

STUDENT LOANS

As if wasn't hard to tell on Tuesday of this week that it's that time again. Oh what a wonderful time, listening to endless back to school commercials while I waste time before my first day back. Oh wait, what am I talking about, I don't have cable. I forgot.

It seems that the Aliant strike isn't just slowing down telephone services. Oh no, I'm not talking fewer paychecks for those who need them or the bareness of food bank shelves. It's the very lifeblood students everywhere are waiting

for: the mythical student loan. You can almost see the glitter in the eyes of first year students when they talk about how much money has suddenly been dumped into their laps. I've never actually seen this mythical creature during any of my university years. Only around mid-summer, you know, when it's most needed I guess.

Someone really should do something about the employment rate during the summer, like use large sums of money to create an economy that relies on 3-4 industries. And make sure that those jobs will be there for us after we graduate. Good thing I can afford my business degree, soon enough I will be bumped to a manager position at one of the big box stores. And an even better thing, they thought up the idea that it is way too inconvenient to go into town to shop anymore. Even more reason to encourage further education. A good way to spend all your parents' money from that nice little downtown store of theirs, if it can survive.

You truly have to spend money to make money I guess. I could work my way up the "corporate ladder" through my four years. You know, help out on school costs and all -- can't rely on other people to divert funds properly. For some reason my little piggy bank always seems smaller compared to misappropriated funds and things of that nature. But that's the way it is down on the farm. The biggest pigs always seem to

get their noses wet in the trough first.

Well it's not really their fault though I guess: things get busy around the office, papers get lost. Kinda like my loan application last year up and disappeared. Good thing all that time passed needing to pay bills until I was contacted as to why I hadn't received my loan. I guess they should make the print on the forms a little bit larger, not only for those who fill them out but also for those who process them. The whole SURNAME part must have confused them with the FIRST.

But with processing that many loan applications, people are bound to make a mistake here and there. Luckily they can hide from their mistakes. I once tried this when I broke a vase of my mother's. Not too much time had passed before I was unable to sit due to a well placed swing or two of a wooden spoon. Maybe that could iron out the lines in the system, have Mildred Dover hover over employees with wooden spoons just to make sure there aren't any mistakes slipping through the cracks. But why waste her time, it's only the future of Prince Edward Island's economy that is burdening that lonely student who awaits some magical unicorn to save the day.

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