

# Students across the country worried by booze

FREDERICTON (CUP) — Canadian universities are doing little to curb the flow of alcohol on campuses, says a research who has investigated the drinking habits of university students.

Michael Goodstadt says the efforts of universities to halt student alcohol abuse are merely "window-dressing" and most only respond after a violent alcohol-related incident.

"One factor is the increasing availability of alcohol on campus. The universities can't go around making it available and then be surprised when these things happen."

A survey he compiled and that was published by the Addiction Research Foundation in 1983 supports his claims. The Goodstadt survey says that 90 and 95 per cent of university students drink alcohol, 70 per cent drink at least once a week and 34 per cent are problem drinkers, averaging more than one and a half drinks a day.

These figures are well above the statistics for the general population, of which 85 per cent drink and 61 per cent drink once weekly.

Alcohol related incidents on campuses this school year also back up his assertions. The incidents include:

\*an 18-year-old stuffed into a garbage chute during a rowdy resident party at the University of Saskatchewan; the man plummeted seven storeys to his death.

\*a 20-year-old Laurentian University student who died when the car in which he was a passenger spun out of control and hit a telephone pole; he and a companion were returning to campus after a Friday afternoon drinking spree.

\*a high school student who took part in the Ryerson Polytechnical Institute frosh picnic and drowned after diving off a ferry; a coroner's inquest ruled alcohol was a contributing factor in his death.

\*two University of New Brunswick students and a friend from Ontario crashing into a train after they spent an evening in the bar; all three died.

\*a first year University of Guelph student killed by an impaired driver being pursued across campus by police.

\*sixty-four students arrested by Kingston police on alcohol-related charges during homecoming weekend at Queen's University; streets were littered with smashed beer and liquor bottles after two wild street parties.

\*thirteen students arrested by London, Ontario police, who were pelted with bottles and debris and resorted to tear gas and the use of truncheons to break-up a

homecoming party at the University of Ontario.

\*riot police swarming into Montreal's football stadium

to break up brawls between Queen's and McGill University students; drunken vandals caused \$84,000 in pro-

perty damage to the stadium and mock raped a mannequin during half-time.

Incidents such as the above

will increase if university administrators do not get serious about the problem of student drinkers, says

Goodstadt.

"They've got to bite the bullet and do something about it."

# food for thought

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