc/tiananmen.html>] or The University Of British Columbia in APEC Summit in 1997 – these students have been the victims of violent oppression. In the case of Tiananmen Square, the brave protests of students lead to a violent attack by the Chinese army, but also bolstered the fight against communism within China. So often, students have lead the way to social reform, because universities are a forum where free speech and free thinking are supposed to be nurtured and prized.

In oppressed countries, students' unions are often at the forefront of political protests. In North America, however, we have it easier. Free speech is valued in Canada and the United States, and students are thought to be free to say and think whatever they like.

Perhaps it is time to rethink this belief, however. Is Canada really a paragon of free-speech and human rights? The University Of British Columbia case, mentioned above, should have led us to reconsider this. For those who do not recall, on the day of summit meetings: “Using pepper spray and police dogs, the RCMP and Vancouver police repelled student protesters from the security areas surrounding the APEC site at the University of British Columbia on Tuesday. By the end of the day roughly 40 students were arrested and many more injured, including one who was hospitalized due the use of pepper spray” [see: <http://www.langara.bc.ca/voice/112797.html>].

This didn't sound like something that should happen in Canada. What is even more uncharacteristic of Canadians, however, was the general apathy of the populace after the events were broadcast on television. The injured students later filed multiple complaints against the government, but despite significant television coverage of the hearing, people seemed disinterested.

Perhaps this is because they felt that this could not have really happened in Canada? Maybe many felt that the students must have done something more than just protest, in order to have received such violent treatment.

Whatever people thought, it is getting harder and harder to believe that Canada is not actively oppressing the free-speech rights of students. Canadian students' unions are beginning to face battles that they never expected.

This week, Concordia University in Montreal sought and was granted an injunction to prevent NDP MPs Svend Robinson and Libbie Davies from speaking at the university about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The university has imposed a moratorium on all public events related to the middle-east conflict since September 9th of this year, when "Montreal riot police used pepper spray and tear gas inside Concordia University against Palestinian solidarity demonstrators" [<http://www.montrealmuslimnews.net/jaggisept9.htm>].

The students' union of Concordia has opposed this ban, and set up this week's event in order to challenge it. However, the university went to court and was granted an injunction to block the event. The students' union has decided not to pursue legal action at this time [see: <http://www.cbc.ca/stories/2002/11/15/concordia021115>].

I imagine that the students' union is more than a little bewildered. This is not the type of challenge that most SUs have had to face in Canada, and there is little precedent for how to deal with it. It is difficult to believe that Canadian courts have allowed a university to stop an event based on its subject matter, especially when there are so many other ways that the university can ensure the safety of those who attend.

Before even considering banning these events, the university could have instead hired additional security to ensure that things did not get out of hand. The students' union might have been willing to cover part of all of the security costs, as the purpose of that security would be to ensure the safety of union members. The university had other options as well, including asking for police assistance, and educating students about the importance of peaceful protests.

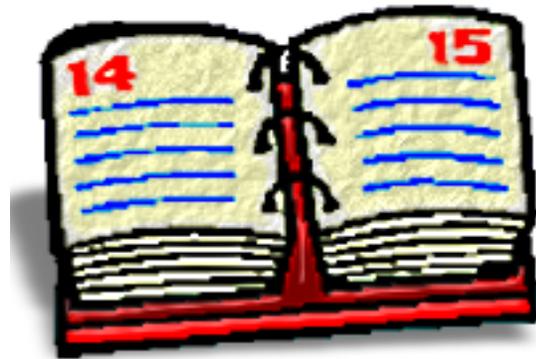
The students of today are our future, and they will have to face many difficult issues now and in later life. It is imperative to our country, and the world, that we educate our students not only academically, but also socially. To ban events that might lead to conflict, gives students little opportunity to learn how to deal with conflicting viewpoints, and the importance of free-speech, even by those who they disagree with. It also means that a large number of students will suffer because of the actions of a small number of violent offenders.

If the university can ban an event based on its subject matter, then what is next? They might decide to ban all political events, just in case. Because universities are one of the most common

forums for political discussion, this would seriously limit the availability of such forums. Clearly students' unions at all schools should watch this case very carefully, because the oppression of students' ability to speak publicly is becoming more and more common, and neither the government, nor the general population seem to be very concerned. Once we begin forbidding political discussion at universities, however, how long will it be before police are hired just to prevent citizens from uttering anti-government sentiments? It might sound absurd, but there is some evidence that this is exactly what happened at the APEC summit, and because the public outcry was so minimal, it may become more common.

I suggest we all watch the proceedings at Concordia very carefully indeed.

Tamra lives in Calgary with her husband and two cats. A fulltime AU student, she splits her free time between her duties as an AUSU councillor, writing her first novel, and editing written work by other students and friends.



From My Perspective: Too much time on my hands?

By Debbie Jabbour

Last week's article detailed several days of neighbourhood surveillance activities I engaged in. I received some interesting feedback, suggesting that perhaps I have too much time on my hands. I decided that this week I should explain how I spent the seven days subsequent to writing that article - just in case anyone decided that I really was lacking productive activities to occupy me!

November 11: Worked Noon-6 PM. I had missed the deadline for my Voice article because I was called in to work Sunday as well, so after arriving home I immediately finished the article off and sent it to our patient and understanding editor, Tammy. Tossed a load of laundry in, then returned to my computer to write a movie review of Bowling for Columbine.

Ever since my recent health worries, I've made it a point to cook a healthy, well-balanced meal at least once a week. So after sending off my articles, I made a "proper" meal of meat, potatoes, vegetables and salad, and my daughters and I had a late supper together.

By now it's around 11 P.M. Read and responded to a couple dozen emails, then spent several hours on a sociology assignment. In bed by 2 A.M.

November 12: I don't work today, so I hope to get some serious studying done. However, I have a slow start to the morning, and when my daughter calls at 10:00 AM, I'm still in my pyjamas drinking coffee and reading the paper. She needs a supportive and listening ear from her mother on some personal matters. Since I've resolved to put my family's needs first whenever possible, I set my studies aside and we spend a good portion of the rest of the morning talking.

Toss another load in the laundry, notice that my feet are starting to stick to the kitchen floor, and that the dishes are threatening to fall off the counter, so do a quick clean up. Run to the bank, then pick my daughter up so she can come by and use the computer.

At 2 PM, sit down to do a couple hours of studying. My youngest daughter arrives home from school and needs some study help. She is struggling with her chemistry homework (which I'm hopeless at), but I try my best nonetheless. I then drive her to work, take my other daughter to a rehearsal, return home and start wading through some 40 emails awaiting a response. CAUS has an upcoming tuition forum at U of A, so I spend some time discussing the forum and some other CAUS activities with VP Shirley Barg and CAUS chair Anand Sharma by telephone.

Receive some information on a peer support conference I'm scheduled to attend during the weekend, and I contact fellow Council member Sandra Moore, who is attending as well, to make some arrangements. Begin planning an upcoming Council meeting.

Almost 9 PM before I get back to my books, but by that time I have to go pick my daughter up from work. On the way home we make a quick stop at Safeway, since our fridge is getting pretty bare. None of us had time to eat supper earlier, so we cook a late meal, then sit down to watch a recording of a Days of Our Lives episode while we eat. She asks me, "why are we watching this dumb show, mom?" I toy with various excuses; 'its a sociology study,' or 'I need to review it for a course assignment on modern media,' or 'watching soap operas is psychological research;' unwilling to admit that I get some kind of guilty pleasure out of watching it. I finally answer, "I have absolutely no idea." In spite of the fact that we agree it's a waste of time, we keep watching.

At midnight, my daughter goes to bed. I return to my computer to finish up my email, monitor the AUSU discussion forum, and do a bit of online research for my next course assignment. In bed by 2:30 A.M.

November 13. Get up, have a coffee and read the paper. Notice an item on the winner of the Miss Captivity contest (most attractive woman in Lithuania doing jail time). Make a copy - sounds like good Voice article material!

Go through my usual 30-40 emails. Lots of CAUS stuff, press releases, meeting information for the upcoming tuition forum. Take a couple of hours to prepare for the forum, get some AUSU office stuff done, and go through some emails I had flagged for follow up the previous week.

Pick up my daughter, then return to my computer to do some coursework.

The doorbell rings. Three young Mormon boys are on my doorstep. I had chatted briefly with them a week before (I think they caught me on the step when I was doing my neighbourhood surveillance!). They had offered me a book of Mormon, and I had accepted it as an addition to my research library. Now they wanted to know if I'd read the book and wanted to talk further. Their eager, hopeful looks made me feel very guilty, but I politely told them that I was really too busy to talk, and had not had time for any reading.

Took my other daughter to a doctor's appointment, then headed to work.

Return home at midnight. Make something to eat. Try reading a chapter in my Communications 421 textbook, but having a hard time concentrating. Pour myself a glass of wine, sit in my favourite chair, turn on the TV, and channel surf mindlessly for a bit. Pretty sparse viewing this time of night, except for infomercials and talk shows. The documentary channel has a rather graphic show on training strippers (I must admit I'm quite fascinated by the variety of silicone implants!). Jerry Springer hosts a midget who is mad at the world and gets even by deceiving vulnerable women. Jenny Jones is giving paternity tests and flashing cute pictures of "fatherless" babies. Colmillo Blanco does his wolf-rescue cartoon on the Spanish channel. Some late night re-runs of old sitcoms and MadTV. Every second station seems to have sexy girls in bikinis rolling around on the beach exhorting male viewers to "call now." I finally give up and go to bed at around 3 A.M.

November 14. 7:00 AM my daughter is getting up for school and the phone is ringing. I moan and roll over, but it's no use, and I drag myself out of bed.

I manage to read the front section of the paper and have a cup of coffee, but the phone keeps ringing. Some AUSU matters to deal with, and I have to contact several government departments in search of information. I find myself cursing whoever invented the phone message selection system, as I listen to option after option and press number after number in a futile attempt to contact a human being who can answer my questions.

Drive my daughter to do some errands, then meet VP Shirley Barg to work on our presentation for the CAUS tuition forum that evening. At 2 PM, we head to the U of A for a panel discussion on the future of post-secondary education, which includes Tom Pocklington, author of *No Place to Learn* (1), along with Don Carmichael and Gary Kachanowski (U of A Research). Pocklington has raised the concern that universities are focusing on research to the detriment of undergrad students and teaching quality (2). In the forum, the U of A tries to justify the value of a research focus, while students in the audience debate the "publish or perish" mentality.

After the forum, we meet with CAUS representatives to discuss future plans.

On my way home, pick up my daughter so she can accompany me to the tuition forum that evening, arriving home at 5 PM. She tries to do some work on the computer and we discover that it is inexplicably not working properly and won't access the internet. We try to fix the problem, troubleshooting every possible route, including crawling around on the floor checking wiring. Suddenly realize that it's almost 7 PM and we have to leave for the forum. I

utter a few curse words at a piece of machinery that apparently has a mind of its own, set a scandisk in motion and head out the door. We are going to be late, and I find myself pushing the speed limit.

Hit a construction zone on the way. I'm trying not to feel stressed but not entirely succeeding. Make it to the university with a few minutes to spare.

Forum is reasonably well attended, but it's mostly students rather than the target group we had hoped for - the general public & parents. Raj Pannu of the NDP is there, as is Liberal Ken Nichol, and their comments are thoughtful and worthy of consideration. Shirley Barg and Mike Hudema speak on behalf of undergrad students. The PC's are noticeable by their absence, and although the debate was extremely interesting, it tended to be somewhat one-sided, with most panelists in agreement on issues. The exception was the U of A rep, Fran Trehearne, who drew the biggest response of the evening when he made a comment about the CAUS newspaper ad that reads "to become a doctor, Emma's university education will cost at least \$111,817 on top of her living expenses."⁽³⁾ Trehearne said that when his neighbours saw the ad, they commented that it sounded like a good deal. The audience erupted in gasps and titters and murmured almost unanimously - "what neighbourhood do YOU live in?"!!

At almost 10 PM left the forum, dropped my daughter off, and picked up my other daughter from work. We arrived home, had some supper, and I realized I had not yet read the newspaper. After reading the paper I went through my email and finally headed to bed at a relatively early 1 AM.

November 15. Moving very slowly this morning, chronic pain from an old automobile injury is acting up. Aches and pains might be eased by a whirlpool bath - but I have to clear off the yellow bath ring first! Clean the bathroom and run a bath, then realize we are out of towels...so I do another load of laundry.

Take a look at the front page of the paper, quickly review email and respond to urgent matters.

Spend two hours studying, then decide to try again to fix the #@*\$%! computer. Run scan disc and defrag, reload programs, restart computer repeatedly. Do some program updates. In order to update my CD software I have to register and enter usernames and passwords.... and I start to curse under my breath at yet another password I have to remember.

Phone keeps ringing and I try to respond to email in between. I make supper in advance since I have to work, and head out to pick up my daughter from school.

Work from 6 PM to 11 PM. On the way home I decide that my car is just way too dirty to keep driving it (temperatures have been above zero and snow, slush and mud has been the norm for the last few days). Fortunately the carwash is still open, and I clear the mud and grime off, hoping my doors won't be frozen shut the next morning.

Home at midnight. It's Friday and the teenagers are still out, so the house is quiet. I have to be up at 7 AM, but can't make myself go to bed, so once again I turn on the TV. This time I

actually find a few programs worth watching, but I finally start nodding off and head to bed at 2 AM.

November 16. My alarm rings at 7:30 AM. As much as I'd like to stay in bed, I have a conference to attend. I'm out of the house by 8:20, stop by Second Cup, head downtown to pick up Sandra, and we are off to the University of Alberta.

The peer support conference was extremely informative and interesting (and well-organized). I did find myself struggling to stay awake during the late afternoon sessions, particularly the last one on addictions, since I had been through a similar one a few months previously when training for my new job. At 4:30, sessions ended and all participants headed to Fiore's Italian restaurant for supper. There was a roundtable discussion scheduled after dinner, but I was way too tired and persuaded Sandra that we should skip it. I dropped her at her hotel, and headed home.

Arrived at home, visited with my daughter for a while, read the newspaper, and caught up on my email. As much as I wanted to stay up and watch Saturday Night Live and MadTV, I was struggling to stay awake. My daughter had friends over and the basement was vibrating with music and laughter, but in spite of it all I fell into a deep slumber by 1 AM.

November 17. Up at 8:00 AM for the last day of the peer support conference, followed by a meeting with CAUS at 5:30. Exhausted, I walked in the door at 9:00 PM, said hello to my daughters, quickly skimmed through the morning newspaper, then worked till midnight to finish this article. Certainly no time to hang out on my step and watch my neighbours this week!!!

As hectic and exhausting my week was, I'm sure it's not much different than that of most of my fellow AU students. Maintaining such a schedule without burning out is a challenge, yet somehow we manage. Some insight into how we accomplish this was brought home to me at the Peer Support conference. During one session I had to fill out a "compassion satisfaction/fatigue self test for helpers." Among the key indicators for lowering one's susceptibility to burnout are 'finding life satisfying' and 'feeling that you are achieving your life goals.' The satisfaction and sense of achievement we get from our studies keeps us sane!

Next week: The Peer Support Conference.

1. Pocklington, Tom & Tupper, Alan. (2002) No Place to Learn. British Columbia University Press.
2. "Research push cannibalizes other budgets" October 23, 2002 Edmonton Journal
3. <http://tc.su.ualberta.ca/education/ads/01.pdf>

Debbie is a native Edmontonian, and a single parent with four daughters. She has worked as a professional musician for most of her life, and has enjoyed a rich variety of life experiences - with many more to come! Debbie is working towards an eventual doctorate in psychology, and currently serves as the president of the Athabasca University



Canadian Fed Watch!

News Across The Nation...

November 20, 2002

By Karl Low

Congratulations to Martin Connors

Professor Martin Connors of Athabasca University has received a Canadian Research Chair award in the amount of half a million dollars over five years. The award comes as part of a 130 million dollar investment [announced](#) by Minister of Industry Allan Rock and Gerry Byrne, Minister of State.

Dr. Connors now holds the research chair in Space Science, Instrumentation and Networking. His project over the next five years is to use ground based instruments to study electrical and magnetic "weather" patterns in space. These patterns can help to predict when there might be a type of space storm that can impact communication and other satellites in space. With that type of information available, it would become possible to predict when you might need to establish separate relays to ensure that communication coverage is not broken.

By being recognized in this way, Dr. Connors is also helping all of us who attend Athabasca University. The more our professors are recognized as world class researchers, the less that people can question the value of an Athabasca University degree.

Plus, it makes a great excuse to go watch the Northern Lights. It's not just pretty, it's research.

Ernie Eves Educating Educators

The Ontario government is [opening](#) a School of Education and Professional Learning at Trent University. The school will offer a one year Bachelor of Education for students that already have an undergraduate degree. The Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities, Dianne Cunningham, announced that "The new school will provide further opportunity and choice in university programs to the Peterborough area."

The program will also be available as a part-time course of studies "... designed to meet the needs of individuals who want to become teachers but may have family responsibilities or are

pursuing alternate careers," according to the President and Vice Chancellor of the University, Bonnie Patterson.

So let's see here. They're adding this School of Education and Professional Learning so that more people in a certain area can take university courses, and so that those who have alternate careers or family responsibilities can take them. Yet further on in the announcement, we see that the school will be limited to 115 full time students and 120 part time students.

Instead of spending the money creating this new school, which is limited to those in the Peterborough area, and can only accommodate 335 students total, why not just give extra grants to those students who choose to take their education degree via distance education? The courses are already prepared, there are no limits on students, and it would certainly not be limited to just the Peterborough area. In addition, whatever funding this physical school will be costing (and remember that Ontario is very big on building new buildings for their schools right now) would probably be much more than shouldering the burden of people wanting to take Education courses, and would enable those who couldn't afford to use the new school but had the ability and talent to pursue their goals.

Basically, it's a nice idea, but hardly an efficient use of the Ontario taxpayer dollar.

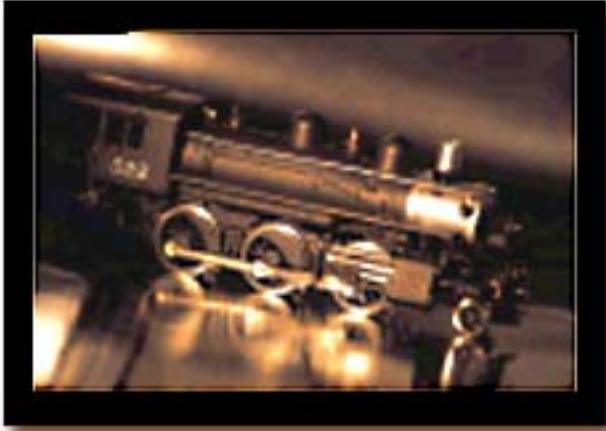
Everything Old is New Again

In Saskatchewan a new Council on Children and Youth has been [formed to implement](#) their new School Plus project. The goal of this project is to make schools the centres of learning and community support for the children and families they serve. Of course, there is really nothing new about this idea at all. However Saskatchewan has decided they need a committee to study the idea and see if there is any way that it could be implemented.

Unfortunately I think they are going to find that the major obstacle to this is that most people today seem to be fairly apathetic toward their community, and parents are increasingly forced to rely on schools to provide training that the parents do not understand nor have the time to learn. Families are too busy with their own various activities, from both parents working to the kids having six kinds of lessons and classes after school that the idea of supporting the community falls quite far down the priorities list.

Still, I wish them the best of luck. If they find something, perhaps they can spread the word.

A native Calgarian, Karl is perpetually nearing the completion of his Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Information Studies. He also works for the Computer Sciences Virtual Helpdesk for Athabasca University and plans to eventually go on to tutor and obtain his Master's Degree.



The Dubious Privatization of BC Rail

The NDP Stance

By Wayne Benedict

Last week we began a discourse surrounding the issues of the privatization of BC Rail and examined the Liberal standpoint on the subject. This week, we continue with a closer look at the NDP viewpoint.

During the run-up to the May 28, 1996 British Columbia general election, the two foremost contender parties—the incumbent BC New Democratic Party (NDP) and the BC Liberal Party (Liberals)—took divergent stands on their future plans regarding the province’s publicly-owned railway, BC Rail. “Liberal leader Gordon Campbell placed BC Rail front and centre as an election issue when he released his economic plan before a television audience... A key component of the plan [had] a new [Liberal] government privatizing BC Rail...to earn a one-time \$1-billion revenue windfall” (Lewis, 1996). When faced with northern opposition to the privatization from within his own party, Campbell stated: “The BC Rail sale is part of our policies, and the candidates are expected to support them. I’ll have to talk to [the dissenter(s)]” (Lewis, 1996). NDP leader Glen Clark, on the other hand, made it clear to BC voters that his party had no intention of divesting the province of its publicly-owned railway transportation network. The Liberals lost the 1996 election. Looking back on the campaign in early 1997, Campbell admitted to a “litany of errors that...cost his party the election” including “the alienation of voters in the north with a promise to privatize B.C. Rail” (Palmer, 1997).

The predecessor BC NDP government, in power between October 17, 1991 and May 16, 2002, was not immune to neo-conservative pressures within Canadian society. A so-called social democratic government, it was somewhat surprising to witness its use of tactics and policies most often attributed to the right wing. In addition to its numerous utilizations of *ad hoc* and institutionalized anti-labour measures such as back-to-work legislation and public sector wage controls, the NDP “sought to highlight its ‘fiscal restraint’ and tax cuts” (Vogel, March 2000, p.3) while in power. In fact, the NDP flirted with the idea of privatizing BC Rail before the BC Liberals. A 1995 draft submission to cabinet that was leaked to the press “recommend[ed] BCR seek private partners in the short term, but eventually back out of the public sector altogether [through] a general share offering [which] could raise between \$300 and \$420 million in equity as well as pay down \$320 million in BCR’s government-guaranteed debt” (Hunter, 1995). Although BC Rail was “one of the most profitable arms of government” at that time, the report predicted that the crown corporation was “facing two serious threats to its fiscal health. One danger [was] increasing competitive pressures and the other [was] potential declining revenues from BCR’s lifeline—forest products and coal” (Hunter, 1995). Both of those factors have come to pass and have indeed affected BC Rail’s profitability. However, had the corporation been in private hands, forest product and coal haulage would still have declined and changes in

competitive forces would still have existed. Privatization of BC Rail at that time would not have prevented the company's decline, but merely moved a company facing difficult times into the private sector, where the BC government would have been unable to direct policy for the province's only north-south rail carrier and most likely would have ultimately been faced with a hospitalization reacquisition of the carrier in order to protect the province's transportation infrastructure and the economies of BC's northern communities which depend on it. In fact, BC Rail's CEO of the time, Paul McElligott had this to say about the company's possible privatization: "As CEO, it's not going to make a big difference to my life. I'm there to run the company as best as I can for the shareholder [the BC government]. I think the things we're doing today would be no different under a [private] owner" (Schreiner, 1995). The province's initial acquisition of the railway, then known as the Pacific Great Eastern (PGE), was in response to the private sector's failure in the first place. "The province took over [the railway] in 1918, when the company defaulted on its bonds, and has run it ever since, primarily as a tool to open access to the rugged province's resources" (Schreiner, 1995).

For whatever reasons, the BC NDP decided against an outright privatization of BC Rail in 1995. The choice was likely made after correctly gauging the mood of the electorate, a task at which the Liberals failed at the cost of the 1996 election. That is not to say that portions of the railway were not privatized under the NDP, they were. But the acts were carried out without the usual fanfare and without the term "privatization". The preparations for the privatization of BC Rail; began more than a decade ago with the creation of the so-called BCR Group of Companies. Under this scheme, the railway was split into several different companies. "BC Rail restructured its own communications system as Westel Telecommunications Ltd. ... [it's] 18,000-hectare real estate portfolio was moved into BCR Properties Ltd. ... [and] Vancouver Wharves Ltd. was acquired as a defensive investment" (Schreiner, 1995). BCR Ventures Inc. was formed and BC Rail retained only its rail division and its intermodal trucking operations. In 1999, Vancouver Wharves Limited combined with Canadian Stevedoring Limited and Casco Terminals to form BCR Marine Company. Major portions of the railway's profitable divisions were removed from its control, all of which had been built with the past profits of BC Rail with its divisions intact. In fact, prior to the creation of the BCR Group of Companies, BC Rail had been "regarded as a Crown jewel by politicians... It ha[d] turned a profit in 15 of the ... 16 years [prior to 1996], and hasn't drawn any taxpayer subsidy since 1993. Net income for 1995 was \$46.7 million..." (Lewis, 1996). "The railway had net income of \$40 million in 1994, up from \$3.4 million in 1993, when there was a nine-week strike" (Wilson, 1995). Acquisitions such as the Vancouver Wharves were made with the profits that the railway had previously accrued but were separated from the railway under the BCR Group umbrella. With hindsight it is easy to see why.

Right-wing politicians and business lobby groups have long despised publicly owned enterprise and BC Rail was, and is, no exception. Canada's former Minister of Finance, Paul Martin, has stated that "the growth of Canadian private enterprise is clearly inhibited by the existence of commercially oriented crown corporations" (Cameron, 1988, p.9). For years, private sector groups such as the BC Trucking Association and BC Telecom complained loudly at having to compete with a public sector crown corporation. The former decried that "B.C.'s over-taxed and over-regulated private sector trucking industry, which continues to survive on slim margins, should not have to compete with a Crown corporation that, by comparison, has virtually unlimited resources" (Landry *et al*, 2000); the latter "complained that provincial government business transferred to Westel gives the Crown-owned competitor an unfair advantage"

(Schreiner, 1995). However, virtually nothing was seen in the mass media regarding the fact that, as the then BC Rail CEO Paul McElligott stated in 1995, “We [BC Rail] don't drain a nickel out of the provincial treasury. This is as commercial as you can get” (Schreiner, 1995). Perhaps private sector business was not so concerned about competing against a public sector enterprise *per se*, but against any enterprise that could fairly gain competitive advantage—it just so happens that BC Rail is owned by the people of British Columbia and, as such, it is an easy target for right-wing accusations of “unfair competition” and other common privatization rhetoric. I have previously written in depth about the debates surrounding the privatization issue (Benedict, 2002) and will not re-examine those arguments here. However, it is clear that those who benefit from the divestiture of public holdings are not the general public, nor the state, but those few private individuals who are in a position to exploit the formerly public-owned assets and/or services through acquisition or profit from their demise—capitalists. The business lobby and their right-wing politico bedmates belong to the very voices heard eschewing the merits of privatization from every form of mass media under their control. Jane Kelsey believes that “the real purpose of privatization has been to transfer economic *and* political power into the hands of private corporations seeking maximum profits” (Vogel, 2000, p. 13). In the case of BC Rail, the voices of privatization-proponents apparently carry more weight than do the desires of the majority of British Columbians as recorded in various public polls.

Next week: A look at the history of BC Rails Privatization

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Delivery Devils

By Laura Seymour

After searching for months for sandals that I like, and won't kill my feet, I bumped into the right ones at the start of Fall in a discount shoe store. They're my hubby's favourite shoe brand, Merrell. The big problem is they were a size 12 and I'm a cozy 7 ½. I began looking in stores in my area for the cute thongs. No luck. Once again...husband to the rescue! He can find almost anything ... on the Internet, of course!

So after praying our credit card purchase would be safe, I settled in for the wait for delivery. We got a tracking number after a while and then as the delivery date closed in the annoyance started up again.

The hubby and I have been through various delivery services and have never found a way to be pleased with the methods they offer. I'm supposed to be getting a benefit when I pay extra for a courier driver to come directly to my house – aren't I??

Please explain then why I can't count on the company to *find* my door in the first place? Please explain why I sit on my bored butt ALL day and don't get a call asking me where I am? Please explain what that message was from the gabbling kid who left a message at a speed that must have resulted from an extreme need to visit the men's room! (Five replays later my husband caught the word "delivery" and part of a phone number). Please explain how after decoding the secret phone message I'm suddenly told to pick up something I paid an average of 24 dollars U.S. to have sent to my door?

To that rant and rave let me recount the other side of the coin.

Larry and I finally got a visit from a physiotherapist from the local government Home Care. She assessed the hubby's condition for some stretching exercises he could have to improve his range of motion and perhaps cut down some of his spinal injury based spasms. Fine. Add to that the Personal Care Attendant learning the stretches to do for Larry and there are five of us on a lame little queen size bed. Larry is getting pretzeled up and twisted in several directions and lots of blah blah about "this is generally good" and "that's tight" is floating around. Meanwhile the bed is rocking. (Ahem! Don't go there!) I'm not overwhelmingly comfortable about this as I have just looked down and discovered that one of the legs on our metal bed frame has broken. Time to spend more money. Ugh!

After everyone vacates the bed Larry and I look on-line and find a similar bed frame at The Brick. Now, I'm not big on buying tons of furniture or heralding these guys for their

brilliance at quality but what I can say is that The Brick people have delivery “manners.” My mother always told me to *call* people and tell them if you’re going to be late. My mother also told me you don’t show up without warning. And so far, The Brick never has. Have you dealt with them? Here’s the system. They call up the morning of the delivery and they give you “a three hour window” of when the delivery will occur. So far, all the deliveries I’ve had from the company have been on time and with polite workers who even take off their shoes before entering my home.

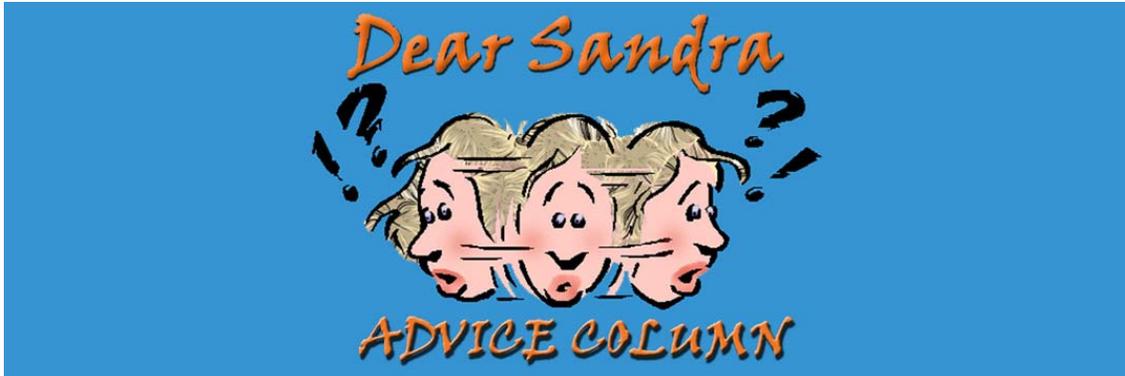
They are efficient at getting the items in and they set them up too! The heck with that “put it together yourself –we just deliver” crap! Two thumbs up!

So, I think you see where I’m going here. Now explain why the couriers can’t give me a “three hour window” or even an approximate DAY they’ll find my home? I understood when they’d never been here before and the street was brand new, but now the street is well known by these companies and in the day and age of everyone owning a cell phone WHY don’t they phone and say, “I can’t find your place!” (I COULD say because they’re *male* drivers but I won’t use that old joke.)

I urge all of us who are tired of not getting the courtesy of a general time window to phone the courier companies and complain. Let’s show them we can make a change. Call and complain. Get your time back. Look up your local delivery company numbers. The Voice goes to so many people in so many locales that I can’t cover all the numbers in this article or I would publish them right here. I’m dialing!

ADDENDUM: Ahem! Presto! Famous last words have hit! I just had my first *very* late delivery from The Brick...AND they gave me the routine about “we just deliver”. Look, this has NEVER happened before folks. I’m sending a copy of the article to the courier services AND the Brick Warehouse Head Office. Now I’m trying something for a first time. “I’ll never win the jackpot on the lottery! I guarantee it!” Hey, if I’m lucky I’ll be able to say those are famous last words too!

Laura Seymour first published herself, at age 8. She has since gone on to publish a cookbook for the medical condition of Candida. She is working toward her B.A. (Psyc).



THE VOICE – November 20, 2002

Hi Sandra.

I am very excited for you to achieve your future goals. I have a question though...I am having some major relationship problems in the area of trust. My father cheated on my mother and I've been cheated on before. I am having trouble trusting my current boyfriend for that reason. As a result, he has decided that it would be best if we take a break from each other. I am very desperate to find some books that might help me overcome this fear. Do you have any suggestions? I am in the Bachelor of Commerce program at AU and I've taken some psychology courses. If you have any suggestions I would really appreciate them.

Thank you for your time and good luck in the future.

Untrusting and Alone

Dear Untrusting;

Going through a childhood where cheating on a loved one was witnessed and then going through it yourself, by being cheated on, is going to give you some real trust issues. It will be difficult for you to trust someone in an intimate relationship because you have been led to expect that it is a normal in relationships for someone to cheat on his or her partner.

You probably acted the way you did to prevent yourself from getting hurt because you expected him to be dishonest anyways and you wanted to have control over the downfall of the relationship. It would be easier to know why he was dishonest or leaving you, because you treated him horribly, rather than to treat him lovingly and then have him cheat on you or leave you without knowing why. Not to say how you acted was appropriate, it's just understandable considering your past.

Trusting someone is always a big risk, you might get hurt, and you might not. The two worst mistakes you can make in a relationship are dwelling in the past, assuming that your current partner will recreate the mistakes of a previous partner, and imagining or convincing yourself that your new partner will do something to destroy your trust in him or her and end up hurting you.

You have some serious trust issues to deal with and sessions with a psychologist will probably help you come to term with those feelings and hopefully once you have, you will be able to have a healthy productive relationship.

An easy way to get started right away on the path to getting over this or at least alleviating it somewhat is to write it all down. Have you tried journaling? It's a wonderful release, and if you think about this it is what a psychologist will be doing with you, getting you to release your feelings. Just start writing the first thoughts that come to your head, who cares if it's nonsense, write what you feel, you are the only one who has to read it.

I am a firm believer in the mantra "everything happens for a reason" though it's hard to deal with the pain now, tomorrow is another day and this experience will probably benefit you more in the future than it is hindering you now. Maybe some time away from your boyfriend for you to deal with your trust issues and learn to be productive rather than destructive in relationships may help save your relationship, but your relationship may not have been meant to be and you need to move forward.

I wish you all the best; please keep me informed on how you are doing.

Here are some really good books to try reading to help you with your trust issues:

Romantic Jealousy: Causes, Symptoms, Cures. By Ayala Malach Pines, Ayala Malakh-Pines

If This is Love, Why Do I Feel So Insecure? By Carl G. Hindy

Trusting You Are Loved – Practices for Partnership. By Lewis Epstein, et al.

The Art of Trust: Healing Your Heart and Opening Your Mind. By Lee L. Jampolsky, Lee, Ph.D. Jampolsky

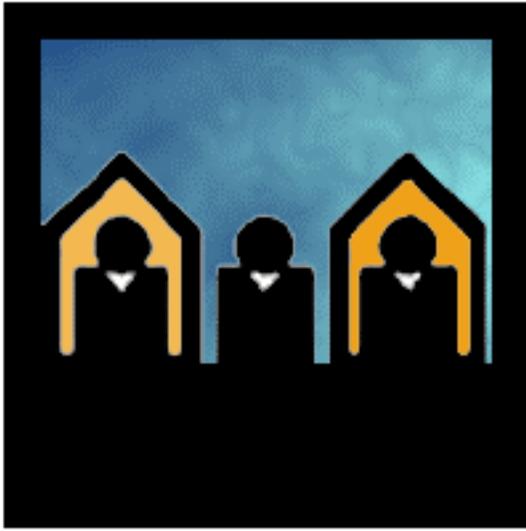
The Relationship Rescue Workbook. By Dr. Phil McGraw (YES, the guy with the T.V. show)

Broken Promises, Mended Hearts: Maintaining Trust in Love Relationships. By Joel D. Block

Thanks to everyone for your letters and encouragement. Keep those letters coming, no question is unanswerable and confidentiality is assured.

Sandra

This column is for entertainment only. Sandra is not a professional counsellor, but is an AU student who would like to give personal advice about school and life to her peers. Please forward your questions to Sandra care of smoore@ausu.org



Some Reasons Why People Are Homeless

Contributing Pitfalls

By Diane L.M. Cook

There are probably as many reasons for becoming homeless as there are homeless people but the large segment of people who wind up homeless on their own accord did so by making the same life-altering, bad decisions.

Bad Decision #1 – Quitting School

The worst decision anyone can make, that will have the most adverse affects on them for their entire adult life, is the decision to drop out of school before they graduate grade 12. I know in the “old days” a lot of people had to quit school in grade 6 to go to work in order to put food on the table but this isn’t 1938 anymore. Every child age 16 and under is required by law to attend school, and since a public education is free, it shouldn’t be a problem for poor children to attend school until they graduate. A 16 year old who decides to quit school has just wiped out much their future in a heartbeat (see: http://www.ssta.sk.ca/research/school_improvement/92-03.htm#1s). Believe me, the numbers are very small for the amount of people who only have a grade 10 education that wound up making it “big” in life. Nowadays, you’d be hard-pressed to even find a job scrubbing toilets that doesn’t require a grade 12 education. Sixteen-year-old children don’t know much about the real world or the profound ramifications their life-altering, bad decisions will have on their entire adult life. If you know someone who wants to quit high school, have a little chat with them and let them know what their life will really be like without an education, and then drag them to school every day, kicking and screaming if you have to. Trust me, they’ll thank you for it later.

Bad Decision #2 - And Baby Makes Three

The second most life-altering, bad decision a person can make is the one where a teenage parent decides to keep their baby. The facts of teenage pregnancy are the subject of an entirely different article, but the decision to keep the baby is of great concern in this article. It is a heart-wrenching decision to give up a baby, but it is a brave teenager who does give up her baby in the best interests of both herself and the child (see: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/020501/td020501.htm>) People who have good educations and good jobs have a hard time coping with raising a baby. What makes a teenager who has no education, no job, no money, and no family or social support, think they can successfully raise a child on their own? Sadly, most teenagers or young adults who keep their first baby wind up

having more babies and living in grinding poverty, and yes, more of these people are becoming homeless (SEE: <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/publish/research/020327-0662318986-e.html>). The reality is, most teenage mothers don't go anywhere in life but down the slippery-slope and into the black hole, some never to return. And no, most Prince Charmings are not scouring the homeless shelters looking for a princess to rescue. If a teenager is determined to keep their baby, they should be prepared for the long haul because it won't be fun and the chances of survival, let alone success, are slim. If you don't believe me, call Social Services and ask them how many young, single (especially teenage) mothers they have on their files.

Bad Decision #3 - Two Taboos: Drugs and Alcohol

Another life-altering, bad decision that can ruin a person's life, and most definitely make them homeless, is the decision to drink and/or do drugs. I'm not talking about the odd glass of wine with a meal, or a few belts at a Christmas party. I'm talking about binge drinking and becoming an alcoholic or doing drugs to the point where half your brain is fried. It is my opinion that alcoholism is not a disease. I don't view it as something like cancer or diabetes where your body "develops" it over time; rather that people choose to drink and "become" alcoholics over time. There is a very high number of young, able-bodied persons who are homeless --but they're homeless because they are severe alcoholics or drug addicts. People who choose to drink or do drugs to the point where they have ruined their health and their life, will more than likely wind up homeless: through the incapacities addiction causes, it is a natural progression of events (see: <http://www.santepub-mtl.qc.ca/Medecin/alcool/drug.html>).

The Lazy Bird Does Not Get the Worm!

We all think it but nobody says it. The truth as I see it are that some people are just so lazy, it's not surprising that they wind up homeless. These "lazy bums" spend 99% of their time flopped out on the couch watching TV or playing computer games, and do absolutely nothing with their lives. Sometimes family and friends try to help this person find a job but every offer is turned down because "that's not what they want to do". Rest assured, these people rarely amount to anything, they can be a drain on our social systems, and while sticking to their bad habits, they will most definitely never become president of a company. This is the same person who also tries to justify their "laziness" by trying to convince you that they are "trying to find themselves". When this person winds up homeless one day, usually because his parents or their roommate kicked them out, they haven't become homeless due to extenuating circumstances beyond their control, they wound up homeless because they did nothing to prevent it.

The Silver Spoon Syndrome

You might wonder how some people who were born with a silver spoon in their mouths wound up homeless. It's a psychological thing. When parents spoil their children rotten, in essence they "ruined" them (meaning, the child was never taught how to do anything for himself, and everything was given to him on a silver platter); they won't know how to do anything for themselves as adults. In that position, a person's self-esteem is likely very low because they were never able to do anything for themselves in order to prove your own self-worth. These

people don't have the desire or ambition to live their own life and through a series of events, can wind up homeless. Sometimes the parents of these children decide to cut them off financially in an effort to motivate them to "get a life", but all they achieve is throwing the child into a financial tailspin and putting them on the street. When parents raise their children to be spoiled rotten adults, they do them a great disservice.

There does exist a core of people who are "legitimately" homeless and are in dire need of help - but they are not receiving this help because the number of homeless people are too high to service adequately. When you hear the plight of a homeless person, try to find out the real reason why are homeless. As well as those who had homelessness forced upon them, there are those who choose to be homeless and some who made themselves homeless.

Tips on How to Avoid Becoming Homeless:

1. Don't do drugs.
2. Don't drink excessively.
3. Don't become a teenage parent, or have children at a very young age.
4. Get at least a grade 12 diploma. If possible, get a college or university education, or learn a trade.
5. Don't stay in low-paying, dead-end jobs for years. If you are in one of these jobs, always be looking for a better job until you find one. Until you find a better job, you can increase your chances of finding a better job by taking courses or job skills training programs.

Diane is a full-time, freelance writer. She specializes in writing technical articles for the oil and gas industry, but also writes feature length magazine articles of all genres, including Calgary-based magazines. She is working towards a Bachelor of General Studies degree.



Doubt

By b.e. hydromako

Doubt is something that we all live with. For some of us, doubt can play an important part of our awareness, while for others, it can be something that lurks around the edges of our lives, perhaps something that we are aware of but choose to ignore, or at least try to pretend it's not there. In some respect, doubt is the proverbial two-edged sword: it can be helpful in cutting away illusions and delusions, but in turn, it can also cleave into our psyche, inflating and pronouncing already manifest insecurities and fears.

On the healthy side of doubt, we can use skepticism as a tool. There has been more than one philosopher, scientist, or journalist—to name a few types of professions—that have employed doubt as a means to uncover, recover, or otherwise discover something true. A philosopher might use her doubt to see through the view of the text that she is reading, while the scientist might be skeptical of certain findings, which, in turn, drives his research into new areas of investigation and discovery. The journalist might have a sense of skepticism regarding a story that is unfolding. She might feel that there is something not being told or not being said, covered up, or otherwise neglected. Such a sense could contribute to her pursuing alternate angles, different sources, and may end up recovering or creating a better account of an event, or perhaps even getting to the truth where before existed only deceptions.

From the few, and by no means exhaustive, examples above we see how doubt can be a positive and generative force in our lives. A healthy dose of skepticism can assist us by allowing us to see through deception or error. With doubt as a motivational factor we may gain courage to try to pursue alternate avenues of thought and belief. If nothing else, this kind of doubt can help us recognize when we are being fed a line—whether by the media, a politician, an institution, or simply the creepy person hitting on us in a night club—and it can thus empower us to reel in that line on our own terms, to wiggle off the hook and instead cast our own net or simply swim away. Moreover, a healthy and willful skepticism can even assist us in questioning our own beliefs, actions, and decisions. In short, doubt is a tool that enables us to get beyond pitfalls, traps, and snares, whether they were set by ourselves for ourselves, or set by others for us. However, there is also a dark complement to doubt, and unhealthy skepticism which can lead to self-depreciation, self-denial, misanthropy, pessimism, or outright nihilism.

A deep and dark doubt can be overpowering. It can overtake us in its drive of incessant questioning of what is real, what is true. We might direct such doubt at the world around us with the result being that we don't trust much of anything within the social context we find ourselves embedded in. This could lead us to consider that things are really not as bad as they seem, but much worse. We might become angry or simply depressed and end up feeling that there is not

much point to life in its various manifestations. In short, we might, when possessed by this extreme and radical skepticism, wind up feeling that there is simply no meaning to life, and thus, no value to living. Such doubt might make us question the authenticity of any genuine relationships in our lives, wondering, for example, if there was a double meaning in what a friend said to us, or if some unrelated circumstance was really pointing to our own shortcomings. In other words, the negative and unhealthy side of doubt can cause us to not only feel that the world around us is meaningless and worthless, but also, that we ourselves are meaningless and worthless.

And aren't these things hard to define sometimes: value, worth, meaning? What do we place value in, how do we define our worth, where does meaning exist for us? Do these things stem from mere material resources, or are they generated in a more spiritual manner? Is it based on how are family or our friends see us, or how much money we make or what kinds of things we own? It is hard to pin down exactly, and it even seems to shift and change from day to day. It is this shifting and instability which reflects the double nature of doubt. We are free to decide what is seen as valuable to us, what we will take as meaningful and worthwhile; yet, this same freedom is what can cast the longest shadows and create the most acute sense of the lack of these things in our lives.

Recently I watched The Last Temptation of Christ again. I hadn't seen it for a few years, but I couldn't help but notice that self-doubt seems to be an important motif in this movie. Jesus repeatedly wrestles with doubt in his worth, doubt in his position, doubt in his path. The character is confronted with doubt to such a degree that he sobs and pleads with God because he knows the course that his life must take, but yet, he finds himself afraid to take it. This extreme doubt is what supplies Satan with the opportunity to provide Jesus' last temptation, and Jesus, broken and afraid, jumps at the chance to flee his destiny. Of course, in the end, Jesus conquers his doubt, and gains the courage to face the task that he must fulfill.

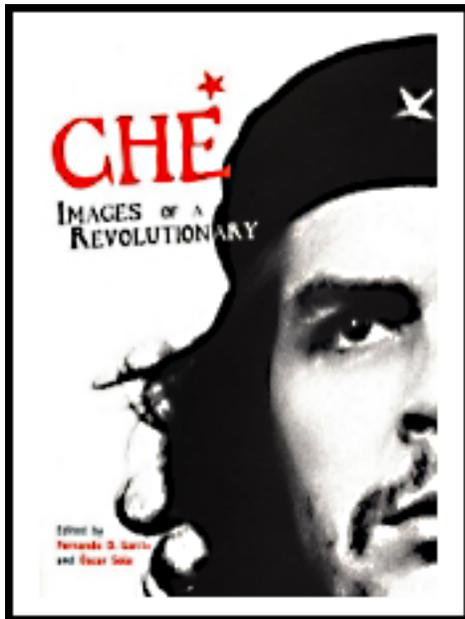
Now, most of us don't have to worry about being crucified as a messiah, but I think there is something in this for us. We can, in our throes of doubt, feel as if we are being crucified on the wheel of life—as if we are being persecuted, slandered, devalued, alienated, ostracized, and a whole host of not very pleasant things to have to be feeling. I wonder if we might occasionally enjoy it in a masochistic sense. We humans sometimes seem all too bent on promoting misery in the world, and it often doesn't seem to matter if we make others miserable or only ourselves: as long as someone is miserable, then we are happy.

A strange conundrum to be sure!

Anyway, I suppose that what I might be getting at is that doubt seems to be something that is faced by even the best of humans, and maybe what is important is not to succumb fully and completely to doubt, but perhaps, to let it inspire and drive us. That is to say, maybe, like in The Last Temptation, our doubt can serve as a vehicle for us to find courage, to find that inner strength that allows us to stand back up again, to raise our voice and say the things that might need to be said, might need to be heard.

Maybe sometimes we need only to doubt the doubt that doubts.

b.e. hydromako is a grouchy old crank trapped in the body of a wet behind the ears goldfish in a tank that is full of too many piranhas (which is, well, any number of them really). The tank is also quite dirty, and getting more so everyday, but no one seems willing or able to clean the tank, or at least clean it in a way that is really effective. He would like to understand more about the relations that make up the existence of himself, the other fish, the tank, and what is beyond, but knows that this is a most difficult task—he is, after all, only a goldfish!



***Che: Images of a Revolutionary -
Researched and compiled by
Fernando D. Garcia and Oscar Sola***

Review By Lonita Fraser

Publisher: New International Publications, 2000

CDN \$23.07 from Amazon.ca

Unlike many photo books of its type, this pictorial journey through Che's life is very expansive, covering his life from birth until his death, with only his teenage years being sparsely covered. The wealth of images is stunning in its broad coverage and it reveals much of Che as a human being outside of his political and military life. Included are photographs of Che with his family, his pets, self-portraits taken while he was in hospital, Che in disguise, and the instantly recognisable photograph taken by Korda in 1960 (p. 198). Of the photograph the book says, "Pictures of Che usually portray events: his personality is enough in itself to make an event. But here, what Korda came across was exactly the opposite. The effect of the original shot is surreal. This is a portrait that seems to float in space, with surreal distractions . . ." (p. 198). Some of these glimpses into Che's life are raw and even shocking. They show a sensual figure (p. 210), a loving son (p. 100), a medical student (p. 23), and even the stark crudity of his death, and the manner in which he died (p. 188 - 195). The selection of photographs attempts to hide no facet of Che as a man, from his ego to his emotionalism.

A welcome feature of the book is the amount of text that accompanies the photography - not only biographical information, but also quotations chosen as counterpoints to the pictures. One photo of Che as a young man sitting astride his motorcycle (p. 25) is accompanied by a quote from Baudelaire, who is speaking of "real travellers" - a very appropriately chosen piece of text given Che's love of travel, which began when he was still a medical student in Argentina.

To some, the title may be misleading, conjuring up an impression that the book is solely about his military and political career. It isn't. While it does cover the revolutions Che participated in, it is more about the evolution of a man, of Che, from birth to the mystique that continues to grow around him more than thirty years after his death.

This collection of photographs is a wide-ranging, intimate, sometimes disturbing attempt neither to hide nor necessarily further romanticize an already mythical figure. Even with its expansive nature, it does not obscure Che's mystique. Each time I open it, I find myself encountering yet another surprising aspect of Ernesto "Che" Guevara, and I would quite happily recommend this book to anyone wishing to delve into his past, and his self.

Lonita has been an AU student since early 2002, and is studying towards a Bachelor of General Studies in Arts & Science. She enjoys writing, creating websites, drinks far too much tea, and lives in hopes of one day owning a plaid Cthulhu doll. The most exciting thing she's done so far in her lifetime is driven an F2000 racecar, and she's still trying to figure out how to top that experience. Her personal website can be found at <http://www.lonita.net> and what you can't find out about her through that, you can ask her via email: lonita_anne@yahoo.ca



Tuition Forum Update

By Debbie Jabbour

(photo credit: Shirley Barg at CAUS forum provided by Debbie Jabbour)

On November 14 CAUS held the first of a series of tuition forums at the U of A campus. Speakers were Raj Pannu (NDP), Ken Nicol (Liberal), Fran

Trehearne (U of A), Mike Hudema (President U of A SU), Shirley Barg (Vice-president AUSU), and Dan Preece (U of A Grad Student association).

Shirley Barg opened the session by giving a brief explanation of the important role Athabasca University plays in distance education delivery. AU has about 15,000 Alberta students, and many of these are students enrolled at campus-based universities, taking supplemental courses at AU. Some tuition concerns faced by AU students are:

1. a proposal to remove distance education from the tuition cap, a form of deregulation and removal of government control that could have serious implications.

2. underfunding of AU's technological infrastructure. This means AU students pay a far greater share - approximately 70% of the university budget comes from tuition.
3. underfunding of part time students.

Dr. Ken Nicol followed, commenting on the notion of determining funding based on the ability of a student to pay back their loan after graduation. He gave the example of Ireland, where 15 years ago free post secondary education began to be offered. Ireland now has one of the most rapidly growing technological economies. Nicol said that our government is burdening students, not encouraging them. Rather than asking "what can I contribute to society?" students are asking "how can I pay back my loan?"

Student loans create a 2-tier system that excludes students and places an unfair burden on families; creating a "support system for financial systems." Rather than helping students, we are enriching financial institutions.

Mike Hudema spoke next. He pointed out that tuition has risen 209% at the U of A since 1991. The 6.4% hike, along with differential tuition for law, medicine and business, will effectively double tuition in many faculties. Other provinces are freezing tuition or rolling it back, and tuition relief needs to be a priority in Alberta. Mike called these tuition increases an "attack on accessibility" that leaves out low and middle income students; a form of "capital punishment" that punishes those without capital.

He pointed out that high tuition deters qualified students without finances from even applying, since low-income students are half as likely to enter medical school. Eventually there will be no more public interest courses as students are forced to choose courses and programs that lead to high paying jobs. Mike also referred to a CAUT study that showed hours of work required to pay back tuition are already six times higher than 1991. A law degree tuition of \$80-100,000 currently takes 9-12 years to pay back, and the dramatic increases proposed by the U of A will have a serious effect on student choices. He concluded by stating that the number one solution is more government funding, along with better administration of the university budget. Enough is enough!

University representative Fran Trehearne followed, stating that the future of post secondary education is broader than tuition only. He claimed that it is hard to convince the public to spend money on higher education, since they do not see it as a priority when compared to issues such as health care. The government is also not convinced that greater funding is needed for education, seeing it as a highly marketable commodity. When "doors are jammed" with students, the government feels there is no problem with tuition costs. Trehearne insisted that the biggest factor affecting accessibility is the lack of facilities, not high tuition. He stated that the U of A simply cannot admit another student, there is no room.

Trehearne also spoke of the importance of research to the U of A, since research grants represent the greatest financial contribution to the university. In the future in Alberta there will be greater differentiation, more degree granting institutions, with one or two strong research universities.

Grad student rep Dan Preece was next. He confirmed that when their group was lobbying the government for more money the attitude was that the "average voter thinks funding for education

is not a priority". Increased tuition is not something only parents should worry about. There is an impending "brain drain" as those with PhD's who are currently running things will soon be retiring. There are not enough replacements to fill the need of some 40,000 PhD's in ten years. The government has set a goal of increasing grad student enrolment by 5% per year. Only 50% of PhD students complete their degrees due to lack of funding. Loss of income and debt load pulls them from their studies to go to work. Without greater funding for grad studies, government targets will not be met, and in 10-15 years our economy will lose a substantial part of our educated workforce.

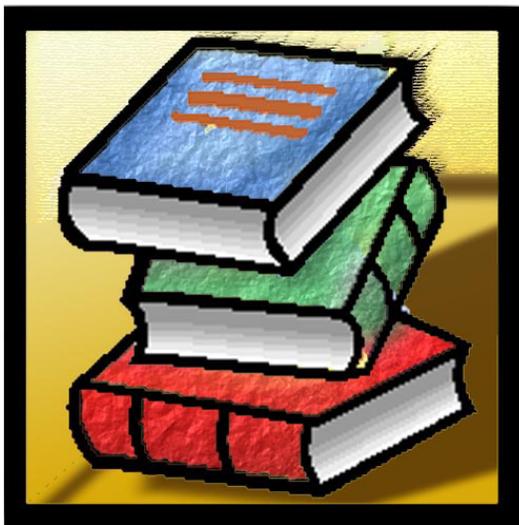
The final speaker was Dr. Raj Pannu of the NDP party. He attributed increased tuition to the government's cost shifting strategies. The government is engaged in deliberate policy making that puts all education costs on students, in spite of economic justification to expand education and keep costs low to attract more students. 12-13% of tuition used to come from students, but in 1994-95 a decision was made to raise this to 30%, justified as necessary to address the budget deficit. Once the deficit was gone, the government used elimination of debt as justification. Now it has become a philosophical issue, a consumer mentality - if students want an education they should pay for it.

Dr. Pannu said that we have returned to an inheritance model where only the wealthy go to university and the ability to achieve is gone. All Albertans need access to post secondary education or we will have a society with people who are not concerned about the consequences of their actions on the community. The only thing worth learning is that which has a value in the marketplace. "Do we want universities to become corporate driven?" asked Dr. Pannu, going on to explain that university education creates the type of society we want to live in - we need arts degrees as much as we need law degrees.

The panel was followed by questions from the audience. Since no PC government representatives accepted the invitation to attend, it was difficult to generate much debate or seek answers on why this government is refusing to adequately fund post-secondary education. However, some interesting thoughts and comments were made. The audience agreed that we should challenge the attitude that Albertans don't want to fund education. Questions were asked regarding the government push for research, and the system that rewards research rather than teaching - creating a situation where a choice must be made between teaching and doing money-generating research. A comment was made that we've moved from an academic institution to "can it be commercialized?" Some discussion revolved around the Telus Centre, a corporate donation that resulted in an operating loss to the university of Alberta of \$1.6 million over the last two years.

Fran Trehearne generated the most controversy of the evening, when he commented on the November 10th CAUS Journal advertisement that said that to become a doctor, a university education will cost at least \$111,817 on top of living expenses. He stated that his neighbours saw the ad and commented that it sounded like a good deal. The audience response was, "what neighbourhood do YOU live in?"

The forum played an important role in raising awareness of what the major post-secondary tuition issues are, and how they affect each and every one of us. Athabasca University Students' Union will be participating in the next forum, to be held in Lethbridge on November 22nd.



Library 101

Contributed by The Insider

Librarian Elaine Magusin continues the series "Things You Should Know About the Library."

Q: I've been having difficulty logging into the journal databases from home. I've entered my username and library/student id number but it still won't let me in. Can you help?

A: Patrons often encounter difficulties logging in from home. Generally, the problem can be solved by modifying your browser settings. If you are

using Internet Explorer 5x or 6 [go to](#) this page and follow the instructions given. If you are using Netscape 4.7x follow the instructions [given here](#). Please note that we are not currently supporting Netscape 7. If you continue to have difficulties, please email us at library@athabascau.ca or call us at extension 6254.

Q: I'm interested in finding videos on Canadian literature. Is there a way of locating videos only?

A: Yes, it is possible to limit your results to many different types of material, including videos, sound recordings etc. To do so, go to the [library catalogue](#) and choose Keyword as your search option. Then choose the Advanced Search button. Type your topic into the search button and then click on the drop down menu beside Material Type. To limit to videos only, choose the heading Video/Slide. The only items retrieved will be videos or slides.



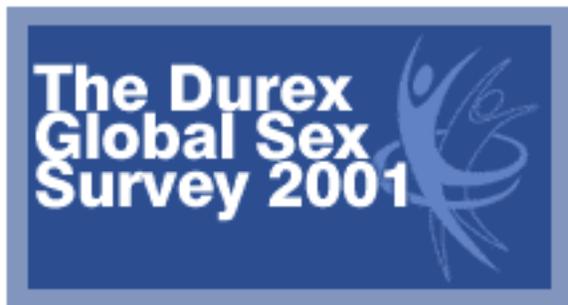
AU Hosts New Web Encyclopedia Contributed by The Insider

Athabasca University is the new host for the Encyclopedia of Canadian Theatre on the web. The site provides a comprehensive listing of Canadian playwrights, plays, and theatre practitioners, from information submitted by academics and those involved in the business and pleasure of the theatre. It is updated regularly, and is cross-linked.

The Encyclopedia was originally conceived and developed over a period of five years by Gaetan Charlesbois, a Montreal theatre critic, playwright, and actor, who has an insatiable love for the theatre. And it grew and grew, necessitating institutional support.

Gaetan approached Anne Nothof, president of the Association for Canadian Theatre Research (and AU English professor), who also has an insatiable love for the theatre. Given the important educational function and worldwide access of the site, Anne believed it a good fit with AU.

With the indispensable support of Mike Sosteric and Madeline Holt from DEPTH, the site has been transferred and is being redesigned. An editorial board comprising members from the Association for Canadian Theatre Research will update and revise the contents. This site will also be linked to several course home pages. [Check it out](http://www.canadiantheatre.com/) at: <http://www.canadiantheatre.com/>



Survey Finds Canadian Teens Having More Sex at a Younger Age!

Condom company says info is suppose to educate

By Marshall Bellamy, UWO

Gazette

(graphic from <http://www.durex.com/index.html>)

LONDON, ONT. (CUP) -- The results are in, Quebec loves love and more 14-year-olds are getting laid.

Durex Canada recently released a survey revealing sexuality trends among Canadian youth.

The poll surveyed 2,000 people nationally between the ages of 18 to 29, said Barbara Case, senior consultant of Decima Research, the company that conducted the survey.

Nationally, 43 per cent of Canadian teens do the horizontal polka at least once a week, but, in Ontario, only 37 per cent get laid on a weekly basis, making Ontario the most sexually deprived province in Canada.

"That's not enough – it's a shame," said second-year University of Western Ontario student Derrick Johnston, who gave credit to the sexuality class he is now attending for his insights into sex.

Overall, 39 per cent of teenagers questioned lost their virginity because they were in love, 20 per cent get some sweet loving after the first week of a relationship and Quebec youth are more apt to make whoopee at a younger age than kids in other provinces.

The survey also revealed that Canadian youth are having more sex when they are younger. Sixteen per cent of those polled were under 14 for their first time and 38 per cent were between the ages of 15-17. Quebec seems to be the most sex-crazed province, as the study revealed that the province's teens tend to be the most likely to lose their virginity at a younger age.

"I used to get it more when I was younger," said fourth-year sociology student Andrea, who declined to give her last name, adding, "You get tired of the walk of shame after a one night stand."

"The whole purpose of doing the survey is to raise the profile of the issue," said Ted Conley, vice-president of consumer marketing at Durex. "People should abstain before they can handle the consequences."

"This is one sphere of student life the [University Students' Council] should get involved in, now or later," joked Student Council President Chris Sinal.

* 42 per cent of females do the hanky panky for the first time between the ages of 15-17 as opposed to 25 per cent of males.

* 76 per cent of the youths surveyed use condoms with a new bed buddy.

* 27 per cent of the respondents in the prairies wait until marriage to do the nasty.

* 37 per cent of Quebecers said that if they had to wait for sex after the first week in a relationship, they would be more likely to shack up with a new partner.



Barlow condemns corporate threat

Activist warns future trade agreements will gobble up public services still untouched by market

By Mimi Luse, The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP) -- "Keep your hands off our healthcare, our education, our water," said Canadian

activist and author Maude Barlow's to multinational corporations Friday at McGill University.

Barlow, speaking at the "Directing the Winds of Change: Educational Perspectives on Globalization" conference, attacked the increase in privatization of the "commons" or public services, which she says is occurring at an alarming rate here and internationally due to multinational trade agreements.

"These trade agreements used to only talk about tariffs and taxes, and now they're talking about health care and education and water ... taking over whatever was left out of the market system," Barlow said.

The volunteer chairperson for the Council of Canadians discussed the broader forces of privatization, describing her recent trip to the World Summit on International Development, as "just a fancy trade show ... BMW, DeBeers, all had a huge display." Such summits, she said, are permeated with the "Washington Consensus," and "you're either with us or your against us"

notions. Barlow contends that this pressures world leaders to yield to corporate control and ratify trade agreements such as the FTAA and GATS (Global Agreement on Trades and Services).

The result, she said, is the “privatization of everything,” which leads federal governments to cut public funding so those affected turn to private support in exchange for advertising and influence.

“Every time you let the private sector build something that the public sector should be doing, you prove the right-wing politicians right.”

Barlow focused on the corporate sponsorship of schools, which she said has caused a generation of people to, “in Ralph Nader’s words, ‘grow up corporate.’” According to Barlow, Canada’s charter schools and vouchers are “failing, yet people are ideologically committed because the public schools have rats in the cafeterias [due to government cuts]”. She believes that in this case, “what has replaced democracy is corporate rule.”

To the people in audience she appealed, “Those of you in higher education, we need you to do research on the FTAA and the GATS.”

Karina Younk, conference co-chair of the organizing Education Graduate Student Society, commented that the privatization of education is especially noticeable in faculty research programs, where research grants can take precedence over education.

“There’s a concern in the faculty that the goal of faculty members is to go out and get contracts ... While the professor is madly filling out research grants, they’re not teaching,” Younk said.



Libby, on education

***NDP member says
government needs to move
towards free tuition***

**By Adam Grachnik, Ottawa
Bureau**

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Paul Martin created the disaster [and I] don’t know how he gets away with it, says an MP from her office in Vancouver.

The disaster that NDP MP Libby Davies is ranting about is the affordability of post-secondary education and the increasing debt she feels students are graduating into.

“The root of problem is that we’ve seen a massive retreat in federal funding to social programs. This is funding that used to go to post-secondary education,” she said.

According to Davies, when the Liberals took power in 1993 former finance minister Paul Martin, immediately cut “billions of dollars out of the [Canadian Health and Social Transfer (CHST)] plan.”

The CHST is presently a \$37.5 billion federal transfer fund earmarked for provincial health care, social assistance and post-secondary education. In 1993, when the Liberals rose to power Martin’s department hacked billions out of it and over the decade, Davies’ office estimates, by and large federal support to the provinces for post-secondary education is down 34 per cent.

“I have never seen such a fundamental assault on programs as under the Liberals,” she said. “They [Liberals] speak on both sides of their mouths. I’ve heard them say the future is knowledge based. Yet they are starving the system and placing a higher and higher burden on students to get through the system.”

A system, she believes, is forcing students into arrears.

“They’re being forced to borrow more and more money and are graduating into massive debt,” she said. “This put students in an impossible situation [and creates] a lot of anxiety and stress,”

Davies estimates that the average student debt rose from \$8,000 in 1990 to more than \$25,000 in 2001.

Additionally, the MP from Vancouver East feels that because of dwindling funding from the federal government, “some provinces will use this as a further cover to make cuts of their own.”

While she admits that some provinces, like Quebec, are doing better than others, both the provinces and the federal governments need to get together.

“It’s easy for the provinces to say screw you,” she said.

“We need to create a partnership,” she adds, stressing that this debate is very similar to the on-going health care funding debate. “There is a huge hole in the system with the provinces. They need lead from federal government.”

If funding isn’t increased she thinks institution will be forced to move towards the private sector.

“Privatization is a very bad trend,” she said, using the numerous research chairs that have been set up across the country as an example. “The marketplace is beginning to dictate curriculum.”

She offers a simple solution to generating more funds.

“It’s only a matter of what the priorities are in the federal budget,” she explains. “It was a terrible mistake that the Liberals capitulated to the Alliance [and] brought in massive tax breaks.”

“That’s lost revenue.”

She believes that this money, including “the surplus that exists could be dedicated to post-secondary education.”

And what would Davies do if she found herself in power?

“I would look at ideas of establishing a department that has a much clearer mandate,” she said.

“The NDP, has called for a tuition freeze [...] At some point we have to move towards free tuition.”

“Yes it’s affordable, it’s just a question of what the political priorities are.”



Free Health Benefits for Children in Low-income Families

From information provided by Alberta Human Resources and Employment

THE VOICE November 20, 2002

The Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB) provides children in low-income families with free:

- Dental care
- Prescription drugs
- Eyewear
- Emergency ambulance services
- Essential diabetic supplies

More families are now eligible for coverage through the ACHB because of increased income eligibility levels, which took effect July 1, 2002. These income levels are associated with the number of children in the family:

- 1 child for family net income of \$ 22,397
- 2 children, \$ 24,397

- 3 children, \$ 26,397
- 4 children, \$ 28,397
- more than 4 children, add \$ 2,000 for each additional child

Enrolment in the ACHB is free. Eligibility for the program is based on the family's net income from their previous year's Income Tax Notice of Assessment (line 236). Once their applications are approved, qualifying families receive ACHB benefit cards that allow them to access approved services and products directly from service providers at no cost.

To get an application form:

1-877-4MY-KIDS

1-877-469-5437

www.gov.ab.ca/hre/achb



Notice to AU graduate students and those considering entering graduate studies at AU:

Athabasca University Students' Union is in the process of establishing an AU Graduate Students' Association.

Here's a sampling of benefits of belonging to a Graduate Students' Association:

- **Graduate student representation on University Committees**
- **University and government advocacy and lobbying**
- **Affiliation with provincial and national graduate students' organizations**
- **Assistance with university/student dispute resolution**
- **Information source**
- **Networking**

For more information contact:

Shirley Barg, Vice-President

Athabasca University Students' Union

Email: sbarg@ausu.org or call 1-800-9041 ext. 3413

Edmonton local number: 497-7000

Calgary local number: 298-2905



AUSU SPEAKS: Fall Session Provided By AUSU

AUSU met on the evening of September 16th for the last regular council meeting of the 2001/2002 fiscal year. Finances and our preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year were the main topics of discussion, and we laid the groundwork for some exciting new scholarships and student awards. Also under discussion was the possibility of selling AUSU promotional items in the future.

The most important topic of the evening was our upcoming AGM. For those who do not already know, the 2002 AGM will take place on September 28, 2002 at 1:00 PM MST, and all students are welcome. You may attend in person at the Edmonton AUSU offices, located at #306, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB, or you may attend via teleconference from any location, worldwide. Call our office at 1-800-788-9041, extension 3413, or email ausu@ausu.org for more information. Please reserve your spot as soon as possible, so that we know how many attendees to plan for. We'd love to see you there.

Also on the table this week was a proposal for new scholarships and student awards, which was approved by all councillors. Information about these awards will be available on our website as soon as we hammer out the last of the fine details. The details will be posted on the AUSU Services page.

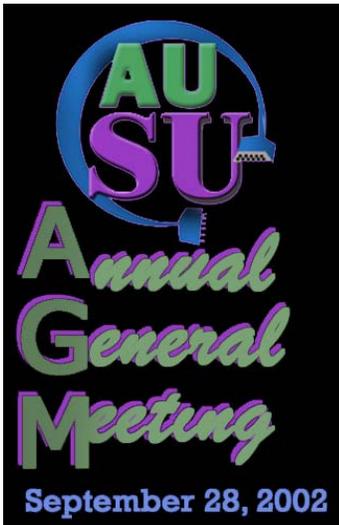
The fate of the AUSU Handbook/Planner is still up in the air. We want to be able to give students items that will be useful to them in their studies, but we need to be certain that the handbook is the best choice before we commit to having more printed. Student input so far has indicated that a smaller planner might be more useful, while other suggestions have included wall calendars, desk calendars, and other items. So far, however, we have had only a few responses to our survey, and we require more.

Please check out the [AUSU discussion forums](#) on our website and select the Handbook/Planner Survey topic to download the survey file or to comment in the open forum. Alternatively, you may mail your comments to dkereluk@ausu.org. We'd like to know what might be useful to you, what items you have received from other students' unions that you have used and enjoyed, and if you have any opinions on the old format of the AUSU Handbook.

Speaking of student input, we are pleased to say that since the first issue of the AUSU newsletter started arriving in students' mailboxes, we have had many entries for the contest, and a significant increase in Voice readers and users of the AUSU forums. For all of you who just checked out AUSU for the first time this month - welcome!

Finally, back to business matters, AUSU council has approved the proposed preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year, and we are very pleased to announce that our expenditures for the 2001/2002 fiscal year will remain within budget for that period.

Many new projects have been initiated since the new council took over in March, and we're very excited about the coming year. Expect a summary of our work so far to appear in the Voice or on the AUSU website very soon.



NEWS FROM THE AGM Provided By AUSU Council

The 9th Annual General Meeting of AUSU was held this past Saturday, September 28 at 1:00 P.M. Eleven students were in attendance, nine in person and two via teleconference. Quorum was satisfied and the meeting could proceed. In the President's welcome, Debbie Jabbour commented that the low attendance should not be taken as an indicator of apathy, but rather one that speaks to the reality of the lives of Athabasca University Students. Many may be interested in participating in student affairs, but few can manage to find the time to do so. Debbie also spoke of the uniqueness of AU students, and the importance of having a good relationship with the

university administration.

Judith Hughes, Athabasca University Vice President External and Student Affairs, brought a welcome from AU and seconded Debbie's words about the importance of collaboration and cooperation between the university and the students' union. Many changes are occurring within our university, and development of strong alumni is a first step towards strengthening the image of AU and finding alternate forms of fundraising to benefit the university. By working collaboratively, AU and AUSU can also have a more effective voice in lobbying the government for policy changes that recognize that AU is different and should not be considered under the same funding policies as other universities. Current policies do not recognize our technological infrastructure and open entrance policy, and the result is that AU must rely for the main part on tuition fees rather than government funding to maintain operations.

Activity reports were presented. It was recognized that most of the current group of Council members were not part of the 2000/2001 fiscal year, and did not have input into the financial statements presented. However, Council wanted members to know a bit more about us, and let everyone know what we've been up to recently and what is being planned for the future, so each Councillor submitted an activity report.

The financial statements were presented. Treasurer Gurpreet Dulai explained that an operational deficit had been incurred due to the reprint of the student diaries. Steps have been taken to ensure this type of problem won't re-occur, and during the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the deficit will be recovered. He also explained that increased convocation costs were a deliberate move intended to raise AUSU profile and provide greater graduation support during the most important event of the year. Overall AUSU began the 2001/2002 fiscal year in a financially healthy position.

Once those in attendance approved the financial statements, and an auditor appointed for the upcoming fiscal year, the floor was opened to general discussion and questions. Several Council members spoke about their experience of being on Council during this past year, and how positive and educational it has been. Darren Kereluk, who along with Gurpreet Dulai, are the only Council members who had any significant presence during 2000/2001; Derek spoke of how different the experience has been this past year from the one he had when on Council previously. Even though disagreements occasionally occur, this group has been able to resolve things without entering into the type of conflict that tore the previous Council apart. Others on Council agreed that the atmosphere among this group has been always positive. Even when there is disagreement on how to proceed, the attitude is to discuss it and move on - move forward whether or not there is 100% consensus on issues.

Debbie Jabbour brought the meeting to a conclusion by thanking everyone on Council, volunteers and staff for their participation in making this last year such an enjoyable venture. She noted that in future years, other Council groups may look back at what we do and wonder “what were they thinking?”, and that although we may make mistakes, we are all working with good intentions to improve the student experience for all AU students. The upcoming spring AGM will be a celebration of the 10th anniversary of AUSU, and plans are already underway to make it a very special meeting.

The 2001 Annual Report is available to any AU student who wishes to obtain a copy, and we encourage you to do so. You can request one by calling 1-800-788-9041, extension 3413 (local to Edmonton 497-7000); or by email to ausu@ausu.org. Please include your full name and AU student ID, as well as a mailing address. Indicate whether you prefer a hard copy mailout or a pdf copy by email (include your email address).

Thank you to everyone who showed an interest in the 2000/2001 AGM. We look forward to seeing you next spring for our tenth anniversary AGM!



Conference Connections

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **CASE District VIII** - March 8-11, 2003 - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho - "Connect in Coeur d'Alene." Details: <http://www.connectincda.com>
- **ICDE World Conference** - 21st annual - June 1-5, 2003 - Hong Kong. Deadline for abstract submission is Aug. 1, 2002. Details: <http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/HK2003>
- **CADE** - June 7-11, 2003 - St. John's NF
- **International Studies Association and the Central and East European International Studies Association (ISA/CEEISA)** - June 26-28, 2003 - "The Global Tensions and Their Challenges to Governance of the International Community" conference at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

ESSAY CONTEST 2003

The Elie Wiesel PRIZE IN ETHICS



SUGGESTED TOPICS:

Reflect on the most profound, moral dilemma you have ever encountered and analyze what it taught you about ethics.

How can human beings move beyond hate toward reconciliation?

Explore ethical responses to fanaticism, hate and violence.

What ethical issue concerns you most and what concrete proposals would you make to deal with it?

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 2, 2002

- **ELIGIBILITY:** Full-time undergraduate juniors and seniors during the fall 2002 semester.

Students must complete an Entry Form along with their Faculty Sponsor. Any interested professor may act as a Faculty Sponsor and endorse the quality and authenticity of the student's essay. In addition, students are asked to include a letter from their registrar verifying eligibility.

FIRST PRIZE: \$5000.00

SECOND PRIZE: \$2500.00

THIRD PRIZE: \$ 1500.00

HONOURABLE MENTIONS: \$ 500.00 EACH

Entry forms, detailed guidelines and further information are available online at www.eliewieselfoundation.org, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics
The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity
529 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1802
New York, NY 10017

Telephone: 212.490.7777

Kinsmen and Kinettes Bursary - Hal Rogers Endowment Fund

Value: \$1000

Application Deadline: February 1

Description:

- Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- Must be full-time students in the upcoming school year at a recognized post-secondary institution
- Selection is based on demonstrated high ideals and qualities of citizenship
- Recipients must not have previously received a bursary from the Hal Rogers Endowment Fund
- Applicants WILL NOT be eligible for consideration if the application form is mailed directly to the Kinsmen & Kinette Clubs of Canada without receiving prior endorsement from a Kinsmen, Kinette or Kin club

Instructions:

- Application forms must be submitted to a Kinsmen, Kinette, or Kin Club closest to the applicant's permanent residence
- For further information about application procedures, please contact the administrator listed below or visit www.kinclubs.ca

Contact Information:

Kinsmen and Kinettes Bursary Program
Kinsmen and Kinette Clubs of Canada
1920 Hal Rogers Drive, P.O. Box KIN

Cambridge, Ontario
Canada
N3H 5C6
Phone: 519-653-1920
Phone 2: 1-800-742-5546 ext.215
Fax: 1-800-742-5546
Web Site: www.carville.com/kinclubstest/href1.htm
Email Address: bzak@kinclubs.ca

Michael Luchkovich Scholarships for Career Development

Value: Not specified

Application Deadline: December 1, April 1 and August 1

Description:

- Residents of Alberta
- Present full-time employee pursuing further training
- Minimum full-time work history of 3 years
- Program of study may be up to six months of full-time study or up to one year of part-time study

A semester of study towards an undergraduate degree or diploma program will normally not be considered

Instructions:

- Application deadlines are December 1, April 1 and August 1
- For further information please visit

Contact Information:

Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund
9940-106 Street, 9th Floor, Box 28000, Stn. Main,
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada
T5J 4R4
Web Site: www.alberta-learning.ab.ca/scholarships/info.asp



COMMENTARY AND FEEDBACK!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter To The Editor:

People's Movement for Human Rights Education (PDHRE)

Human Rights are the greatest gift of contemporary thought to humanity. It is not only a vision for a better world, but also a tool for achieving it. Yet somehow, as we enter the new millennium, it is a term that has come to represent in the public mind not the hope of the future, but rather legal processes, charges and counter charges, and at times even, a certain empty rhetorical self-righteousness.

Since 1989, the People's Movement for Human Rights Education (PDHRE), an international NGO, instrumental in UN launching a Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, has been developing, enhancing and facilitating worldwide training in human rights education at all levels of society.

Human Rights Cities: A Historic Innovation

PDHRE, drawing on its rich experience and perception of needs and capacities, with the enthusiasm of local communities, is facilitating the development of Human Rights Cities around the world. Inhabitants, local authorities, community agencies and institutions, NGO's, non-profit human development societies, labour, professional associations, and neighbourhoods learn, reflect and act, joining to participate in the development plans of their city - guided by the commitments made and obligations undertaken by their governments having ratified numerous human rights Covenants and conventions **'to assure that all laws, policies, resources and relationships in the community, maintain the dignity and serve the well being of all women, men, youth and children in the city' ...**

Seven self-selected cities are presently implementing a Human Rights Cities Program. These are: Abra Indigenous Municipality (Philippines); Dinajur (Bangladesh); Graz (Austria); Kati (Mali); Nagpur (India); Rosario (Argentina); Thies (Senegal); and several more are in development in Ghana, Spain and Samoa.

In Edmonton, the John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights (www.johnhumphreycentre.org) has invited Ms Shulamith Koenig, Executive Director of PDHRE for a 3 days visit at the end of November (27,28,29), 2002 and she will be meeting with various community sectors and civic officials to explore the idea of working towards making Edmonton a **Human Rights City!**

Should you have an interest in this innovative initiative, daytime interviews can be arranged -- **kindly let us know in advance.**

Warmest regards,

Leo Campos A.

Media & Community Outreach

The John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights

Tel/Fax: (780) 474-6058

Cell: (780) 995-6819

PS. To learn more about the John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights, please visit:

www.johnhumphreycentre.org

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Hello,

I was under the impression you may be interested in a new initiative that we are starting here on Parliament Hill. It concerns the website www.ingenuitycanada.com I'll provide a little information about the website and the initiative, any other questions you have feel free to contact me personally. This initiative allows the common Canadian, who otherwise might continue to feel disconnected from Federal policy making, to get involved.

It allows individuals to post their ingenious or creative ideas to the website, and if these ideas are deemed legitimate they will be brought before the corresponding minister. As well, ministers will be asked for a prompt response and held accountable, as their response will be posted to the site. Finally, two of the best ideas will be rewarded a 10,000 internship on Parliament Hill (If the individual is over a certain age then they can send an intern in their place.) We would greatly appreciate your help in getting the message out, particularly in involving the students at your

university. We feel it is of the utmost importance to involve young Canadians, as they are undoubtedly a source for fresh ideas that will shape our future. Any help you could give us would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Mendel
(613) 992-7771
mendel747@hotmail.com

Dear Readers,

I have received a number of email asking for printable editions of the current Voice. The current issue is always included in the list of PDF Archives (link from the cover page) or they can be found on the internal pages under “Download PDF Version of The Voice” at the bottom of the right hand index list.

Thank-you for your readership and support!

Tammy Moore

Thanks to all of you who have been providing us with such great feedback on The Voice. Please continue providing your opinions, comments and support; any submissions can be sent to tmoore@ausu.org

****PLEASE REMEMBER ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR INTENDED FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE MARKED “FOR PUBLICATION”.**

Accepted letters to the editor have not been edited, nor do they necessarily reflect the opinions of The Voice staff, AUSU, or Athabasca University.

Tammy Moore



ENLIGHTENING INFORMATION!

WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact Tammy Moore at tmoore@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice, providing a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



HONOURARY DEGREES! – The Call for Nominations

Contributed By AU

Athabasca University Governing Council invites nominations for Honourary Degrees to be presented at Convocation ceremonies on June 13 and 14, 2003 in Athabasca, Alberta.

Candidates will have distinguished themselves in education, science, the arts, public service, or other areas, and have made significant life-long contributions to endeavours consistent with the mandate and purpose of Athabasca University.

A letter including the rationale for the nomination, résumé of the nominee, and any supporting documents must be received by Monday, December 2, 2002. The nominator must include his/her address and signature. All nominations should be marked “Personal and Confidential” and should be addressed to:

Carol Lund
Office of the Governing Council
Athabasca University
1 University Drive
Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3

For further information, contact Ms. Lund at the above address, by phone (780-675-6271), by fax (780-675-6450), or by email (caroll@athabascau.ca).

Specializing in distance online education, Athabasca University delivers university education to approximately 26,000 students per year. Athabasca University is dedicated to the removal of

barriers that restrict access to, and success in, university studies, and to increasing the equality of educational opportunity for adult learners worldwide.

For information about Athabasca University, visit www.athabascau.ca



AU News From Academic Council Contributed by The Insider

Academic Council passed the following Action Items at its Nov. 6th meeting:

- Step II & III approval of a Master of Nursing program (open for applications on April 1, 2003 with courses beginning Sept. 1, 2003)
- Regulation changes to the Master of Health Studies program (effective Sept. 1, 2003)
- Step II approval for the Environmental Studies program (includes a concentration within the BA and a University Certificate program)
- Credentials awarded to the graduands in the Advanced Graduate Diploma in Management

Approval given for the three new centres with the School of Business: Centre for Accounting and Taxation; Centre for Finance, Management, and the Economy; and Centre for Marketing and Organization



Diverse Voices: Bridging Troubled Waters Annual Family Violence Conference

November 28-29, 2002

Infoline: 437-8013 / Fax: 439-6819

- E-mail: dorothy@icdr.com

At the Santa Maria Goretti Community
Centre
11050 - 90 Street, Edmonton, Alberta

Join outstanding speakers & colleagues to:

- Learn how to develop educational initiatives
- Explore how to reach people with varying needs
- Share success stories and best practices with colleagues working in different areas of social development & healthy communities

Expand your knowledge of family violence issues and programs.

Learn about & understand the services & tools available to deal with it ...

Some of our guest speakers include: Dr. Baukje Miedema, Sue & David Languedoc, Manjeet Kent, Judi Fairholm to name just a few ... This conference is hosted by a coalition of social & human development agencies working on family violence issues.

For conference program & registration, please visit: www.icdr.ab.ca/conference
or contact Intercultural & Community Development Resources Inc. at:

Telephone: 437-8013 / Fax: 439-6819 / E-mail: dorothy@icdr.com

Masters & Scribes Bookshoppe: specializing in crossing cultures & conference and meeting planners. Visit us @ 9938-81 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1W6

Tel: 780.437.8013, Fax: 780.439.6879 / website: www.mastersandscribes.com

CHANGES TO THE UNDERGRAD GRADING POLICY AT AU!

This is to advise you of an important change in the undergraduate Grading Policy at Athabasca University.

Athabasca University has approved a new Alpha/4.0 grading scale for undergraduate studies effective January 1, 2003. The grades that students achieve will be stated, on transcripts and in student records, as alpha grades on a scale from A to F. Grade averages will be expressed as Grade Point Averages using the 4.0 grading scale.

These changes in grading scale are part of a province-wide initiative in Alberta.

Undergraduate courses that began before January 2003 will be graded using the percentage grading scale.

For a complete statement of this Athabasca University policy please go to:
<http://www.athabascau.ca/policy/registry/gradingpolicy2002.htm>

If you have questions please contact me.

Bruce Dawson
Assistant Registrar, Registration Services
Athabasca University
1 University Drive
Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3
Phone 780-675-6147, Fax 780-675-6174



Canada World Youth ...

An opportunity for Aboriginal youth in international development education!

The Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program will take place from Jan. through April 2003. A team of eight Aboriginal youth from Alberta will spend this time together in the rural community of Amatlan, near Cuernavaca, Mexico.

They will live with host families and volunteer in a variety of work placements. This unique program will focus on developing transferable employment and leadership skills, and learning about social and community development issues. Canada World Youth (CWY) is a national non-

profit organization offering international programs for youth since 1971. CWY provides youth with a non-formal educational experience that encourages community action and involvement.

These programs promote intercultural understanding, increased awareness of development issues, a sense of commitment to community involvement and the development of personal and professional skills. This program may be for you if you are interested in:

Discovering the people and culture of a rural Mexican community
Living and working with other Aboriginal youth from Alberta and Mexico
Acquiring practical work experience and transferable job skills
Becoming a leader in your own community
Sharing your culture, values and perspectives in a safe team environment
Developing an awareness of social justice / community development issues
Education based on learning through doing rather than classroom instruction.

To be eligible, you must be:

First Nations AND a Metropolitan Edmonton resident --- OR --- Metis AND a non-settlement Alberta resident --- **You must also be:**

Between 20 and 25 years old
Out of school & unemployed (but not eligible for EI income benefits)
In good health
Motivated and committed to learning and skills development
Able to live and work away from home for the duration of the program

Applications must be received as soon as possible, so that travel arrangements and all pre-program preparations can be completed.

There will be a Pre-Program Orientation in mid- Nov., 2002
The program will run from Jan. 6 through Apr. 17, 2003

If you **know of young people** who would qualify (pls. pass this on) if you fit the criteria and this appeals to you contact:

MetisNation of Alberta Association
Attn: Kim Muller, Youth Coordinator
Tel: 455-2200 / e-mail: kmuller@metis.org

Or:

Oteenow Employment Centre
Attn: Penny Laboucan
Tel: 423-2340 / Fax: 421-4760
e-mail: plaboucan@oteenow.com

Or:

Canada World Youth
#205, 10816A - 82 Ave., Edmonton, AB T6J 4J4
Phone 1-877-929-6884 toll free or 432-1877 local
e-mail: cball@cwj-jcm.org / www.cwj-jcm.org

This program receives funding from the **MetisNation of Alberta**, **Oteenow Employment & Training Society**, and the **Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)**.



From: Action on Smoking & Health (ASH)
Re: Support a Smoking Ban in Restaurants, Bars and Lounges

Edmonton City Council is now considering amendments to the smoking bylaw to ban smoking in public places, including restaurants, bars and lounges.

Last year, City Council amended the existing bylaw to protect children from second hand smoke by banning smoking in public places where children are allowed, such as restaurants.

Unfortunately the amendment that passed was not clear, and many restaurants took advantage by trying to have one part of their restaurant a smoking section for adults, and the other for families and non-smokers - without any separation between the two areas! Smoke drift remains a problem. Children are not being protected, and the Councillors are now revising the bylaw to close the loopholes.

There is another group of people living in our community who need protection. These people include the many who work in "smoking" restaurants, as well as bars and lounges. These people often work in smoke filled rooms for as long as eight hours a day - some even longer! These workers deserve protection. No one should have to work in a place that puts their health at risk. Many of these people are our young people - old enough to be working in a place filled with smoke, but too old to be protected by a bylaw focused on protecting the health of children.

The recent landmark decision by WCB to award Heather Crowe, a non-smoking Ottawa waitress

diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, compensation for her work-related illness is a wake-up call to take measures to protect hospitality workers from the hazards of second-hand smoke. **Please contact City Hall** and tell them that you support a smoking ban in restaurants, bars and lounges to protect the health of hospitality workers - and all citizens - from the hazards of second hand smoke.

Call: The Citizen's Action Centre at 496-8200
Or: e-mail all City Councillors at council2@edmonton.ca

E-mail your city councillor individually by using their first and last name (e.g. jane.batty@edmonton.ca) or call 496-8110 to speak to your councillor directly)

For further information contact:
Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)
www.ash.ca
Tel: **407-6819**



Just Christmas 2002

Infoline: 474-6058 (or) 995-6819
An early Announcement

Just Christmas (from 'justice at Christmas') is an alternative global marketplace for quality fair trade crafts and other goods. Marketplace participants are not-for-profit organizations whose mandate is to foster global awareness and to support international development projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

This year the event takes place on Nov. 29-30 at the Prince of Wales Armouries, 10440 - 108 A Avenue, and will feature a special international fashion show highlighting the work of 10,000 Villages ... Please see details below.

Just Christmas 2002 is a Global Craft Marketplace featuring fair trade crafts and other worldly goods, live entertainment, delicious finger foods and refreshments.

The Prince of Wales Armouries
10440 - 108 A Avenue

Friday November 29
6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday November 30

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wheelchair Accessible. Admission is free but **donations are welcomed.**

e-mail: leocamposa@aol.com

Just Christmas 2002 is: CEBES, Change for Children, Guatemala Support Group, Latin Crafts, Romero House, Sombrilla Refugee Society, 10.000 Villages, UNICEF, 10 Days for Global Justice, Amnesty International, HumanServe International, Awareness Programs, Changing Together, P.E.T. Project, Ghana Friendship Association, Filipino Canadian Women's Association, Peruvian Rett Syndrome Society, WUSC, Habitat for Humanity, CSS - Host Program, Canada-Tibet Committee, Guatemalan Canadian Society, Doctors Without Borders, Lingap Institute, Canadian Crossroads International ...



The Community Networks Group Event Calendar

- **Nicaragua Night: A Change for Children's Event**
Saturday, November 23
Proceeds support CFC's Nicaraguan projects.
INFOLINE: 448-1505
 - **Just Christmas 2002!**
A Global Crafts & Fair Trade Marketplace
November 29 & 30
INFOLINE: 474-6058
-



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

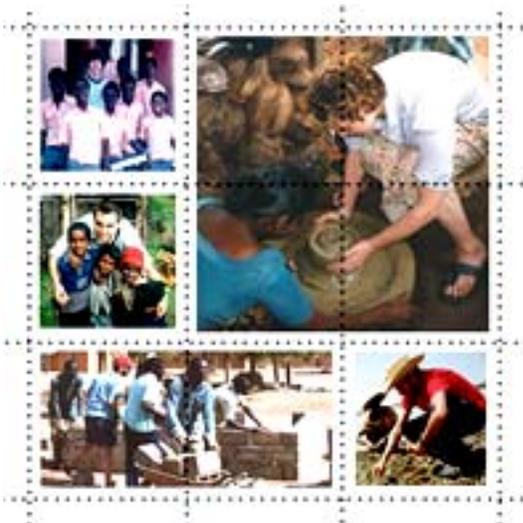
Contributed By The Community Networks Group

AWARENESS PROGRAMS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Volunteers Needed and Invited to Help

Infoline: 924-3432

We are a volunteer, registered non-profit society which has been serving the work of Wanjiku Kironyo in Kenya for seventeen years. Wanjiku works in the slum communities with the women and street kids, handicapped children and youth groups. Our chairperson, Rosalind Shepherd, is leaving for Africa and we need someone to help us to hold the work together while she is gone. Our Board consists of ten people, who work on various aspects of the work. We need someone who has space for a small office, and the skills to be hub of the wheel for a meaningful and satisfying international project for AIDS orphans. If you are a people-person who enjoys office work, has a little spare time and spare room, phone us at 924-3432, or e-mail us at rozshep@oanet.com.



ATTENTION: PLEASE INFORM YOUNG PEOPLE OF THIS UNIQUE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Be part of the Global Picture with Canada World Youth

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

How BIG is your world? How big would you like it to be? Next year you could be living, working and learning in Bénin, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Kaliningrad, Poland, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine, Uruguay, or Vietnam! (Countries and exact dates are subject to change).

Discover other countries and other regions of Canada. Learn about social justice and development issues. Live and work with people from other cultures. Acquire practical work experience and other skills. Gain academic credit in some post-secondary courses.

The Youth Exchange programs are for 17 to 20 year olds and for up to seven months. You spend half of the program in Canada and half in the exchange country. During the program you live with a host family and take part in a volunteer work placement at a local community organization, farm or small business. These programs focus on social and community development issues.

Programs start summer 2003. Also, ask us about our customized programs (these programs have a special focus, and are up to age 29 in some cases), or our joint initiatives/school programs.

How to reach us:

CANADA WORLD YOUTH, Western Canada Regional Office
#205 10816 A - 82 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2B3
Tel: 432-1877 (or) 1-877-929-6884 -- e-mail: west-ouest@cwjcm.org

Want to apply? You can get more information by contacting our regional office or apply on-line at www.cwy-jcm.org

Deadline for applications is December 6, 2002.

About Canada World Youth

Canada World Youth is a national, non-profit, non-governmental organization that has been coordinating international programs for youth since 1971. Our programs promote intercultural understanding, increased awareness of development issues, and personal and professional skills development. Canada World Youth receives funding support from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Industry Canada, and thousands of individual, institutional and corporate donors from across the country.



[The Barcelona Forum 2004](#)

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

The first **Universal Forum of Cultures** is a new international event which will bring thousands of people to **Barcelona** from all over the world in 2004. The Forum's principal aim is to contribute to a renewal of thought and attitudes, providing a new platform for moving towards a new coexistence without conflict and in a world fit for living in.

The first Universal Forum of Cultures will take place in 2004 in **Barcelona**. It opens on the **9th of May**, Europe Day, and closes on the **26th of September**, coinciding with the local festivities of La Mercè, the city's patron saint. The Forum will last 141 days!

The [Barcelona Forum 2004](#) is co-organized by the Barcelona City Council, the Catalan autonomous Government and the Spanish Government, with **UNESCO** as the main partner. The Agenda for this major gathering is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the working principles of the United Nations.

In agreement with Unesco, the **Barcelona Forum 2004** is structured around three core themes: **cultural diversity, sustainable development and conditions for peace**. Join us at the Barcelona Forum 2004 as move forward towards a world that is sustainable and more humane.



Breaking Bread... For Women In Afghanistan

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

Breaking Bread... For Women in Afghanistan is a volunteer fundraising project to support much needed education projects for Afghan women and girls. You can participate in this unique cross-Canada fundraising initiative by **Hosting a Pot Luck Dinner** with nine of your friends.

As Host you are asked to invite your friends to your home, request that they bring a dish to share for dinner and ask each participant to donate \$75 towards education in Afghanistan. Each Pot Luck Dinner will raise \$750 (tax receipts available) and will pay the salary of a teacher for one year in Afghanistan.

Do some good... Become a host for "Breaking Bread" -- enjoy the company of your friends, some excellent food and share the opportunities to participate in facilitating REAL CHANGE for Afghan women and girls...

For more information on **How to Host the Pot Luck Dinner**, please call: 1-416-366-2516 or e-mail: info@breakingbreadforwomen.com (or) visit: <http://www.breakingbreadforwomen.com>

when
People
need an ally ...

Your donation
of re-useable
clothing helps
support the
Association's
efforts



CANADIAN
DIABETES
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION
CANADIENNE
DU DIABÈTE

www.diabetes.ca

What We Do

Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) is a non-profit, charitable organization with over 150 branches across Canada. CDA volunteers and staff work directly with people with diabetes and their families at the grass roots level. The CDA Collections Program collects clothing and reusable household items as an entrepreneurial fundraising venture. The funds raised from this program assist in promoting diabetes research, education, service and advocacy.

What We Accept

We gladly accept donations of:

- Clothing
- Linens
- Toys
- Small Appliances
- Jewellery
- Shoes
- Luggage
- Sporting Goods

Canadian Diabetes
Association

403.509.0070

403.509-0072 (fax)

1.866.811.0070 (outside of
Calgary)

[Email Us!](#)



Are you an Artist? AUSU supports the arts!

AUSU is interested in purchasing original works of art from students for use in promotional purposes. These promotions may include: gifts from AUSU to graduates at convocation, tokens of appreciation for volunteers, special presentations, etc.

The works of art must:

- be created by an AU Student
- be within a value range \$0-\$500.
- be accessible or easily transportable to Alberta

If you are an artist of any kind who creates a product you feel we would be able to use for such a purpose, please contact djabbour@ausu.org. Supply a brief description of the art object, a picture if you have it, and its market value.



WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact Tammy Moore at tmoore@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice, providing a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



‘Learning is Learning’:

Challenge for Credit Option Exists for AU Students

Many students may not be aware that AU recognizes prior learning and encourages students to use the challenge for credit process if they feel they have knowledge or expertise in a particular subject area.

The process is not easy, but it is not insurmountable, and it can save the cost and time of taking a course if prior knowledge exists.

“We want to raise students’ awareness about the option and let them know that they don’t need to re-learn material or spend money on a course they don’t really need to take,” said Joan Fraser, director of the Centre for Learning Accreditation.

“Learning is learning and a student shouldn’t be penalized if that learning was not done within the confines of bricks and mortar,” she said, adding that those students with significant life or work force experience are typically those who pursue the challenge option.

Challenge for Credit is handled by the Registrar’s Office. Students are encouraged to check the course description to see if a challenge is permitted for the course they are interested in. If so, then the student must investigate a number of things prior to deciding whether to proceed.

First, and most important, the student should discuss the matter with the course coordinator. The coordinator will be able to give a better idea of the depth of the materials covered in the course, and the student’s chance for success should he/she opt to challenge.

The AU calendar outlines the challenge steps, notably completing the Challenge for Credit Application and accessing the course materials, which further allows the student to review the materials and determine if the challenge is viable. There is a non-refundable challenge for credit fee (check the web site for the current fee), but it should be noted that no withdrawal is allowed once the application has been completed.

“It (the challenge for credit) is something that’s there for you – use it,” Fraser said.

Anyone with questions about the process is encouraged to call Joan Fraser at (780) 675-6481 or check AU’s website at www.athabascau.ca.



CLASSIFIEDS:

PUBLISHED IN THE VOICE November 20, 2002

CLASSIFIED SPACE:

Students of AU may print classifieds in The Voice free of charge (maximum three per issue) as long as they are not representing a company or product.

Classified ads must follow the direct guidelines and ethics stated in the Voice Policy and should be submitted to the editor at voice@ausu.org with 'CLASSIFIED AD' listed in the subject title.

The Editor reserves the right to refuse any classified information at her discretion. Thank-you.



FOR SALE

**Ghetto blaster: CD player, duo tape deck, AF/FM radio, removable AC plug, or battery power (needs 6 C). \$ 70.00
Call (403) 201- 4299 between 9 am - 9 pm only.**
