

# Federal Party Profiles on Post-Secondary Education Issues

## Part Four:

The UPEI Student Union wishes to present to you part four of a four part series regarding post-secondary education issues as provided by the Canadian Federation of Students. The Student Union hopes the information contained in this series will be useful to you as voters on election day.

## Copyright

*Question 14 - Copyright law has recently received the first substantial amendment since 1924 in what was to be the first of a two stage amendment. If an election is called before the passage of the second stage, would you support the introduction of further copyright legislation to establish copyright exemptions as a top priority after the election?*

Progressive Party - (No reply was available)

Liberal Party - We would enter into discussions with both creators and users regarding exemptions with respect to the use of copyright materials.

New Democratic Party - Yes we would. We have pushed for early introduction of exemptions so that copyright legislation will be workable. We also believe it is important that creators be adequately rewarded for their work and that educators continue to have necessary access to material. We are hopeful that negotiations presently taking place between educators and creators will reach a positive conclusion shortly.

## Taxation

*Question 15 - Do you support the implementation of a national*

*sales tax?*

Progressive Party - (No reply was available)

Liberal Party - The Liberal Party believes that the federal sales tax must be reformed, but only if certain conditions are met. Among these:

a) Essential consumer goods such as food must be exempted as well as health services, public services, charities.

b) A generous refundable sales tax credit must be put in place in order to correct the inherently regressive nature of the sales tax. This tax credit must be indexed and paid in its entirety to families beneath the poverty line.

c) Why is the government waiting until after an election to implement this tax? Does this delay or conceal hidden tax increases?

New Democratic Party - We oppose the implementation of a broad general national sales tax as has been proposed by the Conservatives under their so-called "Tax reforms". We believe such a tax to be regressive and extremely damaging to low income earners, students included.

*Question - If such a tax is implemented after the next federal election, would you support a comprehensive exemption for post-secondary students?*

Progressive Party - (No reply was available)

Liberal Party - See response to above Question.

New Democratic Party - We believe this tax is wrong and should not be implemented. Tin-

kering with the tax will not improve it.

## Indigenous Students

*Question - Would you support the position that post-secondary education is a treaty right and should thus be supported by the federal government for all status Native people?*

Progressive Party - Education and training are important tools in today's technological society. They are even more important for Indian people in the process of developing self-government and economic self-reliance. Therefore, they remain a priority for this government.

Liberal Party - Yes. The Official Opposition Critic for Indian Affairs has opposed and criticized the Conservative government's policy (introduced in May 1987) of capping the post-secondary education budget for

Indian students. This new policy has had the effect of denying several hundred students access to post-secondary institutions due to the unavailability of financial assistance. He has called for an end to the capping of the budget.

Liberal leader John Turner, in his march 17th, 1988 address to the Aboriginal and First Nations' policy forum, sponsored by the Liberal Party, called the capping of the Indian post-secondary education program "outrageous" and said "a new Liberal government would restore our commitment to Indian post-secondary education."

Mr. Turner went on to say: "If we want to be competitive in the world, we need to be competitive with our brains and skill. And we want to ensure that the opportunity for those skills is available to everyone in this country."

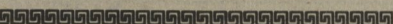
New Democratic Party - Yes.

*Question - What steps would you take to ensure accessibility of Native and Metis students to post-secondary institutions?*

Progressive Party - (No reply was available)

Liberal Party - See response to above Question.

New Democratic Party - Metis and Non-Status Indians face problems of access to post-secondary education not faced by other Canadians or even by status Indians. We recognized that special measures must be taken to promote access for them. We have not developed a specific policy in this area, however, steps must be taken both with respect to financial barriers and in program development. Special programs within universities and colleges for Native people have been effective in increasing numbers of Native graduates.



## Press Conference

The University of Prince Edward Island The Prince Edward Island Convention Bureau and The Prince Edward Island Department of Tourism & Parks invite you to attend a Press Conference, Friday, November 18th, at 10 a.m. in the sociology and Anthropology Lounge, 4th Floor, (Room 435) Main Building.

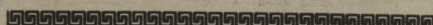
The Main Building participants will be:

Hon. Gordon MacInnis, Minister, Department of Tourism & Parks

Dr. C.W.J. Eliot, President, UPEI

Prof. Verner Smitheram, Dean of Arts, UPEI

Mr. David Rodd, Past-President, PEI Convention Bureau.



## Attention

1986/87 yearbooks are in and may be picked up at the office of the Student Union.

Out of province students are asked to contact the Student Union with mailing address.

1987/88 yearbook production is on schedule. Books are expected to arrive mid-December.

Lisa M.

## JOHN TURNER:

**"The Mulroney trade deal would radically change the kind of Canada we believe in. Change the way we look at ourselves, the way we think about ourselves and the way we are. I'm not going to allow Brian Mulroney to sell out our birthright as a nation. I'm not going to let him reverse 120 years of history that made us unique and different. I'm not going to let Brian Mulroney destroy the Canadian dream.**

**And that's why this is more than an election, it's your future. On November 21, vote Liberal."**



This message brought to you by the Young Liberals of Canada.

Authorized by the Federal Liberal Agency of Canada, registered agent for the Liberal Party of Canada.