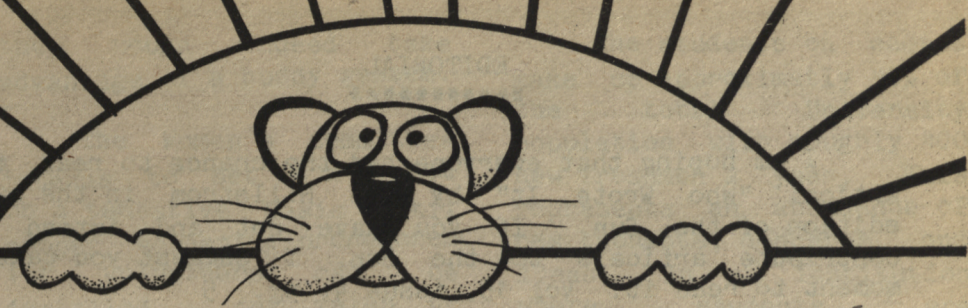


# U.P.E.I. SUN



vol 15 issue 5

OCT. 6

## LET'S GET IT

### STRAIGHT

Preface: Motion: Jack Keefe/Carolyn Wells - that the U.P.E.I.S.U. endorse fully the efforts and intent of its sub-organization, the U.P.E.I. Women's Committee. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Kent MacKay/Howard Beattie - That the U.P.E.I.S.U. fully endorses the issuing of the letter presented to council by Ronalda Murphy on Oct. 2, 1983 and supports any action deemed necessary to fulfill its effectiveness. Carried unanimously.

This letter appeared in the Guardian on Oct. 4, 1983.

On September 28, 1983, at 6:30 the U.P.E.I. Womens Committee held its first meeting. It was an open discussion of issues facing women on faculty, staff and students.

The meeting was attended by roughly 80 students, approximately 20 of whom were male. The meeting was held to determine the need of a women's committee at U.P.E.I. The students present felt the need was there for an organization which could help develop an awareness of issues such as sexual assault, sexual discrimination, sexual harassment etc... It was felt that if the organization had enough support, a buddy system could be put in place to prevent women from having to

walk alone on campus at night. This idea received overwhelming support and the majority of time in the meeting was devoted to discussing how such a system could be implimented.

A representative of the Rape and Sexual Assault Crises Centre was asked to address the issue of sexual assault. However this individual was unable to attend and I phoned the centre on the day of the meeting to see if someone else could. Nadine Smith, recently elected President of the Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre agreed to come and make a presentation if I felt it was necessart. The success of the meeting lead the students present to collectively decide to ask Nading Smith back at a later date for a discussion on rape and sexual assault.

#### "Sun Smiles"

My roommate, Tom, who had never dated much finally had a chance to take out one of the school's prettiest young women. However, the event caught him by surprize, and he had no money. He quickly sent off a telegram to his recently seperated father: HAVE DATE. SEND MONEY.

Back came the answer: HAVE MONEY. SEND DATE.

- Mark Treyz

The objective of this organization was to be an educational service organization. It was not to blame the U.P.E.I. Administration or to report figures of rape statistics. t no time did I relwase a statement referring to five cases of sexual assault reported to security last year and two this year. In fact I repeatedly stated to the press that there were no accurate figures on sexual assault and that there had not been any such incidents reported to the U.P.E.I. security department. However, the committee felt that if the problem existed at other universities in this region that it seemed probalbe that such incidents it did not require statistics to go ahead with the issuing of rape cards and the establishment of a buddy system. I was also asked by the press if I fel the U.P.E.I. campus was safe to which I responded yes, but things could certainly be done to keep it that way.

This entire concept has been misrepresented and manipulated by the media and the University Administration has reacted to the media reports. The headlines on Friday mornings Guardian are totally unsubstanciated and the figure presented reflects hearsay or third hand information. The press was completely aware of this fact. I repeated on television that the need was jbased on the 80 students who attended the meeting and that in a situation such as sexual assault, whereby it's very nature does not encourage report to proper authorities, we have had to take whatever information we received as an indication of a problem. The committee considered figures irrelevant as its purpose was preventative not reactive.

Since this, the administration has released to the press that they had wished the Women's Group had come to them first before

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\* Sun Policy \*  
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Deadline for all submissions is Monday noon. Any artical arriving lter, unless on agreement with the editor, will not be printed in that edition of the Sun.

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All letters must be signed but anonymity may be granted upon request.