

NEWS

Editor: Melynda Jarratt

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DEADLINE: Noon Wednesday

City council nixes no - nukes

By KEITH DOUCETTE
Brunswick Staff

To the disappointment of many of those who filled the public gallery at City Hall on Monday night, City Council turned down a proposal which would have declared Fredericton a nuclear weapons free zone.

The proposal was the joint effort of a number of public interest organizations throughout the Fredericton area. UNB professor, Dr. George Semeluk, director of the New Brunswick chapter of Science for Peace, delivered the proposal in a speech before Council.

Semeluk spoke on behalf of the coalition which included, amongst others, such groups as; the Fredericton District Labour Council, Veterans

Against Nuclear Weapons, Fredericton Ploughshares and a UNB:St. Thomas student group known as World Development (WORD).

In an eloquent statement, Dr. Semeluk urged Council to recognize the proposal as an accurate gauge of the genuine concern which the public feels over the issue. He contended that the proposal was forwarded in concordance with the fundamental principles of the democratic tradition by being introduced at the local level. Semeluk continued by stating that the declaration of Fredericton as a nuclear weapons free zone, although a small act in itself, would stand as an important symbolic gesture and send a message to the world illustrating Fredericton's wish for peace.

With the conclusion of Dr.

Semeluk's address the proposal was formally introduced by Councillor Sterling Gosman who strongly urged for its adoption. Gorman concluded that such a step would be in direct agreement with the spirit established by the United Nations when it declared 1986 as the International Year of Peace.

The motion, seconded by Deputy-Major Kelly was next put to Council where in the ensuing discussion it became ap-

parent that there were some reservations.

Although all of the councillors who spoke expressed some sympathy for the idea of peace and for a reduction in the proliferation of nuclear weapons, concerns expressed over the adoption of the proposal included confusion over exactly what such a declaration would entail, and whether or not it was the place of council at the municipal level to deal with an issue of such

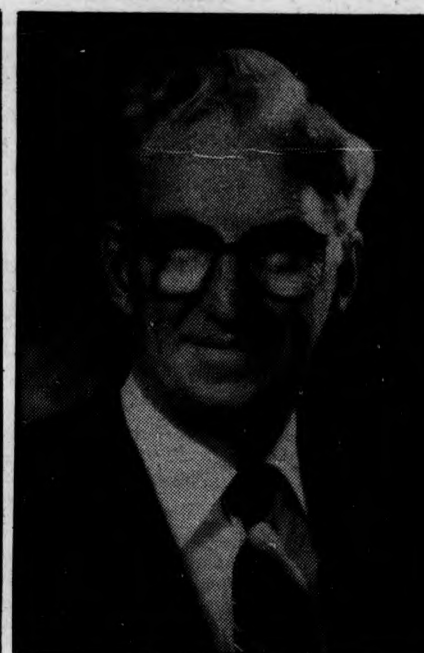
magnitude. The issue of jurisdiction proved to be a major stumbling block as Council, by a majority, rejected the proposal.

Fredericton Council's decision leaves the current total of nuclear weapons free zones, according to WORD spokesman Mike MacKinnon, at approximately 139 across Canada including four in the province of New Brunswick.

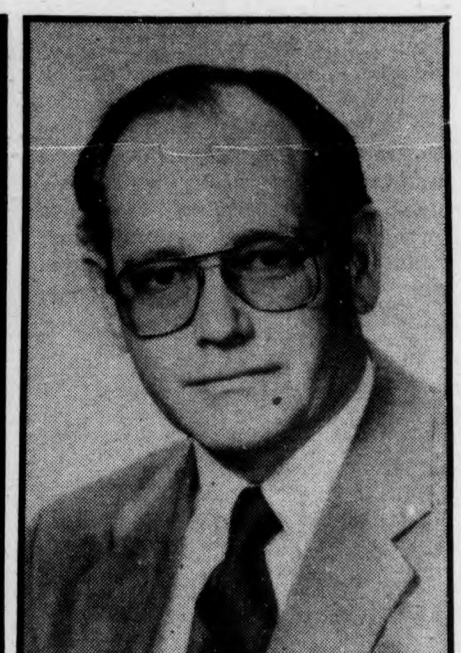
BOG Appointments



Aldea Landry



A. Ian Tower



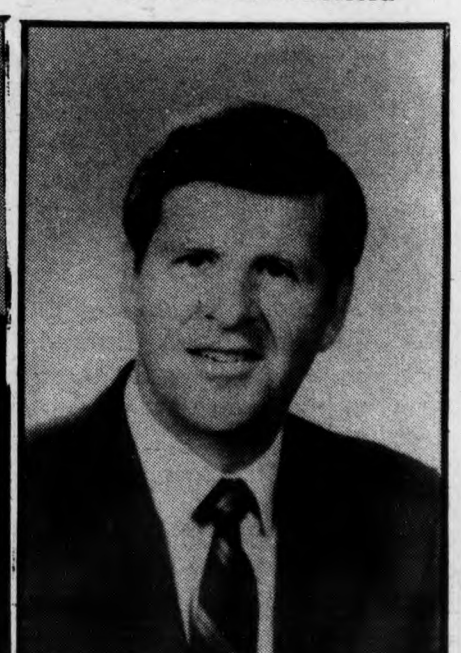
Micheal C. Schofield



G. Edwin Graham



Jim Dysart



Richard R. Tingley

The Board of Governors at the University of New Brunswick has welcomed some new members into its ranks this year.

C. Edwin Graham of Saint John and Richard R. Tingley of Fredericton have been appointed by the provincial

government to serve three year terms on the board. Government representatives hold ten seats on the 42 member board.

The board itself, which has the authority to appoint five of its own members, has named Aldea Landry of Bathurst, Michael C. Schofield of Mon-

ton and A. Ian Tower of Bathurst to three year terms ending on September 30, 1989.

In addition, Jim Dysart, president of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association (NBTA), has commenced a three year term representing that organization on the board.

TURKEYS and TRIBUTES are chosen by Brunswick News Staff in recognition of the Marvellous and Moronic things people say or do.



Gobble, Gobble
Gobble Gobble

PEACE
on earth...

This week's Turkey of the Week is awarded to Fredericton City Council who at a council meeting rejected a proposal on the part of various peace groups in the city to declare Fredericton a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. Saying that council could not make this symbolic gesture towards peace, nor follow the example set forth by 126 other communities across Canada (including four in New Brunswick), because of "confusion" over what the declaration would mean, a majority of councillors rejected the vote outright. Congratulations are extended to Fredericton City Council on this symbolic gesture towards war.

TRIBUTE OF THE WEEK

This week's Tribute of the Week is awarded to the five Red Army defectors who after spending up to three years as prisoners of Afghan rebels, were spirited out of Afghanistan with the help of various ethnic groups and the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa. By doing so, Canada has taken great risks in its relationship with the Soviet Union, but at the same time has verified its unwavering devotion to humanitarian causes. Keep up the good work!