



60

61

62

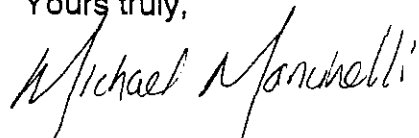
Dear Members,

Under the Bylaws of the Federation, the National Executive is required to submit a written report to each national general meeting accounting for its activities and the activities of the Federation since the previous national general meeting.

Amongst other things, the Bylaws state that the Report is to clearly delineate "the disposition of all directives given the National Executive by the plenary of the previous general meeting." Unfortunately, due to a variety of factors and pressures, the National Executive did not have an opportunity to compile information on all of the previous general meeting's directives prior to the deadline for producing and translating the Report.

On behalf of the National Executive, I apologize for this omission. Nevertheless, I believe this Report provides a satisfactory overview of the Federation's activity since the previous general meeting.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Mancinelli". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Mancinelli  
National Deputy Chairperson



---

## 1. CAMPAIGNS

---

At the previous national general meeting, members called for a number of campaign initiatives.

### **Campaign Against Federal Funding Cuts**

The May 1995 national general meeting resolved that an "On to Ottawa" trek be held. Since then, the National Executive has made a number of efforts to put things in progress. The date to launch the Trek has been chosen as May 1. A coordinated effort will be made to organize students and our supporters to make their way to Ottawa from then until the 8, when a week long of activities will begin. For those who cannot make the trip, local and regional actions will take place. A major day of action will be called for one day of that week, the exact day to be yet confirmed.

October 11 was National Students' Day. The Federation called for students to mobilize and the response was positive. Actions took place in a number of locations across the country, including McMaster University in Hamilton, Victoria, Vancouver, Ottawa, and Regina. Federation profile was high with the placards produced and distributed by the Ottawa office being very visible at these events (see the new Maclean's magazine University issue). To highlight the effects of the cutbacks, and to motivate students to get involved in these actions, a number of leaflets on how decreased funding for education affects members of constituency groups were produced. These fact sheets were sent out to all constituency group centers at member local campuses (women's centers, lesbian, gay and bisexual student groups, etc.)

Other materials produced for upcoming campaigns include several thousand buttons and stickers. Response to these have been very positive. Also, a poster highlighting the effects of the Canada Health and Social Transfer that can be used to call for mobilization on February 7, is in the midst of being designed.

### **Re-printing of the Declaration of Student Rights Poster**

In 1991, the Federation produced and distributed posters of the Federation's Declaration of Student Rights. By 1994, however, the supply of the posters had been exhausted.

At the May 1994 national general meeting, the membership resolved that the poster be reproduced. Unfortunately, due to more pressing matters, such as the federal government's social policy review, the directive was not completed prior to the subsequent general meeting or since. However, initial work on the project has recently been undertaken. Requests for design proposals are currently being sought. The National Executive hopes to have the poster printed and ready for distribution by early in the new

### **Support for E.G.A.L.E.**

The directive to register the Federation as a member of EGALE, Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere, was also fulfilled. The petition from EGALE to call for the amendment of the Canadian Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of

sexual orientation was distributed widely in mail-outs and in packages to members who sent information requests.

### **Call for Mobilization**

On October 28, the Toronto Coalition against Racism and the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, called for action to protest the Federal Government's \$975 head tax on new immigrants. Federation members joined in events in various cities around the country.

Federation members also took part in provincial days of action to protest cutbacks to social programmes, including September 20 in Quebec and September 27 in Ontario. Again, with the newly produced placards, the Federation's visibility was impressive. This was also the case for a November 7 rally where Local 19 organized heavily to bring out hundreds of students. Upcoming actions include a second province wide day of action in Ontario on November 22, and a walk-out at York University on September 28.

### **Solidarity with Striking Interns at the University of Saskatchewan**

The Federation's campaign work also involved showing solidarity with a number of our partners who will be affected by cutbacks, including the Professional Association of Interns and Residents of Saskatchewan who fought back against the unilateral imposition of tuition fees by the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan; the faculty at Memorial University and the University of Manitoba, where they took action against reductions in job security and unilateral (again) decisions by administration.

### **Support for Mumia Abu-Jamal**

The Federation called for support for Mumia Abu-Jamal, a man on death row in Pennsylvania, USA, who was denied basic rights of defense during his trial. Due to enormous international pressure, including letters from the Federation, Abu-Jamal was granted a stay of execution in August.

### **Support for First Nations Rights**

The Federation also responded in opposition to the shooting of an unarmed individual when First Nations people led a protest at Ipperwash Park in Ontario. Federation members protested police intimidation at Ipperwash and at the similar situation at Gustafsen Lake in British Columbia. The Federation was able to respond to these and other situations due to the ongoing communication among our members, coalition partners and supporters.

---

## **2. COALITION WORK**

---

Since May, the Federation has been actively working with its coalition partners at the national level. Most of this work, as usual, has been working within the Action Canada Network. In addition to this, however, both the Coalition for Post-secondary Education and the Canadian Health Coalition are areas where the Federation has become an active and important voice. The following is a summary of the Federation's coalition work since the previous national general meeting:

### **Action Canada Network**

The Network held its National Assembly this past September 8-10, in Toronto. It was one of the most well represented Assemblies in a while, with most member organizations and all regional coalitions in attendance. Representing the Federation were National Deputy Chairperson Michael Mancinelli and Government Relations Officer Jocelyn Charron. However, for the first time ever, Federation representatives were also there on behalf of regional coalitions of the Network. Ontario Treasurer, Jason Stevens, came with the Ontario Coalition for Social Justice, and Tasha Bollerup, the Nova Scotia Representative on the National Executive, was a delegate with Action Nova Scotia.

The focus of the three day Assembly was to discuss the Network's Plan of Action for the coming year. Member organizations came out of the meeting committed to organizing in a number of ways.

The first action planned was around the National Days of Medicare, held October 30 to November 2. In conjunction with the Canadian Labor Congress and the Canadian Health Coalition, the Network was involved in disseminating information and assisting local coalition organizers to bring forth resolutions to municipal councils, endorsing the Ten principles of Medicare. Furthermore, the Network took responsibility for targeting corporations, such as pharmaceutical and insurance companies, during the campaign.

There are other call for actions planned; the first, for around Christmas time, includes such ideas as Santa Clauses arriving at offices of major corporations and demanding "gifts owed", such as a cheque for unpaid taxes. For the new year, the campaign calls for actions using the Alternative Budget as a major communication tool to promote our alternatives. A dramatic action was also called for to take place around the release of the Federal government's budget.

### **Canadian Health Coalition**

In conjunction with the Coalition, the Federation worked to develop a major lobby effort involving all sectors that will be affected by the Canada Health and Social Transfer. The campaign is currently on the way and Federation members will be called upon to play an active role after the General Meeting.

### **Coalition for Post-Secondary Education**

The Coalition for Post-Secondary Education, after a brief hiatus, resumed its meetings and have developed a plan for common upcoming work. Members of the Coalition include the Federation, the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the National Union of Public and General Employees and the Canadian Union of Public Employees. The Coalition has put resources into hiring a part-time staff person to carry on its work. The major goals of the Coalition have been revised, and at a time when public post-secondary education is under threat, it will provide a useful contribution to the debate.

### **Alternative Budget**

The Federation is increasing its involvement in the Alternative Federal Budget process this year. Last year, the first for producing the Budget, the Federation was looked to for our policies and position on funding for post-secondary education. This year, the Federation has representation on almost every sub-committee working on the various aspects of the process, from political action and communication to taxation and social policy.

---

## **3. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

---

The summer is traditionally a slow period on the Hill, and this year was no exception. The House of Commons does not sit, and Members of Parliament are all back in their riding. Furthermore, the Québec referendum monopolized most of the political scene.

Many policy announcements were postponed, including the much awaited Science and Technology Policy, which will have a huge impact on research done in colleges and universities.

Most of the work undertaken centered mainly around the announced changes of the Canada Student Loans Programme. The Federation also participated in several meetings with government officials, both outside and within the framework of the National Advisory Group on Student Financial Assistance. As a member of the Advisory Group,



the Federation participated in a working group struck to develop an indexation formula for the Canada Student Loans Programme, since the formula proposed by the federal government (Consumer Price Index minus 3%) was inadequate and did not reflect real costs of students (especially with huge tuition fee increases on the horizon).

The Federation also participated in the initial stages of the second National Conference on Education, being organized by the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada for next May in Edmonton. The Federation has representation on the steering committee and will push forward, along with other organizations, to give post-secondary education its rightful place.

---

#### **4. INTERNATIONAL WORK**

---

---

## 5. FEDERATION PROGRAMS

---

### **Studentsaver**

For the second year in a row, the Studentsaver card was produced as fold-out which listed local discounts on the Card, and was distributed in an enclosure pamphlet which provided an overview of the Federation's work and programs. (In prior years, the discounts were listed in a national guide or in regional guides.)

At its July meeting, the National Executive reviewed the program materials and identified a need to improve the at enclosure pamphlet. Many National Executive members felt that the 1994-95 enclosure pamphlet was not eye-catching or compelling enough for a student to read further than the first line. The Executive also felt the it was important to include some history of the Federation, including recent successes as well as an overview of the programmes. Another major concern of the previous enclosure was that it did not make it clear that inside was the membership card of the Federation. Examples were cited of students on their campuses simply throwing the whole thing out without realizing what was inside.

Finally, the National Executive agreed with the idea of doing the mail back card again this year. However, they felt it was important that the Federation's provincial offices be included as the addresses to send the cards. The information requested by members will be distributed by the provincial offices, where the necessary resources exist; and where they do not, it will come from either of the National Offices.

The end result of these discussions was the enclosure that accompanies the 1995-96 Studentsaver cards. The mail back cards have been a success again this year and the provincial offices have reported back that they are receiving a lot of requests for information.

There were a few glitches in the production of the cards this year. Due to the revamping of the enclosure we ended up running a bit behind schedule. Member locals that had indicated that they needed their cards by a specific date had them shipped out earlier or they were couriered to them. The rest of the cards were sent by ground transportation and ended up arriving late at some campuses.

In order to improve on the card next year we solicited information from the local discount coordinators. Most of the questionnaires contained positive comments. Some of the suggestions for next year that came out of the questionnaires were as follows:

1. Provide the local solicitor with general information about the Federation that they can present to businesses when soliciting a discount.
2. Provide some analysis on how much money students spend in a year in order to assist in getting discounts.
3. Change the payment scheme: some felt that \$100 was not adequate for large metropolitan areas.
4. Ensure that any major changes being made to the card and/or the enclosure are presented by the end of May so that production of the card will not be interrupted.
5. Attach some form of coupon book. Stores are more willing to give a one time discount than an ongoing one.

### **National Student Health Network**

Since the General Meeting in May the National Student Health Network has gone through many changes. A tender was sent out mid-June to several brokerage companies in the Toronto area. Two companies ended up submitting proposals to work with the National Student Health Network. After reviewing the proposals and interviewing both candidates, the Canadian Actuarial and Consulting Group Inc. (CACGI) was selected as the Federation's broker.

CACGI has offices in both Toronto and Ottawa, which, with the eventual move of the Toronto offices operations to Ottawa, will allow us to deal with them through their Ottawa office. Prior to taking on the Federation health plans, CACGI had experience in student health plans as they are the broker for the Students' Federation at the University of Ottawa, and Queen's Graduate Students Society.

Since July, when the partnership was formed, the Federation and CACGI have been in negotiations over an agreement between the two organizations. Currently we have signed a letter of intent for two years. The letter stipulates that an administration fee of 35% in year one and 40% in year two will be paid to the Federation.

The student unions that have remained with the Network are:

Local 79 - McGill Post-Graduate Student Society (Extended Health and Dental)

Local 44 - University of Victoria Student Society (Extended Health)

Local 07 - Student Union of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (Extended Health)

Local 23 - Simon Fraser Student Society (tentative date implementation of January '96)

Local 84-York Graduate Student Association is currently holding a referendum on both a health and dental plan. The voting days are November 14, 15, 16, & 20, and by the time of this national general meeting, the result will be known.

CACGI was also in attendance at the Newfoundland and Labrador General Meeting in October and is putting together proposals for a number of colleges in the province.

The participation in the plan has not been what we had hoped for in May. However it has been an excellent opportunity to work out the glitches with a small number of schools on the plan. The new year will be an important time for the Network as we promote it as a viable option to administering health plans. With a strong marketing package we will be able to regain some of the members that we have lost and bring new members into the plan.

In order to achieve this goal, the National Executive opened the position of Health Plan Administrator, which should be filled by the General Meeting. Over 190 people applied for the position and the pool of experienced candidates was impressive.

CACGI representatives will be in attendance at the General Meeting to answer any questions that members may have.

### **Canadian Programming Service**

In light of the year end financial statements for 1994-95, and the motion that passed at the May General Meeting regarding the Service, the National Executive decided in September to put the Canadian Programming Service on hiatus until May 1996. There were some dates that had been scheduled for the fall and needed to have someone take care of them. The National Executive entered into an agreement with VOX Management Service, a company where David Doze, former director of the Programme, is now a partner. They have agreed to execute these dates under the name of the Federation's programming service and the commission will be shared on a 50-50 basis.

This year will allow the Federation to decide what it would like to do with this programme. The membership will have the opportunity at this General Meeting and the meeting in May to evaluate and alter the programme. The potential of a significant loss in the 1995-96 fiscal year is too great a risk at this time. The programme has lost well over \$300 000 since its inception and has not demonstrated the ability to reverse that trend. This time is needed to decide if this is the type of program that serves the membership as it should.

### **International Student Identity Card (ISIC)**

The major development with the Card since the General Meeting in May is the joint initiative between the Federation and VIA Rail.

Starting on January 5, 1996 the only official student identification that VIA Rail will accept will be the International Student Identity Card. With the Card, students will be able to get 40% off any economy seat, anytime with VIA Rail. The advantages that students who travel with the Card will have over the youth fare that VIA currently offers are numerous. There will be no black out periods; no advance booking is necessary; there will be an

unlimited number of seats and no age limit. The only requirement is full-time student status at either the high school or post-secondary level.

---

## 6. FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP

---

Since the previous national general meeting, several student associations have applied for prospective membership in the Federation. These are:

- University of British Columbia Graduate Student Society
- Central Newfoundland Regional College of Applied Arts and Technology & Continuing Education Student Union
- Eastern College of Applied Arts and Technology & Continuing Education Student Union
- College of the Rockies Student Association (formerly East Kootenay Community College Student Association)
- Yukon College Students' Council
- West Viking College Student Association.

The National Executive has reviewed each of these membership applications, as per Bylaw 1, Section 4-b, and is recommending that each association be granted prospective membership.

Also, two existing Federation member locals have held membership reaffirmation referenda since the previous national general meeting. Both referenda were successful. In early October, the members of the **Memorial Student Union** voted 70.5 percent in favour of continued membership in the Federation and on November 14-16, the members of the **York Federation of Students** voted 66 percent in favour of continued membership referendum.

The Federation faces several more de-federation referenda in the new year, though some of the member locals have failed to provide valid notice, including some who have served notice despite having held a membership referendum in the previous twenty-four months.

---

## 7. FEDERATION COMMUNICATION TOOLS

---

**The Student Directory** is now available and copies have been sent out to member locals. A number of positive changes were made to this year's edition. As usual, extra copies can be ordered through the Toronto National Office.

**The Student Traveler** is also now available on campuses and at Travel CUTS/Voyages Campus offices. As per the motion from plenary in May, the latest edition of the Traveler

contains "Fast Facts", information on the population, level of human development, main languages spoken, % of government spending on education, unemployment rate, number of tourists visiting and the environmental rating of each country featured in the Traveler. Any comments on the new features would be appreciated.

The Federation's organizing and campaigns manual, **Don't Agonize..Organize!**, also features a number of changes this year. These include increased information on the Action Canada Network, the Federation's provincial offices, and tools needed to effectively organize demonstrations. Feedback so far has been very positive.

Work on the **Annual Report** for the 1994-95 year has only begun. As many know, no Report was issued for 1993-94 year, due mainly to the shortage and changes in staff resources over the past year. However, the National Executive will be exploring the idea of including information for that year in the report that will be issued for 94-95. Every effort will be made to have the Report finalized and distributed by the Spring of next year.

As per the directive from the last National General Meeting, a home page for the Federation is being established for World Wide Web. It will hopefully be in place and ready to use before year end.

---

## **8. INTERNAL**

---

### **National Executive Composition**

The membership of the National Executive has been very stable since the previous national general meeting with only four positions having changed during this time. The following is a list of National Executive's composition since May:

**Aboriginal Students' Representative**

Renée Shilling

**Alberta Representative**

Zahra Habib

**British Columbia Representative**

John-Henry Harter (May-September)

Joey Hansen (September-present)

**Francophone Students' Representative**

Daniel Lagacé

**Graduate Students' Representative**

Michael Temelini

**Manitoba Representative**

Réal Déquier

**National Chairperson**

Guy Caron

**National Deputy Chairperson**

Mike Mancinelli

**National Treasurer**

Cassandra Koenen

**Newfoundland and Labrador Representative**

Keith Clarke

**New Brunswick Representative**

Danik Maillet (May-September)

Dominique Rioux (September-present)

**Nova Scotia Representative**

Tasha Bollerup

**Ontario Representative**

Jennifer Story (July-present)

**Prince Edward Island Representative**

vacant (May-September)

Randy Burrows (September-November 15)

Amber Allin (November 15-Present)

**Québec Representative**

Brad Lavigne

**Saskatchewan Representative**

Loretta Gerlach (May-September)

Pam Kapoor (September-present)

**Students of Colour Representative**

Lancefield Morgan

**Women Students' Representative**

Karen Eryou

**Restructuring**

The May 1995 national general meeting resolved that one of the two national federations – either Canadian Federation of Students or Canadian Federation of Students-Services – be dissolved and its assets and liabilities be assigned to the other.

Immediately after the general meeting, the National Executive commenced work on fulfilling the directive. Meetings were arranged with the Federations' legal and financial advisers. The advisers recommended a process of 'due diligence', a process to ensure that no mistakes would be made in the restructuring process. Under the process, the legal and financial advisers of both Federations and Travel CUTS are reviewing, amongst other things, all existing contracts which would need to be assigned.

At its meeting in July, the National Executive struck a committee, currently comprised of the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, National Treasurer, Ontario Representative and the Quebec Representative, to work with the legal and financial advisers on the project.

To-date, progress on the restructuring has proceeded somewhat more slowly than the National Executive would have hoped it would. However, the work should be completed by the end of the current National Executive's mandate.

---

## **9. STAFFING**

---

The Federation has experience several staff changes since the previous previous national general meeting.

### **Ottawa Office Staffing**

Immediately following the general meeting in May, Pam Frache was hired as the new Internal Coordinator in the Ottawa office, followings stints as the National Strike Coordinator and National General Meeting Coordinator. Pam was the President of the University of Victoria Students' Society in 1987-88, BC Component Chairperson in 1989-90 and an employee of the Ryerson Student Union in the early 1990's.

In July, Denise Doherty-Delorme was hired through the internal hiring process as the new Researcher in the Ottawa office. She commenced work in the position in late August. Prior to taking the position, Denise served close to five years as the Federation's Manitoba-Saskatchewan Fieldworker.

In September, Derrick Deans was hired as the Federation first-ever Graduate Caucus Coordinator. Derrick did his graduate work at Carleton University.

In October, Katherine Sproule, Financial Coordinator for the Federation since 1989, retired. Earlier this week, Johanne Laurent, who had been working for the Federation as an Interim Financial Coordinator since March, was hired for the permanent position.

### **Toronto Office Staffing**

In early June, Hugh Leighton resigned as the Director of the Federation's National Studnet Health Network. Shortly after, Analise Myers resigned as Coordinator of the program. The National Executive took the opportunity of the vacancies to restructure the



program's staffing. After considering various options, the National Executive decided that the program would best function with two Administrators. Earlier this week, Todd Battenham was hired for one of the positions. The National Executive hopes to fill the other position in the next few weeks.

In late June, Chris Gibbs resigned as Studentsaver Discount Program Director after five and one-half years with the Federation. Paula Haapanen, who had been hired for the summer to assist Chris, assumed full responsibility for coordinating the program through the remainder of the summer. Her contract with the Federation ends in mid-September. The National Executive decided to leave the Director position vacant until the spring, during which time the staffing needs of the program will be evaluated.

In late July, David Doze, Director of the Federation's Programming Service, left the Federation after more than four years of service. The other staff of the program also left the Federation around this time. With the program now on hiatus, naturally the National Executive has no plans to fill the vacant positions.

In early August, Ann Klug, Communications and Special Projects Officer in the Toronto office left the Federation. The National Executive has resolved to consolidate all of the Federation's national communications functions in the Ottawa office.

Finally, in September, Jo-Anna Murphy-Ward, Office Administrator, left the Federation to assume a similar role within Travel CUTS. In September, the National Executive resolved to create a six month position of Office Assistant, to assist the National Treasurer with the running of the Toronto office. The National Executive decided to make the position temporary in anticipation of the Toronto office functions being transferred to the Ottawa Office.

### **Regional Staffing**

In May, the Nova Scotia and Newfoundland-Labrador Fieldworker position was gapped. It was decided that negotiations be initiated with the





# Canadian Federation of Students *Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants*

## ASSOCIATIONS-MEMBRES MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

Acadia University SU  
Algoma University SA  
Augustana University College SU  
Brandon University SU  
British Columbia GSS (University of)  
Calgary GSA (University of)  
Camosun College SS  
Capilano College SU  
Carleton University SA  
Carleton University GSA  
Central Newfoundland SC  
City Centre College SA  
Concordia University GSA  
Douglas College SS  
Emily Carr College of A & D SU  
Guelph CSA (University of)  
Guelph GSA (University of)  
Holland College SU  
King Edward College SA  
King's College SU (University of)  
Lakehead University SU  
Laurentian University SGA  
Lethbridge SU (University of)  
Malaspina University College SUS  
Marine Institute SU  
McGill University PGSS  
McMaster University SU  
Memorial University CSU  
Mount Royal College SA  
Mount Saint Vincent University SU  
Native Education Centre SC  
Nipissing University SU  
North Island College SA  
Northwest Community College SA  
Nova Scotia College of A & D SU  
Ontario College of Art SU  
Prince Edward Island SU (Univ. of)  
Prince Edward Island GSA (Univ. of)  
Queen's University GSS  
Regina SU (University of)  
Ryerson Polytechnic University SAC  
St. Andrew SG (N.B. Comm. Coll.)  
Saint-Boniface AEE (Collège univ. de)  
Saint-Louis-Mallet AGEE  
Saint-Paul University AE (Université)  
Sainte-Anne AGEE (Université)  
Selkirk College SS  
Shippagan AE (Univ. de Moncton)  
Simon Fraser University SS  
Sir Wilfrid Grenfell College CSU  
Toronto GSU (University of)  
Trent University CSA  
Victoria SS (University of)  
Waterloo FS (University of)  
Western Ontario SOGS (Univ. of)  
Westviking College SA  
Wilfrid Laurier University GSA  
Windsor GSS (University of)  
Winnipeg SA (University of)  
York University FS  
York University GSA

## Report of the National Chairperson

**November 17-23, 1995**  
**Embassy West Motor Hotel**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

*Education is a right, not a privilege!*

*L'éducation est un droit et non un privilège!*

170, rue Metcalfe, pièce 600, Ottawa (Ontario) K2P 1P3 TEL: (613) 232-7394 FAX: (613) 232-0276



# SECTION 1

## Day-to-Day Operations

\* This report has been written on November 1st. This explains why I am unable to report on events happening after this date.

### JUNE 11-13, 1995 - TRIP TO QUEBEC CITY

During the May General Meeting, I was called by Jacques Bussi res, V.P. Executive for the *Conf d ration des associations d mocratiques  tudiantes de l'Universit  Laval* (CADEUL) who was very much interested to meet with the Federation. Picking up Gilbert Cabana, Chairperson of the Quebec component on the way, we had meetings with both the CADEUL and the *Union des gradu -es inscrits   Laval* (UGIL).

Both meetings went very well, as both student associations were looking at getting a basic knowledge of the Federation to explore any possibility of working together in the future. The graduate representatives seemed very interested in knowing more about the Federation's programmes. Neither of them are members of the *F d ration  tudiante universitaire du Qu bec* (FEUQ).

However, we should not be too optimistic regarding the possibilities of full membership for the CADEUL. The UGIL is more likely to be interested in such a concept, but certainly not before the referendum on Quebec sovereignty. Neither CADEUL nor UGIL are taking a stand on the Quebec referendum debate.

### JUNE 13, 1995 - MEETING WITH THE MOUVEMENT POUR LE DROIT   L' DUCATION

Coming back from Quebec City, I stopped in Montreal for a meeting with two representatives from the *Mouvement pour le droit   l' ducation* (translation: Movement for the right to education). They had made the request to meet with us. Michael Temelini, National Graduate representative, Brad Lavigne, the National Representative for Quebec and Marie-Claude Poliquin, former V.P. External of McGill PGSS and former Francophone Representative for the National Executive accompanied me at this meeting.

The *Mouvement pour le droit   l' ducation* is the embryo of a new provincial student organization in Quebec that will start a membership drive in September to formalize the organization. It is rather progressive, along the lines of the *Association nationale des  tudiantes et  tudiants du Qu bec* (ANEEQ) and is aiming at regrouping the student associations which are not interested in the FEUQ or the FECQ. Most of the prospective members of the *Mouvement pour le droit   l' ducation* were members of the Coalition X, which was the organizing coalition for the January 25 National Day of Strike and Action in Montreal.

### JUNE 19-20, 1995 - TRAVEL CUTS BOARD MEETING

I attended the Travel Cuts Board meeting along with Cass, Mike Mancinelli, Patrick Crowley, Jos  Fran ois and Michael Gardiner in Toronto.

### JUNE 21, 1995 - MEETING OF THE CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

This meeting regarding our action towards the Canada Health and Social Transfer was disappointing to say the least. While it was interesting to meet with coalition partners of the Ottawa area (including Lynne Toupin, from the National Anti-Poverty Organization), the meeting was oriented towards re-direction of our efforts after implementation of the CHST, as if this change was taken for granted. I tried to bring some

dynamism in the group, trying to convince them that a concerted effort to prevent implementation of the CHST was still in order, but the group seemed hardly convinced that it would be efficient.

**JUNE 22-25, 1995 - ONTARIO COMPONENT GENERAL MEETING IN SUDBURY**

The most important motion on the table at the Ontario component GM was the motion for de-congruency, or a return to the structure of the Ontario Federation of Students and a Federation caucus within OFS. A roundtable was setup to discuss the merits of that motion, and following this discussion, the closing plenary unanimously agreed to table the motion until the next GM, to have a chance to observe any development in the next few months regarding the walk-out of some members at the plenary session of May's National General Meeting.

**JUNE 26-27, 1995 - CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENT SERVICES MEETING (CACUSS)**

I was invited by Jim Delaney from the Student Services office of the University of Toronto to participate in a student panel. Other members of the panel were Jennifer Storey, from the University of Guelph Central Student Association, Scott McCormick, from the Wilfrid Laurier University Student Union and Dawn Mittelholtz, from the Conestoga College Student Association. The topic was fairly broad and I chose to talk broadly about the current political situation, including the Canada Health and Social Transfer, making links with the issue of funding of student services on university and college campuses.

The panel went fairly well, ending with a question regarding ICLRPs, asked by an undergraduate student of the University of Waterloo which was easy enough to answer.

**JULY 5-8, 1995 - STUDENT UNION DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM (SUDS)**

As explained at the April National Executive Meeting, I was invited to debate Alex Usher, from the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) on a panel aimed at comparing both student organizations. Jennifer Storey was the other Federation delegate. The debate was very successful and the weaknesses of CASA were, in my opinion, severely outlined. Most of the delegates (composed approximately of 1/3 CFS members, 1/3 CASA members and 1/3 non-aligned student unions) seemed to have a better opinion of the Federation as the debate served to dismiss many myths regarding our organization.

The SUDS conference was far more useful than it had been in the past (from what I heard: I never attended SUDS before). The two guest speakers were fairly progressive by today's standards and the workshops and debates, such as the lobbying vs activism debate, were most interesting.

The Federation member locals attending were: Saint-Boniface AEE, York FS, Ryerson SAC, King Edward SA, Capilano SS, Kwantlen SA, Waterloo FS, Brandon SU and McMaster SU.

**JULY 8-9, 1995 - BRITISH COLUMBIA COMPONENT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT MEETING**

I attended, with Jennifer Storey, the Skills Development Symposium organized by the British Columbia Component of the Federation at Simon Fraser University. A workshop on financial management of student associations was given by Lyndon Surjik, former National Treasurer of the Federation. I also gave a workshop on the Canada Health and Social Transfer, explaining that the situation with the Federal « Risk Sharing » agreement with banking institutions will be explained in further details in an upcoming *Action*

*Update.* A mock lobby session was held at the same conference to help delegates to improve their lobbying skills.

**JULY 11 - MEETING WITH ERIK KRISTIANSON, ASSISTANT TO THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MINISTER OF SKILLS, LABOUR AND TRAINING**

I accompanied Michael Gardiner during his scheduled meeting with Erik Kristianson, regarding the « Risk Sharing » arrangements that were about to be officially announced in British Columbia. (See lobby report)

**JULY 11, 1995 - MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CAMOSUN STUDENT SOCIETY**

I actually had two meetings with the Camosun College Student Society, along with Michael Gardiner. The first meeting was casual, and we discussed the situation at Camosun, their membership in the Federation, the Federation's campaigns, particularly the On-to-Ottawa Trek. During the second meeting, later at night, we discussed the Federation members participation in the On-to-Ottawa Trek 60th anniversary remembrance, and the speech I was to give along with Maura Parte, Camosun College Student Society Chairperson.

**JULY 11, 1995 - COUNCIL MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA STUDENT SOCIETY**

In between the two meetings with the Camosun College Student Society, I was introduced to the student council of the University of Victoria Student Society. Tina Walker, chairperson of the student union, allocated some time for a session of Q & A, but no one had any questions for either myself, Michael Gardiner or John Henry Harter who were also introduced as representatives of the Federation.

**JULY 12, 1995 - MEETING WITH DIANE DAVIS OF THE NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

Diane Davis requested a meeting for discussing the research that was adopted at the last National General Meeting which will result in an educational campaign on the changes in the composition of the Canadian labour force.

While in Nanaimo (Diane Davis came half way from Port Alberni, the site of her campus), we also met with the Chairperson of the Malaspina University College Student Union Society to talk for about 15 minutes of the projects of the student union for next year. We talked very little of the Federation, only to know that he was displeased with the little information they received on the implementation process of the fee increase. I am expecting a phone call from *The Navigator* (their student newspaper) for an interview on the topic.

**JULY 12, 1995 - COUNCIL MEETING OF THE SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY STUDENT SOCIETY**

Michael Gardiner and I were invited to attend the Forum (student council) meeting of the Simon Fraser SS where a Q & A session was set. Unlike our previous meeting in Victoria, questions were asked, ranging from the issue of the Federation potential membership in Quebec to the situation of the National Student Health Network. The session went well, and the members of the Forum seemed satisfied by the answers.

Later in the meeting, the Forum proceeded to a motion to provide a health plan under the National Student Health Network, which was carried unanimously.

**JULY 13, 1995 - MEETING WITH THE CAPILANO COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY**

Philip Link and I met with Melissa MacKisey and Sarah Dixon from Capilano, to talk about the last National General Meeting. Their perception of the Federation was very negative at first (remember that the Capilano College SS served notice for a referendum last year). However, they told us that they were favorably impressed with how the General Meeting went. Most of the concerns they have were directed at the provincial component, which Philip answered to for most of the meeting.

**JULY 14, 1995 - MEETING WITH LANGARA COLLEGE STUDENT UNION REPRESENTATIVES**

I met with Desmond Rodenbour and most of the Executive members of the Langara College Student Union, as it seemed that this former member local (Local 22) of the Federation regained some interest vis-a-vis CFS as a conclusion of the debate between myself and Alex Usher of CASA at the SUDS.

However, I was wrong. The differences of opinion between the student union representatives and the Federation are too large to even consider adding them to our membership.

**JULY 15, 1995 - SPEECH - « ON-TO-OTTAWA TREK 60TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE »**

Maura and I gave a speech at a special evening organized in Victoria by student and labour unions to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the original On-to-Ottawa Trek. Most of the members of the provincial executive were present at that event which included, among other speakers, the Chairperson of the British Columbia Federation of Labour, a survivor of the original Trek (Bobby Jackson), and a representative of a provincial anti-poverty organization.

We used the opportunity to announce, in vague terms, the intention of the Federation to proceed to a re-creation of the On-to-Ottawa Trek in regards of the Canada Health and Social Transfer.

**JULY 25, 1995 - MEETING WITH TORONTO SAC REPRESENTATIVE**

Along with Heather Bishop (Ontario Chairperson) and Michol Hoffman (from the University of Toronto GSU), I met with Alexander Vaccari, V.P. External of the University of Toronto Student Administrative Council. He wanted to discuss about the Federation, its principles, its structure, to compare it with other national and provincial organizations.

He seemed satisfied by what he was hearing, and I can only conclude that we made a positive impression. It is however too early to talk about real possibilities of a membership at the Toronto SAC students in the Federation. Even if he said that they were looking at the possibilities of membership in a national and/or provincial organization, he was also concerned by the fact that representatives of Toronto SAC would only have one vote within the Federation.

However, the meeting was interesting enough to convince me that the provincial component and the national offices should keep in touch regularly with him.

**JULY 26, 1995 - MEETING WITH YORK FS AND RYERSON SAC REPRESENTATIVES**

A meeting was set up in the morning between myself and Andre Bastien as well as Ernie Ashford, from the York University Federation of Students. Heather Bishop was supposed to come, but was prevented from doing as she was caught up with the moving of the provincial office.



We discussed the referendum, but not much could be said because no dates had been set at the time. The discussion soon turned to provincial politics, with the accession of the Conservative Party to power in Ontario.

In the afternoon, I met with Greg Thomas and Frank Cappadocia, from the Ryerson University Students Administrative Council. Greg's first comment was that his impression of the Federation changed over the summer, following the Ontario meeting, and also looking at the plans at the national level, such as the national symposium. He explained that his role and influence within council was diminished, because the council, starting with the President (Paul Cheevers) felt national and provincial issues have undermined issues internal to Ryerson. Greg has been asked to concentrate on academic cases rather than external issues.

He said that he would like Ryerson to cancel the referendum, but council seemed determined to go ahead with it, not out of anti-Federation feelings, but because its members didn't see the relevancy of being affiliated to an « external » organization.

#### **AUGUST 1, 1995 - PRESS CONFERENCE - CHANGES TO CSLP**

Simone Saint-Pierre accompanied me to the press conference organized by the Ministry of Human Resources Development at Algonquin College (in Ottawa) to announce officially the changes to the Canada

ideas to her. During this meeting, I learned that the new President of the CGC was Alexander Ross, from the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students.

**SEPTEMBER 22-OCTOBER 3, 1995 - MEMORIAL CSU MEMBERSHIP REFERENDUM**

The YES Committee was composed of Keith Clarke, Zaki Saleemi, Cass Koenen, Lucy Watson, Joe Byrne, Robin Squires and myself in addition to some very dedicated Memorial students. Our main task was to inform students, who to be quite frank, didn't know much about the Federation. I would say that we were able to talk to more than 5,000 students, directly or indirectly, over this two-week period. The NO Committee didn't start campaigning until September 29. Everybody by now should know the results: YES (to remain members): 810 (or 70.5%); NO: 344 (or 29.5%).

**SEPTEMBER 26, 1995 - PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE CONFLICT FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION**

While in St. John's, we gathered more information on the conflict existing between the Memorial University of Newfoundland Faculty Association (MUNFA) and the Memorial University of Memorial (MUN) Administration. To summarize the situation, negotiations to sign a new collective agreement took place over the summer, but after only four days, the Administration called for conciliation. This move allowed the MUN Administration to impose a Handbook *in lieu* of collective agreement in which provisions such as the possibility of firing a professor for financial reasons. This strategy was a blatant disrespect to the process of negotiations between bargaining units and was very obviously a threat to academic freedom.

Joe Byrne and I decided to organize a press conference to throw the Federation's support behind MUNFA's position of returning to the negotiation table. The demands of both bargaining units were neither supported nor opposed. We felt that the financial reasons invoked by the MUN Administration (that financial restrictions are to be expected with the introduction of the Canada Health and Social Transfer), but that the strategy used by MUN was a dangerous precedent, one that could be used nationally. We pleaded for both parties, and their national organizations, to work with students to fight the CHST rather than fighting amongst ourselves because of it.

Seeing what is going on at the University of Manitoba and Mount Allison University who are experiencing critical conflicts of the same kind, I feel more than ever justified to have proceeded in that manner.

**OCTOBER 12-15, 1995 - NEWFOUNDLAND LABRADOR COMPONENT GENERAL MEETING**

Brad Lavigne and I took part in the Newfoundland and Labrador General Meeting. The meeting was attended by six of the seven student unions, the Labrador College Students' Council not being able to attend. The meeting was productive towards full congruency as Keith Clarke, Newfoundland and Labrador representative on the National Executive will report. Representatives of the Eastern Newfoundland Regional College have committed to prospective membership in November.

Brad, Keith and I also spent time with the Sir Wilfrid Grenfell Council of the Students' Union delegation to answer some of the concerns they wanted to express with the Federation. The CSU is scheduled to hold a hold a membership referendum on the Federation in March.

Roy Brown, of the Canadian Actuarial and Consulting Group Incorporated (the broker of the National Student Health Network), was also on site to discuss the possibility for Newfoundland members to join the network.

**OCTOBER 15, 1995 - MEETING WITH THE UPEI SU COUNCIL**

My plane landed in Charlottetown from St. John's at 5:00PM and at 8:00PM, we joined the meeting of the UPEI SU council already in progress. A short session of questions and answers was held, where Fidel Murphy (VP External of UPEI SU) asked about the membership status of the Holland College Student Union.

**OCTOBER 16, 1995 - MEETING WITH SHIPPAGAN AE REPRESENTATIVES**

Joe and I drove from Charlottetown to Shippagan to Shippagan in the morning to meet with Dominique Rioux, President of the *Association étudiante de l'Université de Moncton à Shippagan*, and Guylaine Dugas, VP External. A forum was planned in a auditorium-type of classroom. About 20 students showed up for a brief presentation of the Federation followed by a session of questions and answers.

Dominique and I then visited a couple of classrooms while Joe was giving Guylaine an orientation of the Federation for the General Meeting.

**OCTOBER 17, 1995 - MEETING WITH SAINT-LOUIS-MAILLET AGEE REPRESENTATIVES**

We left Shippagan for Edmunston where we were scheduled to meet with students at Saint-Louis-Maillet. Unfortunately, we arrived late and missed the meeting, but we were able to have a meeting with the members of the council. We discussed about the Federation and about the due diligence process, explaining the history of the student movement and of the Federation.

We also listened and took note of the concern regarding the bilingualism of the Federation. The *Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet* have received a number of Federation documents in the English language. We will look into this problem.

**OCTOBER 18, 1995 - SPEECH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

Back in Charlottetown, I was invited to speak to the students of the University of Prince Edward Island at a student lounge. I spoke before about 75 students on the Federation, the student movement and the Canada Health and Social Transfer. I was followed by a member of the Council of Canadians who also made a speech on the Canada Health and Social Transfer, and its consequences on the fabric of our society, and on post-secondary education.

We also discussed the Federation during lunch with Randy Burrows (PEI Representative of the National Executive), Amber Liv Allin (President) and Fidel Murphy (VP External) of the UPEI Student Union.

In the afternoon, Joe and I met with the Women's Centre coordinator at UPEI and discussed some issues that arose on campus. The coordinator expressed her wish to see more NO MEANS NO! posters being printed and distributed. According to her, it helps reminding women who experienced date rape that they are not the one who are responsible for what happened.

**OCTOBER 19, 1995 - MEETING WITH ACADIA SU REPRESENTATIVES**

Joe and I met with Julia Carroll (President) and Tracy Lightfoot (Vice-President) of the Acadia Student Union. Julia and Jeff Wright, from the ASU Executive, set up a table in the student lounge for any student to come and discuss the Federation. We then discussed the Federation at lunch with Julia and later with

Tracy, and more specifically, the decision of the National Executive to send Joe to St. John's for the membership referendum at Memorial when he was already scheduled to go to Acadia. We also discussed the May General Meeting, and the improvements that could be implemented in the communication process between the Ottawa National Office and the member locals.

#### **OCTOBER 19, 1995 - MEETING WITH SAINTE-ANNE AGÉE REPRESENTATIVES**

We headed for Church Point immediately after our meeting with Julia and Tracy. We met with Nelson Valois, the new president of the *Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants de l'Université Sainte-Anne* and Mark Blinn, General Manager of the AGÉE. The situation of the *Université Saint-Anne* is not very good: enrollment decreased by more than 15% and as a result, student services were cut to the bone which will, according to Nelson, will discourage even more students to study in Sainte-Anne. The *Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants* tries to bring alternatives, to break the vicious circle, but to no avail.

I promised him the support of the Federation, as soon as I could get further details on the situation.

#### **OCTOBER 20, 1995 - MEETING WITH SUNS REPRESENTATIVES**

A breakfast was scheduled in the morning with Chris Webb (President of the Student Union of Nova Scotia) and Jeff Wilson (Researcher of SUNS). We exchanged information on the status of both organizations and learned more about the Dalhousie Student Union's membership referendum to leave SUNS. Both Chris and Jeff reiterated their will to work with the Federation, mentioning also that they want to stay in touch with both the Federation and CASA.

#### **OCTOBER 20, 1995 - MEETING WITH U. OF KING'S COLLEGE SU REPRESENTATIVES**

In the afternoon, we headed for the University of King's College Student Union office where we were welcomed by Jennifer Smiley, VP External. Students were invited to drop by to talk with us, but unfortunately, none showed up. However, we spent the afternoon discussing with the Executive about the Federation work, the campaigns and the upcoming General Meeting.

#### **OCTOBER 20, 1995 - MEETING WITH SUNSCAD REPRESENTATIVES**

At 5:00PM, Joe and I were supposed to meet with the council of the Student Union of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Unfortunately, the meeting was postpone until 6:00PM, but we had the chance of meeting with some councillors and to answer questions regarding the Federation.

#### **OCTOBER 25, 1995 - QUEBEC COMPONENT GENERAL MEETING**

The Quebec Component graciously invited me to be a guest at their first Annual General Meeting, held at Thomson House of McGill University. About ten delegates of Local 79 and Local 83 were present, as well as guests from the *Mouvement pour le droit à l'éducation* (MDÉ). The meeting lasted about three hours and will certainly be reported by Brad Lavigne, the Quebec representative on the National Executive.

#### **OCTOBER 26, 1995 - SPEECH AT THE CUPE GENERAL MEETING**

I was invited by the Canadian Union of Public Employees to sign a Statement of Solidarity pledging to fight the Canada Health and Social Transfer, along with other social organizations during the CUPE Annual General Meeting in Montreal. Brad Lavigne and Michael Temelini also came as guests of CUPE.

The other organizations were represented by:  
Michel Pelletier (Solidarité Populaire Québec)  
Nathalie Duhamel (Fédération des femmes du Québec)  
Robert Bouchard (Regroupement des personnes à la retraite)  
Sunera Thobani (National Action Committee on the Status of Women)  
Lynne Toupin (National Anti-Poverty Organization)

I used this perfect opportunity to announce the « On-to-Ottawa Trek » to the 1,700 delegates, an announcement which was met with general applause.

You can find a copy of the Statement of Solidarity at the end of this report.

In the evening, I participated in another CUPE event, the Youth Forum. The panel was composed of Tania Jarzebiak (CUPE Local 23 in Burnaby, BC), Rob Centa (CUPE 1281), Sue Carter (Canadian Labour Congress) and myself. It was a discussion of issues of particular concern to young Canadian workers and CUPE members. The forum is a part of a new initiative to make CUPE more relevant and responsive to younger members. The meeting was also a forum for developing union strategies for addressing youth issues.

**NOVEMBER 4-6, 1995 - MEETING OF THE REGROUPEMENT DES ASSOCIATIONS  
ETUDIANTES POST-SECONDAIRES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES (RAEPCF)**

I went to Sudbury to take part in the RAEPCF meeting, as directed by a motion adopted at the May National General Meeting.

**NOVEMBER 6, 1995 - MEETING OF THE « AMALGAMATION » COMMITTEE**

**NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995 - YORK FS MEMBERSHIP REFERENDUM**

**NOVEMBER 10, 1995 - TRAVEL CUTS BOARD MEETING**

# SECTION 2

## 2Media Relations

#	DATE	MEDIA	JOURNALIST	TOPIC
1	May 28, 1995	Radio-Canada (Winnipeg)	Carl Boudreau	Decrease of Enrollment
2	May 29, 1995	La Liberté (Saint-Boniface)	Stéphane Henry	General Meeting
3	June 5, 1995	The Charlatan (Carleton)	???	May General Meeting
4	July 27, 1995	Radio-Canada (Montréal)	Pascale Turbide	Decrease in Ontario Applications
5	July 27, 1995	The London Free Press	Jean Goddu	Decrease in Ontario Applications
6	July 27, 1995	The Toronto Star	Tanya Talaga	Decrease in Ontario Applications
7	July 28, 1995	Radio-Canada (Montréal)	Pascale Turbide	ICLRPs
8	August 1, 1995	SCRUM	ABOUT 15 MEDIA	Changes to CSLP
9	August 1, 1995	CBC National	Ron Charles	Changes to CSLP
10	August 1, 1995	CBC Radio (Edmonton)	Karen Thomas	Changes to CSLP
11	August 1, 1995	La Presse (Montréal)	Lionel Perron	Changes to CSLP
12	August 1, 1995	CHEZ 106 (Ottawa)	Catherine Craig	Changes to CSLP
13	August 1, 1995	CBC Radio (National)	Manuel Alasevillance	Changes to CSLP
14	August 1, 1995	The Bear (Ottawa)	Ed Hand	Changes to CSLP
15	August 1, 1995	CBC Newsworld (Early Edition)	Norm Perry	Changes to CSLP
16	August 1, 1995	RDI (Aujourd'hui)	Joyce Napier	Changes to CSLP
17	August 1, 1995	The Prince George Citizen	Paul Strickland	Changes to CSLP
18	August 1, 1995	The Kitch.-Wat. Record	Rose Simone	Changes to CSLP
19	August 1, 1995	The London Free Press	Jean Goddu	Changes to CSLP
20	August 1, 1995	CBC Radio (Ottawa)	Karina Holmes	Changes to CSLP
21	August 1, 1995	The Fredericton Telegraph	Campbell Morrison	Changes to CSLP
22	August 1, 1995	CFRB Radio (Toronto) (The John Oakley Show)	John Oakley	Changes to CSLP
23	August 2, 1995	CBC Newsworld (The Canadian Agenda)	Jordi Morgan	Changes to CSLP
24	August 2, 1995	CKLN Radio (Toronto)	Conrad Collaco	Changes to CSLP
25	August 2, 1995	The Hour (Montréal)	Peter Whelan	Changes to CSLP
26	August 2, 1995	The Cape Breton Post	Tanya Collier	Changes to CSLP
27	August 3, 1995	R.-Canada Radio (Nat'l)	Katia Augustin	Changes to CSLP
28	August 3, 1995	RDI (Ontario en direct)	Martine DeFoy	Changes to CSLP
29	August 14, 1995	CHEZ (Ottawa)	John Crupi	ICLRPs
30	August 14, 1995	Canadian Press	Diane Reinhard	ICLRPs
31	August 14, 1995	CFUV (U. of Victoria)	Al Radan	Student Unemployment
32	August 14, 1995	CKRY (Calgary)	Gary Freeman	ICLRPs
33	August 15, 1995	CFRB (Toronto)	John Stall	ICLRPs
34	August 15, 1995	CKLN (Ryerson U.)	Brent Musthin	Changes to CSLP
35	August 15, 1995	La Liberté (St. Boniface)	Stéphane Henry	Changes to CSLP
36	August 15, 1995	CJAD (Montreal)	Robert Vairo	ICLRPs
37	August 18, 1995	Le Carillon (Hawkesbury)	Patrick Lagacé	Colleges vs Universities

38	August 22, 1995	Canadian Press	Ian Jack	Changes to CSLP
39	August 23, 1995	The Charlantan (Carleton)	Mark McKinnon	Student Unemployment
40	August 23, 1995	Canadian University Press	Samer Muscadi	Changes to CSLP
41	August 25, 1995	The Varsity (U. of Toronto)	Michelle Parent	Changes to CSLP
42	August 25, 1995	The Charlantan (Carleton)	Shannon Fraser	Carleton GSA
43	August 28, 1995	Radio-Canada Sask.	Véronique-Marie Kaye	Changes to CSLP
44	August 29, 1995	La Rotonde (U. of Ottawa)	Charles-Henri Warren	Changes to CSLP
45	August 31, 1995	The Varsity (U. of Toronto)	David Berry	Student Unemployment
46	September 6, 1995	The Varsity (U. of Toronto)	Sarah Wilson	Student Bankrupcies
47	September 11, 1995	The Reflector (Mnt Royal)	Ian Hitchen	Mount Royal Referendum
48	September 12, 1995	The Western Gazette	???	Changes to CSLP
49	September 13, 1995	The McGill Daily	Myra Thompson	Quebec Sovereignty
50	September 13, 1995	La Rotonde (U. of Ottawa)	Martin Dupuis	Federation Plans for 95-96
51	September 13, 1995	Canadian University Press	Samer Muscati	Federation Plans for 95-96

## **SECTION 3**

### *Government Relations*

---

Lobby work was not very obvious over the last six months. All Mps were far more preoccupied with the question of the impending Quebec referendum than post-secondary education issues.

This gave us the time to establish a lobby strategy, in co-operation with our coalition partner, and more specifically, the Canadian Health Coalition. We felt it was important, in our duty to meet with government representatives, to show a common front in opposing the Canada Health and Social Transfer, rather than lobbying each on our respective side. This latter approach would have had the effect to allow government to divide the three sectors affected by the CHST (Health, Social Assistance and Post-Secondary Education), and thus conquer.

#### **WORKING GROUP ON INDEXATION OF LOAN LIMITS**

**JULY 20, 1995**

**OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

Under Bill C-28, the loan limits allowed by the Canada Student Loan Program have been increased from \$105 to \$165 per week. However, after the last meeting of the National Advisory Group on Student Financial Aid, we were told that these weekly limits would be increased by the CPI - 3%, which does not amount to much, and is certainly not reflective of the real annual cost increases experienced by students.

This working group has been set up to try to find a solution around this problem, which has been attributed to « Standard Governmental Regulations ».



## **LOBBY REPORT # 1**

**DATE:** July 11, 1995

**APPOINTMENT:** Erik Kristienson

**PROFILE:** Mr. Kristienson is the Legislative assistant to Dan Miller, Minister of Skills, Training and Labour of British Columbia.

**CFS REPRESENTATIVE(S):** Michael Gardiner, Guy Caron

**REPORT:** We met Mr. Kristienson on the issue of the « Risk Sharing » Agreement, the further privatization of the Student Loans Program that was to be announced in British Columbia, the first time a NDP Government has proceeded to such a decision.

Michael Gardiner said it best during the session when he told Mr. Kristienson that the NDP was only trying to lure votes that were already acquired by the Liberal Party, argument to which he had no clear reply.

Mr. Kristienson has been added to the long list of people who said that we should be realistic and realize that the public opinion is ruling today's politics and, according to him, the same public opinion wants to see a reduction of governmental expenses, which has translated, in his department, in this initiative of « Risk Sharing ». However, Mr. Kristienson was also approached by CASA (through UBC AMS) and found interesting the idea of a Graduate Tax, but found it unrealistic.

Regarding the Canada Health and Social Transfer, Mr. Kristienson assured me that the Minister is fighting it as hard as he can, but is not finding any supporters. I then suggested that the provincial governments in Manitoba, Ontario (under the NDP) and Quebec would certainly be strong allies, but he didn't agree with me.

Finally, I asked him if the Government of British Columbia would be open to participate in the Federation's National Symposium. Mr. Kristienson's answer was that he had to obviously consult the Minister, but he had no doubt that Mr. Miller would be interested.

## **LOBBY REPORT # 2**

**DATE:** August 2, 1995

**APPOINTMENT:** Martha Nixon

**PROFILE:** Martha Nixon is National Director of the Financial Aid Branch of the Ministry of Human Resources Development.

**CFS REPRESENTATIVE(S):** Jocelyn Charron; Guy Caron

**REPORT:** We met Martha Nixon the day after the announcement on the changes to the Canada Student Loan Program. We thought it was a good idea to touch base, but also to gather more information on the changes, as well as expressing our concerns and clarifying our reaction to the media about the announcement.

We also asked about the status of the Income Contingent Loan Repayment Program, which the federal government won't implement. However, the federal government, through its tax collection system, is opening the door to the provinces who would like to proceed to a pilot project. Nixon seemed to be disappointed by the fact that ICLRPs won't become a reality federally.

We also explained that we didn't appreciate the allusion that our presence within NAFSFA was being used by the government to announce that these measures were made « in consultations » with students. NAGSFA should not be used by the government as a political caution for its decisions.

# THE MEAN SEASON

## Solidarity statement for strong social programs



**A** cold wind is blowing across Canada. Everywhere in our land social programs are under assault.

The very social programs that have made our communities good places to live are being swept away before our eyes. When the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) takes effect in April 1996, Ottawa will effectively abandon support for social programs.

Think what this will mean. The CHST will impose drastic cuts in federal funding to the provinces for health care, post-secondary education, welfare and social services.

In two short years, federal support for these programs will drop by \$7 billion - a 40 per cent reduction. And federal transfers will decline until they reach zero just over a decade from now.

Besides cutting social transfers, Ottawa also is forcing provincial and local governments to shoulder additional burdens.

Cuts to Unemployment Insurance are already pushing many people onto social assistance. Soon 60% of unemployed workers will lose UI entirely and be forced to seek assistance elsewhere.

And cuts in the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security will force many seniors, already living in poverty, to seek social assistance.

Why is this happening? And why so fast? Nobody gave Ottawa a mandate to kill social programs.

If there is any hope at all of reversing the situation, our governments must hear loudly and clearly that this cruel agenda is not what Canadians want.

Ottawa's abandonment of social programs also sets a dangerous example for the provinces, especially those now run by mean-spirited, market force zealots. Welfare cuts, workfare and privatized health care were once policies on the extreme fringe of Canadian politics. Now, with Ottawa joining in, they dominate the political agenda.

Sadly, we see the results are everywhere. The times are visibly meaner and more uncaring. The destitute beg for money in our streets and sleep in the open. Violence spreads. Children go to school hungry. The disabled live lives of growing isolation. Families grow desperate trying to make ends meet.

Such human tragedies were once rare. Now they are commonplace. And we are losing our capacity to be shocked by them. Is this how we want our society to be?

Do we want to live in a land where the poor are scapegoats? Where women lose the gains made through decades of struggle? Where minorities are subjected to hatred and anger?

Fortunately, a majority of Canadians remain opposed to this savage social vision of tomorrow. Fortunately, the majority still know in their hearts that if we don't turn this heartless agenda around we all lose.

We believe Canadians remain passionately committed to a cooperative and caring society. This is a deeply-rooted commitment that has always distinguished us from our neighbours to the south.

We recognize that real problems exist with social programs. Health costs have soared largely because physicians continue to be paid fees for service, and sky-high drug costs take too much from the system. Welfare and social programs vary enormously from region to region. Complex rules and inadequate information exclude people who need help from getting it. And universities still arrogantly refuse to account for the public money they spend.

These problems can only be solved by a commitment among all levels of government to democratic reform. Rather than abandon social programs, governments must draw all sectors of society into a process aimed at renewing social programs by:

1. Ensuring that social programs are adequately funded. The ability of governments to distribute revenue among regions is crucial to having comparable levels of service throughout Canada.
2. Protecting federal social transfers from arbitrary changes in federal policy - changes such as those that have cut nearly \$40 billion from transfers over the past decade while worsening the situation with simultaneous cuts to UI. A true partnership must prevent one government from unilaterally shifting its costs to another.
3. Renewing social programs based on broad public consultation, not unilateral budget pronouncements and deals worked out in secret. Canadians must be included, and their advice must be heeded, in this life and death struggle to save our social programs and our way of life.

Therefore, we join together in support of these principles.

And with this statement, our organizations from Quebec and across Canada, representing millions of workers, women, seniors, students and the poor, pledge to build a strong and caring movement to put people first.

