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FREE

Another \$10,000 spent on house

\$10,000 spent to re-decorate president's office

By EDISON STEWART



Photo by Mike Carr

\$10,000 has been spent on this office, according to university officials, who note it hadn't been re-decorated in 18 or 19 years. Much of the cost came from the labour university maintenance men put on it. Many long hours were spent, scraping off previous coats of paint in order to get down to the original wood.

More than \$10,000 of university funds has been spent to re-decorate President John Anderson's office. The Brunswickan has learned. Another \$10,000 has been spent on repairs to the president's residence at 58 Waterloo Row, and university maintenance men have also worked briefly on the president's boat.

In a meeting with The Brunswickan last Friday, Anderson divulged all figures on expenditures and said: "I apologize so far for nothing I've done."

The office renovations took place this summer. A carpet installed in the president's office two years by President Dineen was removed and placed in John Meagher's office. Meagher is Anderson's executive assistant.

Here is a breakdown of costs to date on the two offices:

material — \$7200

labour — \$3800

Expenses yet to come are for the furniture (still in Montreal at press time) and the architect's fee.

The money for the office came from a special \$12,000 fund set aside by the university when President Dineen announced his retirement, according to Vice-President Bev Macaulay. Anderson noted the office hadn't been renovated in "18 or 19 years."

Macaulay said the money was "a very small sum in light of the size of operation at the university."

The architect for the renovations was Ross Anderson (no relation), a specialist in the restoration of old buildings. (The Old Arts Building is the oldest university building still in use in Canada.)

"Everything can be taken back", said the president, referring to the renovations. Many hours were spent sanding the several layers of paint in the office to get it back to its original state.

\$9,224 has been spent on the presidential residence. (Anderson stressed many times during the interview that the house wasn't his, but belonged to the university. "It's going to be somebody else's house in a few years," he said. He noted that he had to pay income tax on the house, and as a result "it certainly isn't free".)

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The money on the house went for repairs to the roof and the basement (there was a flood in Fredericton, May 1), the land around the house was re-landscaped and the house's exterior was re-painted. "Everything else is mine, by golly."

"As far as I know, I'm the only university president in Canada who hasn't got a maid," he added.

Anderson also admitted to having UNB maintenance men make minor repairs to his boat. The men had made him a concrete anchor, a cover for his motor and a railing. Estimated cost is between \$50 and \$75, said the president.

"I had imagined I could use it (the boat) for entertaining," said Anderson. "But I've only been on it twice."



Photo by Danielle Thibeault

This is the president's residence at 58 Waterloo Row. Owned by the university, the house has undergone \$10,000 worth of repairs and improvements since it was bought last February.