

The Brunswickan

volume 139 issue 1 • UNB fredericton's student newspaper • canada's oldest student publication • www.unb.ca/bruns • 8 september 2005

Camera plan lacks research



Michèle Legendre / The Brunswickan

The city will be installing a closed-circuit television camera at the Tannery this month in an attempt to deter criminal behaviour in the area.

"I think the stance that we took - that more consideration had to be done, proper policies had to be in place and evaluation criteria need to be done before the cameras are installed - is a very fair one" - Ellen Creighton, UNB Student Union Vice President External

By Brendan Doyle

It's got drama. It's got action. It's got crime. And it's coming soon. The most entertaining show on CCTV this fall could be the Tannery channel broadcasting live to the Fredericton city police station. And you could be the star.

Starting in September, the city will be installing a closed-circuit television camera at the Tannery to monitor people for criminal behavior and with the hope of reducing crime in the surrounding areas.

Public Safety Committee Chairperson Bruce Grandy told The Brunswickan in an interview in late July that the city would like to "put a few more police down there" but can only afford so many at one time, while Deputy Mayor Mike O'Brien told a public forum on July 12 that "the solution isn't to throw more police at it." At the same meeting, Deputy Police Chief Barry McKnight said, "without a doubt police are more effective than cameras."

UNBSU VP External Ellen Creighton would like to see some research to back up the city's position. "There's no numbers anywhere on virtually anything."

She has raised concerns over the city's apparent lack of research into the potency of cameras as a deterrent to crime. Creighton also brought to light issues of privacy and the potential for abuse of citizens' rights. She admits that "these issues are often so abstract it's extremely hard to quantify," but hopes that both the city and its residents will take a closer look at the pros and cons associated with public security cameras.

"Everybody has to realize it's not just a student issue; it's everyone's issue. It's a decision that we're taking as a community so let's have a decision that's well thought out, well planned, well researched, with evaluation criteria and in compliance with forthcoming guidelines that the Ombudsman's office will set out."

At a public forum hosted at the Student Union Building, the Student Union and concerned citizens pressed representatives from the city for answers.

"The city now recognizes that

privacy interests are at stake in this decision. The Provincial Ombudsman agreed with us that there are major concerns here, that there's a major need for policy and assessment criteria. He agreed with us on virtually every point," said Creighton.

Despite a clear public promise, made at the July 12 forum, Creighton says the city has yet to contact the Provincial Ombudsman's office to coordinate their efforts to ensure compliance with Provincial privacy regulations.

"The city is going to have a policy in place, unfortunately, despite what was said at our public forum, they did not contact the Provincial Ombudsman to receive his help and guidance... so they have no idea what his guidelines are."

And privacy issues are really the heart of the matter, says Creighton.

"When we looked at it we wanted to make sure that, since many people who are doing nothing wrong would have their actions recorded for the purposes of law enforcement, if it was going to happen it was done in such a way that would protect their rights and their interests."

INDEX

LOCAL NEWS.....	1-7
LETTERS.....	8-12
A & E.....	13-18
SPORTS.....	19-21
CLASSIFIEDS..	22-24



Students can be good neighbours too

by Greg LeBlanc

Students are back and parties are happening, but don't let that cloud your image of the student presence in Fredericton.

Every year, come September, Fredericton residents hear about all the ruckus that students bring to the city, but is this all that students do? Definitely not. But changing that perception can be an uphill battle.

"There are some breakdowns which have occurred within the social fabric that often occurs...in towns with a university," noted El-

len Creighton, VP External of the UNB Student Union. "[However,] the few incidents that do happen every year should be viewed in the larger context of the amazingly beneficial impact students bring to Fredericton."

Cathy MacLaggan, City of Fredericton Councilor for the area surrounding the campus, agrees.

"[It's] unfair to students and the neighbourhood to give an unbalanced picture of [their impact on city]," remarked MacLaggan. "We certainly have a few problems, but it is a minority part of the overall big picture." The Problems?

There are two main problems being faced around the campus, and especially in the College Hill area: the loss of permanent residents; and the number of disturbances that occur due to noise and vandalism. Neither problem is new.

Joe Stevver, who has lived on Hanson Street for 46 years, noted that he is one of only a few original residents who still remain.

When a house goes up for sale, it is quickly bought by landlords. One even offered Mr. Stevver \$150,000 for his house. He was

see neighbours, page 4

Changes to New Brunswick Student Loans

by Nicole Gifford

New Brunswick students who depend on financial aid from the government to fund their studies faced numerous student loan policy changes this year. Many students don't realize what each of these changes may mean for them.

Speaking generally, provincial and federal loans have been integrated into a single system. The province now joins Ontario, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland in delivering an integrated student loan product. This integration,

however, brought with it a host of more specific changes... and challenges.

The process:

As of May 1, 2005 (the date the new policy went into effect), loan Certificates of Eligibility will include both Canada and New Brunswick student loan amounts. Loan eligibility is still assessed by the provincial Student Financial Service (SFS) office, however the National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC) will now be responsible for processing the certificate.

Whereas CIBC used to provide provincial loan services under the

old program, the NSLSC is now responsible for all student loan services, federal and provincial. It's important to note that all services after the initial assessment of eligibility will be the responsibility of the NSLSC. In particular, students who return to post-secondary studies full-time but do not receive new student loan funding need to provide the NSLSC a Confirmation of enrolment form in order to keep their loan in non-payment status. Old Provincial Continuation or Reinstatement of Interest-free Status forms will not

see changes, page 4

WELCOME BACK

Free pool & foosball all the time

Memberships On Sale Nightly
Open Nightly at 8:00 p.m. Friday at Noon
Thursday is Ladies Night All Night

STUDENTS WORKING FOR STUDENTS SINCE 1970
Social Club
WWW.COLLEGEHILLSOCIALCLUB.COM
FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS ONLY