

Great War focus of Military and Strategic studies lecture

Norm Dods

The Brunswickan

On November 12, the Military and Strategic Studies Program hosted their annual Fall War and Society Lecture at the Wu Centre.

The keynote speaker for the evening was renowned World War I historian, Jonathan Vance. Vance is a professor at the University of Western Ontario and author of *Death So Noble*, a best selling book which challenges our traditional views about the First World War.

In *Death So Noble*, Vance argues that just because some viewed the war as a futile and senseless slaughter, it does not mean all people who lived through it saw it that way. In fact many of them considered it to be a divine and

regenerative experience; a kind of death and resurrection for the world. His work demonstrates this via an analysis of World War I monuments, symbolism in church architecture, and Great War poetry and novels etc.

Vance was inspired to write about the Great War by his grandfather who fought and survived with both his spirit and body intact.

Vance's lecture specifically focussed on memory, and Great War novels. He noted that in the late 1920s early 30s "anti-war literature" was being published. Novels such as Enrich Marie Remarque's classic *All Quiet on the Western Front* tended to depict soldiers in the Great War as being caught in a phenomena that was

beyond their control – the chaos of the battlefield. Those who survived were portrayed as bitter old men. Many veterans, who remembered the war very differently, reacted vehemently to Remarque's book and others of a similar bent.

Today there is a new genre of Great War literature and again, there is a danger of presenting an incomplete picture. Vance admits that many people learn about the Great War through novels – historical accuracy and good literature are a powerful combination. Perhaps then writers of historical fiction are obligated to try to be more accurate as far as historical events are concerned and save the fiction for their characters.



Kevin Forneris / The Brunswickan
We really hate to miss out on the chance to use colour pages. Synchronicity is everything. Sometimes, you've got lots of photos and no stories to go with them, other times, lots of stories and no photos.

Miss the deadline? Don't worry... Election day registration

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III
The Brunswickan

The polls in the Canada's General Election open at 8:30am and close at 8:30pm on Monday November 27th.

Even if students missed the deadline for adding their name to the voters list, they can still register on election day.

And even if they don't have proper identification, another elector can vouch for them.

In order to register to vote, an elector must present valid identification showing their name, address and signature (such as a drivers' license) at a polling station.

Elections Canada has prepared for 900,000 electors to register on polling day, more than twice the number who registered in the 1997 federal general election on voting day.

The reason for the anticipated increase is simple: while a door-to-door enumeration preceded the 1997

election but this no longer occurs. A new permanent voters list went into effect for this election.

Should an eligible student wish to vote but whose name does not appear on the voters list and does not have proper identification (if they have recently moved into the riding, for example), a person whose name does appear on the voter's list may vouch for them.

By vouching, a person on the voters list takes an oath or solemn declaration before the deputy returning officer that another person meets the criteria to vote. Vouching is permitted at all polling divisions, and is no longer limited to rural areas. Under Elections Canada rules, you may only vouch for someone once at any election.

In 1997, the preliminary list of electors contained a total of 18,753,094 electors for the 1997 election and there were more than 1.3 million revisions, additions,

deletions.

Jean-Pierre Kingsley, Canada's Chief Electoral Officer, announced this week that all requests for resources from electoral offices will be granted. At the Elections Canada headquarters in Ottawa, 350 information officers will be taking telephone calls, from 7:00 am to 12:00 am Atlantic time, to respond to last-minute questions from electors – including where they should go to vote.

The Returning Office for the Fredericton Riding is located at 495 Prospect Street at the corner of Prospect and the Hanwell Road. Its hours are 9am to 9pm weekdays, 9am to 6pm Saturdays and noon to 4pm Sundays.

Students with questions can contact the Fredericton Returning Officer at 452-2018. You may also fax the office at 444-6126.

Students may also call Elections Canada toll free 1-800-463-6868 or visit www.elections.ca.

Allan Neill - Continued

issue in this riding.

"I wouldn't suggest it's as big an issue in Fredericton proper than in some of the outlying areas," Neill ventured. "But it's there."

The opposition to the legislation is not opposition to gun control, he argued, but a rejection of secrecy of the process and in improper understanding of gun ownership.

"Most people don't mind a practical firearms system, but what bothers most people is that this was done and [government] didn't talk to the people," he explained. "It's just set up to make criminals out of people who are not criminals and it does nothing to make the streets safer."

"In the old system, there was a Firearms Acquisitions Certificate (FAC) and nobody minded that," he said, adding there was a safety course and a fee attached to the system. "It accomplished essentially the same thing – you know who owns the weapons."

Neill said the new, Liberal government system, treats "anyone who wants to go bird hunting with their son or their daughter" the same as a criminal seeking to buy an assault weapon. He calls it "ridiculous."

A distinct possibility in the Fredericton Riding is for the Progressive Conservatives and the

Canadian Alliance candidates to split the right wing voters and allow the Liberals to capture the riding.

This happened in 1997, when Liberal Andy Scott won the riding with only 34 percent of the votes cast while PC candidate Cleveland Allaby took 30% and Reform candidate Mark McCready took 22%.

If the right wing was united in this riding, observers noted, their combined 52 percent vote would trump the Liberals.

Neill, for his part, dismisses the PCs as no better than the Liberal government.

"Liberal, Tory – same old story," he

asserted. "They believe in the same things the Liberals believe in, they've done the same thing."

He argues, that for example, while the Progressive Conservatives are now campaigning against gun registration, under Brian Mulroney a PC government brought in similar legislation.

On the other hand, Neill said the Alliance is not like the "old parties."

"We're a fresh vision and a fresh start," he commented. "These are new ideas and new concepts."

"Ultimately, we just have to communicate that message and accept what the voters decide."

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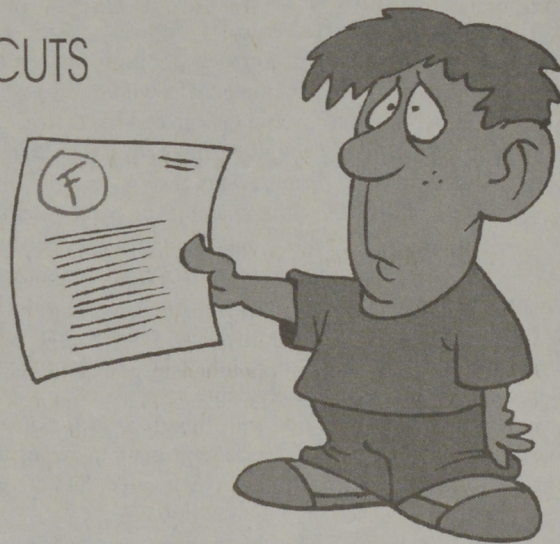
VOTE

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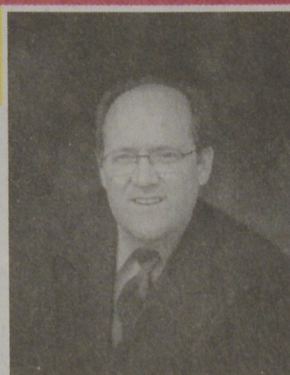
Owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students.

Only Andy Scott...

- has pledged to make access to post secondary education his **number one priority**.
- developed an Action Plan for Higher Education endorsed by a panel of former UNB and STU student union executives.

Only the Liberal Party...

- has a platform that promises direct federal government action to give students the money they need for school—through the \$2.5 billion Millennium Scholarship Fund, interest relief for student loans, and direct grants to your own Registered Individual Learning Account to pay for graduate school or new skills.



Andy Scott

On November 27th, vote for a strong Canada.

Vote
ANDY SCOTT

Canadian Values. Campus Results.

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Telephone: 472-GRIT (472-4748) Fax: 444-0432
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Authorized by Kenneth Savage
Official Agent for Andy Scott

The
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THURSDAY
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This Weekends Band:
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