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clearly shows the issue Canada has to face: there are not enough women in political activities to make important decisions.

Conrad also specifically suggested how little women are involved in politics in Nova Scotia (13.5 per cent) and New Brunswick (8.9 per cent), comparing the fact that "the representation of women in the House of Commons places Canada above the international average of 16.2 per cent."

"This poor showing seems to be part of a longer trend in Atlantic Canada," Conrad said.

"It is important that we continue to study the barriers to women's involvement in the institutions governing our societies," explained Conrad, "that some women make an effort to enter the formal political arena, and that all women work to make democracy more inclusive."

There is a need to change attitudes towards Canadian politics, especially in terms of women's involvement. Women's movements have to be seen more for a better democratic society.

"You can change things," she said, concluding her speech by saying "working for social justice is like taking a bath. You have to do it everyday or pretty soon you'll start to stink."

To help women realize their potential to change society in terms of political processes, CFUW believes that the key is to promote wider access to education for women.

"I think that women could start being involved in political activities if they become more confident in their knowledge," said Rose Beatty, National President of CFUW.

"That kind of confidence is what education can provide with women," said Rose.

"You have to keep learning," said Margaret Hamilton, a member of the CFUW local Fredericton Club, "life is long, so learn. Better education opens your eyes and makes you more aware of the political and social issues that you need to face."

CFUW is committed to the promotion of education for women. For that, its biggest effort has been to provide various bursaries, scholarships and prizes. For example, several students at UNB are annually awarded the Jean Campbell Argue Scholarship (\$3,000), CFUW Fredericton Scholarship (\$2,000), and two Marjorie Barberie Logue Scholarships (each \$3,000). The money provided by CFUW Fredericton is earned by primarily selling used books at the Fredericton Mall. This local sale has been for 40 years. Collecting money to promote scholarships for students in Fredericton, Margaret said, "it is a year-round effort."

Founded in 1919, CFUW is a voluntary, non-profit, self-funded bilingual organization of over 10,000 women university graduates. CFUW members are active in public affairs, working to raise the social, economic and legal status of women, as well as to improve education, the environment, peace, justice and human rights.

from SU page 1

notes that the Union was not in a deficit position when the decision was made.

Another position that has seen changes recently is the General Manager position. The Union has had a number of different positions similar to the current GM during the past 25 years. The last position, that of General Administrator, was eliminated in 1998. Now that the position has been revived, albeit with a different portfolio, this year's executive has already noted positive results.

"I find [the position] to be extremely effective, especially given the financial background of the person who is in that position," said Munro.

"They're able to do a lot of the groundwork and I'm able to act in a governance role rather than an administrative role," he continued. "That's what I think my position was intended to be whereas I'm a student and I'm still making the decisions. The General Manager is able to use her experience to make it happen."

Duguay agrees that the GM position can bring invaluable experience to the executive, saying, "that was one of the issues all student unions had [during my term]."

But why does the Union need a full-time GM position? Can't a student do it?

"I obviously support student leaders and student leadership and student government, but there's certain areas where experience is needed," explained Munro. "Human resource management is one of those areas and I'm very grateful for the experience that Kim Saunders brings to the table."

Another SU employee who brings experience to the table is Bruce Devlin, the Union's Promotions Coordinator for the past 6 years.

"[Bruce] worked out really well for us. We were lucky that we got someone who was that dedicated to his job. In hindsight, it was a really good decision," said Duguay.

But that decision is now in jeopardy. Devlin's position is scheduled for elimination at the end of the fiscal year, though Chiasson stressed that nothing has been finalized.

Karla McLean, former VP University Affairs (2000) and VP Student Services (2001), agrees with Duguay that hiring a full-time non-student was the right choice.

"Continuity in a position such as this is key. This is a demanding job on your body and on your time," explained McLean. "It is also a very unique position. It demands a person with a certain knowledge and certain connections, which are developed over years in that industry."

Pregnancy loss awareness month

by Amanda Brown

New life is what it is ultimately all about says Anya Duxfield. Previously employed by the Department of Engineering at the University of New Brunswick, Duxfield now devotes a large portion of her life to creating awareness on pregnancy and infant loss.

Statistics from Canadian Perinatal Health Report (2003) stated that 25 to 50 per cent of all pregnancies "end in miscarriage or loss." In 2000, 1.5 Canadian infants in 1000 did not survive "their first year of life." The root of such losses span from miscarriage, neonatal, and infant death to genetic abnormalities, premature birth, SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome), and pregnancy complications.

Duxfield experienced a loss in November of 2004. When searching for an organization that would assist her to recover, she discovered that unlike the United States which has various programs available such as March of Dimes, Canada has none. A web search led Duxfield to Terra-Lynn Coggan; together they, with others, have the goal of "raising awareness of the frequency of Pregnancy and Infant loss in our communities and the real grief that mothers and families are suffering. There needs to be more acknowledgement of the issue and more support for the individuals going through it."

Duxfield feels the situation is misunderstood because there is a

lack of knowledge. She explains that the creation of an organization would provide monetary aid for research and support efforts along with awareness in communities. Aftercare for these women is essential and it is not always available. Many believe they need to get on with life and do not acknowledge the impact their loss has made.

Speaking from her experience, Duxfield explained that, "no one can know the grief and confusion of the mother in those first hours and days." Pregnancy and infant loss addresses a different dimension of grief that is attached with the loss of hopes and dreams. It is unhealthy to ignore this grieving process; doing so creates an underlying thread that will always be present.

Long term depression can evolve from not having grieved properly. Postpartum depression can affect approximately 30 per cent of new mothers. According to Statistics Canada, this common problem attaches itself to roughly 100,000 women yearly. Duxfield commented that this would compound the grief of loss. There would be confusion on the individual's part over what the exact cause of suffering was.

"It takes a good doctor or counselor to separate grief from postpartum," says Duxfield.

In 1988, President Ronald Regan declared October to be National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. This month is now acknowledged worldwide and Oc-

tober 15 has become Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. On October 12, the Honorable Elvy Robichaud, Minister of Health and Wellness declared October 15 to be officially recognized as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. Terra-Lynn Coggan, who is based in Saint John, had been contacting her MLA to push for this motion since 2003. Robichaud, in the declaration, stated that "New Brunswickers who suffer from pregnancy and infant loss need emotional support from family and friends." Provincial residents need to be informed and educated in order to respond with compassion to affected families. The declaration made mention that "health care providers and other professionals... can better serve New Brunswick families if they have special training."

Presently, the DECH offers three services to bereaved mothers: baby memory books dubbed "Little Footprints," baby photos and memory boxes. In 2000, Lynda Pyne of the Fredericton Decorative Painters Association contacted the Social Work Department at the Chalmers Hospital and offered to donate memory boxes, to be painted and decorated by members of their association, to the regions infant and bereavement program. Since they started painting and distributing the memory boxes in the fall of 2000, between 350 to 400 boxes have gone out to the various birthing units in Region 3.

ever, we have made the decision that services that help a student's safety must be prioritized," said Chiasson.

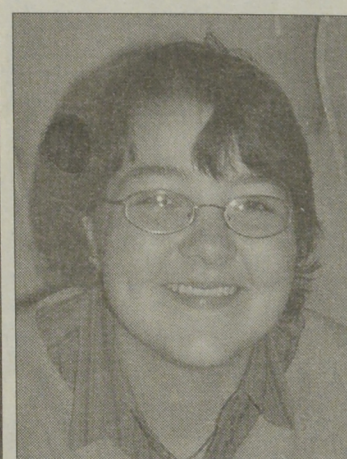
Areas such as Saferide or daycare are tangible examples of where money should be spent. "Those are areas that we think... it's a necessary part of what we provide," said Munro.

VIEWPOINT

"What's your most memorable Halloween costume?"



The best [costume] I had was a Spiderman costume that had a mask and everything. It had a mesh thing between the arms, like Spiderman. (Reference—Spiderman's web-shooters.) Clayton Flint 1st year Arts



My best Halloween costume was last year when I made a fairy costume. Renae Keays 1st year Arts



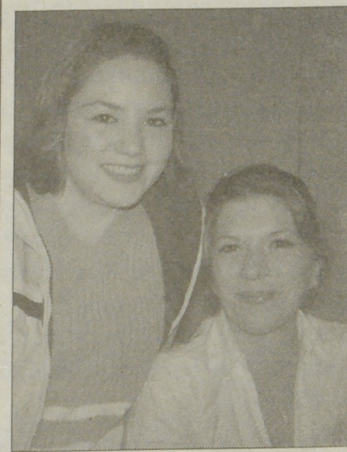
When I was five years old, I was Batman. Robert Daley 1st year Mech Eng.



My sister (Jessica) was a pack of lifesavers... Erin Gallagher 2nd year Sc.



One of my best friends (Tim) dressed up like a penis for Halloween. Erica Barnett 1st year Sc.



I dressed up with an Elvis mask, a clown wig, and a vampire wig one year. Brandon Mapplebeck 2nd year Arst (STU)

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2 FOR 1

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