

Katimavik — Privatized For Your Protection

By **Istock**

OTTAWA (CUP) — A "new and improved" and private sector-friendly Katimavik will probably start mid-October if the funding already committed to the youth program arrives on time, says Katimavik official Guy de Grandpre.

"The program is now geared towards developing young entrepreneurial skills," said de Grandpre, also an aide to Liberal senator Jacques Hebert, who started Katimavik 11 years ago and staged a 21-day hunger strike in the senate last March to protest the Conservative government's cancellation of the program.

Katimavik's nine-month three-stage program will operate as before, though participants will spend three months starting up their own business. "It's like Junior Achievement," de Grandpre said. He said groups of 12 "will do a market survey to determine the best thing to sell in a given community. Then they will design it, produce it, market it and sell it.

"By starting a business, running it and terminating it, young people will learn a lot about the business cycle," he said. If the business is successful, it will be sold to groups within the community, or "it may become a business owned by Katimavik," de Grandpre added.

During the other six months participants will work on a project in two Canadian communities. "This section of the program hasn't changed at all," said Hebert advisor and University of Ottawa professor Walter Baker.

Both Baker and Grandpre say Katimavik has raised enough money for 300 to 500 youths to participate this year. The money — over \$3 million — has come mostly from the private sector, individuals, and municipal and provincial governments.

The federal government has not contributed a cent. Last year \$19.7 million of federal funds went to Katimavik.

Baker says the decision to

gear Katimavik more to the private sector was not a result of pressure from the Tories, but resulted from an experiment with one group last year. But said de Grandpre: "We do believe the new program will be well-accepted by the present government."

"One source of satisfaction we have with the new Katimavik," said Canadian Fe-

deration of Students chair Tony Macerollo, "is that the military component has been dropped."

Macerollo said CFS is

"opposed to a military build-up. Besides," he added, "experience in the military is not the kind of experience young people need. Entrepreneurial skills are much more valuable."

He said the program "will change for the better quicker now that it is out of the hands of the government bureaucracy."

Baker, hoping money promised to the program comes through, is confident "young people will come out of the programs with job skills, so they'll be better qualified."

FINAL WORD ON SMOKING SOON

Tuition increases? Housing costs? Unemployment? On what issues do students passionately hold opinions? These days, it seems that smoking regulations top the list (along with parking regulations). Without the consultation of students, smoking has been banned in the Veterinary College; however, students can and will participate in the formulation of a smoking policy for the entire campus.

The Faculty Association has proposed a new policy which has been brought to both

Senate and the Board of Governors. There are voting student representatives on both of these groups, representatives who obviously are there to express an opinion on behalf of all students. Considering the fact that the student body is by far the most populous group on campus, it seems only reasonable to assume that these student reps will have a great influence on Senate and the Board. The question, then, is should your student reps argue in favor or

against any or all of the proposed policy.

What do you think? Tell any Student Council member, phone anyone at the Student Union Office, write a letter to the editor of the *Gen*, leave a completed questionnaire in a collection box in the Library Lounge, the Student Union Office, or the Panther Lounge. Let us know your opinion, otherwise our Student Senators and Board members won't know what to say (which is nothing new anyway).

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