

Council examines election fairness

**Resignation of Science
Councillor Adrienne Langille
also announced at meeting**

SARAH RATCHFORD
THE BRUNSWICKAN

A variety of issues surfaced at the Mar. 9 council meeting, including a discussion of the UNBSU election process and the resignation of Science representative Adrienne Langille.

Renaissance College representative Matt Abbott, who ran for SU President with the United for Change slate, raised some concerns regarding the fairness of SU elections.

Abbott said that in order to "maintain credibility," elections must be "fair and appear to be fair."

Members of the SU executive hold

a key to the office of the CRO, and Abbott said that this could appear unfair. He said that the CRO must be "independent and unbiased."

"The CRO consulted with President Vail, who actively commented on platforms," Abbott said. He suggested that the bylaws pertaining to both elections and the CRO be investigated.

The office of the CRO, he said, might contain important election material, such as candidates' platforms.

Business representative Chris Gunter said that complete independence of the CRO from the executive seems "ideal, not realistic."

President Bethany Vail pointed out that the office of the CRO is also used for a number of other purposes throughout the year. It acts as the office for both Drinksmart and UNB Orientation.

Ideally, Vail said, it would make sense for the CRO to have his or her own office. "We could look into it," she said.

"Given their positions, they should know not to use the key for

mal intent," said Councillor Jeremy Hogan.

Senator Shannon Carmont suggested a locked safe for important documents.

The current executive does not have access to the computers of election officials.

In other council news, Science representative Adrienne Langille has resigned from her position. She submitted a short letter to council citing personal reasons for her resignation.

Langille was, until her resignation, a member of the investigative committee currently examining the competence of Alex Corey as a representative councillor.

Council agreed three weeks ago that that the committee should be comprised of five councillors to ensure a balanced viewpoint on the issue.

Langille, however, was not replaced, despite an offer by Coun. Gunter to sit on the committee.

Coun. Danielle Tudor said that the recommendations of the committee are open for review, but their decision is essentially already made.

The suggestions of the investigative committee will be announced next week at council.

A hair, money and hell raising event this month

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resume this year, Petersen said no.

"Res Life said we had to stop because of environmental issues," she says. "We won't be able to burn anything ever again."

James Brown, Executive Director of Residential Life, Campus and Conference Services, says that "burning couches does have negative environmental effects."

He says that since couches are made up of polyester fiber, toxic gas is released upon burning. The stuffing is made of a similar poly, which produces dioxins.

"The general release of that stuff is harmful," says Brown.

Petersen is hopeful in the face of this loss, however. She says residents are currently brainstorming to think of an alternative.

"We're working on passing the torch," she says laughingly.

Raise a Little Hell is one of Neill's biggest fundraising events of the year.

"We started talking to Neill House right when frosh got here," says Petersen.

In order to participate in the event, one must submit his or her name a couple of weeks prior. This, however, is not absolutely necessary.

"There are usually 10 to 20 randoms on the day of the event," Petersen says.

Currently, there is only one woman that Petersen knows of who plans to shave her head for cancer on the big day. One or more women have shaved their head in each of the past few years.

The hell will be raised on Mar. 27 at 5 p.m. in McConnell Hall.

Sign-up sheets will be posted in meal halls for anyone interested in participating. For more information, contact Janik Petersen, Neill House President, at f2022@unb.ca.

Residents of Neill House and other like-minded individuals are about to shave their heads in the name of the Canadian Cancer Society. Raise a Little Hell is the residence's final large-scale event of the year to help out their house charity.

The house has raised about \$7,000 throughout the academic year.

Plans for the event are still in the works, says house President Janik Petersen.

"The committee is starting now... They'll be working on it up until that Friday the 27th and I've already put a couple weeks into it," she says.

Planning for the event requires a good deal of work, with many aspects that people wouldn't think of, like booking the hairdressers for the head shave.

"We have to put together charity pledge sheets for people, but you can still show up to the event with \$50. You don't need a sheet," says Petersen.

The minimum accepted donation is \$50.

The house president says that the bulk of the work lies in getting the word out about the event.

Traditionally, the house has burned a couch as part of the event; however, this practice was lost last year, when the administration put a halt to the tradition in light of frequent couch burnings on Graham Avenue.

When asked if the burning would

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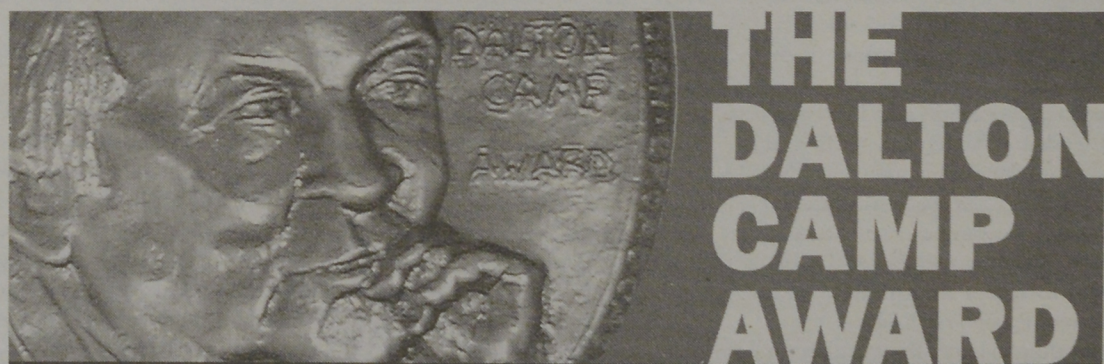


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