

The Brunswickan

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About Us

The Brunswickan, in its 141st year of publication, is Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication.

We are an autonomous student newspaper owned and operated by Brunswickan Publishing Inc., a non-profit, independent body.

We are a founding member of the Canadian University Press, and love it so. We are also members of U-Wire, a media exchange of university media throughout North America.

We publish weekly during the academic year with a circulation of 10,000.

Letters

Must be submitted by e-mail including your name, letters with pseudonyms will not be printed. Letters must be 200 words maximum. Deadline for letters is Friday at noon.

Editorial Policy

While we endeavour to provide an open forum for a variety of viewpoints and ideas, we may refuse any submission considered by the editorial board to be racist, sexist, libellous, or in any way discriminatory.

The opinions and views expressed in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Brunswickan, its Editorial Board, or its Board of Directors.

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Co-operating for Your Community

by Erin Hancock

You may be familiar with the co-op grocery store, credit unions or MEC (Mountain Equipment Co-op), but do you understand the significance behind what it means to be a co-op?

A co-operative is an association of people who come together to meet a need in their community that they may not be able to meet as individuals. Where the private and public sector fail to support a community, the members of that community can take ownership over an issue and creatively address it. Where most other enterprises exist to maximize profit, co-operatives primarily exist to fill a void. In some cases, co-operatives meet the most basic needs of a community that some argue should be met by the government, such as housing, food security and employment.

October 14-20 marks Co-op Week, a time for Canadian co-operatives to celebrate their successes and contributions to Canada and community development throughout the country. In Canada, there are over 10,000 co-operatives and credit unions, providing products and/or services to about 1/3 of the Canadian population. In New Brunswick, there are over 200 co-operatives and credit unions; including a film-makers co-op, forestry co-ops, food co-ops, co-operative banks (credit unions and caisses populaires), restaurants and more.

Co-ops may sometimes appear similar to other enterprises, offering what at first glance seems to be the same products or services available at other businesses. However, there are key differences that distinguish co-ops as unique enterprises. First of all, co-operatives are democratic structures that provide each member with a vote and the Board members that provide direction for the co-op are elected from the membership base. Unlike other businesses where more money buys you more votes, each member of a co-operative holds the same influence in decision-making.

Co-operatives are community centered, meaning that the community

members who utilize the co-operative services are often also the owners. The phrase "we are the co-op" stems from this philosophy. Because community members are also owners of the enterprise, one may argue that co-operatives consider sustainability more than other enterprises that are owned by foreign investors do. In the end, the members of a co-op want to see their jobs, community, local environment and culture thrive; where foreign investors may be concerned with simply one, economic bottom line. Money is not exported as soon as it is made; it is recirculated in the community, supporting other community members and going into other services as well. Perhaps the Government of New Brunswick could reassess how to achieve self-sufficiency by looking a little bit closer to home and supporting local initiatives.

Co-operatives are all around us. The Fredericton Direct Charge Co-op was conceived in 1973 by local families who wanted to have their grocery needs met and now the co-op is owned and controlled by over 8,000 local families. If you were to visit Doodle's Café in the Charlotte Street Art Centre, you would be able to drink delicious Coco Camino hot chocolate (organic, fair trade) from Ottawa-based La Siembra Co-operative, purchase chocolate, coffee or tea (also organic and fair trade) from Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-op based in Grand Pré, Nova Scotia. You might visit the Caisse Populaire Beauséjour Ltée. (financial co-op) on the corner of George Street and Regent Street on Saturday mornings before heading to the market to purchase some produce (some of which comes from farming and producer co-ops in NB). Some of these co-ops were formed by people who needed a product, some were formed to create employment for the worker-owners and some were formed because the founders had a vision to provide a more ethical and environmentally-friendly product for the public.

All in all, co-operatives are a strong part of many Canadian communities. Take the opportunity to learn a bit more over Co-op Week, October 14-20 by visiting local co-operatives, asking questions or visiting some websites to learn more (www.coopscanada.coop, www.ica.coop). Co-operatively, community members can explore how they can meet their needs, be innovative and support sustainability of their communities.

A response from CHSR

Dear Editor,

I would like to mention something that was included in last week's edition of the Brunswickan. It was an article entitled "Turn the volume down...way down", that featured complaints about the selection of radio stations here in Fredericton. In this article, the writer seemed to suggest that there is no apparent alternative to the two most popular local commercial stations or the CBC to be found on the airwaves in town. Well, as it happens, there is! And it's CHSR FM. If you were in agreement with what was written in that article, keep in mind

that we here at CHSR FM have been providing an alternative to commercial media in Fredericton for decades now. If you don't know much about us; yes, we are a real radio station, run by local volunteers, broadcasting from the SUB 24 hours a day to Fredericton and the surrounding area at 97.9 fm, as well as to the rest of the world online at chsrfm.ca.

The aforementioned article ended with the writer saying that he probably couldn't do a better radio program than those he heard on the commercial stations he was complaining about, but

that he could do better than to listen to said stations. I would like to point out that anyone in the community can come to CHSR and get trained to do a program of his or her choice. So, if you don't like what you hear on the other stations in town, come on up to CHSR FM and do your own show!

To give you an idea of what we've got to offer, take a look at our bi-weekly column here in the Brunswickan or pick up a copy of our program schedule at the station or in the SUB lobby.

Scott Kitchen
CHSR Program Director

To the editor:

Congratulations! The Brunswickan does it again! This last week I was in town visiting friends as I've been away from Fredericton for about six months now. While eating downtown I picked up the latest issue of the paper. After flipping through it, and not finding much worth while, my attention was finally grabbed on the last page in an article written about radio in Fredericton and how there is no alternative to the top forty audio brainwash that is shoved down listeners ear drums by the main stream radio. Needless to say as an almost 2 year member of CHSR 97.9 fm (and someone who is still involved with broadcasting for the station-despite now living in Nova Scotia) I was a bit perplexed. According to this article the radio station that I had four shows on,

served on two committees, and did a lot of work for didn't really exist. Now I have been known to indulge myself from time to time in activities that can hurt the memory but despite all of this I'd like to think that I didn't just create an imaginary radio station and all the friends and memories I have of it in my head (lord help me if I did).

I think it's almost a waste to go after the writer of this article. After all maybe he really doesn't have a clue that CHSR exists. HOWEVER the editor of the paper and the arts editor surely know the station exists. Not only does CHSR have a column that usually runs in the paper but to get to the office of the Brunswickan you have to walk right under CHSR! To allow an article to be written that says there is NO alternative radio in Fredericton when you know

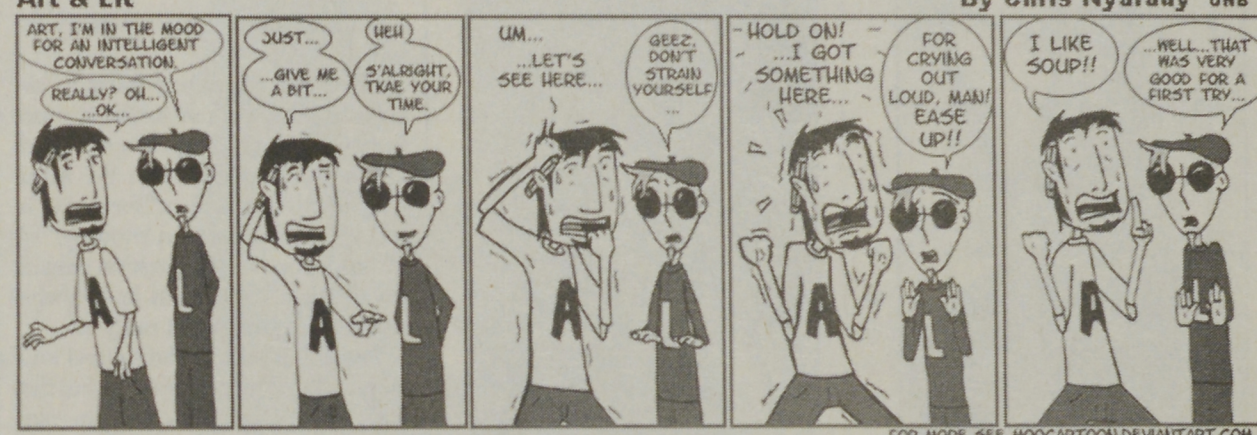
damn well there is seems ludicrous (not the rapper-the idea-although if it was the rapper then we could go back to the topic of mind altering drugs and this whole thing might make a bit more sense). You can't print an article (even on opinion piece) that says something is true when it isn't. The editors of this paper should have informed the writer that there was an alternative OR at the very least added their own note pointing out the same fact.

Overall it's nice to see that when I come back in town the newspaper, despite it being a new year and new staff (I assume), still makes forehead smacking mistakes! It makes me feel like I never left!

-Andrew Vaughan; 4 time CHSR Barry Award winning radio host-that is if the station actually exists.

Editors Note: Rip by Sean M.H., is an opinions column and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Brunswickan. Last week's article, however does not imply that there are only two radio stations in Fredericton-Though it only mentions three stations, Sean in no way rules out the existence or the possibility that there may be other radio stations on the airwaves. J.M.

Art & Lit



Feature Writer & Staff Writer Positions Available

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ELECTIONS

Nominations

Open: Monday, October 8 and
Close: Monday, October 15 at 4PM

*There will be a candidates meeting
Monday, October 15 at 4PM*

Campaigning

will begin after the candidates meeting &
run until Saturday, October 27 at 4PM

Voting

Opens: Sunday, October 28 at 12:01AM
Ends: Saturday, November 3 at 11:59PM

Available Positions:

- One Student Rep for the Bruns Board
- One representative from each of the following faculties is needed:
Arts, Computer Science, Kinesiology, Law, Nursing, Renaissance College, and Education

For more information or to pick up a nomination form, please visit the Student Union office (Room 126 in the SUB)

University Women's Centre

You're invited to
Celebrate Persons Day with us!

Date & Time: 7:30am to 9:00am
October 18, 2007

Place: Alumni Memorial Lounge
13 Bailey Drive, UNB

RSVP to: women@unb.ca
Very limited seating

Details: Breakfast to be served in celebration of Persons Day. Guest speakers will address "The Persons Case and its NB precursors" and "So you think you're equal..."

Would you like to go somewhere HOT for march break?

Watch out for more details about this VERY affordable student trip!

SAFERIDE

Hours of operation: Sunday - Thursday 7PM - 11PM
Pick up locations: Head Hall and the SUB

Get a SAFE and FREE ride home if you live within walking distance of campus!

Contact saferride@unb.ca for more details

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to get paid to take notes!?

We are looking for one good student to devote 3-5 hours a week as the SU Council Secretary.

Interested in making a few extra dollars over the next month?

We need one reliable student for the position of Deputy Chief Returning Officer for the '07 By-Election

If you would like more information, please visit www.unbsu.ca.