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QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation."

--Herman Melville



A Bug In Your Ear...

AUSU SPEAKS: Fall Session **Provided by AUSU Council**

AUSU met on the evening of September 16th for the last regular council meeting of the 2001/2002 fiscal year. Finances and our preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year were the main topics of discussion, and we laid the groundwork for some exciting new scholarships and student awards. Also under discussion was the possibility of selling AUSU promotional items in the future.



The most important topic of the evening was our upcoming AGM. For those who do not already know, the 2002 AGM will take place on September 28, 2002 at 1:00 PM MST, and all students are welcome. You may attend in person at the Edmonton AUSU offices, located at #306, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB, or you may attend via teleconference from any location, worldwide. Call our office at 1-800-788-9041, extension 3413, or email ausu@ausu.org for more information. Please reserve your spot as soon as possible, so that we know how many attendees to plan for. We'd love to see you there.

Also on the table this week was a proposal for new scholarships and student awards, which was approved by all councillors. Information about these awards will be available on our website as soon as we hammer out the last of the fine details. The details will be posted on the AUSU Services page.

The fate of the AUSU Handbook/Planner is still up in the air. We want to be able to give students items that will be useful to them in their studies, but we need to be certain that the handbook is the best choice before we commit to having more printed. Student input so far has indicated that a smaller planner might be more useful, while other suggestions have included wall calendars, desk calendars, and other items. So far, however, we have had only a few responses to our survey, and we require more.

Please check out the [AUSU discussion forums](#) on our website and select the Handbook/Planner Survey topic to download the survey file or to comment in the open forum. Alternatively, you may mail your comments to dkereluk@ausu.org. We'd like to know what might be useful to you, what items you have received from other students' unions that you have used and enjoyed, and if you have any opinions on the old format of the AUSU Handbook.

Speaking of student input, we are pleased to say that since the first issue of the AUSU newsletter started arriving in students' mailboxes, we have had many entries for the contest, and a significant increase in Voice readers and users of the AUSU forums. For all of you who just checked out AUSU for the first time this month - welcome!

Finally, back to business matters, AUSU council has approved the proposed preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year, and we are very pleased to announce that our expenditures for the 2001/2002 fiscal year will remain within budget for that period.

Many new projects have been initiated since the new council took over in March, and we're very excited about the coming year. Expect a summary of our work so far to appear in the Voice or on the AUSU website very soon.



ANNOUNCING THE AGM Provided By AUSU

AGM - what does it mean?

AUSU will be holding our 9th annual AGM this Saturday, September 28/2002 at 1 P.M. Why should you be interested?

As an AUSU member, you pay a fee of \$8.00 per course. That money goes towards student services and projects that help all of us achieve success in our studies. This is your opportunity to have a say in what projects your student council will be undertaking on your behalf. This is your opportunity to speak up and be heard. This is your chance to meet your Council representatives and hear about what they have been doing.

The main agenda items will be financial statements, activity reports and an open question period. All you need to do to attend is call our office at 1-800-788-9041 ext 3413, or email ausu@ausu.org. Although it is not mandatory to call in advance if you are attending in person at the AUSU Edmonton office, an RSVP would be appreciated. Those wanting to book a conference telephone line will have to do so by September 26 at the latest. We will not be able to do a live webcast of this meeting, but it is something we are planning for the spring AGM, which will mark the 10th anniversary of AUSU!

We will be providing an agenda and complete report to all in attendance. Those attending via conference call will need to make a request to have this information sent out by email, and any such request must be accompanied by student ID, and will be verified against our current membership list. This report will also be made available to any members on request whether they are able to attend or not, subject to the same student verification process.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday!!

Debbie Jabbour, President, AUSU



A Conundrum For Medical Practitioners? Religious Faith Vs. Informed Consent

By Tamra Ross Low

At one time, teenagers had little or no say in their medical treatment. Instead, decisions were made by consultation with doctors and parents, and teens had to accept whatever treatment was prescribed by a paternalistic medical system.

Recently, however, more doctors allow mature teens to make informed medical decisions, often without the input of their parents. Doctors feel that this is a necessary and important step if they are to encourage teens to “trust their physicians to keep their confidences, particularly in matters such as abortion, birth control, impotence and pregnancy [Canadian Press, 2002].”

Today, a battle is being taken to the supreme court by lawyers and physicians who insist that the Alberta courts have created confusion in the medical profession by their decision to force an Alberta teen to accept blood transfusions despite “the fact that five doctors at the Alberta Children's Hospital ... interviewed her and found her to be mature enough to decide her own medical treatment.” Bethany Hughes and her mother were members of the Jehovah's Witness church, which claims that the bible prohibits blood transfusions. Bethany suffered from a form of leukemia which is often curable by treatments that include transfusions.

On the surface, it does appear that the Alberta courts have squashed the rights of teens to make their own medical decisions. At least this is the claim of Bethany's lawyers, who are carrying on her fight subsequent to the girl's death two weeks ago at the age of 17.

However, this is not necessarily the case. The understanding amongst medical ethicists, physicians and the courts, is that teens are capable of making treatment decisions on their own – of giving informed consent – if they are found to be mature and capable of understanding the ramifications of their decisions. The key term here, is ‘on their own.’ Bethany was found to be a very intelligent and mature teen by all of her physicians, but there is no evidence that she was making her own decisions.

Bethany's refusal of blood transfusions – a move that probably led to her death – was based on the teachings of her religion, and her religious mother. There is much evidence that the JW church was very directly involved in Bethany's medical treatment, and that church members, along with her mother, may have put considerable pressure on the girl. This is evidenced by the fact that the girl was removed from her home and her father – who fought to have the courts force Bethany to receive transfusions – and sequestered by church members in Edmonton.

Would the courts have been supporting teens' rights to choose treatment if they had allowed Bethany to decline necessary medical intervention in light of the pressures that were on the girl to comply with church wishes? When is religious council merely council, and when is it an attempt to control the patient? This is a significant question when the patient is only 17.

The question this case brings to the forefront regards the nature of faith. At what point is faith a mature, rational decision, and when is it an example of childish reliance on what the parents teach?

A 5-year-old child may have a deep and unyielding faith in Santa Claus or the tooth fairy if his parents tell him that they are real. At the age of five, is religious belief any different?

Sometimes cartoons can say things with a clarity that adult programs cannot even approach. Consider a recent episode of South Park [Matt Stone and Trey Parker, South Park, episode 402 - *The Tooth Fairy's Tats 2000*, Comedy Central] in which this exchange occurred between a Jewish child and his father:

Dad, there is so a tooth fairy, huh?
What, oh... Kyle, let's have a little talk...
Oh my God, you DID lie to me!
No, Kyle, she's just make believe, like Peter Pan.
Peter Pan too!?
Kyle, ...
What about Moses and Abraham?
Well, they were probably real...

Is Moses real? An absurd question? To a faithful adult, perhaps, but to a child who has just lost his faith in one mystical figure, why not? Children are genetically programmed to believe what their parents teach them. They learn to forge their own beliefs by first taking on the beliefs of the parent and experimenting with them. Children must accept everything their parents say as true because they are not mature enough to make rational decisions on their own. Imagine if children never believed their parents when they were told that something is dangerous?

Later, children grow up and start to develop their own belief system. The teen years are a time of testing – when new beliefs are taken on and practiced with amazing fervor. Over time, a number of belief systems might be 'tried on' until the teen finds something that fits. It is not considered psychologically healthy for an adult to take on, wholesale, the belief system of the parents, as this indicates a lack of individuality – a personality crisis.

So how does this apply to Bethany? No one can say for certain. There is no question that in very young children, faith is taught. Most people also accept that in adults, faith is a matter of choice, and should be respected. The real question is, what was the nature of Bethany's faith? At the age of 17, was she sufficiently mature to make the decision to submit to the teachings of her religion, even when it risked her death? I'd like to believe that she had the chance to examine her faith, and come to these conclusions on her own, but the intense involvement of her church in her medical treatment leads me to believe that she had not yet had the opportunity to

question her faith. Did the members of her church ever tell her that she had the choice to think differently than they?

Bethany's convictions to refuse treatment seemed to be very strong, but then imagine her fear as she faced death, and was told by her church that [<http://www.watchtower.org/library/hb/>] her best treatment option was a sin against God. If she might die, did she want to risk offending God?

Perhaps her church is right and blood transfusions are sinful, but it is significant that no other popular North American religion holds this belief. Also, the evidence that the JW's present to support this belief is very scant on a spiritual level. Instead, most of their rhetoric against blood transfusions has been carefully and selectively quoted from mostly outdated medical reports which indicate, among other things, that transfusions "may result in acute [kidney] failure, shock, intravascular coagulation, and even death," and that recipients of blood may be infected with diseases," such as syphilis, cytomegalovirus infection, and malaria...herpes virus infections, infectious mononucleosis (Epstein-Barr virus), toxoplasmosis, trypanosomiasis [African sleeping sickness and Chagas' disease], leishmaniasis, brucellosis [undulant fever], typhus, filariasis, measles, salmonellosis, and Colorado tick fever."

Finally, consider this quote from their website: "According to *U.S. News & World Report* (May 1, 1989), about 5 percent of those given blood in the United States get hepatitis—175,000 people a year. About half become chronic carriers, and *at least* 1 in 5 develop cirrhosis or cancer of the liver. It is estimated that 4,000 die. Imagine the headlines you would read if a jumbo jet crashed, killing all aboard. But 4,000 deaths amount to a full jumbo jet crashing *every month!*"

If the JW prohibition against blood transfusions is a spiritual matter, what is the possible relevance of these reports? Theologically speaking, even if transfusions were perfectly safe, if they are a sin, this should not matter. I'm not convinced that the Jehovah's Witnesses themselves are certain of the spiritual reasoning behind the prohibition, but people are dying for it nonetheless. If Bethany quoted such outdated reports to the courts as the basis for her refusing to accept blood, can you blame them for overruling her physicians and forcing her to accept treatment?

Bethany's parents have both suffered a crushing loss, and this is a time when they need to support each other. Instead, they are both pursuing a divorce, and are legally at odds. One parent fought to save her child's soul, the other, her life. Ironically, the involvement of the church in this harrowing family struggle, has put these two well-meaning parents at odds, and has torn a family apart. It would not have been conscionable for the courts to have allowed this girl to decide on her treatment, when such vehement forces were working to propel her in one direction. This is not a matter of religion, but a matter of personal choice to adhere, or not adhere, to a religious belief.

Bethany may have felt that she was capable of giving informed consent, but by whom was she most informed?

Canadian Press, 2002. Clarity encouraged: Court urged to settle confusion over Jehovah's Witness case. See: http://www2.alberta.com/news/fs.cfm?source_id=&id=1188048

The Watchtower: Official Web Site of the Jehovah's Witnesses. How Can Blood Save Your Life? See: <http://www.watchtower.org/library/hb/>

Tamra lives in Calgary with her husband and two cats. A fulltime AU student, she splits her free time between her duties as an AUSU councillor, writing her first novel, and editing written work by other students and friends.



From my Perspective: Surfs Up!

By Debbie Jabbour

***"Let's go surfin' now
Everybody's learning how
Come on and safari with me"
(Surfin' Safari, The Beach Boys, Brian
Wilson/Mike Love)***

***"If everybody had an ocean
Across the U.S.A.
Then everybody'd be surfin'
Like Californi-a
...We'll all be gone for the summer
We're on surfari to stay
Tell the teacher we're surfing...surfing U.S.A.
...everybody's gone surfing...surfing U.S.A."
(Surfing U.S.A., The Beach Boys, Brian Wilson & Chuck Berry)***

***"I bought a '30 Ford wagon and we call it a woodie (Surf City here we come)
...And we're goin' to Surf City, 'cause it's two to one...
...Two girls for every boy"
(Surf City, Jan and Dean, Jan Berry/Brian Wilson)***

It seems there are schools offering degrees in virtually everything these days. Educational facilities are always capitalizing on the need to have an official "diploma" of some sort. Even jobs that have traditionally been considered "unskilled labour" are being taught in schools and students can receive diplomas in areas such as janitorial services (1), and waiter/waitressing (2).

So I guess it was inevitable that a diploma in surfing would be offered one day. According to today's Edmonton Journal, Australia's Southern Cross University, with campuses in Queensland and New South Wales, is setting up the "International College of Surfing Education and Research." (3) According to the article, the one-year course will offer an "academically challenging" curriculum where not only will students learn to surf or improve existing skills, they will be taught "surf event management, human resources, marketing and public relations." An important component of the course will also be "surf slang and advice on how to avoid 'surf rage,' the increasing incidence of violence on crowded beaches." Living in Alberta it's a bit hard

to comprehend the concept of surf rage - since most of us would love to spend some time on a beach in Australia - no matter how crowded!

The organizers insist that there is no place for surf bums, but that the Diploma of Sport Management in Surfing Studies, will “train the next generation of promoters, event managers, lifeguards and coaches for Australia’s burgeoning surfing industry.” The article states that 25 hours of surfing will be part of the course (which does not seem like much hands-on experience). There are no indications whether the program will also include “Surf Music Studies,” “The Psychology of Baywatch,” “Surf Clothing,” or “Shark Attack Avoidance,” all topics that rate equal importance with “Surf Slang” and “Surf Rage” in my opinion.

As humorous as the concept may seem, it is rooted in logic. According to Dr. James Skinner of Southern Cross University, surfing is a multimillion-dollar industry that is worth “about \$8 billion to the global economy,” with one Australian clothing manufacturer alone selling \$1.5 billion dollars worth of surfwear every year. Certainly it will add a significant amount to the university’s economy - the one-year diploma cost is \$8000 for Australians and \$13,000 for foreign students!

I have argued in the past for the value of courses that are distinct from the mainstream, such as levitation (see Voice May 1, 2002 edition, Accreditation and Optional Courses), but I can’t help but wonder what will happen when a “rebellious subculture sport” such as surfing suddenly becomes a legitimate degree-granting activity. Will surfing start to lose some of its appeal? Will surf songs have the same meaning? Will Baywatch become required television viewing for students? And where with it end? Sport management degrees may well become the norm for any sport. Will athletics then become academic pursuits? Will we see a PhD in Surf Studies anytime soon?

What about other rebellious subculture activities? Will snowboarding and skateboarding be the next “sports” degrees? What about music degrees in rap, heavy metal, punk or alternative? Or degrees in witchcraft, psychic phenomena, yogic flying? The idea is not really that far-fetched, as all of these subjects are already being offered as course studies of one type or another. Whether they should qualify for university-degrees is debatable, but certainly any activity that attracts large numbers of people and consumes significant amounts of time and money will eventually attract the attention of the course-makers.

In my psychology studies I’ve learned about different types of intelligence. Intelligence is not measured simply by academic, scientific or mathematic abilities. There are also social and physical abilities that can be indicative of intelligence. According to Gardner’s theory of multiple intelligences, people develop capabilities in seven areas, “linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial, bodily, kinaesthetic, musical and interpersonal/intrapersonal.” A person may be intelligent, even gifted, in many dimensions (4). Sports or Arts Diplomas and Degrees validate this notion.

Yet I can’t help but wonder. Once everything we do becomes regulated and normalized through degree-granting status, will we lose enthusiasm for these activities? Many have argued (quite successfully) that formalizing arts and music training can have the effect of diminishing

creativity. Will we see a distinction between “surfers who have a degree” and “surfers who learned how to do it on their own”? Or a distinction between those who speak “university surfer slang” and “non-university surfer slang”? Even more importantly, what will happen when even the lowest-paid professions, or those done simply for sheer enjoyment, require a degree? Given the continual rise in tuition fees, this can only increase the distance between societies’ disadvantaged groups and those who are able to access educational opportunities.

A degree is a wonderful accomplishment. A person who has worked hard to achieve greater knowledge in a particular area of expertise, whether it be psychology, economics, accounting, music, or surfing; deserves recognition. But should we be attaching an official piece of paper to every one of these accomplishments to validate them?

(1) [http://www.janitorusa.com/
http://www.norquest.ab.ca/programs/careerprograms/pretradesandservice/bswcontent.htm](http://www.janitorusa.com/http://www.norquest.ab.ca/programs/careerprograms/pretradesandservice/bswcontent.htm)

(2) http://www.bowvalley.ab.ca/courses_programs/hcc/food_services.htm

(3) Edmonton Journal, 2002. *Australian U gives academic status to Surfing*. September 22, 2002.

(4) Winzer, 1999. *Children with Exceptionalities in Canadian Classrooms*. Fifth Edition. Prentice Hall Allyn and Bacon Canada, Don Mills, Ontario.

Debbie is a native Edmontonian, a single parent with four daughters. She has worked as a professional musician for most of her life, and has enjoyed a rich variety of life experiences - with many more to come! Debbie is working towards an eventual doctorate in psychology, and currently serves as the president of the Athabasca University Students' Union.



Fed Watch!

News Across The Nation... Running University Numbers, Confusing Space for Access, and Women Catching Up in Nova Scotia

By Karl Low

THE VOICE September 25, 2002

Running the University Numbers

Statistics Canada has [released a report](#) on University Finances for 2000/2001. Unsurprisingly, they list that the total percentage of university revenue from government sources has declined while the percentage paid by the students has risen "substantially from a decade earlier".

Government contributions rose less than 3% over 2000/01, making this the lowest increase in three years. This is the same year in which the Government was proclaiming to all who would listen how their goal was for Canada to be a leader in research and development. It seems that the government is certainly willing to talk the talk, but it remains to see if they will walk the walk.

Getting more specific, Alberta Universities received just over half of their income from government grants and contracts, only Nova Scotia and Ontario's governments supplied less money than Alberta. Students are shielded somewhat though by the large percentage of revenue that Alberta Universities receive from their investments. Alberta university investments account for just over 7% of their revenues, which more than doubles that of most provinces.

What is somewhat more concerning though is how the expenditures are taking place. Alberta universities are spending only 55% of their revenues on salaries and benefits, the lowest of any province. Given the recent reports about how there will likely be a shortage of qualified faculty members available to universities, this is something that has to change. Alberta universities, and Athabasca University in particular cannot afford to be out-bought when searching for staff - especially considering the emphasis that AU wants to put on its Graduate Studies programs.

But where will that money come from? Well, in the case of Alberta universities, almost 20% of their expenditures go to "furniture and equipment purchase, rental and maintenance, utilities, renovations and alterations, externally contracted services, professional fees, cost of goods sold, debt repayment, internal and external cost recoveries, and lump sum payments." Only Nova Scotia and Quebec spend a larger percentage of their revenue on these things.

If Athabasca University and Alberta want to keep the Alberta Advantage, it might be time for the province to realize that having well-educated workers does not come for free.

Confusing Space for Access

Following the lead of their Ontario counterparts, the PC provincial government in British Columbia is touting [building projects](#) as increasing access to post-secondary education. Yet few people I've talked to cite lack of space as a reason for not going on to post-secondary education. Most explain that they simply can't afford it, either in time, money, or both.

Still, this does not stop the provincial governments from suggesting that every time they build a new building for a University, it will make it easier for students to attend. Oddly, even when I attended the University of Calgary, there were always classrooms and auditoriums that were open, and with universities across the country becoming more aware of distance education, these additional seats, while welcome, surely do not address the core obstacles to people taking post-secondary educations.

Of course, as I've mentioned before, it's far easier for a politician to point to a new building than to point to a student getting better grades they might have earned if they hadn't been forced to divide their attention between scholastics and employment.

Women Catching Up

A group known as the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women has released a report on [women's education and training](#), and it is mostly good news. Women now make up the majority of full-time undergraduates and half the number of graduate students in the province of Nova Scotia. They have received 60% of the Undergraduate degrees and 55% of the Master's level degrees. If these trends continue they should lead to similar trends in women moving into management positions and positions of power in business and government.

At least, we can hope.

A native Calgarian, Karl is perpetually nearing the completion of his Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Information Studies. He also works for the Computer Sciences Virtual Helpdesk for Athabasca University and plans to eventually go on to tutor and obtain his Master's Degree.



The Administration of Public Sector Union-Management Relations

Part One: A Historical Review

By Wayne E. Benedict

John Godard, in referring to industrial relations, defines the term control: “control can be said to obtain to the extent that various sources of influence are systematically brought to bear by one party in a way that increases the likelihood that the

actions of another party will in general conform with the first party’s goals or interests” (Godard, 1994, p. 13) Public-sector unions face two main sources of adverse control: the state, through complex legislated institutional frameworks and *ad hoc* sanctions; and public-sector management, through its role as employer and its inalienable ties to the state. Private-sector industrial relations normally entail the interaction of three distinct parties—1) the state, acting as the “pluralistic”, so-called “unbiased” intermediary between 2) the private employer and 3) the workers’ organization (union). In contrast, public-sector industrial relations entails the interactions between 1) the union and 2) the employer, which *is* the state represented by the separate occupational grouping known as “management”. Unions have one main source of power with which to further their causes: the withdrawal of their members’ labour-power. The state and its management, on the other hand, has a vast arsenal of measures with which to exercise control over its employees ranging from contemporary management structures to coercive and/or institutionalized state actions. This essay will examine processes of control in relation to public-sector labour relations.

It will be helpful to begin with a short review of the historical role that the Canadian state has played in Canadian industrial relations. Jeffery Sack & Tanya Lee, in their co-authored article *The Role of the State in Canadian Labour Relations* submit that Canada has undergone four distinct phases of state attitude towards trade unionism. The first was the hostility phase; the second was an attempt at pacification through mandatory conciliation; the third was the fostering of collective bargaining combined with neutrality regarding the outcome; and the last is the phase in which we find ourselves today—retrenchment.

The hostility phase, which encompassed the majority of the nineteenth century, saw workers who attempted to organize subject to criminal sanctions from the state. Courts resorted to tort remedies in order to issue labour injunctions against striking workers and there was a glaring historical association between the judiciary and capitalists which prejudiced workers subject to the legal system (Sack & Lee, 1989, p. 126). With the Canadian working-class showing accelerating discontent with the *status quo*, the Canadian government, seeking methods of working-class pacification, began to experiment with the notion of conciliation of labour

disputes. In 1900, an Act was passed promoting voluntary conciliation. In 1903 the Railway Disputes Act provided for the compulsory investigation of disputes in the railway industry and issuance of non-binding awards. 1907 brought the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act (IDIA) and under its provisions the parties were not free to invoke economic sanctions (strike or lock-out) until after mandatory conciliation. If the board of conciliation failed to procure a settlement, the board's non-binding award would be made public in the hopes that publication would put pressure on the parties to accept the board's recommendations. During the second phase, Canadian employers still failed to see any need to extend recognition to unions and when disputes proved intractable, the government was virtually powerless to act. The IDIA protected the public from work stoppages but failed to protect the right of employees to organize, negotiate and resort to economic sanctions and unions were deprived of their main weapon (the strike) while employers could stock-pile during the cooling-off period, discriminate against unionized employees, import strike-breakers and hire private police. Many strikes were broken before they had even begun. State intervention was accepted into a "laissez-fair economy [because] Canadian business was already accustomed to an active governmental role in the development of the infrastructure necessary to support Canada's natural resource-based economy" (Sack & Lee, 1989, pp. 127-128).

The third phase of state action, "fostering collective bargaining", saw a divergence between the industrial relations infrastructures enjoyed by the private and public sectors—the state began to treat its own employees differently than it expected and legislated private employers to treat theirs. For the private sector, the third phase can be explained through the embodiment of Privy Council order PC 1003, which passed in 1944 and guaranteed the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively. It also: established a procedure for the certification and compulsory recognition of trade unions with majority support; recognized exclusive bargaining unit rights; defined unfair labour practices; provided for remedies; outlawed company unions; established an administrative tribunal to enforce orders; required compulsory conciliation prior to a legal strike; prohibited strike or lockout during the closed period of a collective agreement (MacDowell, 1992, p. 589). The passage of PC 1003 was in response to a threat to the traditional political parties (Conservatives and Liberals) due to the electoral support that the Liberals had lost to the socialist Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) combined with a dramatic increase in industrial conflict: in 1943, the year prior to the implementation of PC 1003, there were more strikes than in any previous year in Canadian history. The role of the state in this private-sector scenario is one of "neutral" third-party intermediary and rule maker espousing the principle of voluntarism. For the public sector, however, change was much slower in coming. Saskatchewan was the only jurisdiction which allowed public-sector collective bargaining in 1944. The rest of Canada's public-sector workers would have to wait twenty to thirty years in order to enjoy the benefits of collective bargaining—between 1965 & 1975, all Canadian jurisdictions allowed public sector collective bargaining. The results of this legalization of worker organization were that masses of previously non-union white-collar occupations became unionized and Canadian national union membership increased markedly in proportion to international union membership in Canada. Unfortunately, many of the jurisdictions, which allow public sector collective bargaining simultaneously, constrained the public sector's right to strike (Sack & Lee, 1989, p. 131). Many view the 1940-1975 years as the "golden age" of labour, but in hindsight, it is clear that the "postwar compromise"—while undoubtedly garnering real gains for the working-class—was a novel state-run experiment that

attempted to constrain class antagonisms and preserve productive peace through a straightjacket of industrial legality.

Next week: ***Part Two: A Present State of Affairs***

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Gas Leaks and Bite Shift

By Laura Seymour

I yanked my Jaguar suitcase along on its wheels, laden with thick textbooks and grubby laundry. I pulled it into my condo suite and slapped everything on the floor or on the dining table. I was in a vile mood. I'd been away to my second level

of Craniosacral Therapy and nearly starved, and froze during my five days away from home. Edmonton presently has stronger winds than Calgary and the temperature dove down daily. My turtleneck and fleece jacket weren't cutting it. I found my teeth chattering as I went from the bus stop to the hotel the "doo" was in.

I'd traded Craniosacral / Reiki treatments daily to buy my stay. But I was getting pretty hungry from too many simple carbs and not enough fluids. I found the visit tense. D.B.'s health has gone steadily down hill since I last saw her two years ago. It was a shock. Her oxygen tube whispered its presence constantly. Her face looked strained, skin blotchy and acne peeping out of a half-century-old face. Her shoulders shrugged up as she tried to breathe her arms are nearly unable to be used. D.B.'s M.D. (Muscular Dystrophy) was eating away at the most creative and vital person I'd met in years. It hurt to watch.

Diane had granted some family some of her cash and was now trying to build physical strength while watching her cash flow plummet. The organic foods and reverse osmosis treated water she tried to stabilize her health with were stealing money from her daily. As a result, I was allowed some leftover cereal, (but it was good) a sandwich and a bowl of soup nightly. I was getting very hungry. Hourly staff arrivals for "night turns" were to prevent her body from developing skin breakdown. The noise woke me constantly.

The ballroom in the hotel was noisy, (partitions just section a room –not the noise!) and so dry it was electrical to touch anyone! We were also forced to turn off air circulation as it was freezing the room participants!

The seminar itself was trying – they always are. If you don't get any regular "bodywork" I don't think you'll understand the next comment – you might as well skip to the next paragraph! All the participants were getting "spaced out" from intensive treatments daily. We weren't just taking notes—we practice the new techniques daily. Most of us go to an appointment with our body worker once every month or maybe every couple of weeks. Few of us submit to daily work this intense!

We found the instructor helpful and clear. Most of us took up time asking her questions on individual cases. "Will this move assist someone with...?" "Have you ever used this for...?"

She rolled with the punches and answered us all. This set us back on our time and my usual “Sure I’ll be glad to do a Chinese stir-fry when I come there” got put off an hour or so. We were forced to do a ten-step protocol (from our first course) on the person we were working with. It ate up time. Many of us did one that night and came in early the next morning to do the other partner.

Then the intensive work began... we learned advanced CST moves for the skull and mouth work. Click! Pop! Crunch, and combinations of all of them. There were of the usual smatterings of people blubbing as memories triggered from the bodywork. We found many people commenting on changes to their bite. Sinuses rocketed open. Headaches, chronic sore shoulders and back immediately shifted and/or disappeared. It was amazing. But what the layperson does not understand is that one needs to PROCESS this information on a deep inner level. A bit like taking notes in a course. The inner mind needs to re-write the information. The mind might say, “Oh that pain is gone and is now replaced with a comfortable back...don’t send endorphins there anymore!”

So why was I so crabby getting home? Class broke up early...around 2 p.m. I had some almonds in my purse and had scarfed the world’s fastest and smallest lunch on Sunday (last day of class) only to find, again, the teacher was late to start class.

I gave quick thank you’s and goodbyes to some teaching assistants and classmates and got a lift to the Greyhound station from a new chum. I sat for 50 minutes before the next bus to Calgary and staked out my terrain in the line up. My stomach made a couple of protests in line and by the time four hours had crawled by and every cow between here and Edmonton had been seen I was ready for a meal. As soon as the bus pulled onto MacLeod Trail I booted up the cell phone and called the hubby. I found out the lettuce had gone bad along with other foods in the fridge. “I didn’t know,” my hubby whined. IRK! Ok...I had told him of the situation and asked for something nutritious with vegetables. I’d spoken to him daily so I made the assumption that there would be a heat-em-up available. Apparently not! I found 4 vegetables being slowly chopped. I stomped in slapped the purchased skull on the floor, grabbed a bottle of water out of the fridge. UGH! WATER!! My brain insisted. FOOD! It continued! I threw myself on the couch and glugged. I came up for air and asked, “What’s for dinner?”

“This,” Larry answered.

I grabbed my purse, avoided clocking the hubby with it and went out into more cold air for a hamburger. I stomped home and discovered one problem after another. A filthy sink, tub and stained toilet, no food and no plans...mix that with my five days away and I was in no mood to handle all of this! I cursed at the idiot personal caregiver who had taken care of Larry for all this time and set to putting the place in order.

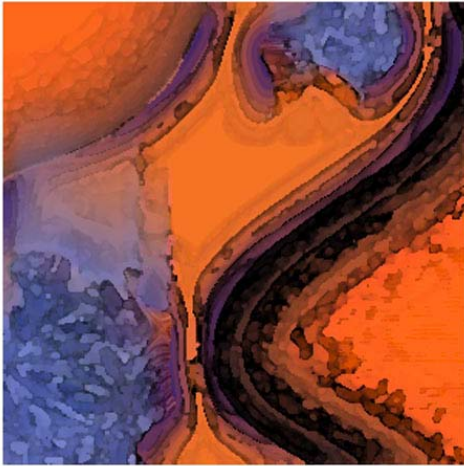
The night drew to a close with little progress, a few tears and resignation that it had been a bitterly stressful time.

The first thing the next morning I decided maybe I was still “processing” and I should take it easy. I got Larry up for work and we heard a vague sound of a walkie-talkie screech. Then pounding on doors. Then our door. I asked Larry to get it as I wasn’t dressed yet. We were informed there was a major gas leak in the construction site butt up to our building and to vacate the building immediately. ARGH!

I grabbed pants, socks, the garbage, my purse and found the answer to the question, “How do I know what gas smells like?”

Grunt! Process the five days at Starbucks and talk to the husband’s caregiver later! I’m gonna hobble home and take a nap!

Laura Seymour first published herself, at age 8. She has since gone on to publish a cookbook for the medical condition of Candida. She is working toward her B.A. (Psyc).



The Harried Student: In response to the challenge of writing about nothing

By Audrey Karperien

Recently, in one of the Voice's columns, a fellow writer, comrade, and sibling in schooling laid at the feet of the Voice's readership a challenge. The challenge is to demonstrate writing about nothing—writing having no point, no subject, no opinion. Intrepid around-the-blocker who's been there, done it, and uses the T-shirts for dishrags, I am urged to, using my eclectic AU education, despatch this test.

I am up to the task. I learned much about purposeless, unfocused writing about nothing in Political Science 309. So, not that I care or want to, but because I tossed a coin and it came up with Ralph Klein's head on it, I will define nothing. Nothing is the complete absence of thing. For instance, in terms of viable justifications for privatizing health care, the Alberta government offers abundant examples of nothing.

Enough politics. On to Philosophy. The challenge is to write about nothing, and have no point. That is easy enough, because I have taken Philosophy 252. I have studied the formidable art of equivocation. I can prove that any writing about nothing is, necessarily, clearly unfocussed. That is, being everywhere absent, nothing is not here. Neither is it there. Neither here nor there is quite beside the point. My discourse on nothing, therefore, cannot possibly stick to a point. Staggering, no?

You may now object that writing about nothing is actually writing about something. You might shiver at the delicate thread tickling the back of your neck, telling you that a conditional thing is a thing, nonetheless. You might say that by writing about nothing, I had a subject, namely, nothing, which is thereby something. But that thread is in the grasp of a monkey. He is toying with you. We have already established that nothing is something that does not exist. And I have taken Chemistry, inorganic, organic, and bio. And I have learned that something cannot be created from nothing. My subject, therefore, does not exist. Ha ha. I have no subject. Nor monkey.

In the end, I have met the criteria. I wrote about nothing. What I wrote about was neither here nor there, not focussed anywhere. And I had no subject. What about opinion, you ask? The challenge explicitly requires the writing to lack opinion. So, I take back the part about U-Pay HealthCare. And that is that. No need to thank me. It was nothing.



Food Safety Part I - Worth a Second Look

By Teresa Neuman

My husband and I were stricken recently with a food borne illness, or what is more commonly referred to as a bout of food poisoning. A quiet romantic dinner left us sick for several days. We blamed the plate of beef satay, but it could have been anything in the restaurant's kitchen or even something as innocuous as contaminated bean sprouts. We were lucky. We

should have gone to the hospital, but it was such a relief to stop throwing up that we decided to bypass the trip to the Emergency room for some much needed sleep.

Food poisoning can happen any time. Health Canada estimates that about two million Canadians suffer from some form of food borne illness every year, causing about 30 deaths. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) defines food borne illness as when a person consumes food contaminated with pathogenic bacteria, viruses or parasites. Since the symptoms often resemble the flu, food borne illnesses often go unreported. Symptoms can include stomach cramps, nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting and fever.

Pathogens can get into food in many ways through improper handling and cleaning, refrigeration, and are transported on insects like flies.

Different agencies in Canada look after our food safety. At the federal level, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency enforces food governing and safety acts at Canada's borders, inspects packing plants, packaging and labels in grocery stores and develops tests to detect new and existing pathogens in packaged food and in food processing. Provincial inspectors monitor restaurants and other eating establishments. If the provincial inspector suspects that the food, rather than the preparation is the cause of the illness, the case will be referred to the CFIA for further investigation.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency website (www.inspection.gc.ca) has information about the government's role in protecting our food. The web site contains a number of fact sheets with

information on food borne illnesses and advises people to protect themselves from contamination through careful selection, preparation and cooking of their food.

Most food borne illnesses can be easily avoided by proper cleaning of the kitchen and utensils and by thoroughly cooking all meat, fish and seafood. Salmonella and botulism are probably the most familiar, but there are other food pathogens that can cause serious illness, and, in some extreme cases, death.

Salmonella bacteria cause a sickness called salmonellosis. The bacteria are found in the natural environment, in animal feed and in the intestines of wild and farm animals. Foods exposed to animal waste may carry the salmonella bacteria.

Symptoms of salmonella include diarrhoea, abdominal cramps, vomiting and fever. The whole body can be affected. The symptoms can occur anywhere from 6-24 hours after exposure and can persist for several days. Foods that most likely carry the salmonella bacteria include: raw eggs, undercooked meats (especially poultry), raw milk, and sprouts. Fruits and vegetables can become contaminated if they come in contact with a contaminated product or surface such as a counter top or unwashed hands.

To avoid the risk of salmonella, the CFIA recommends that people wash hands and clean produce in clean water. Clean and sanitize cooking utensils, cutting boards, and countertops with a mild bleach solution consisting of 1 tsp. bleach to 3 cups of water. Cook all meats and poultry thoroughly. Meat should reach an internal temperature of at least 160 degrees Fahrenheit and poultry should reach 180–185 degrees Fahrenheit. Avoid using raw eggs in mayonnaise, eggnog and deserts and cook eggs until the yolks are firm. Never use cracked or dirty eggs. Cook stuffing separately from the bird.

C. botulinum is another dangerous food borne pathogen and grows in foods that are not preserved properly. C. botulinum does not make adults sick; the poisons produced by the bacteria are what cause the illness. C. botulinum cannot grow in air.

Symptoms can range from nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headache, double vision, dryness in the throat and throat to respiratory failure. The toxins are nerve poisons that can cause paralysis. The symptoms can appear from 12-36 hours after infection and may last from 2-14 days or longer. The mortality rate in Canada from botulism is approximately 10 per cent.

Botulism can be found in home-canned, low-acid foods like green beans and mushrooms. Honey can also be contaminated with C. botulinum. The CFIA recommends that parents not feed honey to babies less than one year of age. The bacteria cannot grow in honey, but it can grow in the baby's body. If any signs and symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.

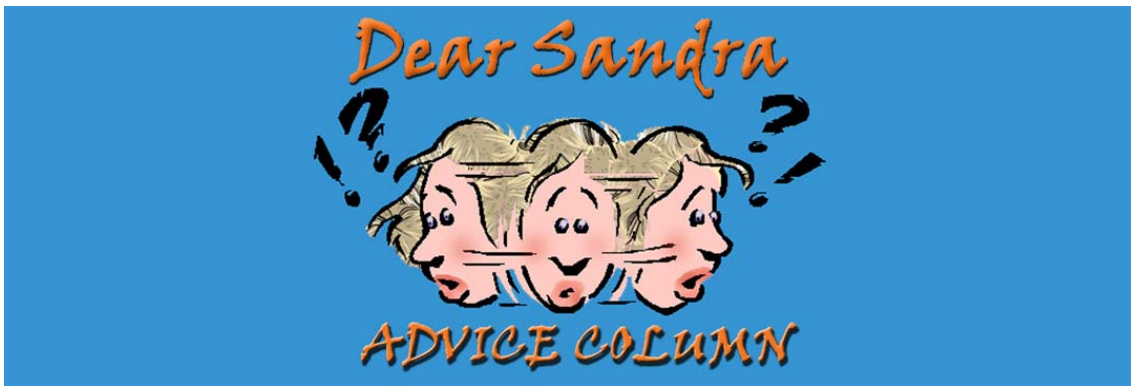
To avoid the risk of botulism, never eat food from cans that bulging or are leaking. The food may look all right, but it can be growing the bacteria. When home canning, preserve all low acid foods like vegetables in a pressure canner and follow manufacturer's directions. Cook all home-canned, low acid foods for at least ten minutes to kill the bacteria. Date and label home canning

and follow all accepted canning methods. All utensils, work surfaces and hands must be kept clean during the canning process.

*The CFIA website has information about other food pathogens including *Listeria monocytogenes* and shigella. Everyone can protect themselves by washing hands often during food preparation and by the proper cleaning of utensils and cutting boards. If you are interested in home canned foods, Bernardin has a great guidebook with information on safe home canning, with lots of recipes. Part II of this column includes tips for safe food storage and a look at how our food is kept safe at the national level.*

Graphics courtesy of [Partnership For Food Safety Education](#)

Teresa Neuman is a member of the Board of Directors of Briarpatch Magazine. She lives in Regina with her family and is a member is CUPE.



THE VOICE – September 25, 2002

Dear Sandra;

I've had it! I'm on my third extension and I'm running out of time. Now I know why students are tempted to copy assignments from others.

I'm having such a hard time with this course project; I just don't know what to do. I went to a website that sells essays, and I'm thinking of buying one. What do you think the chances are that I will get caught?

On Overload

Dear On Overload;

Have you ever heard of the phrase if you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen? There are only so many hours in the day and only so many things that we can accomplish. Obviously you are doing too much and you need to get your priorities straight. You never said what it is that is keeping you from finishing courses on time; I am assuming work, family, course overload, personal problems or maybe a combination of some or all of these are factors.

The whole purpose of going to university is to learn, if you cheat yourself out of learning by taking on too much this purpose is defeated. The only way to learn is to do the work yourself. You may get away with cheating on this one course project, and you may not. If you get away with cheating on this course project, you may be tempted to do it again and again and again. How can you really learn this way? Sure you may get your degree, but how easy will it be to perform the job you get with this degree if you have cheated your way through school? As for getting caught, is it worth the risk? How can you be assured that this essay you buy will be of the utmost quality? You usually only get to read the first few sentences, how do you know the rest of the essay won't be a flop? If you haven't studied the course material, how do you know the information present in these on-line essays for sale is even accurate? How do you know that students before you haven't bought and handed in the exact same essay? Yes, the chances for that are slim, but the consequences for getting caught are not worth it. The consequences of Academic Misconduct that AU lists on it's website are: rejection of submitted work, failing grade, expulsion from an exam, expulsion from a course, expulsion from a program, expulsion

from the University, reprimand, academic probation, suspension, and legal action. Visit the website www.athabasca.ca/studserv/inthonesty.htm for more information.

So basically, my opinion boils down to telling you that cheating is not the way to go. What you need to do is either slow down, take fewer courses or come to the realization that university, for most of us, is difficult and time consuming and changes may be needed to your life style in order for you to finish school.

This column is for entertainment only. Sandra is not a professional counsellor, but is an AU student who would like to give personal advice about school and life to her peers. Please forward your questions to Sandra care of voice@ausu.org



American News on Your Television!

Ask Your Doctor if it's Right for You.

By b.e. hydromako

Over the past few weeks I have indulged myself, now and then, in watching American news broadcasts on my television. I haven't been tuning in with the expectation of staying informed while receiving a fair and unbiased perspective, but more to observe the American media spectacle in all its red, white, and blue glory. What caught my attention

immediately about these nightly broadcasts were the products being advertised during the commercial segments of these programs. Almost every ad was for some sort of pharmaceutical concoction which would serve to make the viewer's life more bearable. There are ads for dietary supplements, heartburn pills, and anti-depressants. Over and over the viewer is bombarded by

images and suggestions which say that there is something not quite right, and that there are easy fixes through medications and aids to make it better.

The one commercial, which is for an anti-depressant pill, remarks that "...the cause of depression is unknown," and then goes on to show us very simple line drawings of working brain cells with a voice over saying something to the effect that this represents what *might be* a cause of depression with respect to the chemical workings of the brain. Leaving aside the criticism that pharmaceutical companies appear to make drugs that only suppress symptoms rather than yield cures, this commercial suggests that we don't know what the cause of depression is, but we do know that giving you this drug will alter your brain chemistry in such a way that the symptoms of your depression will diminish. But of course, it does nothing about the causes because we don't quite know what those are! And that heart burn? And that other ailment you have, that other *disease*—what are the causes of these? Why is it that there are so many people in the world who are not well, so many that are suffering dis-ease?

Does anyone *watch* the news?

And on the news of late, what treats the viewer's eye? There's continued conflict raging everywhere we turn. Israel and Palestine continue to battle it out, America fights its unending war on terrorism, which seems to allow them to point their finger at anyone they choose, and appears to give them the right to roll in with the bombs, if only they are doing their best to rid the world of those "terrorists." And the war on terrorism has been woven into the war on drugs. Ads on American television tell the viewer that buying drugs supports terrorism. I'm not sure, exactly, how buying marijuana that has been grown in a hydroponics operation by some Caucasian fellow in B.C. supports terrorism, but I am sure it can be spun to make it so. Perhaps it's the idea that by smoking some pot people might be less prone to reactionary and decisive violence. Shrug—I don't know. But I do know, courtesy of American news, that there is a huge epidemic in the States: people across the nation are being hooked on speed.

And this is bad, right? All those [middle American mothers](#) taking speed to cope with the pace of the modern world. Other people from other walks of life smoking up speed to keep step with the break neck stride of progress. It is something that needs to be stopped—unless you are in the American military. Here the war on drugs becomes the war with drugs; that is [American fighter pilots have the green light to pop their "go pills"](#) to keep them sharp and alert on today's modern battlefields. Apparently, the consumption of this type of military sanctioned speed is partly responsible for the deaths of those Canadian soldiers that were incinerated in a "friendly fire" by American bombs. So, which is it America: is the taking of speed an epidemic or an advantage? When life is framed as a dog eat dog battle, when is it considered appropriate to take drugs to cope? Apparently, if the news is any measure, then we are to take drugs of all sorts, whenever we can, but only if these drugs are sanctioned and sold to you during the nightly news broadcast.

So, what are the causes of depression, disease, and disorder? Well, I'm no doctor, chemist, politician, or any of that, but it doesn't take a rocket surgeon to see that maybe it might be our own doing. Perhaps not on an intimate and personal level, but it is our ways of living, being, and relating to one another which appear to produce such a heightened sense of anxiety. We have a

few thousand years of history under our belt, of which the nightly news is hardly a ripple on the surface of this pond of time, and even though history shows us clearly that fixed ideologies and self-privileged ways of life create conflicts and tensions among various collections of people, we haven't learned much of anything. We still tend to hold dogmatically to our vision while negating or trivializing different points of view, and is it any wonder that this should make people anxious, nervous, depressed? If we cannot know when it will be that our personal ways of thinking and being in the world will suddenly be branded a problem which needs to be dealt with, if we need to constantly concern ourselves with keeping in step with the *status quo*, if we need to make sure that we are sitting on the correct side of the fence—where the grass is *obviously* greener, if we are constantly under the impression that there is a great dark evil out there in the world that threatens to close in and destroy us, then there is no doubt why we need medication—and plenty of it! Of course, all this finger pointing towards the other, supplemented by copious amounts of mind altering chemicals, serves to entrench the darkness in our own beings, gives it walls and moats by which it becomes unassailable to self-analysis, to self-criticism. As long as we continue to look exclusively to the other for the manifestation of the darkness of our beings, all we will have is more medications which suppress symptoms but do not deal directly with causes. If we cannot be self-reflective about our own roles in creating discord, then the causes of our troubles will persist in remaining within realms of the unknown.

Remember to ask your doctor if a rigid and self-denying point of view is right for you.

b.e. hydomako is not sure whether his parents were human, and sometimes feels that the sun and the moon are his father and mother respectively (or vice-versa). He doesn't have a belly button, and the operation to remove the alien implants is forthcoming. Sometimes he thinks that the world is a projection of some malfunctioning machine.



The AU Information Centre

**Contributed by Linda Bonneville
Coordinator - Information Centre and
Course Development**

I would like to respond to the very interesting article by Tamra Ross Low "What I've Learned About AU Students" and perhaps provide some helpful advice for all AU students. The Information Centre was established to provide a first point of contact for prospective and continuing students. We have a staff of sixteen full-time, part-time and casual Information Attendants who answer a wide range of questions through our toll free number 1-800-788-9041. Attendants undergo a rigorous 2-month training period and provide general information. Students requiring more detailed or specific information are transferred to the appropriate department.

Most concerns can be resolved by an Attendant. The Information Centre receives an average of 8,500 calls per month.

Another means of communication for students is to access our instant response e-mail system at AskAu (<http://www.askau.ca>). It is designed to respond immediately to individual questions. We have a bank of over 150 responses covering a wide range of areas from how to become a student and register in a course, transfer credit information, exam bookings and invigilation, contact information for various departments, and a host of other information to ensure students are given the assistance they need. Students may also e-mail the Information Centre directly through AskAu if they require more specific information, or their question has not been fully answered. During the month of August '02, over 7,000 students got an instant response through AskAu. We invite all new and continuing students to visit this site.

Another function of the Information Centre is to process Calendar and other publication requests. Requests are generally processed within 2 business days, and are sent out by Canada Post 3rd Class Mail.

Tamra mentions that AU is very fast and effective at dealing with individual concerns, but that they often do not work to solve the underlying problems that tend to repeat with other students. The Information Centre provides a monthly Caller Concern report, which tracks individual and group concerns, and will highlight patterns of repeated problem areas. Students are encouraged to contact the Information Centre with their concerns, and these concerns will be documented if the student wishes, and then forwarded to appropriate departments for resolution.

The Information Centre is committed to providing professional, superior customer service for all our students. We accept calls from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MST and are here to assist you and make your educational experience with AU a positive one.



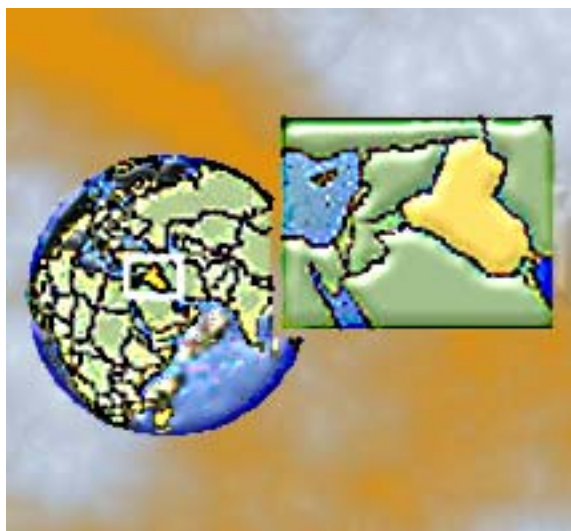
The First Festival of Learning at AU Central

Contributed by The Insider

The first Festival of Learning took place at AU Central on Sept. 14 in recognition of International Adult Learners' Week. UNESCO has previously sponsored the event, but this is the first time the week was celebrated in Canada. More than 100 people attended the Athabasca event that featured

presentations and displays highlighting the benefits of lifelong learning. AU took the lead role in planning the event, but it was a community effort that featured participation by Alberta Human Resources and Employment, Athabasca Public Library, Athabasca Training Centre, Blue Heron Athabasca, Northern Lakes College, The Learning Connection, and the Native Friendship Centre.

Photo provided courtesy of The Insider: MLA Mike Cardinal was one of the many dignitaries on hand to kick off the Festival of Learning.



Canadian NGOs (non-governmental organizations) underscore centrality of the United Nations in dispute over Iraq

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

Four Canadian non-governmental organizations have come together to commend the Canadian government for its position on Iraq and to emphasize that the United Nations must play the lead role in mediating the international dispute over Iraq.

The North-South Institute, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, the United Nations Association in Canada and the Mennonite Central Committee are calling on politicians and policy-makers to recognize the key peacemaking role of the United Nations and to ensure the UN has the backing it needs to fulfill its role internationally. "One of the primary reasons that the UN was founded was to establish a collective mechanism to deal with threats to international peace and security," says Steve Mason, Executive Director of UNA-Canada. "Any state which takes unilateral action against another state sets a dangerous precedent and undermines the very principles upon which our international system is based."

"The hostilities between the United States and Iraq are of grave concern. They threaten world peace," notes Roy Culpeper, President and CEO of The North-South Institute. "To attack Iraq would not be a legitimate extension of the 'war on terror'. Given Iraq's agreement to allow weapons inspectors into the country, this is the time to invest in peace, democracy and development, not to continue with threats and military build-ups," adds Culpeper.

Canadian NGOs, the UN and Iraq feel the focus of international efforts should not be on invasion, but on disarmament, resolution of conflict, and addressing the humanitarian crisis in Iraq.

"There are no grounds in international law for 'regime change' to be a legitimate basis for one sovereign state declaring war on another," says Gerry Barr, President-CEO of the Canadian Council for International Co-operation. "The goal of preventing Iraq from developing and using weapons of mass destruction is important," Barr adds, "but it should be done under UN auspices and accompanied by an agenda for regional disarmament and development. Canada has a particular responsibility because the Middle East is the second largest market for Canadian arms manufacturers."

"We commend both Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham for insisting that the Iraq crisis be dealt with by the United Nations," emphasizes Bill Janzen, Director of the Mennonite Central Committees Ottawa Office. "While Iraq should comply with resolutions of the UN Security Council, so should other countries, some of which are violating them in a serious way. A more equitable approach to pressing for compliance would make it much easier to deal with this dispute and with others." MCC is one of only a few international NGOs with relief and development work on the ground in Iraq.

For more information, please contact:

Lois L. Ross, Coordinator of Communications and Publications
@ The North-South Institute (613) 241-3535, ext. 235

Katia Gianneschi, Media Relations Officer
@ the Canadian Council for International Co-operation
(613) 241-7007 ext. 311



Free Health Benefits for Children in Low-income Families

**From information provided by Alberta
Human Resources and Employment**

THE VOICE September 25, 2002

The Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB) provides children in low-income families with free:

- Dental care
- Prescription drugs
- Eyewear
- Emergency ambulance services
- Essential diabetic supplies

More families are now eligible for coverage through the ACHB because of increased income eligibility levels, which took effect July 1, 2002. These income levels are associated with the number of children in the family:

- 1 child for family net income of \$ 22,397
- 2 children, \$ 24,397
- 3 children, \$ 26,397
- 4 children, \$ 28,397
- more than 4 children, add \$ 2,000 for each additional child

Enrolment in the ACHB is free. Eligibility for the program is based on the family's net income from their previous year's Income Tax Notice of Assessment (line 236). Once their applications are approved, qualifying families receive ACHB benefit cards that allow them to access approved services and products directly from service providers at no cost.

To get an application form:

1-877-4MY-KIDS

1-877-469-5437

www.gov.ab.ca/hre/achb



Marijuana debate rages on in Ottawa

Parties divided over legalization

By Adam Grachnik, *Ottawa Bureau,*

(CUP) OTTAWA (CUP) -- Canadian adults may soon be legally entitled to “blaze”, “smoke up” or “hit up the phat chronic” if a report tabled by the Canadian Senate is accepted and passed into law.

The report released by the Senate Special Committee on Illegal Drugs, calls for the legalization of

marijuana.

“Judges, lawyers, college students [and] brain surgeons. Everyone smokes marijuana,” said Senator and committee member Tommy Banks. “Putting someone in jail for simply having a joint in their pocket is wrong.”

The report has triggered intense debate and staunch criticism from many MPs.

“It’s plain absurd,” said Randy White, Canadian Alliance MP and vice-president of the House of Commons committee on the non-medical use of drugs. “Two of the 11 findings were irresponsible. It’s a quantum leap from where we are today. We would be only country to do this [...] and that should tell you something.”

The extensive 600-page report concludes that, “only behaviour causing demonstrable harm to others should be prohibited: illegal trafficking, selling to young people under the age of sixteen and impaired driving.”

“Penalties for trafficking should skyrocket,” Banks said. “[You should] be put in jail and throw away the key.”

The report also recommends amnesty for “any person convicted of possession of cannabis under current or past legislation.”

“Why was marijuana ever criminalized?” asked Banks, about the 1923 Opium and Drug act, which criminalized cannabis.

“In retrospect there was no rational reason for criminalizing it in the first place,” he added, admitting to having smoked marijuana once, at a jazz concert in 1957.

White feels the committee is condoning the use of marijuana.

“While we spend hundreds of millions of dollars saying not to smoke, here is a committee saying outright, it’s okay to smoke marijuana,” he said.

Banks vehemently disagrees with this position.

“Nobody is encouraging use [of] drugs,” he said. “Drugs are bad and don’t do you any good. [But] putting morality aside, prohibition doesn’t work.”

“You’re living in some other place if you think prohibition laws are keeping drugs away,” he said.

The Marijuana Party, whose mandate is to demonstrate the social advantages to ending cannabis prohibition, welcomes the news.

“I’m happy,” said Marc-Boris St-Mauric, leader of the Marijuana Party. “[I’m] impressed with how far they [Senate Committee] went. They used explicit strong words.”

“Senators have given the marijuana party our platform for the next election,” St-Maurice added.

The report recommends the government set up prevention programs and to “adopt an integrated policy on the risks and harmful effects of psychoactive substances.”

It also recommends that the Marijuana Medical Access regulations be changed.

“Present medicinal marijuana provisions are not effective and must be revised to provide greater access for those in need,” the report observed.

Banks, who supports marijuana use for medicinal purposes, is optimistic about seeing the report become a reality.

“This has to be dealt with at all orders of government. It can be done with only one order,” he said, adding that marijuana should be controlled by the provinces.

“Fairly soon we’ll see decriminalization,” he said.

White, on the other hand, believes we’ll never see marijuana legalized.

“It’s not going to happen,” he said. “It’s [report] not going to get out of there [House of Commons], believe me.”

(Graphic from [The National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) : no permission required for reproduction)



COMMENTARY AND FEEDBACK!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter To The Editor:

I would like to respond to the very interesting article by Tamra Ross Low “What I’ve Learned About AU Students” and perhaps provide some helpful advice for all AU students. The Information Centre was established to provide a first point of contact for prospective and continuing students. We have a staff of sixteen full-time, part-time and casual Information Attendants who answer a wide range of questions through our toll free number 1-800-788-9041. Attendants undergo a rigorous 2-month training period and provide general information. Students requiring more detailed or specific information are transferred to the appropriate department. Most concerns can be resolved by an Attendant. The Information Centre receives an average of 8,500 calls per month.

Another means of communication for students is to access our instant response e-mail system at AskAu (<http://www.askau.ca>). It is designed to respond immediately to individual questions. We have a bank of over 150 responses covering a wide range of areas from how to become a student and register in a course, transfer credit information, exam bookings and invigilation, contact information for various departments, and a host of other information to ensure students are given the assistance they need. Students may also e-mail the Information Centre directly through AskAu if they require more specific information, or their question has not been fully answered. During the month of August '02, over 7,000 students got an instant response through AskAu. We invite all new and continuing students to visit this site.

Another function of the Information Centre is to process Calendar and other publication requests. Requests are generally processed within 2 business days, and are sent out by Canada Post 3rd Class Mail.

Tamra mentions that AU is very fast and effective at dealing with individual concerns, but that they often do not work to solve the underlying problems that tend to repeat with other students. The Information Centre provides a monthly Caller Concern report, which tracks individual and group concerns, and will highlight patterns of repeated problem areas. Students are encouraged to contact the Information Centre with their concerns, and these concerns will be documented if the student wishes, and then forwarded to appropriate departments for resolution.

The Information Centre is committed to providing professional, superior customer service for all our students. We accept calls from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MST and are here to assist you and make your educational experience with AU a positive one.

Dear Readers,

**I have received a number of email asking for printable editions of the current Voice. The current issue is always included in the list of PDF Archives for your printing convenience.
Thank-you for your readership and support!**

Tammy Moore

Thanks to all of you who have been providing us with such great feedback on The Voice. Please continue providing your opinions, comments and support; any submissions can be sent to tmoore@ausu.org

****PLEASE REMEMBER ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR INTENDED FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE MARKED "FOR PUBLICATION".**

Accepted letters to the editor have not been edited, nor do they necessarily reflect the opinions of The Voice staff, AUSU, or Athabasca University.

Tammy Moore



Notice to AU graduate students and those considering entering graduate studies at AU:

PUBLISHED IN THE VOICE September 25, 2002

Athabasca University Students' Union is in the process of establishing an AU Graduate Students' Association.

Here's a sampling of benefits of belonging to a Graduate Students' Association:

- **Graduate student representation on University Committees**
- **University and government advocacy and lobbying**
- **Affiliation with provincial and national graduate students' organizations**
- **Assistance with university/student dispute resolution**
- **Information source**
- **Networking**

For more information contact:

Shirley Barg, Vice-President

Athabasca University Students' Union

Email: sbarg@ausu.org or call 1-800-9041 ext. 3413

Edmonton local number: 497-7000

Calgary local number: 298-2905



Conference Connections

PUBLISHED IN THE VOICE September 25, 2002

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **American Political Science Association** - 98th annual meeting - Aug. 28-Sept.1, 2002 - Boston, Massachusetts. Details: <http://www.apsanet.org/>
Mark your calendar for the Association's Centennial meeting - Aug. 28-31, 2003 - Philadelphia, PA.
- **National Policy Research** - October 23-25, 2002 - Ottawa - "Future Trends: Risk."
Details: http://policyresearch.gc.ca/page.asp?pagenm=conf_wel
- **AU Learning Services** - Oct. 25-26, 2002 - Annual conference to be held at Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton. More information to follow.
- **Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation** - Sept. 25-28, 2002 - Edmonton, AB - "Canada: A Global Model for a Multicultural State." Details: <http://www.cmef.ca>
- **European Conference on E-Government** - 2nd annual - October 1-2, 2002 - St. Catherine's College, Oxford University. Details: <http://www.mcil.co.uk/2g-ecceg2002-home.htm>
- **Society of Research in African Cultures** - Nov. 7-9, 2002 - Montclair State University, New Jersey - "Internalist vs. Externalist Interpretations of African History and Culture." If you propose to give a paper, abstracts must be received by August 30, 2002. Send to [Dr. Daniel Mengara](#), Executive Director, SORAC.
- **CASE District VIII** - March 8-11, 2003 - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho - "Connect in Coeur d'Alene." Details: <http://www.connectincda.com>
- **ICDE World Conference** - 21st annual - June 1-5, 2003 - Hong Kong. Deadline for abstract submission is Aug. 1, 2002. Details: <http://www.ouhk.edu.hk/HK2003>
- **CADE** - June 7-11, 2003 - St. John's NF
- **International Studies Association and the Central and East European International Studies Association (ISA/CEEISA)** - June 26-28, 2003 - "The Global Tensions and

Their Challenges to Governance of the International Community" conference at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.



40,000 worth of bikes stolen at U of A

Security urging students not to ride expensive bikes to campus

By Barrie Tanner, Gateway

EDMONTON (CUP) -- They're fast, efficient and blend in with the throngs of other students wandering campus, and in the first two weeks of classes, bike thieves have had a heyday.

With \$40,000 in bike losses reported so far this year at the University of Alberta, the problem is reaching epidemic proportions.

"The university is generally known as one of the best sources for bikes by the types of people involved in this activity," said Sergeant Darcy Pennock, a spokesperson for Campus Security.

Thefts occur at all times of day, and virtually every area of the campus with concentrations of bikes has been hit. And with a rough average loss of \$692 per bike, that translates into a significant problem for those who choose the two-pedal method of transportation.

Bike components have also become a favourite target for thieves. Front shocks, derailleurs, adjustable handlebars, rims and other accessories have routinely been stripped. And fancy locks aren't always the answer.

"Thieves will generally go for the easiest targets, bikes that aren't secured properly," said Pennock. "But we've seen tools that defeat U-locks in seconds."

But that's not to say that taking a couple of extra minutes to fasten your bike won't be worthwhile.

"Bike thieves are looking for opportunities," said acting-sergeant Grace Berry. "They're going to target something that takes the least amount of time to steal, and if you secure your bicycle properly, that alone acts as a strong deterrent."

To solve this problem, it looks like students will be the group to make the biggest difference. Facing severe budgetary restraints, Campus Security staff numbers have remained static for 25 years despite the massive increase of students and staff, leaving fewer officers with fewer resources to patrol a highly populated community.

The idea of enclosed bike-lockups are attractive, but student union executive member Kail Ross explained that the costs of such measures are prohibitive.

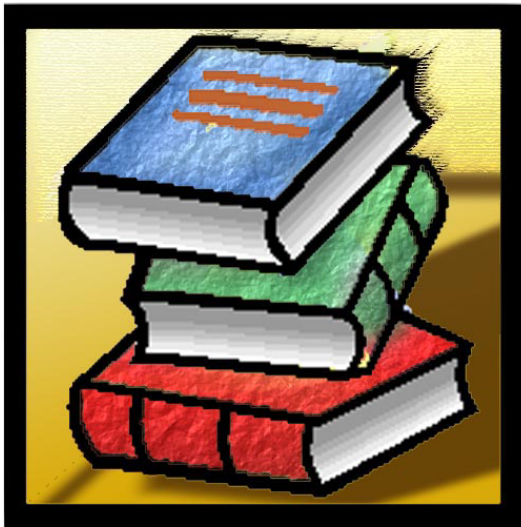
He echoed Campus Security in encouraging students to be more aware of what's happening around them.

"Students have a responsibility and obligation to report any suspicious activity," said Ross.

Pennock has an even more immediate solution.

"To be completely safe, don't bring expensive bikes to campus," he said.

"There's nothing worse than seeing students come in and tell us they've lost a \$1,000 bike ... It's a huge hit."



Library 101

Contributed By The Insider

*Librarian Elaine Magusin continues the series
"Things You Should Know About the Library."*

Q: I searched the library catalogue and found a book that I want to take out but it's currently out to someone else. Is there a way to put a hold on it?

A: Yes. If you click on the "Request This Item" button in the catalogue record you will be asked for your name and Library I.D. number, as well as a pickup location. You will also be asked to give a

date after which you won't need the item. Once you have submitted your request it will automatically become a hold and we will notify you when the book has arrived.

Q: I have a lot of overdue books and I would like to renew them but I don't have time to go down to the library to do it. What are my options?

A: You can renew the items in several ways. First, go to the [library homepage](#) and click on "View Your Account." You will be asked for your name and Library I.D. number. Once you

have entered this information you can view your account and renew any items that are overdue. Second, you can email the library at library@athabascau.ca or call us, ext: 6254 and ask us to renew the items for you.

ESSAY CONTEST 2003

The Elie Wiesel PRIZE IN ETHICS



SUGGESTED TOPICS:

Reflect on the most profound, moral dilemma you have ever encountered and analyze what it taught you about ethics.

How can human beings move beyond hate toward reconciliation?

Explore ethical responses to fanaticism, hate and violence.

What ethical issue concerns you most and what concrete proposals would you make to deal with it?

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 2, 2002

- **ELIGIBILITY:** Full-time undergraduate juniors and seniors during the fall 2002 semester.

Students must complete an Entry Form along with their Faculty Sponsor. Any interested professor may act as a Faculty Sponsor and endorse the quality and authenticity of

the student's essay. In addition, students are asked to include a letter from their registrar verifying eligibility.

FIRST PRIZE: \$5000.00

SECOND PRIZE: \$2500.00

THIRD PRIZE: \$ 1500.00

HONOURABLE MENTIONS: \$ 500.00 EACH

Entry forms, detailed guidelines and further information are available online at www.eliewieselfoundation.org, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics
The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity
529 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1802
New York, NY 10017

Telephone: 212.490.7777



ENLIGHTENING INFORMATION!

WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact Tammy Moore at tmoore@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice, providing a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



Get Your Nominations In For The President's Award for Tutoring/Mentoring Excellence!

Nominations are being accepted for the President's Award for Tutoring/Mentoring Excellence. Nominations must be submitted to the Coordinator, Staff Development in Human Resources by September 30, 2002.

This award recognizes up to two individuals each year for excellence in instructional service to AU students. CUPE tutors, graduate instructors, and academic coaches are eligible for nomination by AU staff and/or students.

Award recipients will be honoured at the Learning Services Conference on October 26th.

The award guidelines have a link to the nomination form and have information on the nature of the award, eligibility, criteria, the nomination process composition and role of the review committee. The guidelines are available at:

http://www.athabascau.ca/policy/humanresources/160_003_2002.htm

Please contact me if you have any questions.

--

Joyce Loxam
Coordinator, Staff Development
Human Resources
Athabasca University
Phone: (780) 675-6139
Fax: (780) 675-6135



Multiculturalism 2002 Youth Forum

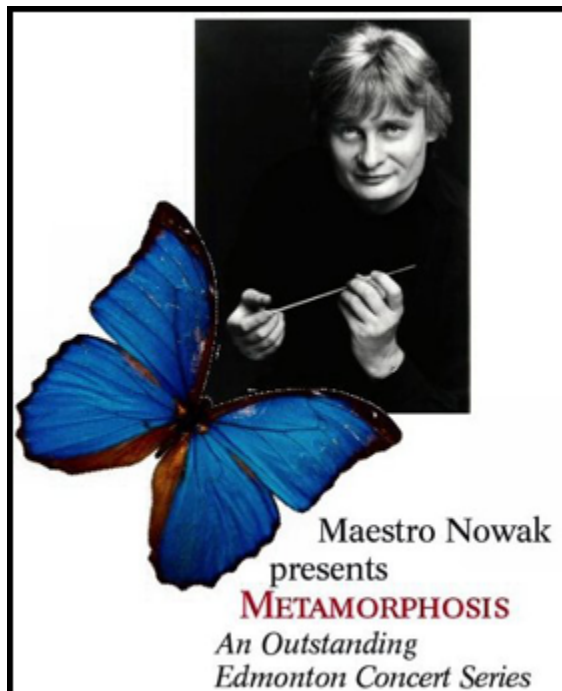
**Sheraton Grande Hotel
September 26-28, 2002
INFOLINE: Marilyn Kontz @ 488-8793
Free Registrations Available!**

You're invited to join a diverse group of young Canadians and share your vision for the future of our multicultural nation at the Multiculturalism 2002 Youth Forum. This conference will be held in Edmonton, at the Sheraton Grande Hotel from September 26-28, 2002.

The **Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation** appreciates that the cost of attending the Multiculturalism 2002 Youth Forum may be beyond the reach of many young Canadians. *CMEF, in co-operation with our community partners, has a sponsorship program to make this opportunity available to as many people as possible.* **There are still registration sponsorships available.**

We encourage young people to take part in a series of workshops led by inspiring speakers from across Canada. Explore the roots of multiculturalism, discover where you fit into the picture, and learn how to combat racism and how to make a real difference in your community. Connect, network, and debate with other youth on topics you care about. For more information, please contact Marilyn Kontz at the Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation @ 488-8793 or visit our website at: www.cmef.ca.

PS. Registrations are still available and are \$125 for the Forum (including lunches and a public speech by Stephen Lewis) and \$15 for the banquet.



Maestro Nowak is back...

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

On June 8th this year world-renowned Maestro Grzegorz Nowak performed his last concert with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Now he's back and the "metamorphosis" begins.

METAMORPHOSIS is a series of classical concerts featuring 70 of the world's top artists under the leadership of Maestro Nowak (see schedule below). Join the Maestro as he launches the first of his controversial METAMORPHOSIS concerts Monday, September 23, 2002 at Edmonton's Jubilee Auditorium.

The program features:

- * I Vespri Siciliani Overture by Verdi
- * Cello Concerto by Schumann
- * Symphony No. 8 "Patethiqe" by Tchaikovsky

This event's Special Guest performer is a rising young Canadian star - Cello Soloist Denise Djokic - playing an extremely rare Stradivarius cello valued at \$4 million USD.

Tickets NOW available at Ticketmaster & the Winspear Centre.
Subscription packages are also available:

1. Full package (10 concerts) with 30% discount (3 concerts FREE).

2. Two mini-series (5 concerts) with 20% discount (1 concert FREE).

For more information and programs visit METAMORPHOSIS online at:

www.metamorphosis.home-page.org

METAMORPHOSIS Concert Schedule*

11-Nov-02 Winspear Centre**
17-Dec-02 Jubilee Auditorium
16-Jan-03 Winspear Centre
4-Feb-03 Winspear Centre
11-Mar-03 Winspear Centre
2-May-03 Winspear Centre
17-Jun-03 Winspear Centre

*All concerts start at 8:00 PM --- **Tickets for all Winspear Concerts available at the Winspear Box Office & TicketMaster.



Stephen Lewis Keynoter & Gala

In a World Battered by Race, Religion and Ethnicity,
Where Stands Canada's Multiculturalism? @ The
Canada: Global Model for a Multicultural State
Conference

Thursday, September 26 (8pm) in Maclab Theatre
Tickets: \$20

Call Tix on the Square at 420-1757 or log on to
www.tixonthesquare.ca

Plus: A Celebration of World Music and Dance with
Moksha, the WAJJO Drummers, Usha Kala Niketan dancers, Bomba Quartet, the Ukrainian
Shumka Dancers.

This very special evening is part of Canada: Global Model for a Multicultural State, produced by
the Edmonton-based Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation, September 25 to 28, in and
near the Sheraton Grande Hotel. Tickets are still available for the full conference...

About Stephen Lewis

Stephen Lewis is the United Nations Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, the latest in a series of United Nations assignments covering two decades. He was Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations from 1984 through 1988. Mr. Lewis chaired the committee that drafted the five-year UN Programme on African Economic Recovery and the first International Conference on Climate Change.

For more information about the conference, contact:
Allan Sheppard, Conference Coordinator 488-8793



P.R.C.S

Palestine Red Crescent Society

PALESTINE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

--- Humanitarian Services Delivery - Under Siege

Place: Engineering Teaching and Learning Centre
(ETLC), Theatre 001 - University of Alberta / Date: **October 11, 2002**
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Cost: Free and open to the public - donations welcome

Younis Al Khatib, President of the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), will be speaking in Edmonton at the invitation of HUMANSERVE International, an Alberta based NGO serving displaced and refugee populations in the Middle East.

The **Palestine Red Crescent** (www.palestinercs.org) provides on-going emergency medical services, primary health care, mental health and social services to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza as well as throughout the Diaspora.

Mr. Khatib will speak about the challenges of delivering emergency medical services under siege and relentless curfews, highlighting some of the more innovative approaches that have been undertaken to ensure access to quality health and social services. *"During times of conflict, everyday people become heroes and the human capacity to thrive is strengthened."*

Mr. Khatib will be joined by **Shane Dabrowski**, a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Ft. McMurray Fire Department who will speak about his personal experiences working with the Palestine Red Crescent ambulance services. Mr. Dabrowski was with PRCS in Ramallah/El-Bireh in the West Bank during a 6-month period (March to September 2002) working as a consultant to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and as an incident commander at the site of the Jenin refugee camp.

This lecture is co-sponsored by the University of Alberta's Student's Union for their 2002/03 "Revolutionary Speakers" Lecture Series.

For more information, please contact:

Vanessa Ali (780) 481-4887
Karen Hamdon (780) 489-5920

Visit HumanServe International web site at: www.humanserve.org



STRENGTHENING Volunteer Boards

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2002
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Place: Grant MacEwan College, City Centre
Campus, Room 5-305
Registration Fee: \$15.00
INFOLINE: 497-5616

As a board member of a non-profit organization, have you ever wondered: *What are my legal and ethical responsibilities? What role do I play in governing our organization? How can our board organize its work fairly and efficiently to avoid volunteer and staff burnout? How can we develop policies that will help us make consistent decisions? How can we encourage teamwork between the board and staff?*

If you're a new board member wanting to learn more about your role, or an experienced board member wishing to enhance your skills and work effectively as a team member, this workshop is for you. Workshop content will focus on incorporated and non-profit organizations and is not appropriate for advisory boards. Limit of three board members per organizations, please.

To register contact:

The Resource Centre for Voluntary Organizations
Grant MacEwan College, 5-132, 10700 -104 Avenue
Phone (780) 497-5616 / Fax: (780) 497-5634 or (780) 497-5617

Sponsored by:

The Board Development Program
Alberta Community Development
The Resource Centre for Voluntary Organizations
Grant MacEwan College
The Muttart Foundation



The Community Networks Group Event Calendar

- **Global Visions Film Festival**
November 6-11th, 2002
Edmonton Arts District
INFOLINE: 414-1052
 - **The Parkland Institute's Annual Conference**
'Trading in Violence / Building for Peace'
Nov. 15-17, 2002
INFOLINE: 492-8558
 - **Nicaragua Night: A Change for Children's Event**
Saturday, November 23
Proceeds support CFC's Nicaraguan projects.
INFOLINE: 448-1505
 - **Just Christmas 2002!**
A Global Crafts & Fair Trade Marketplace
November 29 & 30
INFOLINE: 474-6058
-



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLISHED IN THE VOICE September 25, 2002

**Contributed By The Community
Networks Group**

AWARENESS PROGRAMS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Volunteers Needed and Invited to Help

Infoline: 924-3432

We are a volunteer, registered non-profit society which has been serving the work of Wanjiku Kironyo in Kenya for seventeen years. Wanjiku works in the slum communities with the women and street kids, handicapped children and youth groups. Our chairperson, Rosalind Shepherd, is leaving for Africa and we need someone to help us to hold the work together while she is gone. Our Board consists of ten people, who work on various aspects of the work. We need someone who has space for a small office, and the skills to be hub of the wheel for a meaningful and satisfying international project for AIDS orphans. If you are a people-person who enjoys office work, has a little spare time and spare room, phone us at 924-3432, or e-mail us at rozshep@oanet.com.



[The Barcelona Forum 2004](#)

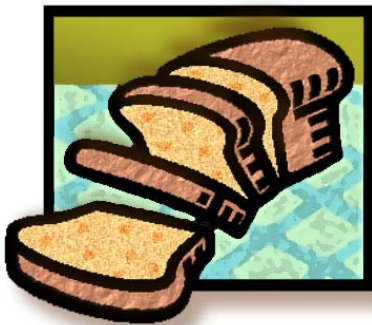
Contributed By The Community Networks Group

The first **Universal Forum of Cultures** is a new international event which will bring thousands of people to **Barcelona** from all over the world in 2004. The Forum's principal aim is to contribute to a renewal of thought and attitudes, providing a new platform for moving towards a new coexistence without conflict and in a world fit for living in.

The first Universal Forum of Cultures will take place in 2004 in **Barcelona**. It opens on the **9th of May**, Europe Day, and closes on the **26th of September**, coinciding with the local festivities of La Mercè, the city's patron saint. The Forum will last 141 days!

The [Barcelona Forum 2004](#) is co-organized by the Barcelona City Council, the Catalan autonomous Government and the Spanish Government, with **UNESCO** as the main partner. The Agenda for this major gathering is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the working principles of the United Nations.

In agreement with Unesco, the **Barcelona Forum 2004** is structured around three core themes: **cultural diversity, sustainable development and conditions for peace**. Join us at the Barcelona Forum 2004 as move forward towards a world that is sustainable and more humane.



Breaking Bread... For Women In Afghanistan

Contributed By The Community Networks Group

Breaking Bread... For Women in Afghanistan is a volunteer fundraising project to support much needed education projects for Afghan women and girls. You can participate in this unique cross-Canada fundraising initiative by **Hosting a Pot Luck Dinner** with nine of your friends.

As Host you are asked to invite your friends to your home, request that they bring a dish to share for dinner and ask each participant to donate \$75 towards education in Afghanistan. Each Pot

Luck Dinner will raise \$750 (tax receipts available) and will pay the salary of a teacher for one year in Afghanistan.

Do some good... Become a host for "Breaking Bread" -- enjoy the company of your friends, some excellent food and share the opportunities to participate in facilitating REAL CHANGE for Afghan women and girls...

For more information on **How to Host the Pot Luck Dinner**, please call: 1-416-366-2516 or e-mail: info@breakingbreadforwomen.com (or) visit: <http://www.breakingbreadforwomen.com>

ART EXHIBITIONS

Call for Submissions

Mujeres - Women: A journey of the Senses

Curatorial Statement - Vision

To share with Edmontonians the artistic - craft work that is being produced by **Canadian women of Latin American ancestry** living in Edmonton.

Exhibit Statement

This arts & crafts exhibit planned for the Spring of 2003 aims to build bridges of understanding between communities and its artists / artisans and will challenge stereotypes of traditional women's roles within Latino - Canadian culture and women in general.

The intention of this exhibit is to share with Edmontonians the creative endeavours of Canadian women of Latin American ancestry. The exhibit will be open to the public at large and members of the Latin American communities. Products will be available for sale directly from the artists / artisan.

Thematically, 'Mujeres - Women: A journey of the senses' will emphasize the commonalities between artists / artisans and the public at large and will foster a dialogue between artists - artisans, the public, and the Latino-Canadian community, particularly among women & youth.

Call for Submissions

We are inviting Canadian women of Latin American ancestry living in Edmonton to submit their best fine art work and/or top quality crafts to partake in this arts & crafts exhibit. Submission can include: video, poetry, stories, photography, sculpture, calligraphy, printmaking, textiles, metals, glasswork, clays and leathers. Submissions will be selected by a Steering Committee using a broad criterion, based on quality, presentation, creativity, complexity, visual appeal, and variety, uniqueness and utilitarian worth.

Entry Fee & Deadline

A non-refundable entry fee of \$55.00 is levy for all applicants. This entry fee helps cover in part the cost of producing this event. Applicants will be notified by mail one month following closing deadline, which is **October 01, 2002**.

Venue & Engagement

No venue has been selected but it's anticipated that a high profile facility will be chosen to highlight these works. The arts & crafts exhibit will include an opening (Friday) evening with a keynote speaker on its main theme, some light entertainment and a full day (Saturday) for show & sales.

For further information & to request an application form, please call:

Paz Walton, Artistic Director @ 479-6435

Leo Campos A., Executive Producer @ 474-6058 / Cell: 995-6819

Contributed and produced by:

The Community Networks Group (c)

when
People
need an ally ...

Your donation
of reusable
clothing helps
support the
Association's
efforts



CANADIAN
DIABETES
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION
CANADIENNE
DU DIABÈTE

www.diabetes.ca

What We Do

Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) is a non-profit, charitable organization with over 150 branches across Canada. CDA volunteers and staff work directly with people with diabetes and their families at the grass roots level. The CDA Collections Program collects clothing and reusable household items as an entrepreneurial fundraising venture. The funds raised from this program assist in promoting diabetes research, education, service and advocacy.

What We Accept

We gladly accept donations of:

- Clothing
- Linens
- Toys
- Small Appliances
- Jewellery
- Shoes
- Luggage
- Sporting Goods

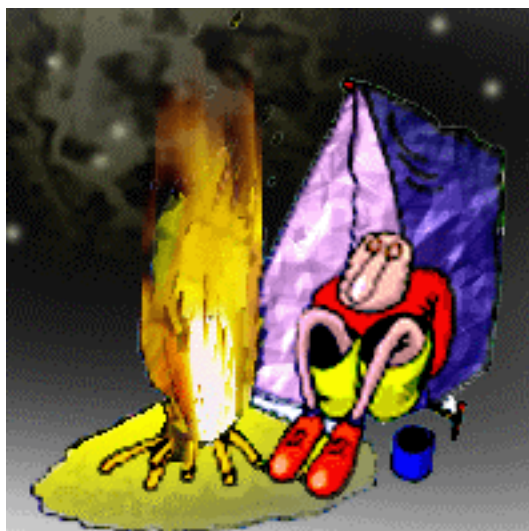
Canadian Diabetes
Association

403.509.0070

403.509-0072 (fax)

1.866.811.0070 (outside of
Calgary)

[Email Us!](#)



Global Village Backpackers Banff

Our hostel opened June 1, 2001 right in downtown Banff. Formerly the Woodland Village Inn, we are a unique hostel as all our rooms have ensuite bathroom facilities. We have a hot tub, sauna, internet access, kitchen facilities, pool table, tour desk, TV room, bike rentals, laundry facilities, lounge and a large outdoor courtyard patio.

A majority of our rooms are spacious 4-8 bed dorms. We also have, what we call, semi-private rooms. Each has a double bed in a loft above a 4 bed dorm. You share the washroom facilities with the dorm.

Room rates

October 1, 2001 - April 14, 2001

Dorm Beds	\$25.00	\$22.00
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Semi-private	\$55.00	\$51.00
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Weekly rate in a dorm room	\$129.50 (non-refundable)
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All prices include taxes and linen. Discounts are available to travelers carrying YHA, ISIC, VIP or GO cards.

2001/2002 Ski packages

3 Nights/2 days - only \$169

3 Nights shared accommodation

2 days ski passes (Lake Louise/Sunshine Village/Mount Norquay)

Transport to/from ski hills

Free pancake breakfast daily.

6 Nights/5 days - only \$369

6 Nights shared accommodation

5 days ski passes (Lake Louise/Sunshine Village/Mount Norquay)

Transport to/from ski hills

Free pancake breakfast daily.

We require credit card details to guarantee reservations.

We welcome group bookings. Please call the hostel directly for details.

Cheers

The Staff at the Global Village Backpackers Banff

449 Banff Avenue BOX 398

Banff AB Canada T1L 1A5

1-403-762-5521 Toll-free in North America 1-888-844-7875 fax 1-403-762-0385



Are you an Artist? AUSU supports the arts!

AUSU is interested in purchasing original works of art from students for use in promotional purposes. These promotions may include: gifts from AUSU to graduates at convocation, tokens of appreciation for volunteers, special presentations, etc.

The works of art must:

- be created by an AU Student
- be within a value range \$0-\$500.
- be accessible or easily transportable to Alberta

If you are an artist of any kind who creates a product you feel we would be able to use for such a purpose, please contact djabbour@ausu.org. Supply a brief description of the art object, a picture if you have it, and its market value.



WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact Tammy Moore at tmoore@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice, providing a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



‘Learning is Learning’:

Challenge for Credit Option Exists for AU Students

Many students may not be aware that AU recognizes prior learning and encourages students to use the challenge for credit process if they feel they have knowledge or expertise in a particular subject area.

The process is not easy, but it is not insurmountable, and it can save the cost and time of taking a course if prior knowledge exists.

“We want to raise students’ awareness about the option and let them know that they don’t need to re-learn material or spend money on a course they don’t really need to take,” said Joan Fraser, director of the Centre for Learning Accreditation.

“Learning is learning and a student shouldn’t be penalized if that learning was not done within the confines of bricks and mortar,” she said, adding that those students with significant life or work force experience are typically those who pursue the challenge option.

Challenge for Credit is handled by the Registrar’s Office. Students are encouraged to check the course description to see if a challenge is permitted for the course they are interested in. If so, then the student must investigate a number of things prior to deciding whether to proceed.

First, and most important, the student should discuss the matter with the course coordinator. The coordinator will be able to give a better idea of the depth of the materials covered in the course, and the student’s chance for success should he/she opt to challenge.

The AU calendar outlines the challenge steps, notably completing the Challenge for Credit Application and accessing the course materials, which further allows the student to review the materials and determine if the challenge is viable. There is a non-refundable challenge for credit fee (check the web site for the current fee), but it should be noted that no withdrawal is allowed once the application has been completed.

“It (the challenge for credit) is something that’s there for you – use it,” Fraser said.

Anyone with questions about the process is encouraged to call Joan Fraser at (780) 675-6481 or check AU’s website at www.athabascau.ca.



CLASSIFIEDS:

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FOR SALE:

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