

No, Virginia, there's no such thing as a bursary

By Wayne Hurlbert

Reprinted from the Quill by Canadian University Press
BRANDON — "What is a bursary?" asked the bewildered first year student.

The older student thought for a few moments, straining hard to remember. With glistening eyes reflecting a touch of nostalgia, the answer came. "A bursary was a grant from the provincial government given to needy students to pursue post-secondary education."

The first year student's eyes widened and in a harsh whisper he asked, "Do you mean you didn't have to pay the bursary back?"

"No," said the older student softly. "In those days, before loan levels increased to \$3,300, grants were given to cover need. Now, a student receives a \$3,300 Canada Student Loan from the federal government and maybe a small rebate from the province to be applied to the loan at the time of payment."

The first year student thought and stated brightly, "But that is only for single dependent students! I have a friend who is a single parent, surely the assistance was better there!"

"Oh you poor misguided soul! The assistance levels for single parents or for families with both spouses in post-secondary is woefully inadequate. The \$1,000 coverage level for daycare is, at best, a fantasyland figure."

"You sound so pessimistic," said the first year student. "I read that the amount of money given to students by the province of Manitoba increased."

"Much of that total is in the form of federal Canada Student Loan administered by the province. Part of the increase is due to an increased number of applicants who are attending post-secondary institutions to be able to compete in today's highly competitive job market. Also, much of that amount is in the form of loan rebate that is deferred payment from the province's financial standpoint."

"Maybe, but surely some students got bursary?" said the freshman undaunted.

"Oh yes, some did. Out of the first 2,400 highest need applicants, 900 got an average of \$800 bursary. The rest got none, lowering the average bursary to around \$550," said the older student patiently.

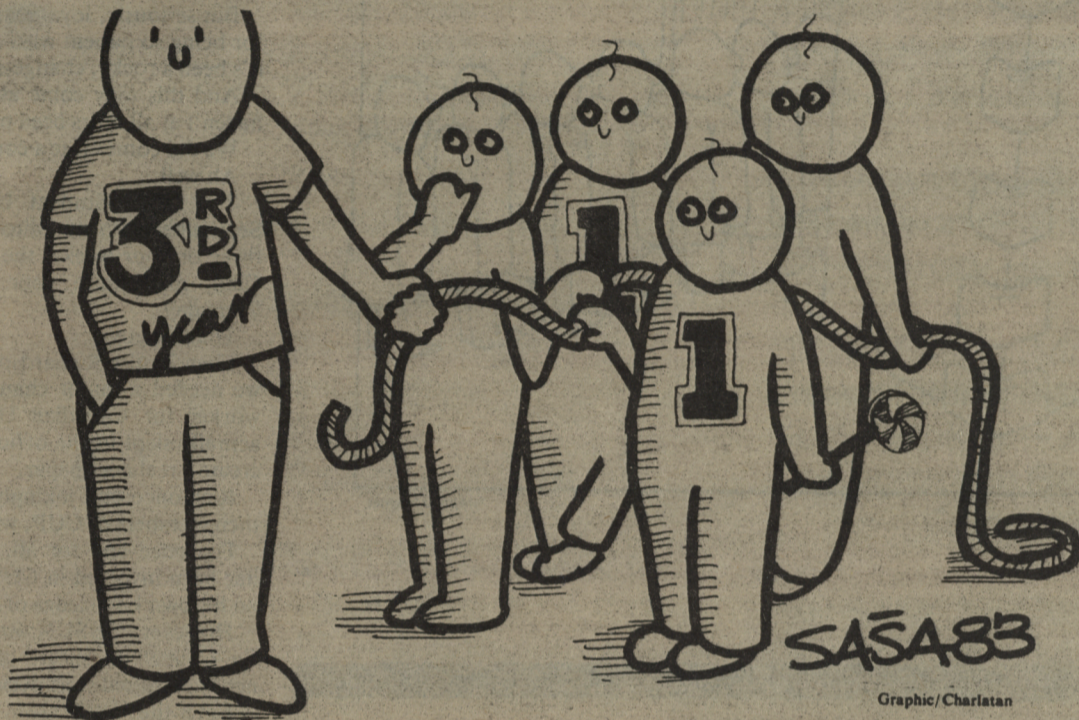
The face of the freshman grew cloudy. "You mean

that the \$3,300 loan that I got and spent on tuition, rent, books and food is all I will get? I was led to believe that I would get a matching bursary or at least some

grant." Sadly, the veteran of the student aid wars stated, "That is what everyone thought. When the money was spent, they said it was

bad management on the student's part. Since only 30 per cent of students are involved with the program, they are an unimportant minority." With tears glistening in

the first year student's eyes, "You mean that student aid is becoming an all-loan program." "I'm afraid so," said the older student.



Graphic/Charlatan

CAUT calls for provinces to pass on funds

VANCOUVER (CUP) — The Canadian Association of University Teachers wants the federal government to crack down on provinces refusing to pass on all federal transfer payments to post-secondary education.

A CAUT subcommittee making presentations to the MacDonald commission on the Canadian economy will recommend to Ottawa that it develop a national education policy. CAUT wants the federal government to increase its jurisdiction over education and penalize provinces ignoring federal guidelines.

Provinces across Canada are beginning to follow the lead of B.C. in cutting back university funding, said CAUT executive secretary Donald Savage. B.C. was the only province this year to impose a freeze on university funding despite an eight per cent increase in federal funding. Provincial governments are not required by law to pass on the full federal

contribution.

B.C.'s Social Credit government recently decided to cut next year's university funding by five per cent. In Manitoba, universities will receive a three per cent increase, and in Quebec, only 1.5 per cent.

Aavage said academics are concerned about the drastic decreases in funding because they spell disaster for students and administrators alike. The massive cuts mean reduced accessibility, a decline in quality of education and physical state of universities, out of date equipment and a loss of prestige, he said.

"One of the worst fears is that Canadian professors with international reputations may leave for other options in other countries."

The subcommittee is not asking for constitutional changes, but specific guidelines outlining the conditions to be included with federal transfer payments for education.

HI-TECH Employers' Directory
 Tremendous Employment Potential
 Lists Canadian employers' names, addresses, number of employees, in the following fields:

- Electronics
- Computers
- CAD / CAM
- Robotics
- Software
- Word Processing
- Telecommunications

FREE DETAILS: Send STAMPED, self-addressed envelope to:
 Computers for Profit, Dept. 8K
 Box 1213, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7

SWAP

Make Your Holiday Work!
 CFS has a way to help you cut travel costs and gain valuable work experience abroad

You owe it to yourself to find out about the **Student Work Abroad Programme (SWAP)**

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE _____

Mail completed coupon to:
Going YourWay! TRAVEL CUTS
 The travel company of CFS
TRAVEL CUTS HALIFAX
 Dalhousie, Student Union Building
 902 424-2054

L'authentique

Vuarnet

Sunglasses
 Often imitated...
 never equaled!

Official sunglasses licensee of the 1984 Olympic Games

Made from the highest quality optical glass, the Vuarnet Sunglasses were designed for sports professional who could not risk the slightest doubt about their equipment. Today Vuarnet Sunglasses are still the preferred choice of professional and recreational sports enthusiasts of any outdoor activity where optimum viewing and eye protection are essential.

Sunglass from **Pouilloux, France**

For more information on prices, styles, and group rates, call or write:
Doug Wright, P.O. Box 423 P.E.I., C1A 7K7. Phone 894-9628.
 *Now on Display at **Christophers** in the Charlottetown Mall.