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SU Budget passes second reading

SU Fee may decrease \$2.50

JOSEPH FITZPATRICK

THE BRUNSWICKAN

After nearly four hours and eight budget increases, fees for the UNB Student Union will stand at \$99.50. Down from \$102 in 1996-97, according to the second reading of the 1997-98 SU Budget.

"I was kind of disappointed at some of the changes that were made. But, overall, I'm very pleased," said Vice-President (Finance & Administration) Monique Scholten after the meeting.

"I felt the recommendations of the finance committee were good," she commented dryly.

The budget called for spending of \$726,769.64, up \$6,711.30 (or .9%) from the original proposal.

"I hope people realize that the decrease is not due to a decrease in spending, it's due to the transfer of the surplus," she emphasized, noting that \$23,880 (not \$28,000 as previously reported) reduced the fee by \$3.38. Had there not been any increase in spending, the fee would have been \$98.62.

To open the second reading of the budget, Council heard presentations from three clubs that

were unsatisfied with the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Julianne Fraser from the UNB Womyn's Collective asked Council to reconsider the \$385 budget recommended by the SU Finance Committee and award the \$1,735 requested by the group.

Scholten defended the committee's decision, pointing out that the Finance Committee had opted not to fund a Social (\$50), a campaign on the Montreal Massacre (\$300), or sponsor two delegates to the National Action Committee on the Status of Women conference (\$1000). (See separate story.)

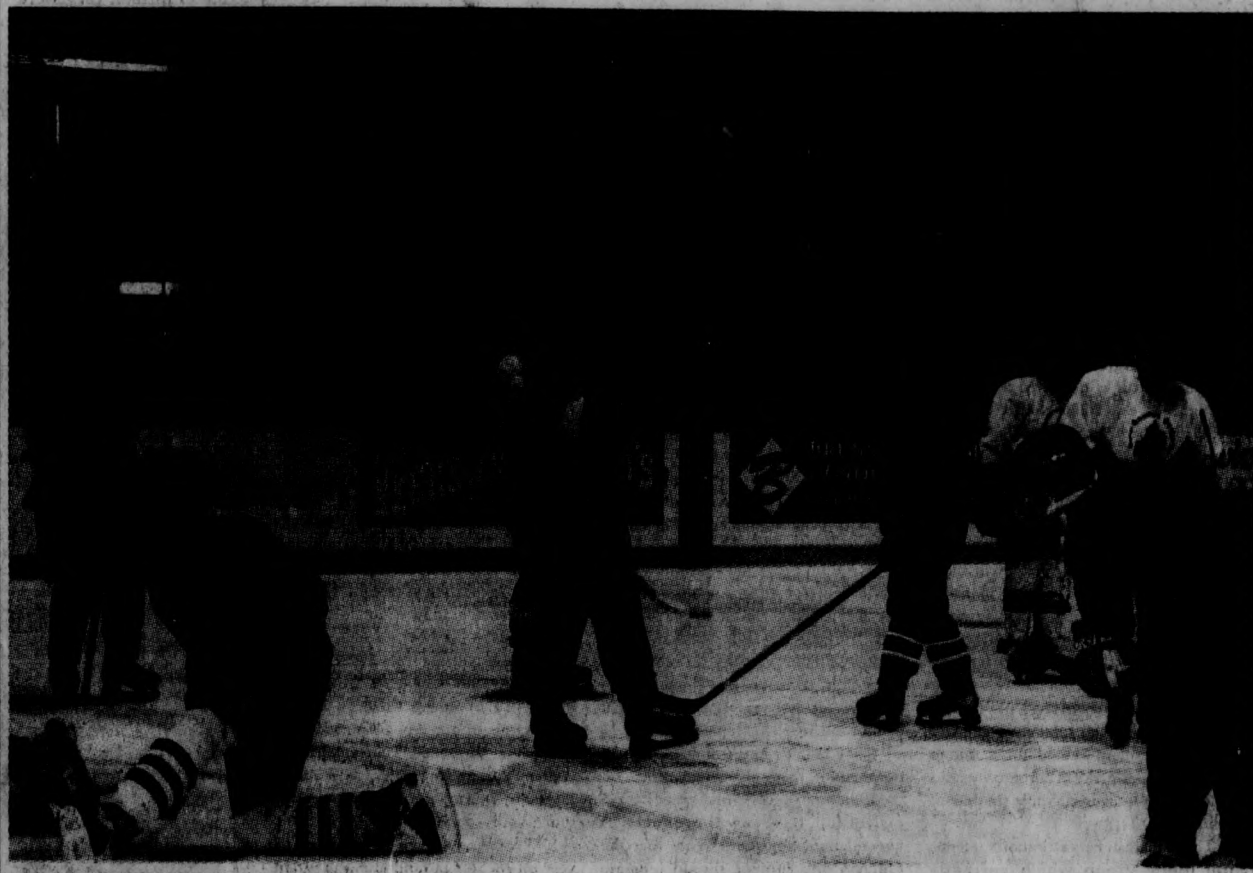
After considerable debate, the Council decided to raise the amount from \$385 to \$500.

Jeff Peters from the Forestry Engineering Student Association asked Council to reevaluate the budget proposal of FESA.

Peters argued that since his society has increased its membership to 110 of the 150 students in Forestry Engineering (71%), up from 55 last year, that his budget should be doubled.

Last year, the group received \$1,635. The Finance Committee recommended \$2,090.

V-Reds hockey team off to CIAUs



Coach Mike Kelly puts the V-Reds through a pre-national championship workout at the Althea Centre on Wednesday.

JUDSON DeLONG PHOTO

SU yanks funding to College Hill Daycare

GORDON LOANE

THE BRUNSWICKAN

The UNB Student Council has voted unanimously to cut off funding to the College Hill Daycare Centre on Montgomery Street beginning in May.

Instead, Council has decided to put \$2,000 into creating an endowment fund which would be used to support students who need daycare services regardless which facility in the city is chosen.

Since the College Hill Day Care Centre was built, Council has been providing some \$3,000 a year to subsidize the cost of daycare fees over the summer months.

Students who require daycare

services another year have been required to pay a holding fee for the summer months to ensure that a space is reserved at the College Hill Daycare Centre the following September.

The UNB Student Union has in effect been subsidizing that holding fee, to help to reduce costs to students who use the facility.

Up until this week, that subsidy from the SU was basically on track to continue for another year.

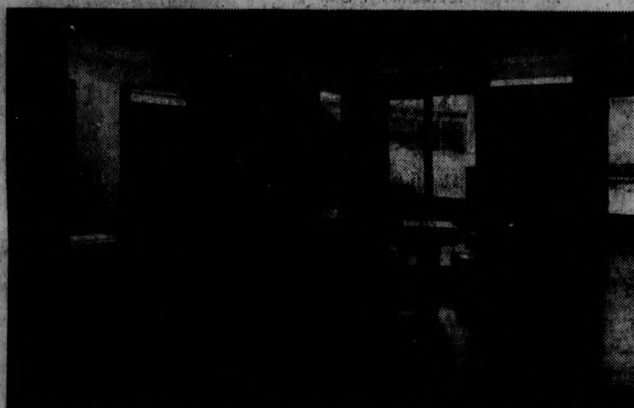
During consideration of the SU's general operating budget for 1997-98, Council's Finance Committee decided to recommend a reduction in the subsidy from \$3,000 this year to \$2,000 next year.

But, during second reading of the operating budget this week, Council took a different course of action and derailed the subsidy to the College Hill Day Care Centre.

"The Day Care Centre on Montgomery Street is one of the most expensive in town," SU V-P Finance Monique Scholten told Councilors this week. In still recommending the subsidy for another year Scholten said

"The majority of students are not placing their children at the College Hill Day Care Centre because it is so expensive."

- Trish Davidson



FILE PHOTO

approximately twenty UNB students have children in the facility.

"I did not want to appear to be mean to the kids," said Scholten in recommending Council accept the proposal.

But SU V-P Services Trish Davidson opposed the subsidy.

"We should be putting our money into a facility that is used more by students," she said.

"The majority of students are not placing their children at the College Hill Day Care Centre because it is so expensive," she claimed.

In recommending that Councilors accept her motion to revoke the subsidy Davidson said the SU has created a situation in which all students pay money for services used by only a few.

She felt a daycare subsidy would be better used by creating an endowment fund where many more students could then apply.

In the end, even V-P Finance Scholten was persuaded by the argument although disagreeing in part with the concept of an endowment fund. However, she voted with other councilors to end the subsidy to the College Hill Daycare Centre. However, she

Councilors did leave a tiny opening for reconsideration, however. Along with the motion to cut off the subsidy and create an endowment fund, the 1997-98 SU Executive was asked to investigate all day care funding options over the course of the upcoming summer.



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WIN

A trip for 2 to Miami, Florida
Sunday Night
(Drawing at 1am, Must Be Present to Win)



2 for 1 From 10 - 2

KEITH'S CREW FRATERNITY



Last Official Meeting This Year Thursday, March 23 @ 7:30p.m.