

Dear Editor,

I am replying to a letter signed "Keener" in which the writer makes some constructive suggestions to ameliorate those problems associated with Library hours.

The presumption that the current Library hours are budget driven is correct. The University Library had reduced staff by seven persons since opening the new Library in 1975. The present complement of 24 compares with St. Francis Xavier's 29; Mount Allison's 31; St. Mary's 35 1/2.

Despite cutbacks, the Library has attempted to provide the University with a quality Library service. Library hours are extended for the last several weeks of each semester and the Library is presently open 83.5 hours per week, including Saturdays from 1 pm to 9 pm. Additional hours are provided for those weekends prior to and during the exam period.

The suggestion that the Library can simply let the Circulation staff go home and leave the Library open without supervision or any control on the materials leaving the Library would not be acceptable.

We are presently exploring alternatives to provide additional study space for students and we hope that the matter can be resolved even before this letter is printed.

I would be happy to have representation from the students, possibly through the Student Union, to see if the Library can better meet the needs of students within our financial limitations.

Yours truly,
C. Merritt Crockett
University Librarian.

STUDENT AID: BANK'S CAN'T AFFORD STUDENTS.

"The bank of Montreal made over \$100 million profit last year but can't afford to process student loans here."

So read posters outside the University of B.C.'s Bank of Montreal branch recently.

Last year the bank moved its student loan processing to a downtown location, miles from the campus after branch managers claimed it had become "uneconomical" to handle them.

Student Union Building branch manager Stuart Clark said the bank will not process the loans at UBC because last year the student society charged rent. He added that he's unconcerned about the posters and will let them stay. The only two banks on the university campus are Bank of Montreal branches and neither handle student loans.

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9 ~ 12:30

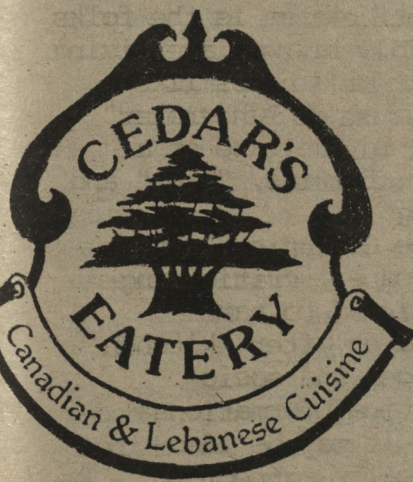
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