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Bruns Bits

Fun winter activities:

1. Make a sled out of snow, and slide down Buchanan Hill.
2. Make snow angels with horns, or with an extra head.
3. Put red food colouring on a snow man and call an ambulance.
4. Make snowballs and store them in your freezer. Launch a snowball attack in the spring.
5. Mail some snow to your friends in Australia.
6. Wrap your yard in plastic and sunbathe.
7. One word: hibernation

Investigation underway into Fredericton conference expenses

CASA calls in the Police

by Gordon Loane
 Brunswick News

Ottawa Police have been asked to investigate certain financial activities which occurred while Pat FitzPatrick was Acting National Director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) and Chief Organizer for a national conference on Post Secondary Education that had been slated for Fredericton next month.

CASA National Director Alex Usher, who has just returned from medical leave, confirmed that a police investigation is under way.

Usher said "FitzPatrick is not being paid by CASA as of last week and has been asked not to appear at CASA's national headquarters in Ottawa."

FitzPatrick, a former Vice-President

of the UNB Student Union, is now believed to be residing in Fredericton.

"A number of bills are outstanding, some of which concern attempts to organize the now postponed conference in Fredericton," said Usher. "We're still trying to get a handle on how much may be owing in all, but it's significantly less than \$55 thousand." He added that "A number of contracts have been entered into but it's not clear under whose authority FitzPatrick was acting other than his own."

Usher confirmed that 98 percent of what the Ottawa Police are being asked to investigate surrounds financial activities associated with the National Conference.

At least three of CASA's five National Student Directors have been closeted with Usher at the organization's

headquarters in Ottawa sorting out the situation this week. These include Robert Millard, CASA National Treasurer from the University of Saskatchewan, Rahim Rajpar of the University of Western Ontario and Andrea Stairs of McGill University.

The investigation began after Usher received a phone call early last week from UNB Student Union President Kelly Lamrock. "After my conversation with Lamrock I talked as well with SU Acting VP Finance Duncan Fulton," said Usher.

Just how much money is owed to various sources is still up in the air and a subject of some dispute. What is not in dispute is that Acting VP Fulton is absolutely irate with FitzPatrick.

The seven individuals who were asked to help organize the National Conference were each promised money for their

efforts. Fulton, Fitzpatrick, and two others were slated to receive \$5,000 each. While Fulton has stated that he personally doesn't care about the money now, "Three other students were also promised \$2,500 by FitzPatrick to assist us. I think some of the other students should be paid a portion of what they were promised even though the Conference did not come off as planned. Some of these students have personal bills to pay and could use the money."

At one point Fulton admitted that staff were getting a bit nervous about things and pressed FitzPatrick to return from Ottawa to Fredericton. "The staff pushed him for contracts," said Fulton, who admits that they never materialized.

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Execs disagree over design contract

by Joe FitzPatrick
 Co-News Editor

Student Union Executives Kelly Lamrock and Trish Davidson disagree on who felt the hiring of a former Student Union Vice-President was necessary.

Chris Alward, former Vice-President of the Student Union (Student

Services), has been paid \$1418.18 for design work beginning in July.

As yet, none of the material has been distributed, although several of the posters were displayed by the Student Union during the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce's *Business After-hours* event, hosted by the SU.

"We did contract some graphic design work," admitted SU President Kelly

Lamrock. "Some of it arrived too late for us to use. But we only paid for the material we'll use in second term."

The contract for \$2,610 was signed on June 23, 1995 by Lamrock and Vice-President University Affairs, Chantale Walker. No mention was made of this fact at summer council, which happened only two weeks later, July 7.

The contract included the preparation of posters and pamphlets for campaigns on Student Advocacy, STU SUB-expansion, Employment Opportunities, Academic awareness, anti-racism, CASA "Real Choices" campaign, HIP-DIAL, the Health Plan, and the Action Plan.

At the time the contract was signed, Darryl Kent was employed as Student Publications Editor. The job description for the position includes "production of campaign and promotional materials of the Student Union."

When asked why this was so, Lamrock replied, "That was the same question I put to Trish [Davidson, VP Student Services]. She told me that we were having enough trouble just meeting the deadlines [for the student publications]."

When Davidson was asked to confirm this statement, her physical reaction was one of astonishment. Her eyes opened wide, and her jaw dropped. After unsuccessfully attempting to contact SU President Kelly Lamrock, she stood up quickly and, leaning against the wall behind her desk stammered, "I don't recall making that statement."

A total of three payments were made; \$780 came from Student Advocacy, the remainder from Student Publications.



Lovely winter scene. Unfortunately, snow has melted since photo.

Photo: Jud Delong

Cancelled courses upset students

by Cynthia Kirkby
 Co-News Editor

Students interested in learning about the saga myths and their origins, or about Roman art at UNB will be disappointed.

These courses, offered through Extension as night courses, were cancelled due to a lack of part-time students. Neither is offered during the day, so full time students who were registered for the course will have to look for credit elsewhere.

"It's annoying," said one student who'd

had two courses cancelled. "I can see having that rule if it was offered during the day for full-time students. Now I have to find some more classes to take."

Professor John Geyssen, who was scheduled to teach the cancelled courses, agreed.

"I think it's a little bit unfair to 30 students who are registered for two courses and then are forced to look for two others."

The cancellations are due to finances, explained Judith Potter, Program Director of Part-Time Degree Studies and Adult

Learner Services. "At the outset of the planning year, which is in the fall, the department gets a notice from Extension about how many stipends they have to offer extension courses. They have those, but in addition to that, if they want to offer other courses, they can, on a cost-recoverable basis. There is no money within the institution to cover those courses, but if they want to, they can try to attract enough people to cover the cost."

This semester, the Classics Department tried to run three courses

on a cost-recoverable basis.

"We suggested that they decide which two they would cancel, but we would let one run and hope to consolidate them so there'd be enough students to cover the cost of that course," Potter said. "We tell the departments when they suggest these courses that there is of course a chance that it will be cancelled if it can't meet its own costs. We do the best we can to make sure that as many courses as possible will happen, but we can't go beyond the bounds of what we can afford."