

## DRAFT MINUTES

May 1995 National General Meeting

Canadian Federation of Students-Services & Canadian Federation of Students

May 25 to 30, 1995 - St. Boniface, Manitoba

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### OPENING PLENARY

#### CALL TO ORDER - Thursday, May 25, 1995

01:46 pm—the meeting was called to order by Guy Caron, National Chairperson of the Federation.

#### 1. OPENING PLENARY SPEAKER

Caron introduced Murray Dobbin as the guest speaker. Caron noted that Dobbin was a respected author who has written a book on the Reform Party and another titled, If Pigs Could Fly.

Dobbin said he was impressed with the Federation insofar as it has been proactive, not only on the terrain of post-secondary education but also on other social issues. He said that Canada was currently facing a crisis of social justice, not just education. He said that he believed that the assault on education was a class based assault noting that the elite will always have access to post-secondary education while others may not.

By abandoning a commitment to equality, he said that the Federal government was abandoning the commitment to democracy. He felt the government's agenda was driven by an all out attack on every sector of society from the poor, to women, to labour, to students. He said that the rationale used to legitimize the cuts was deficit hysteria, or the so-called debt crisis.

Dobbin felt that this was more like debt terrorism, and was used to scare people away from the values they have been brought up on. He noted that in 1991 Statistics Canada produced a report noting that 50% of the national debt was due to revenue shortfalls generated from increasing numbers of tax breaks provided to corporations. Only two percent of the debt was generated by social programme spending, yet the government maintains that the only way to get the deficit under control is to slash social spending. He likened the issue to the "big lie" technique, the theory by which a lie is asserted over and over until people begin to believe it. With the amount of outstanding corporate tax, the Federal government could charge a minimal 10% interest and make \$4 billion per year.

Dobbin sketched out the history of the development of social programmes noting that during the 1930's average people rose up and nearly created a revolution. The people took the rich and powerful by the throat and said they wanted a share of the wealth or they would take it all. This made the rich and powerful see it in their interest to dole out a share of their wealth, and to introduce labour laws which provided for improved working conditions and outlawed the exploitation of children. He noted that the social programmes in Canada were not handed over by politicians who suddenly woke up feeling generous. He said that social programmes were fought for and taken, and he noted that some people even died for these reforms.

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Since the mid-1970's there has been a right-wing attack on these gains. Michael Walker of the Fraser Institute, a right-wing think tank based in Vancouver, said, "If you really want to change society you have to change the ideological fabric of a society." Dobbin said that "debt terrorism" was a means to this ends. He felt that people had been brow-beaten into believing that Canada can no longer afford social programme spending.

Dobbin said that Canadians are being told that there are no other solutions. However, he said there were plenty of other options, were the Federal government willing to muster up the political will to implement them.

The main obstacle to such political will were the power of the international corporate agenda. Dobbin said that the transnational corporate agenda was tantamount to a race to the bottom where every population would compete with each other to provide ever lower wages and poorer working conditions.

Dobbin cited the example of New Zealand in 1984. He said it had been a highly egalitarian society, having implemented such programmes as medicare in 1937 in advance of most western democracies. He said that in the mid 1960's unemployment was so low that a newspaper headline at that time read: "100 people unemployed" and this had been considered an outrage. Today, New Zealand is one of the most class divided societies as a result of the neo-conservative revolution. He said that both sides of the issue in New Zealand refer to the neo-conservative revolution. Dobbin said that the rationale for the assault on social spending in New Zealand was the so-called debt crises. However, he said such a notion was a myth. He said that in 1984 there was \$21 billion worth of debt when the neo-conservative revolution hit; today the debt is at \$48 billion dollars, and that is after the sale of \$16 billion dollars worth of crown corporations.

The consequences of this revolution are that in one year there was 26% increase in child poverty, the development of the highest youth suicide rate in world, highest crime rate in the world, 100's of cases of people going foodless before the next assistance cheque arrives. In 1994-95 there was a 50% increase in violence against women, a 39% increase in violence against children, and the tripling of the rate of infant murders. Dobbin noted that as social responsibilities are privatised it will increasingly be women who wind up taking on the extra responsibilities for service and health provision. He said that the gains women had made in New Zealand in the last 20 years have been wiped out.

Dobbin said that even using their own criteria, the neo-conservative agenda is profoundly flawed, noting that in New Zealand productivity is down and unemployment is up. He said he asked the New Zealand Finance minister to explain how his government has been successful. The response was: "We have better telephone service and better airline service." Dobbin said that the human price tag associated with these so-called "successes" was high.

Dobbin said that in Canada, people are told that just too much money is being spent on social programmes. He provided some statistics to put Canada's social spending in context. He said that Canada was 14 out of 17 industrialised nations in terms of how much money is spent on social programmes. In terms of income distribution, the amount of total wealth that is distributed each year to the bottom 20% of population, Canada is 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 30 countries. He noted that three countries who do better than Canada are: Indonesia, Phillipines and Thailand. He said that Canada would have to increase its social spending by \$18 billion just to reach the average rate of spending on

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social programmes amounts industrialized nations. Canada's Unemployment Insurance Programme is 16<sup>th</sup> out of 19 in terms of its generosity. He said that maternity leave in Canada is virtually a joke in comparison to other European countries. So while Canada's performance is relatively poor, for big business it is not poor enough.

Dobbin said young people must be a cornerstone in any strategy of fighting for social justice. He did not believe that somehow his generation overspent and was in the process of delivering the next generation into a much nastier political arena. He also did not agree that demonstrating and fighting back was a luxury of the 1960's; rather it was because there were real grassroots movements in those times that fought for better living and working conditions. He pointed to the aboriginal movements, the women's movement, the labour movement and other social justice movements.

Dobbin said that the same movements are required again to fight for and defend the social programmes that were won by previous generations. He said that a radical vision of the future is critical. He reminded delegates that having a zero tuition fee policy is a crucial element of a socially equitable society.

He felt that massive civil disobedience was necessary. He said that only numbers mobilised together would be in a position to challenge the corporate agenda. He said that in the 1800's an aboriginal chief once said that "the white man only gives you something when you already have it firmly grasped in your hand." He said it was also true today.

Dobbin said that social movements must connect, and he praised the manner by which students mobilised for January 25, connecting with women, labour, seniors, and other social justice groups. He urged students to take up the fight for a better, more egalitarian world.

Caron opened up the floor for discussion.

Mohammed Salemy, a delegate from the Emily Carr Students Union raised a number of points. He felt that some points needed to be revisited. He said that it was not the social democratic movement that built the social movements of the 1930's, but rather the Communist Party. He said that there were some truth to the debt crisis, insofar as it is part of the capitalist system. He said that by not challenging the system as a whole, the groundwork was laid for a crisis later on. He also said that by not addressing third world inequities, a pool of cheap labour has been created, and that Canada has been complicit in these developments.

Dobbin agreed with much of what Salemy had said. He underlined the need for radical solutions. He said that old socialists like himself do find themselves compromising, he said that the right wing ideological victory has been so powerful that it is hard to challenge any fundamental assumptions of the right-wing ideology. Finding a forum for radical alternatives is especially difficult, especially with the complicity of the mainstream media.

Jason Stevens, a delegate from McMaster Students' Union, noted that he did feel uneasy about simply disregarding the deficit, but also agreed that the government is going about dealing with the debt in an unfortunate manner. He asked whether the common denominator that transcended ideology was that everyone recognized that the debt had to be dealt with. How the debt is handled is the point of contention.

Dobbin pointed out that the way the debt is dealt with reflects the ideological perspective from which you come. He said there are four steps that could be immediately implemented that would bring the debt under control. He said that the

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unwillingness of governments to implement such measures suggests that they are not that interested in reducing the debt, and are more interested in using the debt issue as an ideological stick with which to beat the populace into submission. He then outlined the four steps that governments sincerely committed to paying down the debt would implement:

1. Strive toward a full employment policy. This would reduce unemployment insurance and welfare payments while expanding the tax revenue base.
2. Fair taxation system. He said tax loopholes allow literally billions of dollars to escape the government's coffers.
3. A much lower interest rate policy. He said that a 5% interest rate would mean that the amount of debt servicing would be immediately reduced.
4. Use the Bank of Canada to provide interest free loans to the government.

He said that if the government really wanted to eliminate the deficit, then these four steps would do it rather rapidly.

An aboriginal delegate asked Dobbin about Dobbin's views of land claims. He said he supported land claims and self-government. He said, however, that he thought it unfortunate that, as a result of government funding, the aboriginal rights movement has been diverted away from a direct action movements to a strategy based on the legal system. He said that government funding has had a similar effect on other movements, like the women's movement and so on. He attributed the lack of genuine social movements to the phenomenon of relying too heavily on government revenue. He said organisations exist, but not grassroots movements.

Caron thanked Dobbin for having traveled to St. Boniface to share his insights with Federation delegates.

02:31pm --the meeting recessed.

02:48 pm--the meeting reconvened.

## 2. ATTENDANCE-ROLL CALL

Caron welcomed delegates to the opening plenary of the general meeting. He then proceeded to call the roll call for attendance.

Augustana University Student Union	absent
Mount Royal College Students' Association	present
University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association	present
University of Lethbridge Students' Union	present
Camosun College Student Society	present
Capilano Students' Union	present
Cariboo Students' Society	absent
City Centre Students' Association	present
Douglas College Student Society	absent
Emily Carr Students' Union	present
King Edward Students' Association	present by proxy
Kwantlen College Students' Association	absent

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Langara Students' Union	absent
Malaspina Students' Union	present
Native Education Centre Students' Association	present by proxy
North Island Students' Association	present
North West Community College Students' Association	absent
Saskirk College Student Society	absent
Simon Fraser Student Society	present
University of Victoria Student Society	present
Brandon University Students' Union	absent
Association des étudiantes et étudiants du collège universitaire de St. Boniface	present
University of Winnipeg Students' Association	present
Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du centre universitaire de Saint-Louis-Maillet	present
Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du centre universitaire de l'université de Moncton à Shippagan	present
Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council	present
New Brunswick Community College St. Andrew's Student Association	absent
St. Thomas University Student Union	present
University of New Brunswick Fredericton Campus Student Union	present
University of New Brunswick Saint John Campus Students' Representative Council	absent
Marine Institute Students Union	present
Memorial University Council of the Students' Union	present
Sir Wilfrid Grenfell College Students' Union	present
Acadia University Students' Union	present
Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants de l'université St. Anne	present by proxy
Dalhousie University Students' Union	present
Mount St. Vincent University Students' Union	present by proxy
Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Students' Union	present
University of King's College Society of Students' Union	present by proxy
Algoma University Students' Association	present
Carleton University Students' Association	present
Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	present by proxy
Lakehead University Students' Union	present
Laurentian University Students' General Association	present
McMaster University Students' Union	present

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Nippissing University Student Union	absent
Ontario College of Art Students' Union	absent
Queens University Graduate Students' Society	absent
Ryerson Students' Union	present
Trent Central Student Government	present
University of Guelph Central Student Association	present
University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	present
Fédération des étudiantes et étudiants de l'université d'Ottawa	present
University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	present
University of Waterloo Federation of Students	absent
University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	present by proxy
University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society	absent
University of Windsor Students' Administrative Council	absent
Wilfrid Laurier Graduate Students' Association	present
Fédération des étudiantes et étudiants de York York Federation of Students	present
York University Graduate Students' Association	present
Holland College Student Union	absent
University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Student Association	absent
University of Prince Edward Island Student Union	present
Concordia Graduate Students' Association	present
McGill University Post-Graduate Student Society	present
University of Regina Students' Union	present

Caron announce that quorum had been reached.

**3. RATIFICATION OF GENERAL MEETING SPEAKER**

Caron asked for a motion to ratify Anne McGrath as the General Meeting Speaker.

95/05:01

**MOTION**

Shippagan/Calgary Graduate Students' Association

Be it resolved that Anne McGrath be ratified as general meeting speaker.

**CARRIED**

Anne McGrath assumed the role of speaker. She asked for the cooperation of all delegates noting that much business had to be accomplished at the meeting. She said her role was to keep the meeting in order and to facilitate wide participation in debate and discussion. She said the role of the speaker was to recognize the will of the majority, while still recognizing that dissenting and minority views have the right to have their positions heard. She noted that some delegates may have a better understanding of Robert's Rules of Order than others and encouraged delegates to assist each other throughout the meeting. She said there will be no tolerance of those who wish to manipulate the rules to obstruct debate. She reiterated that procedural rules were

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intended to facilitate debate. Roll call votes and excessive points of order would not be tolerated. She read section 38 of Robert's Rules of Order, called "Dilatory Motions". She said that a point of information is not to make a point but to ask a question of clarification from someone who has the floor.

#### 4. ADOPTION OF OPENING PLENARY AGENDA

95/05:02

**MOTION**

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union/Marine Institute Students' Union

Be it resolved that the opening plenary agenda be adopted.

95/05:03

**AMENDMENT**

Memorial University Central Students' Association/Mount Royal Student Association

Be it resolved that an emergency debate, regarding the future of Canadian Federation of Students-Services, take place immediately after the plenary agenda is adopted.

Memorial said that in light of the termination of David Jones as Executive Director of Canadian Federation of Students-Services, it was important to have this debate as soon as possible so that the meeting would transpire smoothly. He said that he had not been given ample information on the issue.

York agreed with the motion and asked that the debate be limited to three hours to ensure that all questions pertaining to the matter are addressed, and also to ensure that there is time for the remaining business to be accomplished.

Memorial said that two hours might be more appropriate, noting that delegates could move to extend debate if necessary.

York agreed and the Speaker considered the proposal to be a friendly amendment.

City Centre Student Association spoke against the motion and suggested that those wishing to debate the future of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services should take up the issue with their respective representative on the National Executive. He said that plenary should not be punished for the short comings of their National Executive representatives.

Simon Fraser Student Society spoke against the amendment arguing that there would be ample time throughout the meeting to discuss the matter.

Mount Allison spoke in favour of the amendment and noted they had questions about the Federation's health plan.

Concordia Graduate Students' Association spoke in favour of the amendment.

The Speaker noted that three people had spoken in favour of the amendment and called for those wishing to speak against the amendment.

95/05:03

**AMENDMENT**

Memorial University Central Students' Association/Mount Royal Student Association

Be it resolved that item 4.a be added to the agenda, The Future of Canadian Federation of Students-Services, limited to two hours.

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**DEFEATED**

The Speaker moved to the main motion.

**Point of Order**

The delegate from University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union rose on a point of order asking whether "dilatatory speeches" would be monitored by the chair.

**95/05:04 AMENDMENT**

/Local one

Be it resolved the National Executive question and answer period be moved to item 4. a, and be limited to one hour.

Concordia Graduate Students Association spoke against the amendment and stated that it would be more effective to have the question and answer session during closing plenary, after the National Executive report has been distributed and after delegates have had a chance to review the information contained in the report. He said the National Executive report was in the process of being photocopied.

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union spoke in favour of the amendment. He said that it was important to have the question and answer session during opening plenary. He also said that there were important issues regarding Canadian Federation of Students-Services and the fact that the person who has run the organisation was fired after having run it for fourteen years. He said that a letter had been sent to every health plan user stating that the broker was no longer willing to work with the Federation and would try to pull the existing contracts away from the Federation. He said that the staff of Travel CUTS/Voyage Campus had submitted a petition questioning the judgment of the National Executive of Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He said he wanted a question and answer period scheduled immediately.

King Edward Student Association delegate spoke in favour of the motion, and suggested that the question and answer period be scheduled during opening plenary, but that it become item 14, to allow for the distribution of the National Executive report.

**95/05:05 AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT**

King Edward Student Association/City Centre Student Association

Be it resolved that the question and answer period become item 14 of the opening plenary agenda.

Malaspina Students' Union asked whether there had been a typographical error made on the agenda, since there usually is a National Executive questions and answer period, and since items 13 and 14 appear to be the same.

McGrath said that item 14 was intended to be presentation of the Harassment Liaison.

Malaspina spoke in favour of the sub-amendment.

A delegate from Dalhousie said that he had asked for more information on issues pertaining to the Canadian Federation of Students-Services and had not received a response. He said he wanted to have the question and answer period immediately.

McGill Post-Graduate Student Society rose on a point of information, asking whether it was convention that the National Executive entertained a question and answer period during closing plenary.

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The National Treasurer, Cassandra Koenen, said that in the past, the question and answer period was scheduled for opening plenary, but was usually rescheduled to closing plenary. Koenen said she was speaking in favour of the amendment, as she is fully confident in the decisions she has made as part of the National Executive. She said she supported having the question and answer period as item 14. She said the reports were not yet available as the photocopier had broken down but would be ready shortly. She felt it would be important for all delegates to have a chance to read the reports before formulating their questions.

**95/05:05 SUB-AMENDMENT CARRIED**

**95/05:04 AMENDMENT CARRIED**

Jen Metcalfe, Commissioner of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students Constituency Group, proposed adding an introduction by the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students Constituency Group to the agenda as item 12.5.

**95/05:06 AMENDMENT**

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union/Lakehead University Students' Union

Be it resolved that item 12.5 Introduction by the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students Constituency Group be added to the opening plenary agenda.

**CARRIED**

**95/05:02 CARRIED**

**5. RATIFICATION OF PROXIES**

**95/05:07 MOTION**

Shippagan/York Graduate Students' Association

Be it resolved that the following proxies be ratified:

1. West Viking College Student Association proxies to Marine Institute Student Union
2. Mount Allison Student Association proxies to St. Thomas Students Union
3. St. Anne proxies to the Students' Union of Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
4. Mount St. Vincent proxies to Students' Union of Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
5. Kings College Students' Union proxies to the Students' Union of Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
6. King Edward Students' Association proxies to Emily Carr Students' Union
7. Native Education Centre Students' Association proxies to University of Victoria Student Society
8. University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students proxies to York University Graduate Students
9. Carleton University Graduate Students' Association proxies to Mount Allison

Michelle Kemper, a delegate from the King Edward Students' Association, said she had concerns about the first two proxies noted. She said that the West Viking Student Association had not yet been ratified as a member and wanted to ensure that the vote would not be exercised until the student association had been ratified. She also asked

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the Speaker to rule on whether the letter complied with the Bylaws regarding proxy votes.

The Speaker agreed that the first proxy should be ratified pending ratification of the student association as a member. The Speaker read the second proxy letter out loud.

Michael Temelini, a delegate from the McGill Post-Graduate Student Society, noted that according to the letter, Mount Allison Students' Union as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services not as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students. He said that unless the Mount Allison Student Union proxied their vote as a member of Canadian Federation of Students-Services and Canadian Federation of Students to St. Thomas for the general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services and the Canadian Federation of Students then the letter should be ruled out of order. He stated that the general meeting was the meeting of two student federations, not one, and that it was a plenary session of Canadian Federation of Students-Services and Canadian Federation of Students. He said the Speaker should rule the proxy as invalid.

The Speaker ruled the proxy to be out of order, until such time as the intent of the letter was clarified.

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union rose on a point of order. He agreed with the ruling of the Speaker for the Canadian Federation of Students but not for the plenary of Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He said that the National Executive should either make an allowance for the proxy to be exercised for both legal entities or schedule two separate plenaries. He said that there was nothing in the bylaws of either legal entity requiring the plenary sessions to run simultaneously.

Temelini explained that the proxy was invalid for either legal entities since it proxied its vote as a member of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services to a member of Canadian Federation of Students.

The Speaker agreed.

The delegate from University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union verified that the proxy letter was improperly worded, and agreed with the ruling from the Speaker.

Marine Institute asked the Speaker to explain the procedure governing proxy votes. The delegate said he had noticed some proxies had previously been exercised.

The Speaker noted that proxies cannot be exercised until they have been ratified.

A delegate from University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Campus Student Union asked the Speaker to conduct the vote again on the motion that had the narrowest margin.

Metcalfe rose on a point of order. She said that applause wastes time and is usually not accepted during plenary sessions.

The Speaker agreed. She said that although a motion is on the floor to ratify the proxies she would entertain a re-vote on the motion which had the narrowest margin of difference.

Michael Gardiner, British Columbia Chairperson, rose on a point of order noting that convention is such that normally ratification of proxy votes are one of the first items of business on the agenda. He said this was the case to ensure that members who could not be present for the general meeting would have all opportunities to cast their vote.

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Therefore, he said that procedurally, the proxy votes should be ratified. Then, if members wish to vote again on the previous business, those who had proxied their vote would be able to have it exercised.

The Speaker agreed and proceeded with the ratification of the proxy votes.

Dalhousie rose on a point of order and asked for a ruling on all the letters proxying their vote.

The Speaker noted that one letter had been ruled out of order, but that clarification would be forthcoming. She noted that the rest of the proxy letters were in order.

Dalhousie asked the Speaker to read all the proxy letters out loud so that everyone could hear the validity of the letters.

The Speaker said that the Mount Allison letter was out of order because it has proxied from one organisation to another, as opposed to transferring a proxy from one member within an organisation to another member within the same organisation.

The Dalhousie delegate said the Speaker's remarks were not going through his "foggy brain".

The Speaker said that a proxy had to be transferred within an organisation, not between organisations.

The Dalhousie delegate said he disagreed.

A delegate rose on a point of order and asked that ratification of proxy votes be tabled, since they were not scheduled on the agenda.

The Speaker ruled that a motion to table was a point of debate and was therefore out of order, since the question had been called. She then moved to the vote, and stated that a roll call had been requested from the floor, and not from the microphone.

York Federation of Students stated that they had called for the roll call.

A delegate Mount Royal rose on a point of order. He said that since the agenda had not been amended to provide for a ratification of proxy votes, he asked for a ruling on whether the whole motion was in fact out of order.

The Speaker ruled that because there had been no objection when it was stated that a motion to ratify the proxy votes would be entertained after the motion to adopt the agenda had been passed, she considered the agenda to have been amended by consensus.

Dalhousie said that proxies had been exercised during provincial caucus meetings and asked for the Speaker to rule on the validity of proxy votes during provincial caucuses.

The Speaker ruled that the general meeting officially began with the beginning of opening plenary and that anything that occurred prior is within the purview of the caucuses.

A delegate rose on a point of order and noted that Bylaw II Section 7. B did not provide for the ratification or rejection of proxy votes, and therefore the issue was moot.

The Speaker agreed that the proxy votes did not require ratification by plenary but rather, were simply announced. She explained that in order to be valid, however, the proxies themselves had to conform to the requirements outlined in the Bylaws concerning proxies. The Speaker reiterated that all the proxies were valid except for one.

95/05:07      **OUT OF ORDER**

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A delegate asked the Speaker to rule on the procedure that would be implemented regarding roll call votes, suggesting that in order to ensure that the use of roll call votes was the wish of the majority and not a time wasting device used by the minority, that votes could be taken whenever a roll call is requested.

The Speaker said that roll call votes will be ruled out of order if the speaker deems that roll calls are used in a dilatory manner.

Marine Institute rose on a point of order and asked whether those members which may miss a portion of the closing plenary session and wish to proxy their vote during that time, were required to put forward their intention to proxy during this item.

The Speaker said that all proxies should be introduced at some time during opening plenary.

## 6. DE-RATIFICATION OF SEVEN MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

95/05:08

### MOTION

Concordia Grads/Camosun Students' Society

Whereas the Langara Students' Union voted to withdraw from the Federations in February 1994; and

Whereas the Union was not de-ratified in May 1994 because it was more than two years behind in its membership fee remittance; and

Whereas the Union has now remitted all outstanding membership fees; therefore

Be it resolved that the Langara Students' Union's withdrawal from the Federation be ratified, effective June 30, 1994.

**CARRIED**

95/05:09

### MOTION

Concordia Grads/Malaspina

Be it resolved that the following student associations be de-ratified as members of the Federations effective June 30, 1995:

- Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council
- University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union
- University of New Brunswick-Saint John Student Representative Council
- St. Thomas University Student Union
- Dalhousie Student Union; and
- University of Ottawa Students' Federation.

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union delegate said that three of the student associations had voted to withdraw only from Canadian Federation of Students and not from Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He suggested that the motion should refer to those student associations having voted to withdraw from both entities, Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

The Speaker recommended that an amendment be proposed.

95/05:10

### MOTION

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union/Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council

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Be it resolved that de-ratification of Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council, University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union, and St. Thomas Student Union be considered in a separate motion.

Concordia Grads spoke against the amendment since the membership had clearly rejected membership in Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

A Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council delegate said that two questions were put to the membership one regarding membership in Canadian Federation of Students-Services and the other regarding membership in Canadian Federation of Students. Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council members voted to withdraw from Canadian Federation of Students and maintain membership in Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He was in favour of dividing the question.

Mount Royal spoke in favour of the amendment on the basis that it would clarify the issues being debated.

A delegate of the Regina Students' Union spoke against the amendment on the basis that the composition of the membership is simultaneously the membership for both Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

A delegate said that if the membership of each different legal entity is different, then there should be two different motions, or possibly two separate plenaries for each legal entity.

A delegate spoke against the amendment. He said suggesting non-congruent membership between legal entities was for more confusing than dealing with all the student associations in one motion.

95/05:10

**DEFEATED**

The Speaker moved to consider the main motion.

A delegate from University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union rose on a point of order and asked the Speaker for a ruling on whether or not the motion was in order to de-ratify student associations which were members of one but not both of the Federation legal entities, Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He argued that under the current bylaws, he saw three means by which a student association can be de-ratified: Bylaw 1, Section 2 paragraph A. 1. He said one way to deny a student association membership would be to deny an application for membership. However, he said that University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union had already applied, and had had approved, full membership in the Federations. He said there was also a second way of de-ratifying a member and referred to Bylaw 1, Section 2. A) paragraph 4. He said that the Bylaws require a letter of notice of intent to withdraw from Canadian Federation of Students-Services, a letter which had not been submitted; therefore, the member could not apply for withdrawal under that bylaw. He said that the third avenue for de-ratifying student associations was contained in Bylaw 1, Section 5 paragraph A and was considered an expulsion of members.

Caron said that the referenda conducted at those member locals effectively applied to both legal entities, since membership is required in both legal entities not one or the other. He said that the confusion occurred due to a clerical error in the Bylaws of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

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The delegate from University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union asked the Speaker to make a ruling. He noted that he was, himself, a lawyer. He said the Speaker must decide which lawyer is right, himself or the lawyer of the Federations.

The Speaker said that the only basis for the motion to be out of order was the supposition that the three members in question had withdrawn from only one legal entity. Having read Bylaw I and having reviewed the legal opinion the Federation obtained, she ruled the motion to be in order.

King Edward Student Association rose on a point of order to remind the Speaker that the plenary operates under rules of gender parity.

Regina Students Union spoke in favour of the main motion. She said the intent of the Bylaws were clear, that membership in both legal entities was required.

A delegate stated that the motion, as applied to Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council, was out of order. He said that two specific questions were put to the Mount Allison membership who voted overwhelmingly to remain members of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He felt that proceeding with the motion would violate basic democratic principles. He said that the other member locals in question had put only one question forward on Canadian Federation of Students.

The Speaker ruled the point was out of order, since the ruling was based, not on the nature of the referenda posed, but rather the criteria for membership as outlined in the Bylaws of the Federation.

King Edward Student Association called the question.

**95/05:11 PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Be it resolved that the question be called on motion 95/05:09.

**CARRIED [31, 14, 03]**

**95/05:09 CARRIED [29, 16, 03]**

Noted opposed:

- Mount Royal Students' Association
- Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council
- McMaster Students' Union
- Acadia Students' Union
- York Federation of Students
- Memorial Council of Students Unions
- Ryerson Students' Union
- St. Thomas Student Union
- Prince Edward Island Student Union
- Calgary Graduate Students' Society
- St. Louis Maillet
- Shippagan
- University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union
- Dalhousie Student Union

The Speaker said she would endeavor to alternate each hour between French and English.

A delegate proposed the following motion:

**95/05:12 MOTION**

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Dalhousie Student Union/Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council

Be it resolved that Carleton Graduate Student Association be de-certified in accordance with a referendum recently undertaken.

McGill Post-Graduate Student Society rose on a point of order noting that the referendum did not comply with the procedures outlined in the Bylaws for withdrawing from the Federation. For that reason, he explained that the National Executive was not recommending that the Carleton Graduate Student Association not be de-ratified at this time.

A delegate asked whether the Langara Students' Union had complied with the Bylaws for withdrawing, or had they been decertified simply for not paying fees.

McGill Post-Graduate Student Society explained that the delay in recommending de-ratification of the Langara Students' Union reflected the time it took for that Union to comply with all provisions of the Bylaws, concerning de-federation. One of those provisions is that all outstanding membership fees must be paid in full. Having now complied with all Bylaws provisions, the Langara Students' Union was de-ratified accordingly.

The Speaker ruled that motion 95/05:12 was out of order since the student association noted in the motion has not complied with the procedure for withdrawing as outlined in the Bylaws.

McGill Post-Graduate Student Society drew attention to Bylaw 1, section 2, paragraph 4. He said that sub-section a, b, c, and d had all been violated by the Carleton Graduate Students Association. He said it was not the subjective opinion of the National Executive but rather a straight forward reading of the Bylaws.

**95/05:13 MOTION**

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union/Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council

Be it resolved that the Carleton Graduate Student Association be expelled since it has not complied with its membership responsibilities.

The Speaker ruled the motion out of order, since, according to the Bylaws, the motion must also be signed by no less than three member locals.

**95/05:13 OUT OF ORDER**

**7. RATIFICATION OF FULL MEMBERS**

**95/05:14 MOTION**

Concordia Graduate Students' Association/Students Union of Nova Scotia College of Art and Design

Be it resolved that the York University Graduate Students' Association and the St. Paul's University Students' Association be ratified as full members of Canadian Federation of Students-Services and Canadian Federation of Students.

**CARRIED** unanimously

**8. RATIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

National Executive  
Rapport de l'Exécutif national

Finances - Revenements

Commissaires  
Comités

modèles

Formes et styles  
Comités

inclusions

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- 95/05:15 MOTION**  
Concordia Graduate Students Association/Marine Institute Students' Union  
Be it resolved that the West Viking College Student Association's application for prospective membership in the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services be ratified.  
**CARRIED unanimously**

**9. GENERAL MEETING LOGISTICS**

Caron noted that a special plenary had been scheduled in order to consider the backlog of resolutions from previous general meetings. He then reviewed the agenda, explaining the process by which delegates meet as caucuses, committees and constituency groups. He noted that contracts with interpreters had been signed and there was absolutely no possibility that interpretation could be conducted beyond the hours noted on the general meeting agenda.

Pam Frache, the General Meeting Coordinator reviewed the arrangements for food and transportation. She reminded delegates that travel pool receipts must be submitted within ten days following the last day of closing plenary.

**10. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

- 95/05:16 MOTION**  
Shippagan/St. Boniface  
Be it resolved that the general meeting agenda be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**11. STRIKING OF GENERAL MEETING COMMITTEES**

- 95/05:17 MOTION**  
Concordia Graduate Students' Association/North Island Student Association  
Be it resolved that the following general meeting sub-committees of plenary be struck:
1. Campaigns and Government Relations
  2. Membership Development and Communications
  3. Organisational Development
  4. Budget
  5. National Education and Student Rights
  6. Bilingualism
- CARRIED**

**12. INTRODUCTIONS**

Caron introduced the members of the National Executive:  
British Columbia National Executive representative:  
British Columbia National Executive representative-elect:  
Alberta National Executive representative:  
Alberta National Executive representative-elect:

Marne Jensen  
John Henry Harter  
David Huxtable  
Zahra Habib

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Saskatchewan National Executive representative:	Loretta Gerlach
Manitoba National Executive representative:	Réal Déquier
Ontario National Executive representative:	Lucy Watson
Québec National Executive representative:	Brad Lavigne
New Brunswick National Executive representative:	Sylvie Daigle
New Brunswick National Executive representative-elect	Danik Mallet
Nova Scotia National Executive representative:	Kareem Robinson
Nova Scotia National Executive representative-elect:	Tasha Bollerup
Prince Edward Island National Executive representative:	Andrew MacPherson
Newfoundland National Executive representative:	Craig Adams
Newfoundland National Executive representative-elect:	Keith Clarke
Graduate Students' National Executive representative:	Michael Temelini
Women Students' National Executive representative:	Karen Eryou
Francophone Students' National Executive representative:	Marie-Claude Poliquin
National Treasurer:	Cassandra Koenen
National Deputy Chairperson:	Michael Mancinelli
National Chairperson:	Guy Caron

Caron introduced Jen Metcalfe as the Constituency Group commissioner.

Caron introduced the staff of the Ottawa National office:

Interim Financial Coordinator:	Johanne Laurent
Communications Coordinator:	Simone Saint Pierre
Government Relations Coordinator:	Jocelyn Charron
Translator:	Monique Landa
Translator:	Carol-Lynn Prébinski
General Meeting Coordinator:	Pam Frache
New Brunswick & Prince Edward Island Fieldworker:	Joe Byrne
Manitoba & Saskatchewan Fieldworker:	Denise Doherty-Delorme

Caron introduced the staff of the Toronto National office:

Administrative Assistant and International Student Identity Card administrator:	Joanne Murphy
Toronto Communications Assistant:	Anne Klugg
Student Work Abroad Programme Director:	David Smith
Student Discount Director:	Chris Gibbs
Canadian Programming Service Director:	David Doze
National Student Health Network Director:	Hugh Leighton
President of Travel CUTS/Voyage Campus:	Rod Hurd

## 12.a) LESBIAN, GAY & BISEXUAL STUDENTS CONSTITUENCY GROUP PRESENTATION

Metcalfe introduced self-identified members of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students Constituency Group. She encouraged delegates to ask questions of these delegates. She explained that members of her community try to reclaim the words that have, for so long, been used in a derogatory manner. She said she would list a few of the hurtful words, some of which have been reclaimed and filled with pride, in order to educate all those participating in the general meeting. She said that blank stickers were available and delegates were encouraged to write their own words of encouragement and display them throughout the meeting.

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Patrick Crowley introduced himself, and listed some derogatory words. He focussed on the word "gay" which used to mean flamboyant, but he preferred to think of it as one who is happy. Elizabeth Carlyle, Mohammed Salemy, Vicky, Jen Metcalfe, John Henry Harter, Peter Negalo, and Patrice Miniely introduced themselves and listed the more hurtful names used to refer to those in the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community.

[For a complete listing of the words cited, see the report of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students' Constituency Group]

It was noted that while aspects of heterosexuality was displayed virtually everywhere, gays and lesbians were chastised for being "blatant."

Miniely invited all delegates to attend the local gay bar, Club 200.

**13. PRESENTATION OF STAFF RELATIONS OFFICER**

Mancinelli noted that before the Staff Relations Officer was introduced, he would like to introduce the Federation staff who had been missed during the initial introductions.

He introduced Deb Duffy, an Ontario Staff Person and Phillip Link, a British Columbia Staff Person.

Mancinelli said that all Federation staff have full participation rights, reflecting the very important role that the staff play as resource people. He also said that if members have any concerns regarding staff, they are to be addressed through the Staff Relations Officer, himself.

**14. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

The Speaker reminded the delegates that a one hour time limit would be placed on this item, and asked all members of the National Executive to take a seat at the front of the plenary.

A delegate asked a question about the Federation's seats on the National Advisory Council on Student Aid. He said that the group met in May, and wondered about the status of Income Contingent Loan Repayment Plan (ICLRP).

Caron explained that ICLRP was, in their own words, "no longer a priority" for the Department of Financial Aid and the Ministry of Human Resources Development."

A delegate from the Regina Students' Union asked whether there was anything more concrete regarding the status of ICLRP.

Lavigne responded by saying that himself, Temelini, Caron, and Charron attended the most recent meeting of the Advisory Group. At that time, he said that the bulk of the meeting was spent discussing the parameters of a national grant system—the first such discussion. He said there were three target groups for the grants: women; students with disabilities; and part-time students. He said these grants would be up and running as early as September 1995. He said this was a clear signal from inside the Ministry of Human Resources Development, of the impact of the Federation's campaign. He said ICLRP's are no longer a priority, largely due to the unpopularity of the programme. He reminded delegates that the unpopularity of the programme was galvanized by the Federation which was the first organisation to fully comprehend the negative impact of ICLRP and take action to stop its introduction. The Federation successfully opposed ICLRP and successfully lobbied the Federal government to implement the first stages of a national grant programme.

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Temelini also noted that the agenda of the Advisory committee reflected the priorities of the Federation, not of the Federal government. He said the government wanted to be in the process of implementing ICLRP by this time and has been unable to do so. Instead of talking about the implementation and parameters of an Income Contingent Loan Repayment Programme, instead they were forced to discuss the priorities as set by the members of the Federation.

A delegate from the Native Education Centre Student Association asked the National Executive whether they supported aboriginal students and their right to be heard at general meetings. If the National Executive did support aboriginal students right to participation within the Federation, she asked why only five aboriginal student delegates were in attendance—four of whom being from British Columbia.

Gerlach said she could only speak from the Saskatchewan perspective. She said that the Regina Students' Union used to incorporate the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. Because the Union supports self-government, the Regina Students' Union supported the creation of: the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College Student Association, an autonomous body. She said she and members of her local executive had worked closely with Heather Morin, who only recently resigned as the Aboriginal Students Constituency Group Representative. She pointed out that the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College Student Association had approved through the same process full membership in the Federation. However, since then they have decided that they wish to pursue other avenues prior to making a commitment to either the Federation or the Canadian Federation of Aboriginal Students. Gerlach said that the intent is to work with and respect the wishes of the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College Student Association and underlined that effort had been made to encourage Aboriginal Student participation at this national general meeting.

The Native Education Centre Student Association said that not all aboriginal students attend the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, and perhaps more could have been done to encourage aboriginal students who are individual members of the Regina Students' Union to attend.

Gerlach apologized if her efforts were not deemed adequate, and she noted that considerable effort had been made to work with both the Federated College Student Association and Heather Morin to encourage Aboriginal Student participation.

Clarke said that one member of the Newfoundland component is a Labrador Community College Student Association. He said there were significant numbers of Innu and Inuit students at the college. He said that the Newfoundland is working hard to overcome geographical barriers within Newfoundland, noting that it is cheaper to fly to Ottawa than to Goose Bay. He said he was committed to fostering participation by Aboriginal Students.

Koenen said that traditionally it had been a priority for the Lakehead Student Union to ensure that Aboriginal Students comprised part of the Lakehead delegation at general meetings. She thought that budgetary constraints was part of the reason that there was no Aboriginal Student delegate from Lakehead at this meeting. She said that the points raised, however, were well taken. She said that more effort should go toward ensuring that Aboriginal Students are encouraged to participate at general meetings.

Bollerup said she had only been a member of the National Executive for two weeks, and agreed that the points raised were valid. However, she also said that the question should be put to all the delegates, since the absence of Aboriginal Student delegates often reflects the priorities of a student association executive.

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Habib noted that the Alberta Chairperson was an aboriginal woman named June Many Grey Horses who was supposed to attend the general meeting but who could not come at the last minute. She said that Pat Morning Owl from Red Crow College was also supposed to have attended the general meeting, and likewise could not attend at the last minute. She said the points raised, however, were duly noted.

Lavigne said he spoke on behalf of Québec member locals, and pointed out that the structures at the local level were inadequate to provide for representation from all the constituency groups. He noted that his own local had committed itself to structuring in constituency group representation as part of the executive committee. He felt that this would be a means of encouraging more representation from constituency groups at national general meetings of the Federation.

Déquier said that an Aboriginal Student had been sent as part of the St. Boniface delegation but because that student is also a Francophone student, he attended that constituency group meeting instead.

Paul Thornhill from Memorial University Council of the Students' Union ask about the termination of the Executive Director of Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He said that as President of the Memorial University Council of the Students' Union he felt he had not been adequately informed. He put the question to Caron.

Caron said that the severance was currently being negotiated and due to the legal implications of the situation, neither he nor other members of the National Executive were at liberty to discuss the matter.

Thornhill said he had concerns about the financial well-being of the organisation, and wanted to know who was currently running Canadian Federation of Students-Services and what qualifications they have and what plans were in place to hire a new Executive Director.

Lavigne said that the National Executive as a whole was responsible for making the decision to terminate the employment of the Executive Director. Second, he said that it was not the intention of the current National Executive to withhold information regarding decisions the National Executive has taken. He stated that the National Executive has been instructed by the National Executive's legal council not to discuss the issues with any individual outside the body which made the decision. When notice or severance is being negotiated through the appropriate channels, in accordance with labour legislation, it is not in the interest of either parties to have information disseminated beyond the two parties currently in negotiations. Lavigne said that when the legal discussion has been completed, the National Executive can then report fully on the specifics surrounding the original decision that was taken. He said this is a common, contemporary business practice. He said that the duties of the former Executive Director are being performed by two members of the National Executive, the National Treasurer and the National Deputy Chairperson. Lavigne explained that this too had been a decision made by the National Executive as a whole. He said that at the next meeting of the National Executive, all options on how to proceed will be reviewed. Lavigne asked whether he had responded to all the points raised by Thornhill.

Thornhill said that Lavigne had answered his question correctly, but he still did not feel satisfied. He thanked Lavigne for having provided the information Thornhill had requested. He said that Memorial University Council of the Students' Union continued to have serious concerns about the future of Canadian Federation of Students-Services and the decisions taken.

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The delegate from the University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association, Doris Dirks, said she was present at the general meeting, representing the Calgary Graduate Students' Association because she was committed to the Federation, not just the political aspects but also to the service programmes. She said that her concerns stemmed from the manner in which the decision was made. She said that the Alberta National Executive representative could not report back since he left the meeting early and did not know the decision was going to be made. She also felt that there was political motivation behind the decision to terminate the employment of the Executive Director.

Lavigne said that the way information has been disseminated did not reflect a political bias, but rather it reflected standard business procedure. Regarding the rationale for decisions taken, all decisions taken are political so it would serve no purpose to argue the point.

Temelini said that all provincial components had the right to elect a National Executive representative. However, it was also the responsibility of all National Executive representatives to report back to their member locals. He said that the National Executive cannot be expected to postpone decisions simply because a component has been delinquent in filing their position on the National Executive, or because one or two people could not attend. He said that every member of the National Executive knows there are only three issues that can be discussed in a closed session: discipline, discharge and collective agreement discussion. Closed session had been clearly placed on the agenda; therefore, every responsible member of the National Executive would have known that one of three possible issues would be discussed and should therefore make an effort to attend. Moreover, it is the responsibility for all National Executive representatives to attend the meeting from the beginning to end. Moreover, the National Executive is expressly empowered to make such decisions as outlined in the Bylaw 18 of the Bylaws of Canadian Federation of Students-Services which states: "Executive Director shall be appointed or dismissed by resolution of the National Executive..." He said that the National Executive was empowered to make the decision and do so. He said that the details would be revealed as soon as is legally prudent.

Gerlach said that the Alberta National Executive representative left the meeting with such haste and without informing even the at-large officers of his decision to leave, that most members of the National Executive—if not all—were unaware that he had departed. Gerlach assured Dirks that Gerlach sees her position on the National Executive as part of a body accountable to the organisation as a whole.

Dirks said she was attempting to be honest by raising her concerns. She said she did not want to wait until the litigation was completed because it is the fact of litigation that she did not like. She also said that the Alberta National Executive representative was told by the National Chairperson that no important business would be discussed if he were to leave the meeting early.

Caron said he had not misinformed the former Alberta National Executive representative.

Harter, a delegate from City Centre Student Association, said he had prepared himself for his position on the National Executive by reviewing many reports, and reading many sets of minutes of the Federation. He said he wanted to commend the National Executive on an amazing student strike and day of action, and said he felt that the Federation was in excellent shape as a student movement. He said the National

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Deputy Chairperson has done an excellent job doing coalition work, and that the profile of the Federation has never been higher. He said that the Canadian Auto Workers Union—one of the largest unions in Canada—has extended an invitation to the Federation to participate in their conventions. He asked the National Deputy Chairperson to expand on his work with the Action Canada Network and the Federation's relations with trade unions.

Temelini said that the CAW is the largest private sector union in Canada, and Buzz Hargrove is currently its president. He said that through the January 25 mobilisation, connections were made with CAW locals from coast to coast. In January, 1995 the National Executive noticed that although the Federation had formal links with public sector unions, the Federation had no formal relationship with the country's largest private sector union. The National Executive then resolved to initiate direct contact with the national office of the CAW. In response, the CAW sent a letter to the Federation commending the excellent work around January 25 and invited two members of the National Executive to attend the CAW council meeting in Port Elgin. The two National Executive members who attended were Temelini and Lavigne. He said that the Federation was given time to address CAW representatives and he concluded by saying that the CAW has profound respect for the Federation, for its mobilising on January 25, for its struggle for accessible and affordable post-secondary education, and the way the Federation spoke on behalf of working people and the children of working people so they might also attend university or college. Buzz Hargrove, emphasized his desire to work closely with the Federation in the future. Temelini encouraged locals to get in contact with CAW locals in their cities and towns.

Mancinelli said that the Federation's coalition work has increased over the past year and has been very beneficial for the Federation. He said that the Federation and students are tremendously respected by many other organisations. He said that the Federation is increasingly invited to participate in national meetings and national press conferences. He said the Federation has been asked to participate in the development of the Alternative Budget. Coalition partners recognize the Federation as a crucial player in the upcoming fight against the Canada Health and Social Transfer. Such developments are clearly having an impact both locally and provincially, not just nationally. Mancinelli said there is growing support for the overall goals of the Federation.

A delegate rose on a point of order and said that members of the National Executive are responding too thoroughly to the questions asked and are guilty of dilatory responses.

The Speaker said that National Executive members were responding adequately to the questions that were asked.

Caron added that another coalition with which the Federation works is called the Coalition for Post-Secondary Education. Caron said that besides the Canadian Federation of Students, the members of the coalition are: the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the National Union of Provincial Government Employees, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, as well as the Canadian Union of Educational Workers.

Kemper asked about the timeliness with which member locals remit their membership fees, noting that in the National Treasurer's report, some member locals were remiss in forwarding their fees. She said that members should understand that the ethos of the Federation is that student unions pool their collective resources to maximize the

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resources of the student movement as a whole and to maximize the effectiveness of achieving the goals that students have defined. She asked each member of the National Executive what they were doing to ensure that fees were submitted on as timely a basis as possible.

Lavigne said he was working to ensure that locals in Quebec have signed membership fee remittance agreements.

Déquier said in Manitoba, the three member locals were on line for national fees, and two of the three have increased their membership fees. He said they were in the process of establishing fee agreements with the member locals.

Clarke said he was examining any controversial situation with respect to fees.

Gerlach said that the University of Regina Students' Union not only paid their fees on time, but also implemented the increase in membership fees.

Koenen said that the British Columbia component was nearly up-to-date on their membership fee remittance, and commended the British Columbia executive for this. Regarding Ontario members, Koenen said that most Ontario members were up-to-date with remitting their fees.

Kemper said that she noted that both the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services are running healthy surplus throughout the past year and commended the National Executive for their excellent management.

06:03 pm—the meeting recessed for dinner.

07:44 pm—the meeting reconvened.

#### 14. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD (continued)

The Speaker asked that delegates respect the Federation's boycott policy of Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola by not drinking those soft drinks during the plenary session.

A delegate from the York Federation of Students said they had sent a registered letter to Guy Caron regarding National Executive decisions, and did not receive as response. He addressed the second part of the question to Koenen and Mancinelli. He asked about the Health Plan because he had received a letter saying that they were no longer working with Canadian Federation of Students-Services. He said he had heard numerous rumors about the conduct of the National Treasurer and the National Deputy Chairperson.

Caron said he did receive the registered letter shortly before the national general meeting but was unable to answer it, or any other letters received so closely to the commencement of the national general meeting.

Mancinelli said that he and Koenen had been appointed as interim Executive Directors and that decision would be revisited at the next National Executive meeting. He said that he and Koenen had been reviewing files in order to perform the necessary duties. He said that contacts have been made and meetings organised with lawyers, auditors and any other professional contacts of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Koenen said that one week ago Teleski Insurance issued a letter to the Federation indicating that they no longer wished to be associated with the Canadian Federation of Students-Services. She said it obviously came as shock to the National Executive but steps were immediately taken to clarify the legal basis for such a letter. An investigation uncovered the fact that no contract was ever negotiated with Teleski

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Insurance locking either Teleski or the Federation into a permanent agreement with each other. Since that time she has been organising various meetings with other professionals in the industry and has an appointment with a management consultant and other professionals in the insurance industry. She said the intention of the National Executive is to call a meeting of all member locals currently on the health plan, to discuss the issues. She believed that most members who joined the Federation's health plan did so because they wanted to be associated with the Federation and not a private, unaccountable broker like Teleski. She said at least five members have indicated this to be their position. Moreover, Koenen invited all members of the Federation from the Toronto area to visit the Toronto National Office to quell any unfounded rumors which may be circulating as to how she and Mancinelli are dispatching their responsibilities.

The York delegate then asked Mancinelli whether he was the Chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Mancinelli said he was the National Deputy Chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

The York delegate also asked how much time was spent in the office by the National Treasurer and National Deputy Chairperson, and asked how much the termination of the Executive Director would cost the Federation. He asked whether there was any possibility of finding out more information about the situation before the end of the general meeting, and whether there was any plan for the National Executive to prepare themselves to run a multi-million dollar organisation.

Koenen said she had numerous meetings with the Executive Director and communicated regularly with him prior to the termination of the position. She restated that there was no way that information could be disclosed until the litigation had been completed. She said the National Executive has discussed at length the future of the Federation but that decisions could not be made without the conclusions of this general meeting. She said that no decision had been made to hire another Executive Director.

Déquier stated that with or without the Executive Director, the body that runs the Canadian Federation of Students-Services is the National Executive. The Executive Director does not run the organisation, rather he was a staff person hired by and accountable to the National Executive. The National Executive has always been the managing body of the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Mancinelli referred the delegate to his report which outlined in detail the time spent in the Toronto National Office, noting that it has not been a great amount of time due to his other responsibilities.

A St. Boniface delegate asked members of the National Executive what effort had been made to increase the participation of students with disabilities in their respective provinces.

Clarke said he had only been a member of the National Executive for less than a month. He said in all honesty he has not done anything, but will endeavour to do more in the future.

Habib said she did not know of anything being done, but would try to do more in the future.

Lavigne said that in Quebec, the same situation exists for Students with Disabilities as for Aboriginal Students. He said the local structures do not foster the participation of students from different constituency groups but there is a commitment to change those

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structures. He felt that local participation was crucial to increasing the participation nationally. He said this was the same for all constituency groups.

Déquier said in Manitoba a coalition had been formed to fight for accessible post-secondary education and the coalition had denounced the fact that the provincial government cut access for students with disabilities. He said they are trying to improve the physical accessibility of the campus as well as providing accessible transportation. However, he agreed that more needed to be done to increase the participation rate of students with disabilities.

Mallet said he had only been a member of the National Executive for two weeks and had spent the better part of his time familiarising himself with his duties and responsibilities. He agreed that the representation of Students with Disabilities was inadequate.

Boilerup said she was also quite new to the National Executive. She said she has not done a great deal personally, but did talk about the activities of member locals in Nova Scotia. She said that Dalhousie Student Union elections are very accessible. At Students' Union of Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Boilerup said she was working on improving the accessibility of her school which is so bad that she thought that some cases would constitute human rights violations.

Gerlach said she had worked in coalitions with organisations of People with Disabilities but thought more could be done to work with such organisations directly. In terms of the political work, she said that at all times her local attempts to raise issues of concern to Students with Disabilities. For example, she said that the brief submitted to the social policy review contained an entire section on students with disabilities. In terms of physical accessibility, a new building is being constructed on her campus and she said the Regina Student Union had to fight hard to ensure that the building was accessible to Students with Disabilities and for women. She said the points raised were well taken.

95/05:18

**MOTION**

Carleton University Student Association/Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council

Be it resolved that the National Executive question and answer period be extended by one half hour.

**CARRIED**

A delegate from Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council asked the National Deputy Chairperson for his assessment of the morale of the Toronto Staff.

Mancinelli said that a staff meeting had been called to address the issue. A written memo was then distributed to all Toronto staff requesting one on one meetings with the staff. He said that the staff responded by presenting a list of written questions to Koenen and himself, which were answered in written form but also encouraging one on one meetings. The staff asked to participate in the last National Executive meeting which they did.

The Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council delegate then asked whether the two at-large officers serving as Interim Executive Director felt that their excellent lobbying work and coalition work would be compromised by the time required to maintain the Toronto National Office.

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Mancinelli said that the regular work of the National Deputy Chairperson would not be compromised. He said that part of his responsibilities were in fact to oversee the functioning of the Toronto National Office coordinate the coalition work. He said many coalition partners are based out of Toronto, and his time in Toronto had allowed him to liaise directly with national coalition partners in Toronto. He did not feel that any of his portfolios had suffered as a result of increasing his activities in the Toronto National Office.

The York Federation of Students asked why their request for funds for the January 25<sup>th</sup> Day of Strike and Action had been denied.

A delegate from the York Federation of Students asked the National Executive why the president of the York Federation of Students did not receive written notice of the National Executive decision not to provide funds to the Metro Universities and Colleges Caucus (MUCC).

Temelini said he was not aware that the president of the York Federation of Students had to know before anyone else on the executive and apologized for not being aware of that hierarchical structure. He said that Ernie Ashford had asked for the decision in writing and Temelini had promised to get it to him, however, he was unable to prior to the general meeting. For that, he apologized.

Koenen explained that the first she heard of the issue was when the National Chairperson phoned her and asked whether it would be appropriate to give \$2,500.00 to MUCC for expenses incurred during the January 25<sup>th</sup> mobilisation. She then phoned other members of the National Executive to find out how the other major actions were being funded in the rest of the country. She said that most other provinces had undertaken their own fundraising through unions and other like-minded organisations, and were not expecting the National budget to fund their local contributions to a national event. She said that at this point the story does get slightly muddled. She said that her understanding of events was that Caron phoned the president of York Federation of Students and explained that funding would not be forthcoming. She acknowledged that there a discrepancy seems to exist in terms of what impression the various parties were left with. She said that the National Executive meeting originally scheduled for February was rescheduled for the end of April accounted for any delay. At that meeting, Koenen said that the National Executive assessed foundations upon which the MUCC claims were made. She said that MUCC felt the money should be forthcoming since MUCC felt that a) an agreement had been made between André Bastien and Guy Caron and b) that since Moxy Fruvous (hired to play at the Toronto rally) donated \$1,500.00 to the student movement, in general. Because the stories between the National Chairperson and André Bastien were so very different, it was impossible to conclude what had transpired, moreover, because every other member and non-member participating on January 25<sup>th</sup> had engaged in their own local fundraising for the day, the National Executive could not approve the request based on the first premise. Given the second premise, the National Executive felt that it would have been unlikely that Moxy Fruvous had made an error, however, before taking action the National Executive would confirm with Moxy Fruvous the intended recipient of that cheque. If Moxy Fruvous had indeed made an error, the National Executive would happily turn the cheque over to MUCC. Koenen said the same decision would have been made regardless of where the request came from. She also reminded all delegates that individual members of the National Executive, at-large or not, cannot make such large financial commitments independent from the rest of the National Executive.

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The York delegate said that they were most upset that the Toronto rally should be used to realize a profit.

Koenen referred delegates to the strike schedule and noted that the expenses associated with the action were far greater than the total of donations received, therefore, no rally generated a profit. Moreover, the National budget provided resources for all rallies across the country in the form of a 1 800 number (used extensively by students throughout Toronto), a national strike coordinator, stickers, posters, publicity, etc.

The Treasurer of the Dalhousie Students' Union asked the National Chairperson for the National Executive's vision for the Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Caron said that Canadian Federation of Students-Services is a very important aspect of the Federation. He said the National Executive is comprised of 18 people and he said there were probably 18 different visions for the Federation. The point of having a National Executive is to make decisions based on the shared views of the body as a whole. He said he only represented one voice out of 18. He said he thought all the service programmes of the Federation were important, and wanted all members to get even better quality of services, whether it be all the communications of the Federation or the discount programme.

The Treasurer of the Dalhousie Students' Union said Caron's response revealed the problem: that the Executive Director was terminated before a complete vision had been developed for Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Gerlach said the Regina Students' Union vision of the Federation was to have one strong student organisation which undertook collective political action and which provided collective programmes. She said that the common denominator of all the visions put forward was a commitment to democracy within the Canadian Federation of Students-Services and if member locals had longer term competing visions, then it would be up to the membership to decide, not for either the National Executive or an Executive Director.

Lavigne said that one staffing change within the Canadian Federation of Students-Services does not constitute a fundamental change, and that a problem must certainly exist if people think this is in fact the case. He said the National Executive is elected precisely to make the kinds of day to day staffing decisions as they have done. He said he was happy to see that the member local which will cease to be members of the Federation as of June 30 has so much passion for the well-being of the organisation it has decided to leave.

A delegate from the Guelph Central Student Association raised a concern that the membership seems to have become obsessed with the service programmes of the Federation, the finances, and the deficit. He asked about other student issues which had to be addressed. He wanted to hear the National Executive's vision regarding constituency group participation within the Federation.

Temelini agreed with the delegate and said that more discussion needs to take place about the good work the Federation is doing around fighting for better post-secondary education access. He said he found it ironic that the members who most loudly complain that the Federation only navel gazes are the members most likely to engage in debate that could constitute navel gazing. He said the kinds of questions being posed today have prevented the kinds of discussion that ought to be discussed, such as the fantastic work the Federation has undertaken during the last 12 months. The

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National Executive has to respond to the questions posed, and if they pertain to staffing issues, then that is what is discussed.

The Guelph Central Student Association delegate said his question had not been answered. He wanted to know what has been done in the past six months, and what has been planned to address constituency group participation within the Federation.

Temelini clarified the role of the National Executive. He said the National Executive executes the directives established by the membership. He said campaign strategies are presented by the members, are debated and agreed upon at national general meetings. The National Executive then executes and coordinates the decisions made.

Caron agreed with Temelini, and added that he wants effective campaigns to be developed in the Campaigns and Government Relations committee. He noted that while ICLRP is weak it is not yet dead. He reminded delegates that the Canada Health and Social Transfer was a crucial issue in the months ahead. He pointed to the "no means no" campaign to address the issue of date rape. However, he said that last year almost all resources were put into the campaign against the social policy review and the January 25<sup>th</sup> day of strike and action.

**95/05:19 MOTION**

University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union/Ryerson Students' Union

Whereas the Federation has derived significant benefits from MUCC's contribution to the national day of action on January 25, 1995; and

Whereas MUCC was of the understanding that it was to receive \$1,500.00 to help defray the cost of signing Moxy Fruvous; and

Whereas MUCC has yet to receive the amount promised;

Be it resolved that the plenary direct the standing committee on Budget to allocate \$1,500.00 in the budgetary process to MUCC with said amount to be dispersed no later than June 20, 1995.

A delegate from the Ryerson Student Union said that the issue was not that Toronto student associations did a strike and therefore wanted money, but rather that money that should have gone toward local expenses went to the Federation. He said that many non-member schools participated and contributed money. He said MUCC had operated on the premise that money would be coming from the Federation.

A delegate from Capilano Student Society, local 5, said she was shocked at the disrespect shown toward both the members and the National Executive. She reminded MUCC that Federation members and non-members throughout the country spent as much as MUCC members did and then some, especially on the West coast. She suggested a compromise that half the money go back to MUCC and half the money go to the Federation as a whole.

The Speaker suggested to the Capilano delegate that her suggestion would be an amendment and called for a seconder for the amendment. No seconder was forthcoming.

A delegate from the McGill Post-Graduate Student Society spoke against the amendment and pointed out that by the time this issue was resolved, the Federation probably would have spent that amount on interpretation, and room rental, etc. He said he had been in Halifax on January 25 and was fully aware that many schools, including St. Mary's University Student Association—a non-member—spent a great deal of

money on the event, but they were not present asking for money. The point was that most people understood that participating in the day was a benefit for ALL students, members and non-members alike, and that the bigger the day, the more successful, the more beneficial to the cause. Finally, he said that Koenen had already stated that if Moxy Fruvous wanted the money to go to MUCC and not the Federation, then it would go to MUCC. He said that the motion was therefore completely redundant.

**95/05:20 MOTION TO TABLE**

Regina Students' Union/Native Education Student Association

Be it resolved that motion 95/05/19 be tabled until closing plenary.

A delegate said that it was an issue for the Budget Committee and should not be tabled to closing plenary.

The Speaker said the delegate was talking about referring a motion to a committee, but that all the motions in the end were either adopted or rejected by plenary. She explained that all Budget recommendations came back to closing plenary. Therefore, the previous point was not a debate about timing.

**95/05:20 DEFEATED**

Matt Galinger a delegate from Trent Central Student Government said he understood where MUCC was coming from, given the serious misunderstanding. He said he regretted that the misunderstanding took place. However, he said it would be grossly unfair to all member locals and universities involved in the Day of Action to reimburse MUCC for money spent on the January 25<sup>th</sup> event. He said that Trent Central Student Government which had only a budget of between \$70,000.00 and \$80,000.00 spent \$10,000.00 between the November and January campaign. He said that Trent members had not received any National money, nor did they expect any. He said that an organisation the size of MUCC has far greater financial resources than many student associations which pulled out all the stops to make the day a success. He asked the MUCC schools to consider the \$1,500.00 as a contribution to the well-being of the student movement as a whole. He said the motion should be defeated.

**95/05:21 MOTION TO AMEND**

North Island Student Association/Malaspina Students' Union

Be it resolved that motion 95/05:19 be amended to add the following phrases:

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to the Newfoundland component;

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to the New Brunswick component;

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to the Nova Scotia component;

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to the Montreal area locals;

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to Peterborough locals; and

that \$1,500.00 be allocated to the Victoria and Vancouver area locals.

The North Island delegate spoke in favour of the amendment saying that every member local should try to get some money out of the national budget at closing plenary. He said what kind of a student movement would this be if every member local couldn't make a profit off the January 25<sup>th</sup> Day of Strike and Action.

A delegate from the York Federation rose on a point of privilege and said they took offense at the sarcastic tone of the previous speaker.

A delegate from the Malaspina Students' Union said many locals contributed to the Day of Strike and Action and they will not be reimbursed for their efforts. He agreed with

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the motion and said that if anyone is reimbursed, then everyone should be reimbursed. He said there is no documentation to back the allegations of the authors of the motion, merely an alleged phone call. He did not want to make any accusations other than to rebut the accusations that have already been made. He asked MUCC to present anything that could substantiate its claims that a contract was entered into. He said that the UBC AMS contributed far more than \$1,500.00 to the day of action.

A delegate rose on a point of order asking the Speaker for a ruling on whether the motion was in order, given its rhetorical content.

The Speaker asked the mover and seconder whether the intent of the motion was serious.

**95/05:21 WITHDRAWN**

The Speaker moved to the original speakers list on the main motion.

The Regina Students' Union had a point of information regarding the status of the Moxy Fruvous donation. She asked whether the money was intended to go to MUCC or whether it was intended to go to the "student movement" and accidentally found its way to the Federation.

Koenen explained that MUCC paid Moxy Fruvous \$2,000.00 to play at the January 25<sup>th</sup> rally in Toronto. Moxy Fruvous said they would donate \$1,500.00 of it back to the student movement. They defined "the student movement" as the Canadian Federation of Students.

The delegate asked about the alleged telephone conversation.

Koenen explained that this was a telephone conversation which allegedly occurred between Guy Caron and André Bastien. This discussion occurred well before Moxy Fruvous had stated they would redirect \$1,500.00 of their fee back to the student movement.

The Regina Students' Union delegate then called the question, since Moxy Fruvous had clearly written a cheque to the Canadian Federation of Students, not to MUCC or York Federation of Students or any other student organisation. Moreover, the alleged phone call and the Moxy Fruvous money are clearly not related. Moreover, she asked why—since Federation money is money which effectively belongs to all the members of the Federation—are a couple member locals making such a big deal over the issue.

The Speaker noted that the question cannot be called after a delegate has spoken to the motion.

A delegate from York Federation of Students said that they had not done a strike to make money, and in fact they spent well over \$6,000.00. Only two student associations involved were Federation members. He said member and non-member student associations got together and wanted to have a band but couldn't afford it. Moxy Fruvous then said, graciously, they would give \$1,500.00 back to the student movement to avoid any financial hardship imposed. He said Federation posters were all over the rally, and Federation spokespeople were addressing the rally, yet the real funding came from MUCC—therein lies the issue.

A delegate called the question.

**95/05:22 PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Be it resolved that motion 95/05:19 be put to a vote.

**CARRIED**

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**95/05:19 DEFEATED****noted in favour:**

- University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union
- Dalhousie Students' Union
- St. Thomas Student Union
- Ryerson Student Union
- University of Calgary Graduate Student Association
- York Federation of Students
- Memorial Council of the Students' Union
- Mount Allison University Students Administrative Council

**noted in abstention:**

- Mount Royal Student Association
- Capilano Student Society

**15. INTRODUCTION TO THE HARASSMENT ADVISOR AND THE LIAISON OFFICERS**

Tara Connelly was introduced as the harassment advisor referred delegates to the harassment policy outlined in the policy manual of the Federation. She explained that the definition of harassment was abusive or demeaning treatment of a person which has the effect of creating a hostile or intimidating environment. She said this could be done by an abuse of power or authority or offending a person on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, age, gender, nationality, religion, religious beliefs, family marital status, physical or mental ability. She also said that threats and intimidation were unacceptably forms of behavior. She said the harassment advisor is meant to be a resource to the participants at the meeting. She said that the advisor can provide counseling, so that people do not have to feel as though they need to have a formal complaint lined up before seeking out an advisor. All advisors are bound by strict codes of confidentiality.

She outlined the process. She said the advisors can be a go between, or resolve formal complaints. The both parties choose a harassment liaison who sit on a committee with the harassment advisor and both sides of the issue will be heard. The advisor is responsible for briefing all parties concerned on the process.

She introduced Kemlin Nembhardt as the other harassment advisor. She said two final points: she said with a diverse group of people, it was inevitable that some people would get offended. She said that while communication is essential, not all situations will be ideal. However, recognizing limitation does not mean accepting unacceptable behavior. She encouraged people to talk out issues as soon as they arise. The quicker issues are resolved the less likely frustration will be misdirected. She reminded people that she also welcomed positive remarks as well. Finally, she urged all general meeting participants to respect each other. The harassment liaisons identified themselves by standing up.

Koenen noted that Christine Bourque, the Federation's Northeastern Ontario Fieldworker currently on maternity leave, had a baby girl on Monday, May 22.

**16. RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION****95/05:23 MOTION**

City Centre Student Association/Lakehead Student Union

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Whereas there is not much time left in opening plenary; and

Whereas the National Executive has made recommendations on all resolutions for consideration at this general meeting;

Be it resolved that the recommendations of the National Executive be adopted and all motions referred to opening plenary be referred to the beginning of closing plenary.

Harter motivated the motion by noting that despite the fact that the National Executive scheduled a special plenary to deal with the backlog of motions, the plenary has been unable to consider the resolutions package. He said he thought it would facilitate the business of the meeting to adopt the National Executive recommendations.

95/05:24

**AMENDMENT**

Trent Central Student Government/Regina Students' Union

Be it resolved that last clause of motion 95/05:23 be amended to read as follows:

Be it resolved that the recommendations of the National Executive be adopted and all motions referred to opening plenary, that cannot be dealt with in the time frame allotted, be referred to the beginning of closing plenary.

**CARRIED**

95/05:25

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Be it resolved that motion 95/05:23 be put to a vote.

**CARRIED**

95/05:23

**CARRIED**

The Speaker referred delegates to the resolutions package.

94/11:143

**MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

Marine Institute Students' Union/Mount Royal Student Association

Whereas U.I. and CEIC sponsored students are being placed in public institutions, in existing classroom seats; and

Whereas this limits accessibility for non-sponsored students and creates wait lists for these students; and

Whereas institutions are more concerned with the profit made off of sponsored students than the needs of non-sponsored students; therefore,

Be it resolved that the following policy be placed under the training section of the policy manual:

The Federation declares creation of new spaces for students receiving public sponsorship mandatory, and opposes the "purchasing" of existing seats by the federal and provincial governments.

95/05:26

**MOTION**

North Island Student Association/Capilano Students' Society

Be it resolved that the motion be referred to National Education and Student Rights.

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Marine Institute Students' Union asked whether the motion could also be referred to Colleges and Institutes Caucus.

The British Columbia Chairperson explained that plenary can refer motions to its own sub-committees but not to the caucuses which exist through bylaws and are not struck by plenary.

**95/05:26 CARRIED**

**94/11:149 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

Ryerson Student Union/Regina Students' Union

Be it resolved that the following policy under the heading STUDENT AID be deleted:

The Federation believes that loan repayment interest rates should be equal to the real rate of interest rather than the nominal rate of interest.

The Regina Students' Union withdrew its second, as did the Ryerson Student Union.

**94/11:149 DEFEATED lack of mover and seconder**

**94/11:65 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

Lakehead Student Union/Emily Carr Student Union

Be it resolved that the following policy under Student Aid:

The Federation supports student financial assistance programmes which address systematic inequities facing students with disabilities.

Be replaced by the following:

The Federation supports a national grants programme that assists with disabilities in undergraduate and graduate studies.

**95/05:27 MOTION TO REFER**

City Centre Student Association/Camosun College Student Society

Be it resolved that motion 94/11:65 be referred to National Education and Student Rights Committee.

**CARRIED**

**94/11:150 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY HEADING**

Association étudiante de l'université de Moncton à Shippagar/Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du centre universitaire de Saint-Louis-Maillet

Be it resolved that the following section heading be amended:

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM** Private Sector and Post-Secondary Education

The Federation opposes all policies of the federal and provincial governments designed to increase private sector control in any area of post-secondary education.

A delegate spoke against the motion, noting that at the time the resolution was introduced, there was only one policy regarding academic freedom. The delegate said that other motions would be arising under the heading Academic Freedom, and felt that keeping the title would be appropriate. He also said that the private sector should not be permitted to exercise any control over post-secondary education, since the private sector can impinge on academic freedom.

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**'95/05:28 MOTION TO AMEND**

Simon Fraser Student Society/City Centre Student Association

Be it resolved that the section heading be amended to read: Private Sector Control of Post-Secondary Education.

Trent delegate Galinger spoke against the amendment, and said that he felt that the motion watered down the intent of the motion. He said he was opposed to ANY control over post-secondary education by the private sector.

City Centre delegate Harter spoke in favour of the amendment. He clarified that the amendment referred to the heading, not the wording of the policy.

**CARRIED**

The speaker moved to debate on the main motion.

A delegate from Memorial Council of the Students' Union spoke in favour of the motion since Memorial students are concerned that the curriculum will eventually be controlled by the needs of the market.

Marine Institute delegate Clarke spoke strongly in favour of the motion. He said that in Newfoundland, a woman who owned many private colleges was awarded "business woman of the year" in Newfoundland. He said that none of these private colleges had a student association or any representation regarding student rights. He said he was concerned about the trend toward privatization which would allow the government to shirk its responsibility for post-secondary education in general. He said the National Education Committee should review this issue.

**94/11:150 CARRIED as amended**

**94/11:144 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

Emily Carr Students' Union/Mount Royal Student Association

Whereas students attending private institutions often receive large loans through the Canadian Student Loan Program, due to higher tuition fees; and

Whereas defaults on these loans represent public monies funding private institutions through tuition fees; and

Whereas students enrolled in federal retraining programs are often trained at private institutions; therefore,

Be it resolved that the following policy under the heading EDUCATIONAL FUNDING be adopted:

The Federation opposes the use of public monies for private institutions.

**95/05:29 MOTION TO REFER**

Carleton University Students' Association/McMaster University Students' Union

Be it resolved that motion 94/11:144 be referred to National Education and Student Rights Committee.

**CARRIED**

**94/11:151 MOTION TO AMEND POLICY**

City Centre Student Association/Concordia Graduate Students' Association

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Be it resolved that that the following policy (91.11.121) under the heading **CANADIAN CONSTITUTION** be deleted:

The Federation supports a unified Canada.

Trent delegate Galinger said he thought that the motion applied more to aboriginal peoples than to the issue of possible Quebec sovereignty.

City Centre delegate Harter said that the policy was so vague that it could be construed as the Canadian Federation of Students was against the people of Quebec deciding upon their future with Canada. He said he thought such a policy would be very detrimental for the Federation to take.

Trent delegate Galinger spoke against the motion, saying that as an organisation of students from across the country, and that as organisation that Quebec students had just joined, and as an organisation committed to unity with Francophone and Anglophone and aboriginal students, it is only logical to support a unified Canada. He said in other words, regardless of the differences the student organisation can work, and indeed, regardless of the differences, Canada can work.

A delegate from the Native Education Centre Student Association spoke in favour of the motion. She said that as far as aboriginal people are concerned, there will never be unified Canada, until aboriginal land claims and treaty negotiations are settled.

**95/05:30 MOTION TO REFER**

/McMaster University Students' Union

Be it resolved that motion 94/11:151 be referred to Membership Development Committee.

**DEFEATED**

A delegate spoke in favour of the motion, noting that if the intention was to underscore the importance of a unified students' movement, then this policy simply does not accomplish that intent. She said that wording should be drafted to accomplish the intention of the policy, but as it stands, the wording, "the Federation supports a unified Canada" is seriously flawed.

**94/11:151 CARRIED**

**noted in abstention:**

- University of Regina Students' Union
- Association étudiante de l'université de Moncton à Shippagan
- McMaster University Students' Union
- Algoma University Students' Association

**95/05:31 DIRECTIVE (94/11:N41)**

St. Thomas Students' Union/University of New Brunswick-Fredericton Student Union

Be it resolved that the federal government be called upon to offer graduates an additional year of venture capital loans through the Canada student loans programme.

City Centre Student Association delegate Harter spoke against the motion and said that with the Canada Health and Social Transfer threatening to make a less than accessible post-secondary education system even less accessible, and given that the Federation supports a national grant system that has not yet been realized, he said he did not want to spend time fighting for a venture capital loan for graduates. He said that as long as

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the working class and the working poor continued to have to fight to be able to pursue post-secondary education, he would not support this motion. He said he did not want to become a bourgeois capitalist.

**95/05:32 MOTION TO REFER**

Malaspina Students' Union/Marine Institute Students' Union

Be it resolved that motion 95/05:31 be referred to the National Education and Student Rights Committee.

**DEFEATED**

Concordia Graduate Students' Association delegate Lavigne spoke against the motion. He said there is a fundamental difference between a loan that was established by an Act of Parliament in 1964 as a result of one of the most comprehensive campaigns run by students across the country. He said this campaign culminated in the Canada Student Loans Act in 1964. He said the language of that 1964 Act was very progressive, recognising the programme as a means of redressing all kinds of barriers to accessible post-secondary education. He said the Canada Student Loans Programme is fundamentally different from a programme designed to help those having made it through the post-secondary education system start up their own business. He said that venture capital loans are philosophically different and should not be grafted onto the current programme.

**95/05:31 DEFEATED**

A point of order was raised regarding photographs being taken during the general meetings. The delegate said he found the flashes to be distracting.

A point of personal privilege was raised noting that the photos were being taken in order to develop a photo archive for the Federation.

A delegate asked for a ruling on the first point of order.

The Speaker asked that this issue be brought to the commencement of closing plenary, since interpretation was about to end and two announcements had to be made.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual students constituency group invited delegates to join them at Club 200, a local Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual bar.

Manitoba National Executive Representative also invited delegates to attend a local Francophone bar called le Canoe.

**95/05:33 MOTION TO RECESS**

Trent Central Student Government/Lakehead Students' Union

Be it resolved that the plenary recess until 7:30 pm May 28, 1995.

**CARRIED**