

continued from page 5

now is unity," Venne said.

"The more support we have for this protest, the more seriously the government will take our proposals," he said.

Jean-Michel Picard, a SFUO vice-president, returning from a two-week tour of eastern Canada campuses to create support, noted a growing enthusiasm for the protest.

"So far I've had commitments from over 20 universities in Quebec and another 20 in Ontario," he said. "Concordia is sending five buses. Toronto is sending 10."

Venne felt they would "easily achieve the original goal of 10,000 students."

"Several colleges and high schools have also pledged their support. Local protests have been encouraged for institutions too far to make a road trip to Ottawa.

Venne took care to note the significance of the participation of the Quebec institutions. "Quebec universities have never participated in a national protest before; this will be a first, showing just how strongly students feel about the proposed cuts."

Generating national exposure for the event, MuchMusic has agreed to cover the event, which may even lead to a few good bands.

"Spirit of the West, Bare-Naked Ladies and 54-40 have been approached," Venne said. "I have high hopes."

To provide sleeping arrangements for students coming from as far away as Moncton, N. B., the SFUO has rented the three gyms on campus, with the Carleton University gyms available as backup.

Volunteers at the SFUO have prepared a document-- entitled "The X Report," or "Gen X"--in response to the Axworthy proposals. In the document, they state that the proposed cuts, potentially increasing tuition by \$8,000 per year are unacceptable, and ask the government to withdraw the proposals.

Caron noted that the protest could not be the only event if it is to be successful. He plans on continuing lobbying MPs and is planning a proposed strike in January.

Venne also said that lobbying and activism will continue in the future to ensure student voices are heard.

The CFS is having its general meeting Nov. 8-14 in Hull, when a committee will be formed to determine specific guidelines for the proposed national strike in January.

For more information on the Nov. 16 protest, call (613) 564-4980.

(Source: *The Fulcrum*, University of Ottawa)

November 15, 1994

SOCIAL REFORM: Women's groups discuss reforms

By Jacinda Fox (CUP)

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF HOUSEWORK?

Nineteen women's groups connected recently in a national tele-conference to discuss changes to Canada's social programs.

Of the topics they discussed, unemployment insurance and childcare were two areas that the groups recommended social security reforms focus on.

Sheila Finestone, secretary of state for the Status of Women, organized the tele-conference for the women's groups to meet with Lloyd Axworthy, minister of human resources.

Many women are employed in non-standard, temporary or part-time work. As a result, their income is minimal and so are their benefits. For example, many cannot collect unemployment insurance.

Susan Genge of the women's bureau of the Canadian Labour Congress said, "Women will likely lose their [unemployment insurance] benefits more frequently than men because [men generally have higher earnings]."

This undermines women's economic independence and gives rise to a number of concerns of which violence against women is key.

"Without economic independence, too many women and children are forced to remain in abusive situations."

Another concern is related to child care inside and outside the home. Care inside the home is also referred to as unpaid work.

Carol Lees of the Canadian Alliance for

Home Managers, Saskatoon, explained that 30 per cent of all Canadian women do unpaid housework in family care. It is important that the government recognize these women, she said.

Lees believes that if child care is to be supported in institutes such as day care, then all child care should be supported because there is no difference between care that is given in a home or in an institute.

According to Celia Forsythe of R.E.A.L. Women, "A child care system in Canada should provide equally for women at home as well as the women in the paid work force, and this can be done by providing direct payments

worthwhile matter to consider but it is more of a tax issue than a social security issue.

Improvements need to be made to the child care system, said Sue Wolstenholme of Child Care Advocacy Association. "Public money is going to a variety of ad hoc child care arrangements, many of which are of questionable quality, and, indeed, some of it is not even being spent on child care."

"There is the issue of quality of care for children. The public is not getting the most for its dollars when public money is essentially going to fund babysitting."

Patsy Jordan of the Congress of Black Women believes in increasing the number of child care spaces and improving the quality of child care.

"When there is not adequate provision for child care, then sometimes the parents are forced to remain at home or to take part-time jobs," she said. "Again, putting them at the bottom of the economic barrel."

Axworthy addressed the quality of child care by saying that he will be "looking at how the \$93 million that [the human resources development committee] used under training pro-

grams should be primarily targeted with accredited institutions."

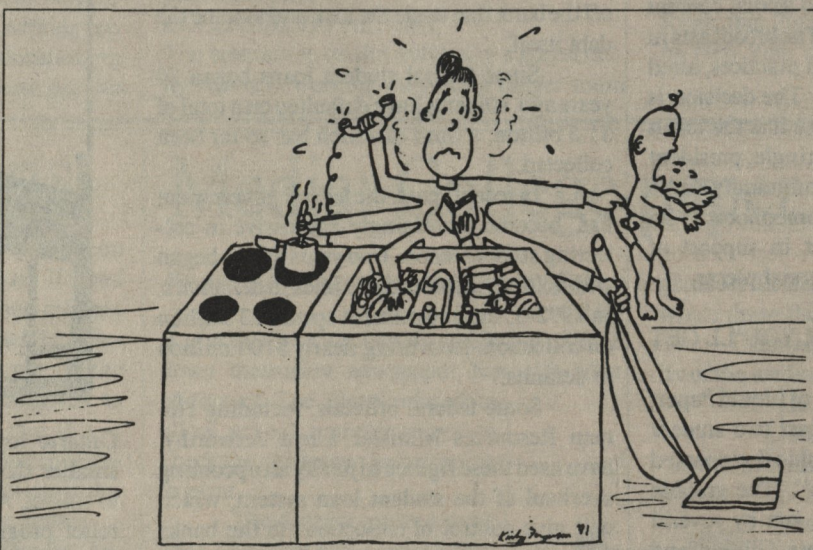
Other considerations for improving unemployment insurance and child care conditions will proceed as the reform process continues.

(Source: *The Fulcrum*, University of Ottawa)

either by tax credits or a voucher system.

"But direct payment should go to the family to allow the family to provide and to choose the type of care that they think that their child needs, whether it is government, community-operated, private or a combination of any of those types of care."

Axworthy said that unpaid work is a



MEDIA: Group to identify what isn't covered in mainstream

By Louise Vigeant (CUP)

DO YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT WHAT you are not being told? Project Censored Canada (PCC) is a group that has been formed to answer that very question.

PCC is an academic organization based out of Simon Fraser University in British Columbia that is researching the nation's news agenda. More specifically, it is interested in what the media knows about but has not been reporting.

Still in its infancy, PCC hopes to draw attention to some of the major gaps that exist in news reporting by compiling and publishing a "top 10"

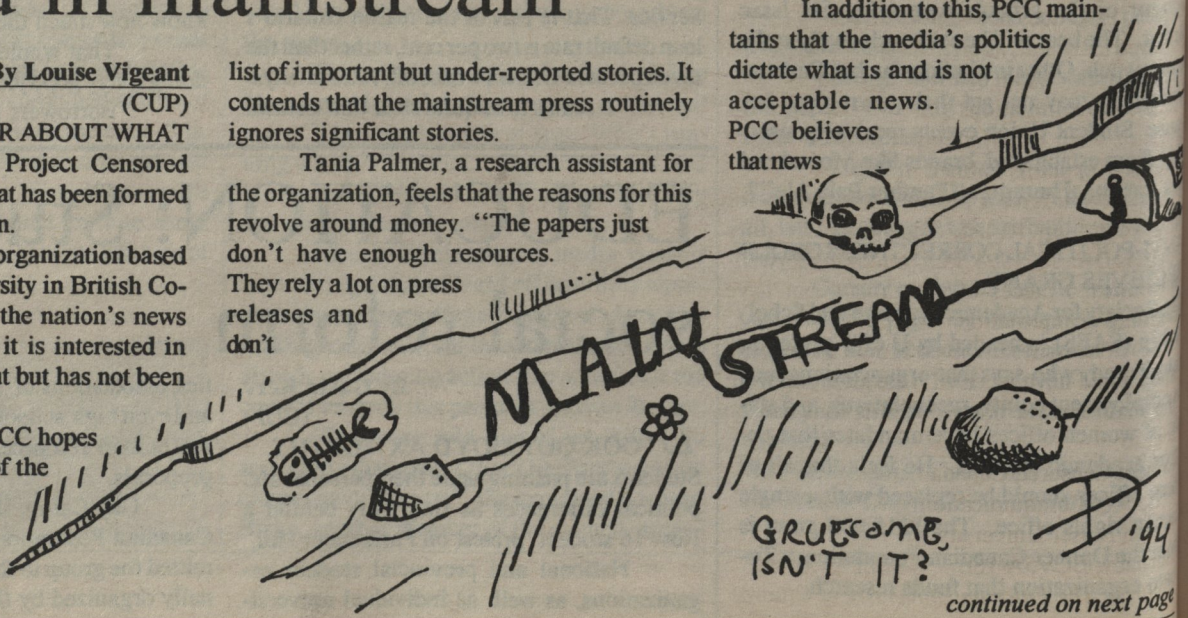
list of important but under-reported stories. It contends that the mainstream press routinely ignores significant stories.

Tania Palmer, a research assistant for the organization, feels that the reasons for this revolve around money. "The papers just don't have enough resources. They rely a lot on press releases and don't

have the time to delve into the issues," she said.

In addition to this, PCC maintains that the media's politics dictate what is and is not acceptable news.

PCC believes that news



continued on next page