

NEWS

Deadline: Wednesdays at 12:00 noon. Newsdesk: 453-4983

Social Club Board not representative of UNB community - Bourque

by Allan Carter

Kevin Bourque, Student Union President, believes that the College Hill Social Club's Board of Directors should be a more representative of the university community.

Part of the Student Union's new proposal is to have ten people on the Board of Directors. Right now there are five members on the board.

This new proposed board would include: two UNB students, elected by the student



Logo for SU shirts

body, a member from the Graduate Student Association, the CHSC manager, the UNB Dean of Students, the SU President, the SU VP Finance, the SU VP Activities, a UNB student chair position, and a St. Thomas student position.

Bourque feels that this proposal shows that the Student Union would not have any voting power and would be a board that represents the needs of all the university community.

Right now \$12,055.00 has been allocated for an educational campaign concerning the

Student Union merging with the Social Club.

Bourque says "this hostile take-over thing is a smoke screen" and "the raising of beer prices is ridiculous." He says that their proposal is a "merger of resources."

Concerning the Social Club management, Bourque says "it is making money, it is doing well, we don't have a problem with that."

So far the Student Union has not been able to attain a list of the Social Club members. Bourque questions what the board of directors have to hide.

The educational campaign will include advertising T-shirts and posters. He says it would be much easier to talk to the members of the club, "but the Social Club will not let us."

Financially Bourque feels the merger would be good. "If we could absorb the cost of bar services and administration expenses, we could have Campus Entertainment at a break even level...freeing of approximately \$50,000."

"The SU has to look in a new direction in terms of better fulfilling its mandate to serve the students," says Bourque.

Bourque argues that if you are a student you should be able to get into the bar. "The license allows for that."

With reply to the Social Club's new shirts, "20 Years Independent", Bourque questions what they are independent from, "Independent from students?" For Bourque the Social Club is "an elitist bar" and the bar has segregated itself for the

university.

Bourque claims that he has talked to many different student groups about the merging idea and he is getting quite a lot of support.

Bourque also argues that there should be no problem concerning the club's license because the management will not be affected, only the board of directors.

But the legal council for the Social Club views the situation differently. They claim that a take over would result in the CHSC liquor license being voided.

From their understanding, the liquor licensing board has

had very unpleasant dealings with student oriented clubs, but also point out that this does not mean an application for a license would be denied.

The liquor licensing board would not tell the Brunswickan what the fate of the Social Club license would be in the event of a merger. They said that would be decided by the board if and when the time comes.

Although the College Hill Social Club T-shirts are traditionally produced every year. Matt Harris, manager of the club, admits that the "20 Years Independent" logo does reflect the pressure from the Student

Union.

Harris argues that the \$90,000 surplus that was mentioned in last week's Opinion in the Brunswickan is incorrect. He says the club had about \$60,000 but in his view it is not a surplus.

"My view of a surplus is anything that extends what is needed to efficiently operate a company." Harris believes the \$60,000 will be needed in order to do just that.

Next Tuesday at MacLaggan Hall at 7:00 pm the Student Union will be holding a public meeting regarding "the acquiring of a controlling interest of the College Hill Social club."



New Social Club shirts: Matt Harris (centre) admits the new logo was partly created because of SU pressure.

Student Union has to pay GST on student fees

by Gail Anthony

Greg Lutes, V.P. Finance and Administration, says a representative from Revenue Canada informed the Student Union they would have to pay the Goods and Services Tax on a third of the fees the Student Union collected this year.

"That is the information we have right now but none of this is for certain. If you follow that formula we could end up owing \$13,607.50," he says.

According to Lutes, the way it looks now is the Student Union will only have to pay on the fees that apply for January until the end of April. The other two thirds will be exempt.

"After meeting with the representative from Revenue Canada, we sent him back with a lot of questions. A lot of them he answered according to his interpretation. Whether or not we'll actually have to pay I'm not sure, and I don't think he is either. It is a distinct possibility and he wants us to be aware of it," he notes.

Lutes says there are also

questions concerning the various clubs and societies that the Student Union funds. It is not clear as to whether Revenue Canada would deal with each club separately, or with the Student Union as a whole.

"The Student Union is not happy with this. Here we are a non-profit organization, we offer a service, and it is a goods and services tax, but the service we offer is to reduce the cost of student services," he admits.

"I can understand the local barber charging GST, because he is making a living," Lutes adds.

According to him, if the Student Union is not exempt from the GST, then they will be able to collect it back through credit and rebates.

"We will pay the GST on all the money collected from student fees. After that anything we buy that GST is applied to, we would get our money back, but if we didn't have to pay GST on our fees we would not get the money back. We would have to pay x number of dollars for a band plus the seven percent sales tax. We would not get the seven percent

back. If we have to collect GST, we pay it but we get it back," he explains.

Lutes points out there are advantages and disadvantages to both.

"I can't say that it will be an advantage to pay the GST because I don't know what is exempt and what is not. If every dollar we spent were on taxable items, we would get it all back, in the sense that would certainly be better not to be exempt, but if half of the money goes to things the GST does not apply to, we're better off being exempt," Lutes says.

"For me it is going to mess up my plans to reduce student fees if it does apply to us," he states.

According to Lutes the matter is going to be looked into by the Finance Committee, and the Student Union will be sending a representative to a conference geared specifically for Student Unions, and the effects the GST will have on them.

"We're definitely looking into the matter. Even though it's two months away, we are preparing for it."

Arson attempts cause concern

by Pat FitzPatrick

Recent incidents of arson on campus have campus and city security officials very concerned.

Recently, fires were lit in both Aitken and Harrison Houses.

In both Aitken and Harrison, it appears that a student living in residence lit the corners of papers hanging on bulletin boards, causing fire damage and setting off the fire alarms.

In both cases, the fire department came and extinguished the fires.

Security director Richard Peacock claims that these seem to be "pretty straightforward cases." Both incidents are being investigated by city police.

Peacock says that fire officials have also expressed concern over the number of false

fire alarms which have been pulled since the beginning of term.

The problem, says Peacock is that fire alarms cost the tax payer's money, but more importantly may keep fire trucks away from true emergencies.

One Harrison student fears that the false fire alarms will lead to the implementation of fines.

He claims that when he was a student at Queen's University, numerous fire alarms were pulled.

Eventually, he said, the fire department imposed mandatory fines. Fines were billed against their accounts.

City fire officials expressed that students living in residence think twice before pulling fire alarms, especially in view of the potentially tragic consequences.