

# Letters To the Editor...

Dear Editor:

Enough of the f^%\$ing whining that is taking up space in our student newspaper. Aren't there more important interests that take place on our fair campus than listening to all the bullshit.

## 28/02/92 EDUCATION: FED BUDGET HACKS, HACKS, HACKS, HACKS AWAY AT

**PSE** (Source: National bureau-elect) (Editors: Tuesday was Feb.25) by Monique Beaudin

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Federal Finance Minister Don Mazankowski laced up his budget shoes Tuesday and stomped on university faculty and students.

In his first budget, Mazankowski shut down several government advisory bodies, the six-month interest free period on student loans and killed any hopes of a national child care program.

"What this budget said was what you give one hand you massively take away with another," said Donald Savage, the executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers.

The Science Council of Canada, a government advisory body in place since 1966, was shut down, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council will be merged into the Canada Council.

Savage said shutting down the Science Council "probably had more to do with its independence than saving any money."

He said that merging SSHRC with the Canada Council would cause bureaucratic nightmares, and delays in dispersing grants for research.

The Tories also proposed lifting the three per cent tax on student loans, but replaced it by ending the six-month interest free period on Canada student loans.

While the Canadian Federation of Students claimed the three per cent tax lift as a victory, Liberal education critic Ron Duhamel panned it, saying it was merely a political gesture.

"Some clever person with a pencil figured the government could afford to eliminate the three per cent tax," he said, adding that the money the government makes from the interest on student loans will make up for any lost revenue from three per cent tax.

The new interest arrangement will begin with students negotiating loans for the 1992-93 academic year. In the 1989-90 academic year, almost 234,000 full-time and 900 part-time students were issued loans under the Canada Student Loan program.

And child workers say university students looking for more accessible child care lost out in this budget.

"If you're a university student looking for a child care space, you still have an eight-to-ten month wait," said Zeenat Mohammed, co-ordinator of the Metro Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care.

There was no money allotted for creating extra spaces in child care centres, or increasing the subsidies made available to people seeking child care.

Mohammed said extra spaces and more subsidies could have been created through a national child care program.

The Mulroney government promised the creation of a national child care program in March, 1987.



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