

"UNB Awake": Bosnitch speaks out

This article is the result of an interview which took place on Wednesday October 27 between Christie Walker and new SRC president, John Bosnitch. For an in depth and detailed description of the goals of his administration, the UNITY platform will continue to be posted and available around campus.

On October 20, 1982, students at UNB voted overwhelmingly to elect John Bosnitch as the new president of the SRC. As with any election, many controversies, some factual, some based on rumour, surrounded the election and the election process.

Probably the most immediate problem Mr. Bosnitch will have to deal with are the complaints registered by many people concerning the handling of the election.

"As far as I'm concerned, the Chief Returning Officer, Ken Cuthbertson, seemed to work

by the existing rules. An ongoing investigation by the Returning Officer and Vice-president, Timothy Lethbridge, is taking place, including a total recount and verification of the results," said Mr. Bosnitch. He went on to say that "the whole failure of this election is one of the skeletons left over from previous SRC administrations. Under my administration the student government system on this campus will be totally reorganized from top to bottom, especially elections."

Representatives at Oct 25th SRC meeting voted 11/5/3 to hold a by-election for the positions of Comptroller and Nursing rep. Although initial results showed Darren Evans ahead in the Oct 20 elections, many mysteries and irregularities surround the vote for Comptroller, and many complaints have been made. The question of whether or not it is legal to have a by-election for the position of comptroller since

technically no seat for Comptroller is vacant was solved. Mr. Bosnitch spoke to a lawyer who assured him that the SRC had every right to call a by-election if they felt the previous election was run improperly.

"Any doubt about the issue will be resolved under the auspices of the Vice-Presidents' office."

Bosnitch has serious plans about revamping the way in which past SRC administrations have handled themselves. His plans revolve mainly around informing the students whom the SRC councillors are supposed to "represent". As President he refuses to call any SRC meetings until every candidate has had a constituency meeting. If the reps don't hold them, Bosnitch will personally arrange these meetings himself... "Unless students are directly involved in the Student Government process, the SRC means absolutely nothing!"

A presidential cabinet will

be established, in which there will most likely be ten secretaries, each with certain responsibilities. If something goes wrong, or someone has a question, they will know exactly who to talk with about that problem. These secretaries, who will be directly answerable to the President, will cover all areas of campus life from justice and culture to academics and athletics. The responsibilities of these secretaries would be as follows:

1. To go out and hear the complaints of the students.
2. To investigate these complaints.
3. Report to the president with improvements, suggestions and reform.
4. Be present at every SRC meeting in order to publicly answer questions.
5. Secretaries must be councillors.

Along with the implementation of this government system, Bosnitch also hopes to make the minutes of every SRC meeting available to the students either in The Bruns or in a separate bi-weekly supplement.

As promised, the President calls for the approval by council of honoraria cuts for SRC executives starting January '83.

In order to achieve the goal of total access to the SRC reps, he intends to make names, pictures, phone numbers, faculties and responsibilities available on posters which will be posted continuously around campus throughout the year.

In an effort to clean up "kindergarten" SRC meetings Bosnitch plans the implementation of such things as a seating plan, and order of speaking and intends to enforce the rule that the chairman not be allowed to enter into debate. "All of the chairmen in the past have without exception been incompetent."

Concerning some of the other issues on the UNITY platform, the former councillor had these things to say:

Ombudsman's office: "Action is rapidly progressing through the Senate sub-committees on which two members of the SRC sit. We expect to have definite, positive results by the new year."

Bookstore: "The pricing problem is under review. The setting up of a student book exchange will take place in the very near future."

Student disciplinary Code: "A revamping of SDC will take place in an effort to make it a justice code for students, not a discipline code imposed upon us from outside the student body."

Entertainment: "There will be immediate action in order to support entertainment and cultural events including massive support for the Winter Carnival".

Besides wondering about the promises those supporting UNITY made, many people wonder about the effect "party politics" will have on the SRC. Although Bosnitch admits that there is a solid group of Student party members on the SRC, he reassures students of this fact: "If the Student party candidates ever vote together it will only be on the platform which we all endorsed. We promised to carry out unity, and that's what we intend to do. Any other issue will be voted on individually; reps will vote strictly according to the wishes of their constituents, consistent with the goals and projects outlined in the UNITY platform. However, no one can deny that a party system is here to stay. My objective is to prove that this is the only system by which the student government will ever be responsible, honest and united."

In conclusion the President said that he hoped to make UNB a leader in the NB Coalition of Students because "we're the largest university and we've been dormant for years..."

"The slogan of my administration is UNB Awake!"

Foreign students issue resolved

By DAVID MOGILEVSKY
Brunswickan Staff
The plight of the foreign students has been a subject of a lot of discussion during the past few months. After a long period of time the matter appears to have been resolved. On Oct 20th, the Dean of

Students Barry Thompson sent a memo to the Brunswickan. The memo said, "I (Dean Thompson) have been asked by President Downey to announce that Mrs. Kissick will be leaving the post of International Student Advisor on November 1st, 1982. Until a

permanent replacement can be made, Mr. Sam Mullin, the University's Budget Officer and Director of Special Projects, will fill the position."

It was on September 14th that the problems the foreign students were having became general knowledge. The complaints of the foreign students culminated into an assembly in front of the Old Arts building that day. Approximately 200 students participated in this assembly. Since this demonstration some foreign students have been informally discussing their grievances with the SRC executive, the Student Party and members of the general student body. Similarly, they had also continued their efforts with the administration.

This matter has also been a subject of debate at SRC meetings. On Sept. 20, 1982 John Bosnitch, who was then an Engineering Representative, proposed that the SRC conduct its own investigation into the matter. No other councillor supported the motion so it was dropped. The SRC felt that they were not wanted by the foreign students to be involved. On Oct 4th, however, the same motion was proposed again. This time it was passed. Since Kissick will be resigning on Nov. 1st, the SRC motion to investigate is no longer necessary.

New councillors seated

By BRENDA PAUL
Brunswickan Staff
John Bosnitch, SRC President-Elect, Timothy Lethbridge, Vice-President, and nine other council members were officially seated at Monday night's SRC meeting.

Following the reading of the preceding week's minutes, Kenneth Cuthbertson, Chief Returning Officer submitted his report. The report focused on ways in which the election procedures could be improved. Cuthbertson made a recommendation for council to pass a motion to hold a by-election for the seat of Comptroller. Furthermore, it was proposed that a committee be established to study and subsequently improve election procedures.

Because of indiscrepancies of up to 10 percent in some Comptroller results it was moved and passed by council that a by-election be held.

Gerard Finnan, former SRC President, made a statement calling the previous motion unconstitutional. Finnan claims that no where in the SRC constitution is council given the authority to call a by-election.

John Bosnitch, SRC President, and Mary Abraham, Chairperson maintained that the motion of the by-election stand until such time as there could be clarification of the issue.

Items discussed at the meeting included present Comptroller Andy Young's report on the Blushing Brides Pub which realized a profit of \$173.00 and the problem of Teenage Head not fulfilling their contractual obligation at the Extravaganza. There is still an outstanding balance owing of \$1,000 to the band bringing the total amount to \$3,000; \$1,000 less than the original contract.

Solidarity committee meets

The UNB Student Party/Solidarity Committee will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m. in the SUB, Rm. 26. We encourage all those students who bought solidarity buttons or expressed interest in the Committee during the recent

SRC elections as well as all other interested persons to attend. The committee will elect officers, discuss ways to increase student involvement, discuss policy and plans for the coming year, and prepare support and actions for the Nov. 10 anniversary of Solidarnosc.