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Tuition up 12%

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SAINT JOHN--Tuition fees next year will jump 12 per cent to \$950, while residence costs on campus will rise by \$250, the board of governors decided Thursday.

As if this weren't enough, Dr. Israel Unger warned the board of far more devastating financial problems possible in the university's future.

Unger said current federal government proposals for reducing transfers to provinces for higher education include cutting UNB's funding by about \$26.7million per year, or 47 per cent.

In response, the board passed a motion calling for a federal royal commission "to inquire into the state of post-secondary education, its funding and role."

The cost of living is rising at a faster rate than universities can cope with without passing fee increases on to students, said UNB President James Downey.

The board would not speculate as to future student enrollment as a result of these substantial financial drains. One board member said he believed UNB should not "buy students with increased scholarships."

In the past, students paid a higher percentage of the cost of their own education. Vice-president in charge of finances J.F. O'Sullivan pointed out that while in the past student fees paid for 30 per cent of a university's cost, this figure is now around 13 per cent.

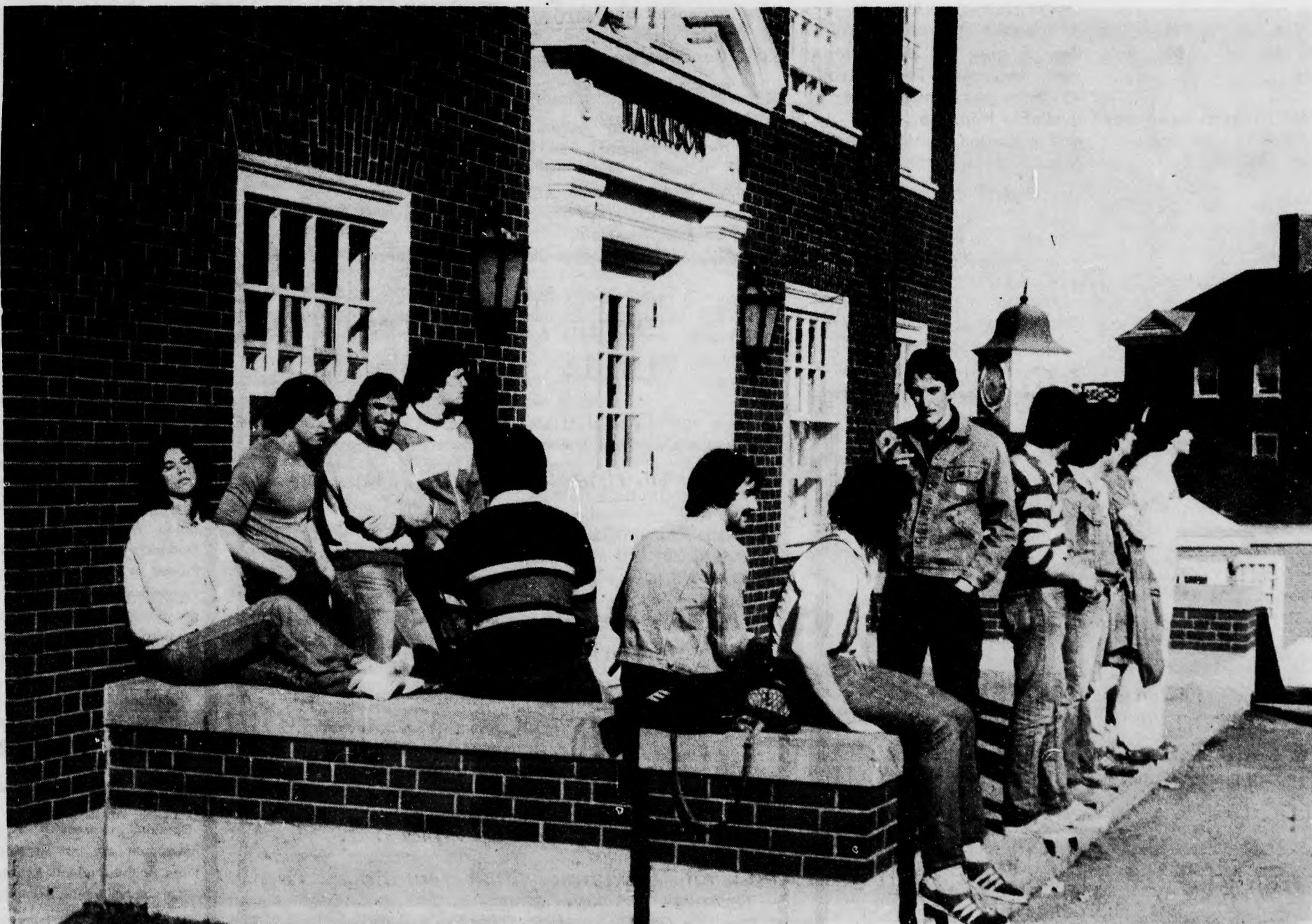
"There's going to be increasing pressure on student fees" to pay for a bigger proportion of total education costs, said Tom Condon, vice-president, St. John campus.



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