

STUDENT COUNCIL FRUSTRATED BY CONSTITUTION

The Student Council has been trying to formulate a new set of laws for several years. This year's Council has repeatedly found itself held up, mystified, or completely frustrated by the present Constitution, which is out of date and poorly framed. Certain provisions in the Constit-

ution are in direct conflict with each other, the powers and duties of officers are poorly defined and some provisions directly violate the basic principles of representative student government.

The U.P.E.I. Student Union Constitution will

finally receive a badly needed overhaul this semester. A committee of the Student Council, led by Chairman Maurice Rogerson, will review the constitution, propose certain amendments before a general meeting of the Union, and hopefully frame a new and more efficient document.

The new committee will spend approximately 3 to 4 weeks reviewing and formulating proposed amendments. In late November or early December, a general meeting will be called at which time the proposed amendments will be released, discussed and voted upon.

NUS at UNB ONE OUTA THREE IS BAD

FREDERICTON (CUP) - Students at the University of New Brunswick voted 681 to 644 to terminate their membership in the National Union of Students in a referendum here Oct. 20.

The referendum was the third NUS vote at the campus in as many years, with 1,338 students, about 27 per cent of the university casting votes.

Jim Murray, president of the UNB's students' representative council, said he was very pleased with the referendum results.

According to NUS executive-secretary Dan O'Connor, however, one of the reasons the referendum failed is that Murray withheld information on NUS from students and council.

O'Connor said the cam-

paign was "really dirty" with anti-NUS people including falsehoods in articles submitted to the student newspaper. The paper did not correct these, he said.

Murray said he called the referendum because he felt the organization was a waste of money and accomplished nothing. Murray has been quoted in the campus newspaper, the *Brunswickan*, as saying UNB NUS fees were \$55,000. UNB NUS fees are \$5,700.

He said he didn't believe believe there was much support for the national union at UNB, adding "the UNB NUS committee didn't exist." Murray said the pro-NUS campaign was run entirely by NUS employees.

O'Connor said the loss of fees from UNB will affect NUS because its budget is "really tight." However, he doubted the loss of UNB would be as serious as it might have been because the campus has been steadily isolating itself during the past year.

The student council has already dropped out of the Atlantic Federation of Students and the *BRUNSWICKAN* has withdrawn from Canadian University Press, the national press organization.

Two previous referendums have been held at UNB - the first in 1975 approved NUS membership by a slight margin, the second in October, 1976 reaffirmed membership by just more than 200 votes.

The committee has decided to hold closed meetings, simply because they wish to present the proposals to Council before releasing them to the general student body.

Copies of the present constitution are available in the Student Union office. Comments or suggestions for proposed amendments are most welcome, and the committee

is hoping to have as much input as possible from the students. If you have any suggestions, see Kevin Gauthier in the Union office. Other committee members are Gordie Coffin, Derek Key, Gail Murphy and Larry Currie.

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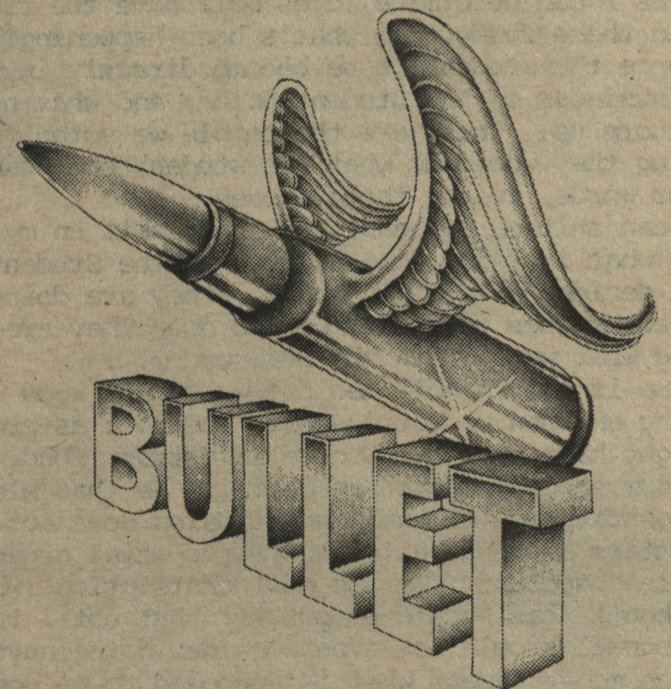


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