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ALBERTA HANSARD

November 27, 1980

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the final supplementary on this question.

MR. NOTLEY: To the hon. minister, I can appreciate that we're not going to advertise the purchase of land before we go out and do it. However, in view of land being purchased in Fort Kent, which is some equal distance between Bonnyville and Cold Lake-Grand Centre, was there any consultation between the Department of Housing and Public Works and the local governments in the area with respect to the general area of development, both residential and industrial, so that purchases made by the government would be consistent with local planning objectives?

MR. CHAMBERS: Certainly, Mr. Speaker, if land is acquired within the annexed area of the community, the normal nature of things is that consultation occurs, but when the land lies outside of the jurisdictional boundary of any given area, then who do you consult with?

Frankly, I'd like to underline again that the land was purchased for long-term purposes. As to future uses of any land that might be taken into their boundaries, the communities of course will ultimately have the say.

Corporate Tax Amendments

MR. WOLSTENHOLME: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the hon. Provincial Treasurer. Does the government expect to introduce amendments to the corporate tax act during the 1981 spring sitting?

MR. HYNDMAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, our general intention is to introduce amendments in 1981. As hon. members will recall, the caucus committee on corporate tax and tax incentives has been reviewing submissions over the summer pursuant to advertisements this spring. I understand that over three dozen useful submissions have been received and that there will be ongoing discussions and reviews of them.

I expect that in the spring we would be able to look to proposing to the Assembly amendments to the new Alberta corporate tax act, which would enable the original goals of encouraging small Alberta businesses to take place and perhaps, in light of recent events, to ensure that there can be protection and stimulation of jobs in the province of Alberta.

MR. WOLSTENHOLME: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would that have anything to do with why the Treasury Department is buying ads asking companies to register with the department?

MR. HYNDMAN: Those advertisements don't have anything to do directly with the corporate tax committee, Mr. Speaker. We have been advertising, though, because in order to be as helpful and informative as possible, we want to get the names of all the Alberta corporations — something over 100,000, I believe — on record and on file, so that we can put into effect the program of Alberta corporate tax effective January 1, 1981, and to be as helpful, informative, and pleasant in dealing with tax matters with Alberta consumers.

Highway Right of Way Purchasing

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transportation. Would the minister ad-

vise the House whether there has been any change in policy with regard to right-of-way purchasing for highway construction?

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, not really in the policy itself, except that as a result of the approval of Bill 72 a short time ago, our capability to do more purchasing in advance has been expanded.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I take it to mean that there hasn't been any substantial change in policy. Could the minister indicate if there has been a change in procedure? My question really flows from the concerns of landowners in the Nobleford area that there seems to be some confusion as to what the procedure is as far as land purchase for highway realignment.

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, I am not familiar with the specifics of this. Generally in establishing a value, we do a thorough check on land values, costs, and previous transactions in specific areas, so that we can relate what we're going to offer to the prices established by previous purchasers. We also look at such things as assessment values, and then enter into negotiations.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Since you mentioned market value, could the minister advise that since you are buying a small portion and not a whole block, isn't there any procedure or policy to allow for more than just market price?

MR. KROEGER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. We use the market value as a guide, but certainly in instances where our right of way cuts up land, we have to consider that. In the description the hon. member gives of a small portion that really is a nuisance, we also consider that.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: Another supplementary, Mr. Speaker. If the landowners are not satisfied with market value, besides expropriation, what can they do? What procedure is there? Is any other means open to them?

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, if there is a specific problem I guess the best approach would be for the landowner in question to contact his M.L.A., who could certainly assist that particular farmer in making an approach to our department.

MR. FJORDBOTTEN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Since that has already been done, would the minister agree that I could refer that problem to him?

MR. KROEGER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GOGO: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the hon. minister for clarification. With reference to comments about Bill 72 going through the Assembly, hopefully today, does this mean that the four-lane highway so long planned from Nanton in southern Alberta to the U.S. border is closer to reality?

MR. KROEGER: Mr. Speaker, the purchase of the right of way is closer to reality.

Athabasca University Relocation

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address my

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question to the hon. Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower. It has to do with the costs of the relocation of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca. In light of the fact that the minister made a statement that the costs for relocation would be approximately \$16 million, is the minister now in a position to indicate if those costs have escalated and what they may be at this time?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to comment on highly speculative press stories which may have come to the attention of the hon. Member for Clover Bar and others. I can say that I have received no report from the governing council of the university. It is my understanding that the governing council has not yet received the report of the internal commission, and that all this talk is based on some internal working documents that commission presently has under consideration.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, to the hon. minister, I ask the question because I just want to see if the government is consistent with some of the costs: the Legislature going 45 to 53, Kananaskis going 40 to 210, and on and on. I just want to know how tight the budgeting procedure is. Can the minister indicate how many of the people who are going to be relocated have been contacted and how many of these people are willing to go to the new location?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Athabasca University board of governors has set up an internal commission to review the relocation of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca, where it will have its permanent home. That commission is presently reviewing the entire matter, including matters raised in the first question and the supplementary by the hon. Member for Clover Bar. Suffice it to say that until such time as that commission completes its study and reports to its governing council, I have very little further I can say to hon. members of the Assembly, except that I hope the hon. Member for Clover Bar, along with other members of the opposition, continues to support this very exciting move in decentralization of our educational services to all parts of Alberta.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I would certainly like to reassure the minister that I do not support their inconsistency in not-tight budgeting.

MR. NOTLEY: Agreed.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to know from the hon. minister if he is in a position to indicate whether, in the department's study, if the costs go too high above \$16 million, the government and the minister would reconsider their decision to relocate the university.

MR. SPEAKER: Possibly that rather speculative or hypothetical question might be asked at a later time.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. minister in a position at this time to indicate if he has any estimates if the costs are going to escalate beyond the so-called budget the minister presented in the spring?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, I answered that question the first time I stood up. In case the hon. member didn't quite catch it, I'll do it again. I have received no reports other than the highly speculative press reports, which I really don't think are proper to comment on in the Legislature.

As to the projected costs of this relocation, the institution is quite properly reviewing that entire matter internally. I understand the reports which have surfaced are based on a series of working papers which have ranges for various items within the institution. I don't know how the figures being bruited about now have come about. Suffice it to say, however, that when the governing council has come forward with a recommendation to this government and my department, those will be budgetary matters for consideration by all members of the Assembly, probably in the course of the next budget and others, until the university finds its permanent home in Athabasca in approximately 1984.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the last supplementary on this question.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. That really worries me when he says, and the next budget and the next budget.

MR. NOTLEY: In 1984 too.

DR. BUCK: Shades of Kananaskis, Mr. Speaker.

In all the studies the minister and his department have been doing, is the minister in a position to indicate if there will be substantial differences between the operating costs at Athabasca University in Edmonton, as opposed to the operating costs in Athabasca?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, I repeat that the studies which are under way at the present time are internal studies at the university itself, which is quite properly the role and function of the governing council. Those projections, both in terms of capital and operating, will come forward quite properly from that governing council to my department for consideration and discussion. I don't have them yet. It's very, very difficult at this stage to speculate on what they might indeed be. I understand that the commission is some months away from completing its study even to be prepared to make a recommendation to the governing council of the university itself. So until I get them, I can't speculate on them.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, that's not good enough.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. There is no standard by which to measure whether an answer is adequate or not, and the same with a question.

We're just about at the end of the allotted time for the question period. I'm sorry there are some members I won't be able to reach, but we could perhaps fit in the question of the hon. Member for Edmonton Kingsway.

DR. BUCK: Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister has stood in this Assembly and indicated that the cost of that move will be \$16 million. My question is very simply to him . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hon. member may have a difference of opinion with the minister. There may be some other occasion to discuss it, but not now at the end of the question period.

MR. NOTLEY: Is there no price limit?

DR. BUCK: Why do we go through the budgeting process in this Legislature? [interjections]

AN HON. MEMBER: Walter.

DR. PAPROSKI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question regarding Athabasca University has been very well answered by the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower.

MR. SPEAKER: On Orders of the Day, perhaps the Assembly would allow me to refer to today being the day of the funeral of His Excellency the late Governor General of Canada. Might I ask members to stand to observe a moment of silence.

[In tribute to the late Rt. Hon. Jules Leger, members of the Assembly observed a few moments of silence]

MR. SPEAKER: Please be seated.

MR. COOK: Mr. Speaker, if I might rise on a point of privilege. I'd like to refer to some remarks I made in the debate on Bill 93 on Tuesday, November 25. I wish to withdraw some remarks that may have suggested that the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview was not relating ... [interjections]

MR. NOTLEY: It's just like porridge. Get it over with quickly.

MR. COOK: ... accurately some remarks about the intent of the government in dealing with The Workers' Compensation Act. I know that the hon. member wasn't ...

DR. BUCK: You can always resign. [laughter]

MR. COOK: Mr. Speaker, I don't want to leave the impression that these remarks are meant in a jocular way. It's a sincere attempt to withdraw the remarks I made that suggested the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview was something less than honest in his remarks. I know that's not the case.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS FOR RETURNS

138. Mr. Notley moved that an order of the Assembly do issue for a return showing:

- (a) copies of all correspondence received by the Department of Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation concerning the report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Workers' Compensation, and
- (b) a list of all individuals and organizations with whom the Minister of Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation, or officials of his department, held discussions concerning the above report from the date of its release to present.

MR. DIACHUK: Mr. Speaker, if I may, I wish to make an amendment as follows:

That an order of the Assembly do issue for a

return showing:

- (a) Copies of all correspondence received by the Ministry of Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation concerning the report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Workers' Compensation subject to the consent of the originators of such correspondence. Subparagraph (b) be deleted.

[Motion as amended carried]

MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

226. Moved by Mr. Notley:

Be it resolved that this Assembly declares unequivocally and without any reservation whatsoever that the historical, cultural, and economic bonds which tie Alberta to the rest of Canada must never be severed; that separatism is not an option that will be considered for Alberta by this Assembly.

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to make four very brief comments in support of designated Motion No. 226. The motion makes reference to the historical bonds, and I think that's perhaps an important point to emphasize. There's a good deal of frustration and alienation today in western Canada, but when one looks at the history of our country, the alienation that has existed before has always been discussed and always taken place in the context of changes that would make federalism work for western Canada. Many of the major swings that have dominated the politics of western Canada, whether it be the election of the UFA or the Social Credit in Alberta, or the CCF in Saskatchewan, the progressive members who were elected to the House of Commons in 1921, or the famous Ginger Group, have always been based on a pretty solid commitment to the presumption that, however alienated people feel, alienation must be resolved within the framework of continued commitment to Canada and making federalism work for the west.

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

I think it's also fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps one of the most impressive displays of that positive outlet for western alienation took place in 1957 and again in 1958 when Mr. Diefenbaker — whom I consider one of the genuinely great Canadians in the history of our country, though not of my political party — had a vision for Canada. It wasn't a vision of a hyphenated Canadianism on the basis of either national origin or, for that matter, province. It was the basis of an unhyphenated Canadianism, which I think struck a cord right across the country, especially in western Canada. Mr. Speaker, I raise that because it's important, as we look at some of the strains that face this country today, to keep clearly in perspective that our tradition in the west has been to work within the federal system in an unequivocal commitment to the preservation of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, over the last few days in this House we've discussed constitutional matters. There's no question that there are different views of what Canada should be in the future. But while there may be different opinions as to what this country should be, it seems to me there can really be no question about the continuation of the country itself. In my judgment, we must be very clear

THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Wednesday, March 28, 1984 **A7**

Athabasca relocation facts

While the Athabasca University Faculty Association appreciates the *Journal's* interest in our coming relocation to the town of Athabasca, the article by Gretchen Pierce (March 20) contained three errors in fact and one in spirit.

In terms of fact, the university has not agreed to cover any loss incurred by university homeowners due to fluctuations of the market. No comparison was ever made between the salaries of academics at Athabasca and those at other universities; the salary comparison that was made was intended to communicate that Athabasca University professional staff are not the highly paid professionals that some may have thought. All academic staff hired before Jan. 26, 1981, had to give six months' notice if they were to receive separation benefits. Those hired after that date receive no such benefits and must only give the customary one month's notice if they intend to leave the university.

Finally, never did I use the word "boondocks" to describe the town of Athabasca. The word is the reporter's, the connotation purely her own.

Jay Smith, Vice President
Athabasca University Faculty Association

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Athabasca Echo

MAY 30 1984

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NEWS



The relocation of the central offices of Athabasca University to Athabasca are under way and are on schedule. The complete move will occur May through December, 1984.

and will involve more than 200 staff positions. The university will remain open for business throughout the move period and will make every effort to minimize disruptions in services to students. The first major department move, Computing Services, will occur June 6-11, with the bulk of the university move completed by mid-September. Historic Occasion: History was made in early May when Athabasca University, following an inspection and subsequent commissioning, officially assumed control of the first phase of the new Athabasca facility. Previously, the university has operated out of rented

facilities. Total commissioning of the new facility will occur in four phases and are expected to be on schedule. First Staff Begin Work from Athabasca Facility: Seven staff members are now working out of the Athabasca facility on a part-time or full-time basis. These include Neil Henry, Vice-President University Services, and Phil Rowlands, Director of Facilities Management. Background: Carlson Management Services Ltd. of

Edmonton was awarded the contract in March, 1983, for construction of the university's 11,975 gross square metre Athabasca Facility at a tender price of \$13,249,592. This tender price was substantially below the \$18.3 million in funding for construction of permanent facilities which the Alberta government had approved in April, 1982. New Edmonton office: The university's new Northern Regional Office in Edmonton is opening June 4 to provide in-person services (in-

formation, counselling, registration, etc.) to Edmonton and area students. Effective June 4, the university's west end office will no longer provide these services. However, other support functions will continue to be provided from the west end offices. The new Edmonton office address is Athabasca University, Northern Regional Office 10324-82 (Whyte) Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1Z8. Telephone: 453-3466 (until June 3), 432-1550 (after June 3).

Other Regional Services: It is hoped that services provided by the university's regional operations in Calgary (262-4622), Ft. McMurray (743-1846), and Grande Prairie (509-0100) will be largely unaffected by the relocation of the university's central office. Check directly with these offices for further information. The university's Athabasca Community Liaison Office number is 675-5630. Contact Joan Carter, Public Affairs Coordinator, 452-9952/2207/8.

Athabasca University

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Relocation clip

J2 MARCH 20/87

Alberta

20 U professionals quit jobs, won't relocate to Athabasca

By GRETCHEN PIERCE
Journal Staff Writer

Another 20 members of Athabasca University's professional staff say they will quit in September rather than move to the town of Athabasca.

In total, Athabasca could lose at least 65 per cent of its 100 support staff members and 35 per cent of its 99-person professional staff before the move, university information officer Joan Carter said.

The latest 20 employees to announce their resignations include finance, personnel, computer, library and administrative staff. They had to meet a deadline last week, part of a six-months notice agreement for 64 employees who were on staff before Jan. 26, 1981. They will receive two months' separation pay for each year of service.

The numbers are "very significant," Bob Spencer, faculty association president, told The Journal.

The moving plans of 40 correspondence course co-ordinators and authors who comprise academic staff, are still largely uncertain, said Jay Smith, vice-president of the Athabasca faculty association. "It's damned if you go, damned if you don't," he said.

Academic staff have to give only a month's notice for the move that will occur in stages between June and November.

Smith and Spencer said the

majority of professional staff probably will move. But those who don't won't be easily replaced with high-calibre talent. "They wouldn't move to the boondocks," says Smith.

The university's move to Athabasca — part of the provincial government's regionalization program — became an immediate controversy when it was announced several years ago.

Staff members immediately threatened to resign citing worries about a possible decline in the quality of education, as well as concerns over problems living in a rural area.

Some can't see the wisdom in relocating a correspondence school whose part-time tutors will remain scattered. Students from Edmonton, Calgary and Fort McMurray comprise the bulk of the 6,500 enrolment.

"So what difference does it make?" Smith asks. "It's a purely political patronage plum" for that region.

Although a daily bus commuting service to Edmonton is planned, many feel the trip will be totally exhausting and that they will end up with accommodation in two places.

Some staff members are also worried that as funds for higher education are reduced, Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston may not be as supportive of the university's home-study programs.

Meanwhile the town of Athabasca is unlikely to undergo a *bonanza* with the relocation there of the university

and its \$4-million annual payroll, Smith said.

"There's a feeling the university and its \$13-million building will be a savior and create many jobs. There's a myth that highly-paid professors will be moving in," he said.

"They don't realize we don't get anywhere near what a full-time conventional academic makes."

But an Athabasca Chamber of Commerce member, Jiggs Geisinger, said because the initial expectations of a boom in the town haven't materialized, even 50 new jobs will be welcomed.

University employees reluctant to move are also worried they will lose equity in their homes because of a depressed housing market in Edmonton.

The university has agreed to cover any loss incurred by homeowners but the fluctuations of the market mean it could take many months to sell a home.

Among those who will be going to the town of Athabasca is Joan Carter.

She thinks the surroundings may have been portrayed unfairly. "It's ideal for outdoor enthusiasts who don't mind the drive to the city for excursions."

Don Avirom, 42, of student services, looks forward to the move. The New York native has lived in various Alberta small towns and enjoys the atmosphere.

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University relocation incomplete

By JOANNE MUNRO

When the province decided in 1980 to relocate Athabasca University 145 km north, there was one positive aspect to the move. The name didn't have to be changed.

Seven years later, and three years after the distance education institution moved to the town of Athabasca, the process of relocation has proved painful and costly.

In keeping with its oil-boom years policy of economic decentralization, which was politically expedient if not economically sound, the Lougheed government selected the town of Athabasca over 21 other Alberta communities as home to the fledgling institution.

At the time the decision defied logic. The university, which began granting degrees in 1975, had a viable, established location in northwest Edmonton. It was able to tap the physical and human resources at the University of Alberta, attract and keep qualified staff and researchers.

But former advanced education minister Jim Horsman stood firm. "In this particular case, decentralization policies of this government overrode the concerns that had been expressed with regard to location," he said at the time.

The town's 1,900 residents were, predictably, overjoyed. The university relocation was expected to create jobs, a housing boom, a wider economic and tax base. It was going to put the town on the map.

Athabasca University staff were, predictably, horrified.

Citing the government's decision as a major attack on the autonomy and integrity of the university, its president Sam Smith resigned. His lead was quickly followed by other staff members, including the institution's longest-serving member of the governing council.

The relocation bill was hefty. Recent provincial figures show the new campus cost \$20.5 million to design and construct. Bringing roads and services, such as water, sewer and power to the campus cost an



University staff packed up and moved
... the government decision defied logic

additional \$5.2 million. And the institution was given a relocation grant of about \$2 million to offset the estimated one to two per cent higher costs associated with operating from Athabasca instead of Edmonton.

Terry Morrison, who became university president in August 1985, says the institution has created about 75 jobs for the town's residents. And the town's population has grown to about 2,400. But he acknowledges some problems still exist.

Wayne Allison, president of the university's faculty association, outlines the many human costs associated with relocation. Some of the problems have been overcome, many more remain. High staff turnover, staff members separated from spouses who continue to live and work in Edmonton, staff who commute from Edmonton to work each day, the lack of quality rental accommodation in the town, limited cultural and

entertainment facilities, and difficulties professional staff have in doing research, continue to plague the institution.

Recently, the Spousal Employment Action Group, which includes both professional and support staff, prepared a report detailing the problems experienced by a large number of spouses of university staff. The group criticizes the institution for failing "to meet the legitimate expectations of these spouses for employment assistance" and suggests it establish an effective spousal employment policy which ensures fair treatment of employees' partners.

The report says lack of spousal employment causes poor morale and a high staff turnover.

If there is a positive aspect to the relocation, it's that students haven't suffered. Because courses are taken by correspondence, there is no need for a central campus. The university's growth rate was 18 per cent in 1986, and is expected to be 17 per cent this year.

Regardless, the government's decision to relocate the university was short-sighted, expensive and politically expedient. The benefits to the town of Athabasca do not outweigh the hardships experienced by the institution's staff and their families.

But sending the university back to Edmonton at this time would be as senseless a move as the initial relocation.

The economic recession has, in some measure, assisted the institution. With academic jobs in short supply the university has been able to keep its staff — something it may not have managed to do if jobs were plentiful.

But if it is to attract and keep staff in the future, the university must increase options available to them, their spouses and families. Efforts must be made to enhance the quality of life. If that means using extraordinary measures to help spouses find work, or families find homes, then those efforts must be made.

Joanne Munro is a Journalist

Journal Feb 11/87 AG

clip Relocation

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Master

Appleby resigns



*Those who attended
the news conference
paid their personal
tributes with a
feeling of sincerity
and warmth*

With the class and poise that has exemplified his fifteen years in provincial politics, Frank Appleby announced his retirement Friday morning. The Athabasca MLA has kept his constituents and political opponents guessing for the past year. Many wondered if Appleby wanted to become the Ronald Regan of Alberta politics. At 70-plus he still has good health and the political savvy to represent the new constituency of Athabasca - Lac La Biche in an effective manner.

As he read his prepared speech there was emotion in his voice. Sitting beside his wife Dorothy, a confidant and advisor, it was obvious the decision was not an easy one. Stepping down hurt but after months of deliberation Frank Appleby decided he had given his constituents 15 good years of his life. The time had come to retire with a record of service that has been appreciated by many.

Over the years there have been many accomplishments for this man of diverse interests but Friday he admitted the re-location of Athabasca University to Athabasca is likely his most significant. His dream, along with others like Dr. Terry Morrison of AU, is to make the university the learning and cultural centre of the North. It's a dream many of us share, a dream that can come true if enough people believe. Nobody believes in this concept more than Frank Appleby. It would seem only fitting that he be encouraged to continue this interesting line of thought.

Accolades are synonymous with retirement announcements but in Frank Appleby's case they are so very deserving. Saying nice things about this man comes easy. And those who attended the news conference paid their personal tributes with a feeling of sincerity and warmth.

Candidates who will try to fill his shoes in the Progressive Conservative nomination face a task liken to David versus Goliath. Except the budding candidates don't have a slingshot.

Many voters, especially in the Athabasca region will find it difficult to lend their support to any of the candidates seeking the PC nomination. After 15 years of the "Appleby touch" it will take time to implement a change of opinion.

Other MLA's have resigned and more will in the future, but Frank Appleby leaving the political scene is different. He won four provincial elections because of who he is, not who he represented. There are politicians who could change parties and still win. Frank Appleby is that kind of politician. Respected as a man above all, his success as a parliamentarian is simply a bonus.

Thank you Frank Appleby, with honourable mention to Dorothy Appleby, for a job so very well done. Your lasting contributions to the Athabasca constituency will never be forgotten.

Jiggs Geisinger



The Advocate

Published in Athabasca, AB

Tuesday, February 11, 1986 - ONE SECTION



Athabasca University
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Item #5.1

Date September 12, 1980

Memorandum

To Members of Commission Board
From Barry L. Snowden, Commissioner
Subject Commission Organization and Authorities

At the 28 August 1980 meeting of the Commission Board I agreed to provide recommendations for clarification of reporting relationships, authorities and accountabilities of the Commission Board and the Commissioner.

SOME HISTORY:

The Athabasca University Governing Council established the Commission for Relocation Planning at its 28 April 1980 meeting and provided the following terms of reference for "Operations of the Commission":

1. The Commission Board will function as an active steering committee for the Commissioner who will be directly responsible to the Commission Board through its Chairman.
2. The day to day operations of the Commission will be directed by the Commissioner.
3. The Commissioner may hire or second such other staff on both a full time or part time, term basis, as are deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the Commission within the budget allocation.
4. The Commission Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman or the Commissioner.
5. The Commissioner shall issue monthly progress reports to the Governing Council through the Commission Board.
6. A preliminary report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month of September 1980.
7. A final report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month May 1981.
8. The Commission Board will be responsible for establishing its own procedures.
9. The Commission's operation will be funded by special grants to be requested from the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower.

- 2 -

The Council record of discussion (AUGC Minutes, 28 April 1980, page 9) indicated that the intention of the Executive Committee when establishing the Commission was to keep it small and flexible, and able to commence as soon as possible; that it was designed as a hard-working, fact finding, objective body; that reports were to be made to the Governing Council by the Commissioner, who would not have a vote on the Council; and that the Chairman of the Governing Council would be the Chairman of the Commission and act as liaison between the two bodies.

In assuming the role of Commissioner on 1 May 1980, I was advised that the Commissioner should operate with a degree of independence of the University, that he should develop a program of work (projects and tasks) to accomplish the Commission's tasks, that the Commission Board was a steering committee for the Commissioner and advisory to him, and that the Commissioner had the authorities necessary to commit such expenditures for staff and/or consultant services as may be required to accomplish the program of work, within the funding available.

At the 26 May 1980 meeting of the Governing Council, the Chairman of the Council gave notice that he wished to be relieved of the Chairmanship of the Commission for Relocation Planning and the Governing Council empowered its Executive Committee to appoint a new Chairman for the Commission. The 14 July 1980 meeting of the Council approved a recommendation of Executive Committee that the Chairman of the Council remain Chairman of the Commission until the appointment of a new President who will thereafter act as Chairman of the Commission and that the Chairman of the Council then become an ex officio member of the Commission.

With his appointment as President, effective 1 September 1980, Dr. Stephen Griew is Chairman of the Commission Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

While there is some reference in the above to the roles and responsibilities of the Commissioner and the Commission Board, there is little clear definition and/or delegation of authority and, therefore, over the period since establishment of the Commission, reporting relationships have been (or have become) somewhat confused. The following recommendations are offered in the interests of clarifying the Commission's organizational terms of reference and the delegations of authority. I believe such clarification to be necessary to enable the Commission to accomplish the objectives set out in its mandate and terms of reference.

1. That the Governing Council amend the operational terms of reference of the Commission to provide for the Commission Board to function as an advisory committee to the President and that the President act as Chairman of the Commission Board.

*Master
Reproduction*

Edmonton Journal, Friday, June 8, 1984

City

Computers start move at Athabasca University

It was moving day for Athabasca University's (AU) computers Thursday as the university began the task of transferring its central office to Athabasca.

Computing services was the first major department to go — the rest are scheduled to be moved gradually over the summer with the bulk of the move to be completed by mid-September.

The transfer has been planned to create the least possible disruption of service to the university's students, said Joan Carter, AU's public affairs co-ordinator.

"We allow year-round registration for most courses and students can start the first of any month, so everything is being done as much as possible to maintain services," she said.

The computer department is expected to be back in full operation by Tuesday at the latest.


Relocation of the registry will take a little longer. It's expected to be out of operation from June 18 to July 6.

In conjunction with the move, the university also opened its new Edmonton regional office at 10324 82nd Ave. Monday. The office, with a staff of 11, will provide services previously provided by the central office to the university's 2,000 Edmonton and area students. Other

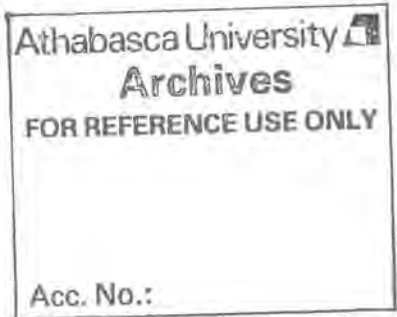
regional offices are in Calgary and Fort McMurray.

Carter said the move is a bit confusing because it is occurring over a period of months, but the university is still open for business.

About 6,500 students are currently taking one or more AU courses. Seventy per cent are Albertans, about 15 per cent live in B.C. and the rest are scattered across the country.

Athabasca University 
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University move is on schedule

The relocation of the central offices of Athabasca University to Athabasca are under way and are on schedule. The complete move will occur May through December, 1984, and will involve more than 200 staff positions.

The university will remain open for business throughout the move period and will make every effort to minimize disruptions in services to students. The first major department move, Computing Services, will occur June 6th - 11th, with the bulk of the university move completed by mid-September.

History was made in early May when Athabasca University, following an inspection and subsequent commissioning, officially assumed control of the first phase of the new Athabasca facility. Previously, the university has operated out of rented facilities. Total commissioning of the new facility will occur in four phases; all are expected to be on schedule.

Seven staff members are working out of the Athabasca facility on a

part-time or full-time basis. These include Neil Henry, Vice-President University Services, and Phil Rowlands, Director of Facilities Management.

Carlson Management Services Ltd. of Edmonton was awarded the contract in March, 1983, for construction of the university's 11,975 gross square metre Athabasca facility at a tender price of \$13,249,592.



Olive Elliott

Belated concern

Having an extremely short memory is not a legal requirement for candidates seeking election to city council.

As a practical requirement, it's obviously essential.

Mayor Laurence Decore and Ald. Julian Kinisky have been positively dripping with concern over the plight of Edmonton's underpaid senior managers.

After learning that Police Chief Robert Lunney, who earns \$72,000, is leaving Edmonton to become a \$92,000-a-year commissioner in Winnipeg, Decore said he was worried that other senior managers might be lured away to other cities offering higher salaries.

"We know we've got a problem," said the mayor. "I'm worried that we might get picked off more and more as time goes on."

Kinisky was fully in agree-

Restraints mean university unable to help

I would like to commend *The Journal* for publishing two recent articles (University staffers claim pledge broken, Jan. 29, and University relocation incomplete, Feb. 11) which reveal that the relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to Athabasca has caused severe problems for AU staff members and their spouses who were forced to relocate.

My own experience with AU has not been a particularly pleasant one. Before the university relocated to Athabasca, university employees received a memo from the university's personnel department indicating that the department was introducing a spousal employment service. The department encouraged spouses of employees to submit resumes so that the personnel department could assist them to find jobs both within AU and in the Athabasca community.

My husband, who is on the AU staff, and I decided to relocate to Athabasca at the beginning of November 1985. During September 1985 I applied for a clerical staff position in the AU library and went to the university for an interview. To my astonishment, the day after I was interviewed I was telephoned by someone from the university's personnel department who told me that I was the most qualified candidate for the position, but I would not be hired because the university could not wait four weeks for my husband and me to relocate to Athabasca. Hardly an example of the university's providing assistance to spouses looking for jobs, especially in an area such as Athabasca where jobs are not plentiful.

After we moved to Athabasca, I applied for some 11 clerical positions at the university but was unsuccessful in securing anything more than short-term temporary

employment. Since I was one of the people responsible for the preparation of the report by the Spousal Employment Action Group, I can certainly say that many spouses have had considerable difficulty obtaining meaningful employment within the university or the surrounding community and that many university families are suffering from poor morale, personal stress and financial hardship because of this situation. Unfortunately, since AU, along with other Alberta universities, will receive a three-per-cent decrease in provincial funding during the coming fiscal year, it does not appear likely that the university will be able to repair its broken promises and help many spouses with employment during the immediate future.

I. Willis
Edmonton

Stop bashing America

Allan Fotheringham's column was the proverbial "straw that broke the camel's back" (Loyalty costly to Reagan, Our Opinion, Feb. 11). As an American living in Edmonton, I would like to express my great distaste for the continuing and steady stream of anti-U.S. editorials (covering a variety of policy issues) printed by *The Journal* and written by Fotheringham and several other writers employed by Southam News.

Why is Reagan and U.S. policy "bashing" such big sport



Smoke will kill

I must respond to William Shiell's letter of Feb. 12 (Anti-smoking movement "just another silly fad").

I had two uncles; both were very heavy lifelong smokers. Ten years ago one of them developed emphysema and died slowly and in terrible pain. He was in his early 60s.

A couple of years later my other uncle, who was the same age, got lung cancer. His death was even slower and more ago-

Edmonton Journal
Thurs Jan 29/87

Relocation

Cip

Alberta

University staffers claim pledge broken

By CATHY LORD
Journal Staff Writer

Athabasca University has not kept a promise to help find jobs for its employees' spouses, says a report by staff members.

The purpose of the report, prepared by the Spousal Employment Action Group, which includes both Athabasca University professional and support staff, is "to draw attention to the problems experienced by a large number of (university) spouses, and to the failure of the university to meet the legitimate expectations of these spouses for employment assistance."

The report, which was obtained by The Journal, recommends the university establish an effective spousal employment policy which ensures fair treatment of employees' partners and says the university should implement an on-the-job training program to upgrade spouses' working skills.

The expectations of spousal employment "were created by the university's own officially announced intentions to provide such assistance," the report says.

Athabasca University, which offers university-level correspondence courses to more than 11,000 Canadian students, moved in 1984

from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca, 145 kms north of Edmonton.

Athabasca University President Terry Morrison was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

The report quotes unidentified employees describing the difficulties experienced by their spouses in dealing with unemployment and under-employment in Athabasca and the stresses of living apart.

One employee said: "It has now been almost a year and a half that we have been living apart . . . as a married couple we are drifting apart."

Writes another: "I am aware that a number of single people have considerable difficulty in adjusting socially and culturally to local conditions."

"One of the results of relocation hardship and unfulfilled promises . . . is individual cases of anger bordering on depression."

"I would not welcome news of suicide, but if cases occurred, I would not be surprised."

Lack of spousal employment has caused poor morale and a high staff turnover, states the report.

"Moreover, our research has produced hard evidence that many employees are actively planning to leave because of spousal employment-related problems."

Alberta joins pitch for energy security

Journal News Services

Alberta will join Saskatchewan and Quebec to pitch for security of Canadian energy supplies at the federal-provincial energy conference Friday in Ottawa.

Their joint paper combines the views of a major eastern consumer with the major western oil and gas producers, Bonnie Staples, an aide to Saskatchewan Energy Minister

make any major federal commitments other than to continue discussing options.

He emphasized Tuesday in Calgary that he considers the conference a chance for Ottawa and the producing and consuming provinces to seek consensus on Canada's energy future. He said, however, that the federal position includes a commitment to "a market

Kesler wrestled wit

CALGARY (CP) — Steven Kesler wrestled with a gun-wielding man during a robbery at his store 4½ months before another would-be robber was shot outside his pharmacy, he testified Tuesday.

Kesler was a Crown witness on the first day of a preliminary hearing into charges against Karl Cameron, who is accused of trying to rob Kesler last June 23.

It was following another robbery attempt Nov. 8 that Kesler was charged with second-

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public support were those which provide needed services for, say, the physically handicapped or learning disabled. Otherwise, "parents who choose to enrol their children in privately managed schools should do so at substantial personal expense."

On the other side, Christian-based groups argued that private schools serve parents disillusioned by the humanist leanings and lax academic standards of the public system. The Anglican diocese of Calgary contended that the drift to secularism had gone so far there should be "separate" Protestant schools allowed within the public system. As it stands, submitted the Anglicans, the public system discriminates against Protestants. Thus religious-based public institutions like Calgary's erstwhile Logos School get nixed. And while "Partners in Education" states that the system should "accommodate a wide diversity of parental aspirations and expectations," it leaves the choice of allowing alternative schools to each local board's discretion. Instead, says the Anglican brief, the School Act should be changed so that parents can elect to send their tax dollars to (a) the separate (Catholic) system, (b) the public system or (c) a new category of separate (Protestant) schools within the public system. Where numbers warrant, schools would then be set up under the third category just as they are now under the original two.

In another brief, the Rev. Allan Hunsperger, president of Heritage Christian Ministries, which operates two private schools in Calgary, argued the existing provincial curriculum includes many aspects which Christians find objectionable. He pointed to a textbook, *Biology—Knowing Ourselves*, prescribed for Grade 12 biology classes which, he claimed, advocated that abortion was acceptable after three months of pregnancy; that social drinking and sex among teenagers was both normal and acceptable; and that biological evolution was an incontrovertible fact. To combat such lessons, says Mr. Hunsperger, Christian parents must be free to start their own schools and to decide what gets taught. Moreover, he disputes the claims of SPE that Christian schools are elitist. After all, his own include children of all races and colours and from 30 denominations, and provide a scholarship program to help students from low income families. If government funding were withdrawn, his schools might indeed become elitist, since "three-quarters of our students would drop out because they come from middle and lower income families."

Throughout the School Act hearings, Alberta's Catholic school boards have generally supported the right of private

schools to government funding, so long as standards are maintained and qualified teachers are employed. Edward Sullivan, vice-chairman of the Calgary Catholic Board of Education, says that, in the long run, support of private schools will improve the overall quality of education in the province. Unlike their public counterparts, he adds, Catholic trustees are not afraid of the competition. "Parents should have a variety of options available to them. Lumping children together in one bland system is unhealthy."

Catholic trustees were upset by the SPE ad because it said that, while the separate system was less than "ideal," it was protected by the constitution and therefore inviolate. This was no reason, it suggested, for making the same mistake in regard to schools based on other religions.

The School Act committee, comprising seven Tory back-benchers, will spend



Christian educator Hunsperger
His schools don't discriminate.

the summer sifting through briefs and writing a draft bill, which will be sent out for another round of public discussion. Finally, an amended School Act will be put before the legislature in the spring or fall of 1986.

Supporters of public aid for private schools have reason to be encouraged. Committee member Edwin Oman (Calgary North Hill), himself a minister of the Evangelical Covenant church, has stated, for example, that his biggest fear is a state-operated system of education which would demand compliance across the board. Chairman Fyfe, meanwhile, declared that private schools are "an issue of choice." In this, the members are echoing the views of Mr. King. Alberta, he says, "has a long history of believing in choice, individual responsibility and effectiveness through competition."

Brian Bergman and Christopher Milner

Mail-order U

Staffing problems plague relocated Athabasca

Five years ago the Alberta government announced its plans to move Athabasca University from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca (pop. 1,862), 85 miles due north, a decision which drew howls of protest from support staff and faculty members alike. When the relocation actually took place over seven months last year, AU's administration, armed with provincial mega-bucks, went out of its way to appease, providing free daily bus service for employees until Sept. 1, 1985 during the transition period, and even offering to buy the homes of those ready to make the move. Even so, 115 out of a total staff of 210 resigned, and the number of vacant positions has hovered between 16 and 50 ever since. None of this, however, put a damper on festivities two weekends ago as hundreds of invited guests gathered in Athabasca to mark both the official opening of the university's \$14-million administration centre and its eighth annual convocation. Beamed outgoing university president Stephen Grieve, "The future of this institution is bright indeed."

Conceived in 1970 as a campus university, it evolved into English Canada's sole correspondence-only institution. It wasn't until 1973 that AU enrolled a student and 1978 that it was formally established under the Alberta Universities Act as a permanent, self-governing institution. Its staff initially worked out of cramped quarters in Edmonton's warehouse district, from which they kept in touch with undergraduates around the province through home-printed audiotapes, videotapes, radio and cable television broadcasts and an ever-buzzing toll-free telephone line. Offering three separate degree programs—in arts, business administration and general studies—AU has functioned as an "open university" with no admission standards and no fixed scholastic year.

The Lougheed government decided to move AU as part of a policy of decentralization. Athabasca was chosen over 22 other centres; partly because of its name, but primarily because its residents mounted the most impassioned campaign. The coming of the university, enthused Mayor Anton Schinkinger, would be "second in importance only to the coming of the railway to Athabasca in 1912."

AU staff were much less enthusiastic. Most resignations came from clerical and technical staff, many of whom, as second



Opening ceremonies at Athabasca U
 Staff balked at moving to a small town.

wage earners in a household, couldn't justify the move. The remainder involved administrators and academic personnel. While recruitment ads appearing in Alberta dailies and the *Toronto Globe and Mail* filled some of the posts, out-of-province applicants often shied away when they found out exactly where they were headed. Their chief complaints: the town's lack of shopping, cultural amenities and special education services (e.g. French immersion classes) for their children. Currently, 25 staff positions remain vacant, the most senior of which is director of the business administration program.

The move, meanwhile, has been a

costly one, and funded almost entirely by the provincial government. The main expenditures: \$14 million for the new 128,790-square-foot administration building; \$12 million for preparation of the 480-acre campus site, and for off-site services, furnishings and equipment; \$4.8 million for relocating staff and setting up a new regional office in Edmonton; and \$5.2 million to stock the university library (previously, AU staff had depended greatly on University of Alberta resources).

No one was talking costs, however, as Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston and Lord Perry of Walton, founding vice-chancellor of the Open University of Great Britain, presided over the official opening two weeks ago. This followed a convocation in which this year's 40 graduates joined the ranks of 100 others who have received degrees from the university since 1978. Among those in attendance was Mayor Schinkinger who, while admitting that the boom he'd predicted a few years ago has yet to materialize, nevertheless points to some encouraging signs: six new retail businesses have opened since the university arrived and three others have major expansions in the works. All that's left now is to wean the newcomers from their annoying habit of driving to Edmonton to shop.

Richard de Candole and Brian Bergman

COATS accord

*King and the ATA
 call a truce on control*

At the height of the battle this spring over Education Minister David King's plans to establish a Council on Alberta Teaching Standards (COATS) insults and accusations flew fast and furiously between the minister's office and the Alberta Teachers' Association. President Nădene Thomas accused the minister of trying to succeed Peter Lougheed as Tory party leader on the backs of teachers. The ATA, responded Mr. King, was "an obstacle to the development of confidence in the community about the professional competence of our Alberta teachers." But last week all of that was officially forgotten. In identical press releases, Mr. King and Mrs. Thomas announced a last-minute compromise which will see a slightly revised COATS begin operation July 1. The erstwhile opponents declined in advance to "discuss earlier incidents in the dispute" and instead pledged a new era of co-operation "in the interests of the children of Alberta."

The 11-man COATS, which will advise Mr. King on teacher competence and certification, is altered in only two respects from the proposal he put before the legislature on May 29. First, while the ATA is still limited to appointing only one member (although five others will be teachers chosen by Mr. King), its selection is now automatically approved (previously, Mr. King could pick from among three nominees). Secondly, the agreement states explicitly that the council is merely a stop-gap measure until a new Teaching Profession Act takes effect, at which time many of its duties will revert to the ATA. Ironically, Mr. King has been trying to introduce such a bill for six years, but has been repeatedly stymied by the ATA, which wants powers to police teachers similar to those granted lawyers' and doctors' associations.

At a press conference in Calgary last Friday, Mr. King said negotiations on a new teaching act will begin in the fall, and that he wanted to "go into those discussions with my eyes focused on the future instead of remembering the past unsuccessful attempts." He would try to build on the COATS compromise, which was the result of "a conciliatory attitude" between the traditional adversaries. "That (attitude) is one we want to carry forward because, in the end, we are all interested in the children of the province."

Brian Bergman and Barbara Henker

Jailbird grad

*Convict Petrasuk earns
 an AU degree in business*

Among the 26 Athabasca University graduates who appeared in person two weeks ago to receive their degrees was none other than Peter Petrasuk, three-time unsuccessful Calgary mayoralty candidate, disbarred lawyer and current inmate at the medium-security Bowden Penitentiary where he is serving a 10-year sentence for breach of trust involving \$2.3 million in clients' funds. Petrasuk, whose crimes include swindling his widowed, nearly-blind mother Doris out of \$88,000 in mortgage money on her house, has been toiling away, it turns out, on a bachelor of administration degree (similar to a four-year commerce degree from the University of Alberta). He is, in fact, only the second Alberta prisoner to graduate from a federally funded prison education program with which Athabasca

University became associated two years ago. Incarcerated in November, 1981, Petrasuk won't become eligible for full parole until this December. But he was able to travel to the university's eighth annual convocation unescorted, courtesy of a day-pass program.

"Many prisoners," explains Dr. Ross Paul, vice-president of learning services at Athabasca University, "have plenty of uninterrupted time in which to complete their course material; more, in fact, than the average person." The program currently has about 200 inmates from four prisons—Edmonton, Bowden, Drumheller and Prince Albert—working towards degrees. All that is required for entrance, says Dr. Paul, is a high school diploma and the prisoner's personal interest and commitment.

The degrees which the inmates earn are fully accredited and transferable to graduate programs of other universities. Joan Carter, public affairs coordinator for Athabasca University, says that because of the high quality of instruction in the program, it is an excellent form of rehabilitation. "Why," she asks, "should prisoners just learn basket-weaving?"

Christopher Milner

Petrasuk



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University move complete

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ATHABASCA, Alta. by the staff." Many expressed vio- March, 1980, as part of
(CP) — Athabasca Uni- lent opposition after for- the government's de-
versity, which provides centralization policy.
its courses by corre- mer Advanced Educa- The university lost 55
spondence, has opens a tion Minister Jim per cent of its staff from
permanent new home Horsman announced the summer of 1982 until
here. the university move in now.

The move from Ed-
monton leaves behind a
storm of controversy
and resignations since
the government an-
nounced the relocation
five years ago.

"We've achieved it
with much less hassle
than expected," said
university president
Stephen Griew, looking
out the window of a
handsome new building
at the new \$26-million
480-acre, treelined cam-
pus.

"There've been prob-
lems. But once you get
here and the move is ac-
complished they seem
almost trivial com-
pared to the benefits of
being here."

But the move "wasn't
universally pplauded"

Miscellaneous Notes from the News Desk

Oct 16, 1984
Slave Lake Scope

Farm Credit Corporation Canada reports that the total assets controlled by Canadian farmers amount to about \$116.3 billion. Farm land and buildings make up about 62% of the total farm capital while about 12% is composed of inventories of crops and livestock. On the negative side of the picture, however, the federal corporation says the average equity Canadian farmers hold in their enterprises has declined from 85% in 1981 to a current 82%.

Despite claims by some uninformed parties that aluminum cookware is unsafe, the Consumer's Association of Canada and other groups like the American Medical Association have proclaimed that there is no adverse health effects to be suffered by users of aluminum cookware. Tests show that aluminum products conduct heat better than any other metal used in cookware except for copper.

Agriculture Canada research has discovered that the beef sold these days is substantially lower in fat and calories than it was several years ago. Responsible for the reduction in the amount of fat in beef are changes made about 12 years ago in the Canadian beef grading system which has encouraged the production of leaner beef.

The relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to the Town of Athabasca is continuing and by the end of last month, over 170 university employees were located at the new Athabasca facilities. The entire relocation process is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Meanwhile, the correspondence university reports that registrations for its various courses have increased about 26% over the past five months as compared to registrations during the same time period in 1983.

According to Environment Canada, the wild whooping crane population this year may be the biggest since 1938 when records of the almost extinct bird's population began to be kept by United States and Canadian authorities. This summer in Wood Buffalo National Park, there were 29 pairs of nesting whooping cranes which produced a total of 57 eggs. In order to further save the bird from extinction, 25 of this year's egg crop were transferred to an Idaho site where greater sandhill cranes are used to hatch the whooping crane eggs. This egg transfer in past years has been responsible for establishing a second colony of 30 whooping cranes. The wild cranes migrate each winter to the Arkansas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas.

Athabasca University
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ATHABASCA
ADVOCATE
October 23, 1984

Athabasca University update

Acc. No.:



Move nears completion,

By Jim Neaves

With most of Athabasca University's construction phase completed, only one department remains to be relocated from Edmonton. The Course Materials unit will move here early in December completing the year-long moving process.

Many local residents have been asking about space and areas that will be available in the new building for public use. The Cafeteria is open only to AU staff and, initially, the Administration has ruled out community use of the meeting rooms until use patterns by the staff have been identified. With one exception, most of these Conference Rooms are quite small.

Basically, three areas were designed to allow public participation; the Day Care Centre, the Library and the recreation-exercise facility.

The Day Care area has been well used since it started operation at the beginning of September. There are now about 20 children attending on a daily basis with an almost 50-50 split between parents who are University staff and parents from the community. The Centre has a maximum enrollment figure of 5. This area is the responsibility of the Whispering Hills Day Care Society, not the University Administration.

The raquetball court in the recreation area already is being used by University staff and while this facility will be eventually opened to residents of the community, no booking plan has so far been devised. This is being worked on, and interested people should watch this space for further announcements.

The University's Library is slowly being re-organized in the new building following the slightly

delayed move October 1, 1984. Pat Appavoo, the new Librarian, advises the circulation service should be restored by the time this is printed.

Many people in the community have expressed an interest in the services of the University Library.

Pat advises the Library collection serves principally as a resource for University faculty in the preparation of courses and for academic research. It also is used by AU students in completing their course assignments.

"The collection is long on non-fiction and short on fiction," she says. In other words, if you are looking for the latest murder mystery, science fiction, or western novel, you'd be further ahead in visiting Athabasca's Municipal Library.

However, local residents, not associated with the University either as staff or students, can register to use the Library as external borrowers and may sign out books for home use. The Library will be open to the public between 8:30 a.m. and 4:40 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Pat adds that while the Library staff will be pleased to serve such external borrowers, the department is short staffed in public services and "will not", therefore, be able to provide any extensive reference service to the non-AU borrowers.

The Library now has a staff of about 20, including an archivist.

Guided Tours still are available and will be scheduled, usually on Sunday afternoons, as the demand requires. If you would like such a tour, please telephone 675-6107 and leave your name, the number of people in your party, and your telephone number. You will be contacted when a tour is scheduled.

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Acc. No.:

→ Nelson Daily News,
Nelson, B.C.

Nov 28, 1984

CLIPPING NEWS & TORONTO

News briefs

SINGERS INVITED

~~ETORONTO~~ (CP) — Canadian amateur youth choirs are being invited to attend the second International Festival of Choirs to be held in Cardiff, Wales, in March 1985. The singers will have an opportunity to perform at least three coconcerts. The final Gala Concert will feature the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

AWARDED \$17,500

OTTAWA (CP) — Montreal pianist Louis Lortie has received the 1984 Virginia P. Moore Award. Lortie, 25, who won the Ferruccio Busoni International Competition in September and placed fourth at the Leeds International Competition the same month, receives \$17,500 in prize money. The award was established in 1983 by Col. T. A. G. Moore and his wife, Virginia, to help further the careers of young musicians.

NORTHERN MOVE

ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly

universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

HONORS PUBLISHER

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada Post Corp. has issued a stamp to honor Treffe Berthiaume, a longtime editor and publisher of La Presse. Berthiaume took over Montreal's French-language daily in 1889, when the paper was five years old, and brought it from the brink of bankruptcy. He died in 1915 at the age of 66.

... au projet du cabinet Trudeau
turner concernant la création d'un fonds
\$25 millions pour venir en aide aux cen-
s de spécialisation des universités, M.
inegard dit qu'il faut y voir, en mettant
s choses au pis, "une intervention politi-
e cynique; au mieux, il s'agit d'une ten-
tive maladroite d'entrer en scène".
Vers la fin du mois d'août, le gouverne-
nt fédéral annonçait que les \$25 millions
aient être partagés de façon à venir en
e à des entreprises particulières des uni-
sités d'un bout à l'autre du pays. L'ar-
it a été acheminé par l'intermédiaire du
rétariat d'État plutôt que par la voie
; trois conseils fédéraux de recherches
accordent des subventions.
our ce qui est de l'avenir, M. Winegard
it que le gouvernement Mulroney
urra soit épargner les \$25 millions, soit
confier aux organismes subventionnai-
appropriés".



no-growth economic situation job openings would almost match the number of available skilled workers and postsecondary graduates. In medium and high-growth situations there would actually be a shortage of highly skilled workers.

By contrast, employment opportunities for unskilled workers — people with neither postsecondary graduation nor specific vocational training — do not look good in any economic circumstance. Even if the economy performs better than expected, the unemployment rate would average around 6.5 per cent over the four-year period.

The report works on the assumption that if the economy prospers, unemployment will fall accordingly.

More than 720,000 people are projected to join the Ontario labor force over the next four years. Of these, more than 204,000 will have university degrees and college diplomas.

The report is an update of an earlier study covering the period 1981-86 and is published by the Ontario Manpower Commission (OMC) as "a guide to developing suitable responses to the potential imbalances in the labor market".

Copies of the report are available from the OMC, suite 610, 500 University Ave, Toronto, Ont. M5G 1V7.

Athabasca moves

This past year UA has carried several items about the proposed relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to the Northern Alberta district of the same name. Now we can report that the move of the university's central offices is near completion. The September 10 move of the university's academic departments brought the total number of staff now working out of Athabasca to approximately 170. Only two major departments — the Athabasca University Library and Course Materials — are still to be moved. Those wishing to communicate with the university are asked to note the new address: Athabasca University, Box 10,000, Athabasca, Alberta T0G 2R0. Phone: (403) 675-6111.

présidé par M. Douglas W. de l'University of Waterloo six représentants de l'industrie, le Groupe a évalué les projets déployés par le gouvernement pour promouvoir le développement économique au Canada et s'est penché sur les questions suivantes:

- dans quelle mesure les programmes gouvernementaux d'aide à l'industrie sont-ils efficaces et comment peuvent-ils être améliorés;
- comment le gouvernement peut-il utiliser son pouvoir d'achat pour progresser la recherche-développement dans le secteur privé;
- dans quelle mesure les réponses gouvernementales aux besoins du secteur privé;
- l'industrie est-elle consciente des connaissances des universités et comment peut-on améliorer la relation entre l'industrie et les universités.

Éducation

Dans le domaine de l'éducation, le Groupe recommande une modification du système de financement de l'enseignement universitaire et l'adoption d'une loi visant à intensifier les relations entre l'industrie et l'université.

Une quarantaine d'universités reçoivent environ \$500 millions du gouvernement fédéral chaque année pour la recherche, de la formation et de l'achat de matériel. Les universités sont octroyées par les trois ministères fédéraux.

Pour chaque dollar que les universités reçoivent du gouvernement fédéral, elles doivent consacrer au moins un dollar à des installations, aux salaires des professeurs et aux frais généraux.

"Tant que pour chaque dollar que les universités reçoivent du gouvernement fédéral, elles doivent consacrer au moins un dollar de leur propre budget à la recherche technologique, leur aptitude à jouer pleinement leur rôle pour le développement technologique sera considérablement amoindrie", affirme le Groupe.

Rien d'injuste

Le Groupe veut voir le gou-

Novembre 1984

University Affairs

November 1984

Relocation Clip

Athabasca University Archives
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Acc. No.:

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Athabasca University

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JUL FEB 11 84 clip

City

U of A lax in meeting needs of working people, brief says

By GRETCHEN PIERCE
Journal Staff Writer

The University of Alberta might not be meeting the needs of the average working person, the government advisory committee on university affairs heard Tuesday.

It also heard fears that Athabasca University staff face hardship through relocation.

The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce submission said the U of A is not accessible to working adults

seeking retraining or continuing education.

The Chamber of Commerce brief, read by John McDougall and John Wojcicki on behalf of the chamber's education committee, Brian Reid and Robin Robertson, said the U of A needs "creative scheduling" to encourage working people to complete degrees on a part-time basis.

They suggested weekend courses, more evening sections and blocks of time such as one day a week where a student could attend three courses.

The submission said the requirement that degrees only be granted to students registered full-time creates "restricted accessibility" other than to those secure enough to leave the work force for a year.

The Athabasca University Faculty Association's brief warned that its relocation to the town of Athabasca this year will create disruption.

Jay Smith said the depressed house market prices in Edmonton and the inflated prices in Athabasca precludes transferred staff members from buying equivalent housing; others have quit rather than lose the equity in their homes.

The association said that "staff should not have to subsidize the relocation, especially when it was a government decision."

Smith said rental housing was inadequate and he urged a guaranteed buy-back provision by the university "until staff are confident the university is an on-going concern."

He said the "mess" is indicative of a lack of communication between the province and the university, which seems to lack an understanding of its role and performance.

Meanwhile, a member of the university's computing services department forecast a revolution in teaching.

Dale Bent said the path toward computer education was being paved by advances in technology and lower hardware costs.

He warned that the marketplace's acceptance will eventually be reflected in the education establishment.

The reduced expense compared with rising teachers' salaries will shake education "to its roots over the next 20 years."

Teachers must speak out on issues, Horowitz says

As criticism of education increases, teachers must have the courage to speak out on the issues, the president of the University of Alberta said Tuesday.

"It's easy to be critical of the schools and blame them for all kinds of societal ills," Dr. Myer Horowitz told a forum organized by the Edmonton and Area Community Schools and the Community Education Association of Alberta.

"We have to take the initiative and be self-critical. But not to the extreme or else we will have neither the energy nor the will to build."

Blaming the economy for most of education's problems, Horowitz identified four major issues facing teachers — curricula, the support of parents and communities, teacher education and leadership.

On curricula, Horowitz expressed a concern that society may be

approaching education too narrowly, separating intellectual knowledge from such areas as spiritual, esthetic and social growth.

Communities should reinforce schools' activities while the schools should not confuse the professional with "the very important layman" who may contribute "well-meaning talent," cautioned Horowitz.

Universities and schools should work closer together in training teachers he said noting a need to explore continuing teacher education.

As for leadership, Horowitz said teachers have experienced 20 to 25 years of rapid and constant change which is now open to question.

"My stress is in recognizing the discrepancy between what we have engineered politically and what we know is right," he said. "Do we have values? What are they? Do we just respond, or do we show direction?"

Arson caused fires, court hears

The Edmonton
Journal
...helping in every way

Page 2 The Athabasca Advocate October 2, 1984

AU move almost complete

Athabasca University experienced a historic occasion last Thursday afternoon as the Governing Council held their first official meeting in their new building. During the three-hour session several important matters came up for discussion.

Council was told the relocation program is all but completed. With the Library move beginning this week the only department still located in Edmonton is the Course Materials section which is slated to come to Athabasca in the beginning of December. According to reports the move went well.

33 positions filled locally...

Vice-President Neil Henry reported 33 positions, primarily support staff, have been filled from the Athabasca area and that as many as 18 more could be filled by local people once all the recruitment has been completed.

Staff vacancies were created by resignations as some Edmonton employees declined to make the move to Athabasca. Henry provided a breakdown of resignations since July 31, 1983 which showed 32 professional and 50 support staff tendered their resignations since that time.

Promotion of junior staff and local recruitment have helped in filling a large number of support staff positions however there are two areas of concern. AU is experiencing difficulty in recruiting professional Computing and Administrative Studies staff. The reason for the difficulty is tough competition in the labour market for these two particular fields of expertise.

More apartments needed...

To date approximately 100 AU employees from outside Athabasca have found accommodation in the area. Another 38 are commuting at the present time. Neil Henry told Council the greatest need is one-bedroom apartments. AU has enlisted the services of a local real estate firm to find rental accommodation when it becomes available however the market is tight.

An apartment planned on the site next to the

Town of Athabasca's administration building has failed to materialize to the disappointment of AU officials. Alberta Home Mortgage lending policies limit their participation to 65 per cent of the value of the project. Under current financing conditions the 35 per cent required by the developer often is too great to get the project underway.

Henry says a new lending program under CMHC is being introduced in Alberta. The Canadian Rental Supply Program (CRSP) is designed to help developers overcome the situation by offering an interest-free 15 year second mortgage for up to 20 per cent of the project.

The program is intended for communities where the need for rental units exceeds the market and development is curtailed by lack of developer funding by conventional lending agencies.

The search begins...

President Stephen Grew has declined the opportunity to continue as head of Athabasca University for another term and his leaving will implement a world-wide search for a replacement. Council addressed the situation and discussed a draft of a memorandum of procedures for the search for the new president. The process has to be completed by September of 1985 under the terms of the draft.

Although the position will be advertised world-wide Canadian Immigration requirements say the successful candidate must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident unless a suitable candidate cannot be found. If this happens, candidates from other countries can be considered.

Dick Hobbs, a Council member and retired Barhead area businessman, was involved with the last presidential search. He was appointed to Council on the same day the move to Athabasca was announced. "We had a stack of applications two-feet high...shortlisting was an incredible task." Hobbs said he enjoyed the job because it allowed him to meet interesting and highly qualified people. "Not all of the applicants had the qualities we wanted in a president but it was fun talking to them anyway."

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Nelson Daily News
Nelson, B.C.
Nov. 28/84
170 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

Relocation
Masker

News briefs

SINGERS INVITED
TORONTO (CP) — Canadian amateur youth choirs are being invited to attend the second International Festival of Choirs to be held in Cardiff, Wales, in March 1985. The singers will have an opportunity to perform at least three cooncerts. The final Gala Concert will feature the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

AWARDED \$17,500
OTTAWA (CP) — Montreal pianist Louis Lortie has received the 1984 Virginia P. Moore Award. Lortie, 25, who won the Ferruccio Busoni International Competition in September and placed fourth at the Leeds International Competition the same month, receives \$17,500 in prize money. The award was established in 1983 by Col. T. A. G. Moore and his wife, Virginia, to help further the careers of young musicians.

NORTHERN MOVE
ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly

universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

HONORS PUBLISHER
OTTAWA (CP) — Canada Post Corp. has issued a stamp to honor Treffe Berthlaume, a longtime editor and publisher of La Presse. Berthlaume took over Montreal's French-language daily in 1889, when the paper was five years old, and brought it from the brink of bankruptcy. He died in 1915 at the age of 66.

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Education - Clp

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The Guardian
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Daily

Nov. 9/84

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

University
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ATHABASCA, Alta.
(CP) — Athabasca Uni-
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The Sudbury Star
Sudbury Ont.
Daily

Dec 18/84

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE

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St. Catharines Standard
St. Catharines, Ont.
Daily

Dec 14/84

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE

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and the Northwest Territories.

Athabasca University
Archives
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Acc. No.

Edmonton Examiner, Monday, July 16, 1984

Athabasca U remains force in city

by Andy Marshall

Athabasca University will soon complete its move from Edmonton to Athabasca, but the university will remain an important presence in the city.

Construction is nearing completion on the university's Northern Regional Office, and its 11 full-time staff are adjusting to their new location at 10324-82 Ave., according to a senior counsellor at the institution.

For the more than 2,000 Edmonton-area students enrolled at AU, the new facility will offer a range of information services, counselling, registration, course materials, exam supervision and other support facilities.

"My hope is that most of the students won't notice a great deal of difference from the move," Arlene Young, Senior Counsellor, said last week.

The move involves about 200 professional and support staff to the new \$13 million facility in Athabasca, 85 miles north of Edmonton.

But the three-storey regional facility here will contain a teleconference room to link students with

their tutors, a computer room with 10 stations for micro-computers and terminals, meeting rooms for seminars and workshops, plus an audio-visual room with playback equipment for students.

Students have already made extensive use of the exam rooms which, said Young, are better than at the university's former west-end location.

With a total enrolment of about 7,000 students, AU offers home-study credit courses with telephone tutor support to any interested adults. It gives persons who are working or who might otherwise have no access

to university education, the chance of choosing among 100 different credit courses and studying in their own homes. Registration dates, study

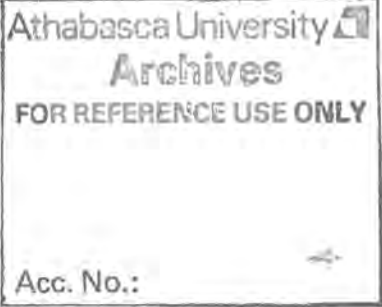
schedules and exam times are flexible to allow for the requirements of individual students.

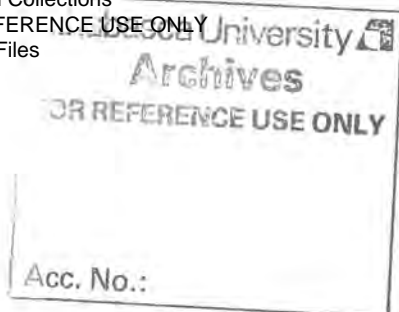
Young noted that the new office's location on a

main bus line had made the university more accessible to many Edmontonians.

The office is on the site of the former Dominion

Hotel, and a major architectural feature of the building has been the reconstruction of the former hotel's original façade.





Marker

THE ECHO, Athabasca, May 9, 1984

AU on first stage of move

Kerry Joyes

Athabasca University began their move into a portion of the new building in Athabasca this week, as the Facilities Department settled five men into permanent residency.

Last week a final inspection was conducted on the portion of the building that will house Media Services, Computer Services, Facilities, and Maintenance, and except for some minor deficiencies, it proved impressive.

Neil Henry, vice-president of University Services took part in the inspection and said, "The building from my perspective is fantastic!"

He pointed out that two years ago when the university site was but field and forest, May 3, 1984 was targeted as the date for the completion and takeover of the first stage of the project--and that target date proved right on.

He attributed the well-kept schedule of construction and moving dates to the prime and sub-contractors who have done a very good job in keeping to the dates projected.

All the rooms are empty now but starting June 15, the stages of moving each department will escalate until the site is a hive of activity in preparation for the official opening to be held in September.

"Different departments will be arriving weekly," said Henry.

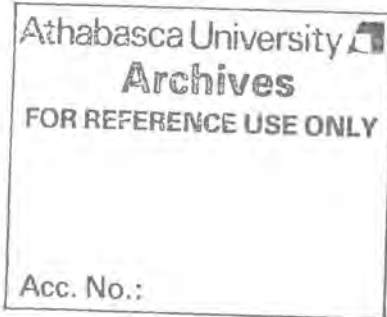
Architect Wayne Wright was also on site for the inspection, and although close-mouthed, seemed pleased with the work.

As in all new buildings, the architect and engineers make sure that every portion of construction is up to their stringent standards, and they don't rest until that standard is met.

"We make lists and lists of deficiencies until we either run out of paper or run out of things to complain about," joked Wright.

However, the first stages of the move are underway and the long awaited opening of the university will soon be here.

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Athabasca shift won't affect local students

By MARK MILLER
Today staff writer

The relocation of the main offices of Athabasca University to Athabasca from Edmonton will not affect the operation of the Fort McMurray campus. Kathy Baker, regional officer for the university, said the local office offers 74 of the university's 95 correspondence courses at present and expects to be able to provide all of the courses before the main university registry shuts down for the move from June 18 to July 6, 1984.

"I don't think the move will adversely affect us because we have the provision to enrol students directly from our office," Baker said.

Bob Spencer, the faculty association president, said in an interview this morning from Edmonton about 25 per cent of the university's 99 professional staff have submitted resignations rather than relocate to Athabasca. Those resignations do not include actual teaching staff, all of whom Spencer said will remain.

"About 40 per cent of the professional staff are involved in teaching and the resignations all come from non-teaching staff such as those from the finance and computer departments," Spencer said.

About 400 students are enrolled in the university through the Fort McMurray office. Baker said students should make provisions for writing exams well in advance of the relocation.

"There may be a problem with a delay in information being sent out, but students will not be penalized if they have problems writing their exams by deadline during the move," Baker said.

The university offers courses in the fields of administrative studies, social sciences, natural sciences and humanities, largely through correspondence, but does offer classroom instruction where there are sufficient numbers of students.

Students from Edmonton, Calgary and Fort McMurray compromise the majority of the university's enrolment of 6,500.

Relocation - City

VOL. 10 NO. 136

APRIL 19, 1984

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Jiggs Gelsinger

Bob Paterson

Anna Christensen, Sharon Brandie

Sonia Ormelchuk



Published Weekly in Athabasca, Alberta by Barrhead Printers and Stationers Limited

"Boondocks" - words that were never spoken

Dear Editor:

Your editorial of Tuesday March 27th, 1984 concluded with some well chosen words. The Advocate stated "calling a community 'the boondocks' is bush league. Putting the knock on a community without checking it is bush league." Equally bush league, in my opinion, is writing an editorial without checking to see if one has the facts. I was available at any time to you or your staff to call to see if I had in fact used the term "boondocks" to describe your community. No one called and the report of the Edmonton Journal of March 20th was wrongfully accepted at face value. In effect, I was tried and convicted in your paper without having the opportunity to have my side of the story told. This may be good theatre, but it is not good or fair journalism.

It is unfortunate, that words that were never spoken became the centre of such emotion. The intent of our interview with the Journal reporter was to inform her of the real barriers and problems, financial and otherwise, Athabasca personnel face in relocating. In the course of our discussions we urged that the reporter talk not only to the faculty association, but also to the staff association, the university executive and also that she visit Athabasca. Only then could the relocation of the university be put in perspective. Obviously, not all of this was done or the story might have come out differently.

Finally, it is also obvious that one of the barriers to the university's successful relocation to Athabasca is poor communication. The university and community must be better informed about one another. Your paper provides one means by which this can be done. The door is always open at our end.

Yours sincerely,

Jay Smith, Vice President
Athabasca University Faculty Association.

Concern for fair journalism is shared

Editors comment...Mr. Smith

We did call you for comment on two occasions but were not favoured with a reply...for whatever reason. If the story in the Edmonton Journal was contrived I have absolutely no qualms in offering you an apology because I am equally concerned about factual reporting. I must add, however, that The Journal is not as incompetent as people sometimes suggest.

Fourteen years in the weekly newspaper business has taught me one thing. There are facts and there are truths and sometimes there is a vast difference between the two. One fact, or truth, is that Athabascans will give Athabasca University employees the same welcome as anyone else...no more and no less. As far as relocation problems are concerned, we appreciate the myriad of stumbling blocks employees are facing. Hopefully everyone can be satisfied.

Jiggs Gelsinger
Publisher-Editor

Special Contributions

EPC Band
appreciative

Hats off to the Kinsmen and Lions Clubs and the Athabasca Legion for the contributions to the EPC Band. The Kinsmen and Lions donated \$1,500 each and the Legion gave \$1,000 to help the band on the trip to the L.A. Music Festival.

Neil Henry's viewpoint

Dear Mr. Gelsinger,

I would like to respond to your editorial entitled "The Boondocks - A better place without the criers". It concerns me that you would simply pick up an article from another newspaper and react editorially without checking the facts. You have done some thoughtful and interesting articles on the AU relocation in the past; I'm sorry you didn't keep your perspective this time.

I think that the town and the university are simply being used. The Edmonton Journal article was highly inaccurate and poorly written by a reporter looking for something sensational to say. The Journal may not care what damage it does; as someone who is about to become a member of the Athabasca community, I hope that The Advocate does care.

There is a real issue under all the verbal fireworks and I would like to see The Advocate devote some care and thought to it. Even for those of us who have come to know and respect the community of Athabasca the adaptation will not be easy, nor will it be easy for the people of Athabasca. We all have a lot to learn about each other.

While it is true that many AU staff were not enthusiastic about the move, they have become far more realistic and balanced in their attitudes towards the town and the relocation than either The Journal or The Advocate give them credit for.

As an important influence in the community, The Advocate has a responsibility I think to help us understand each other. Perhaps, instead of reacting to second hand information, you should take the time to come down and talk directly to some of the "pesky dissidents". Like the people of Athabasca, they are ordinary human beings with very real concerns to deal with.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Henry, Vice-President University Services.

A strictly personal opinion

Editor's note...Mr. Henry

There is an important 'fact' that you and anyone else planning to move to Athabasca or any other community should understand. When it comes down to the bottom line, a person must make the most of his new environment, expecting red carpets and marching bands is a little much. The problems of the person making the move are really not the concern of the community or its newspaper. However, once the newcomers arrive they become an integral part of the community.

In November of 1982 I moved to Athabasca to start a new job as publisher of The Advocate. Except for a few people I had met through senior hockey. I was a stranger...unannounced and somewhat suspect because we were a new business competing against an established newspaper.

I have never found it difficult to meet new people. At the same time the people in this community are eager and willing to extend their friendship. Within a few days I was feeling right at home. I plan to make Athabasca my home because there is so much good here. A positive lifestyle that only a small community can provide. That's why many people in this community, including myself, find the negative comments from the Edmonton media and AU employees annoying (we agree there may only be a few complainers but for some reason they are always the ones who seem to make themselves heard.)

If Jay Smith was misquoted, or the quote "the boondocks" was invented by The Journal reporter, there is still an underlying suggestion that Athabasca is the villain of the piece. In the past year or two The Journal and other Edmonton media have made statements that put the rap on this community. In all due respect, I personally cannot accept the suggestion that all negative media reports regarding the AU move to Athabasca have been contrived. We realize The Journal is anti-government having assumed the position of the unofficial opposition in the Alberta political arena. Therefore any form of decentralization which pulls people out of Edmonton is dumb and outrageous. I guess what I'm saying is the big city media have seldom, if ever, reported the positive aspects or the relocation of AU. The people of the Athabasca region feel there are positive aspects. Only through the local media can these positive things be emphasized. The Advocate has a small voice in terms of Edmonton media. Because we are small, it is very easy to say we don't check our facts, that we're amateurs who should jump every time an academic or big wheel says we're wrong. Having spent fourteen years in this business, with a respectable record of accomplishment such allegations are objectionable and unacceptable.

In an effort to help local people understand AU and its people we have published numerous articles from your public relations department and carried a weekly column by Jim Neaves, your liaison officer in Athabasca. All of this information is 'second hand', but it has been published without question. There is no doubt it is slanted, coloured, biased...but at least it is positive. If you want to weigh journalistic integrity against public relations hype there is quite a creditability gap.

In closing I would like to point out that my first obligation is to the community I live in. I don't tell people to go shop at West Edmonton Mall (in fact I strongly discourage it) because we have to support each other in order to help our community grow. I don't knock the school system because I know it's as good as most in Alberta. I support rural lifestyles because I believe it's the best way to live. People are honest, hard-working and willing to compromise.

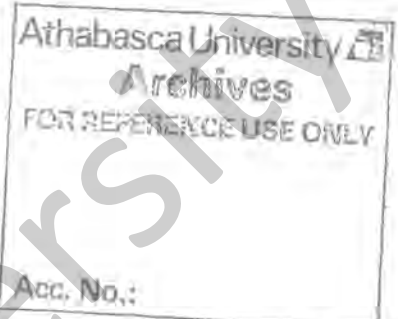
All this might seem like motherhood and apple pie philosophy to you, but I happen to think those things are important - important enough to defend when they come under attack...for whatever reason.

I am also quite willing to apologize to Mr. Jay Smith, not because of your letter, or his, or the phone call from public relations director Joan Carter. If Mr. Smith didn't call Athabasca "the boondocks" I feel alot better, and so do a lot of other people. But the fact still remains nearly one-half million people read the Edmonton Journal and to them, Athabasca has been portrayed as a hick town.

That, Mr. Henry, is the underlying problem and like it or not, Athabascans really can't do a damn thing about it.

Jiggs Gelsinger, Publisher-Editor

Relocation clips
M. Ester



THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Tuesday, March 20, 1984

A14

Alberta 20 U professionals quit jobs, won't relocate to Athabasca

By GRETCHEN PIERCE
Journal Staff Writer

Another 20 members of Athabasca University's professional staff say they will quit in September rather than move to the town of Athabasca.

In total, Athabasca could lose at least 65 per cent of its 100 support staff members, and 35 per cent of its 99-person professional staff before the move, university information officer Joan Carter said.

The latest 20 employees to announce their resignations include finance, personnel, computer, library and administrative staff. They had to meet a deadline last week, part of a six-months notice agreement for 64 employees who were on staff before Jan. 26, 1981. They will receive two months' separation pay for each year of service.

The numbers are "very significant," Bob Spencer, faculty association president, told The Journal.

The moving plans of 40 correspondence course co-ordinators and authors who comprise academic staff, are still largely uncertain, said Jay Smith, vice-president of the Athabasca faculty association. "It's damned if you go, damned if you don't," he said.

Academic staff have to give only a month's notice for the move that will occur in stages between June and November.

Smith and Spencer said the

majority of professional staff probably will move. But those who don't won't be easily replaced with high-calibre talent. "They wouldn't move to the boondocks," says Smith.

The university's move to Athabasca — part of the provincial government's regionalization program — became an immediate controversy when it was announced several years ago.

Staff members immediately threatened to resign citing worries about a possible decline in the quality of education, as well as concerns over problems living in a rural area.

Some can't see the wisdom in relocating a correspondence school whose part-time tutors will remain scattered. Students from Edmonton, Calgary and Fort McMurray comprise the bulk of the 6,500 enrolment.

"So what difference does it make?" Smith asks. "It's a purely political patronage plum" for that region.

Although a daily bus commuting service to Edmonton is planned, many feel the trip will be totally exhausting and that they will end up with accommodation in two places.

Some staff members are also worried that as funds for higher education are reduced, Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston may not be as supportive of the university's home study programs.

Meanwhile, the town of Athabasca is unlikely to undergo a bonanza with the relocation there of the university

and its \$4-million annual payroll, Smith said.

"There's a feeling the university and its \$13-million building will be a savior and create many jobs. There's a myth that highly-paid professors will be moving in," he said.

"They don't realize we don't get anywhere near what a full-time conventional academic makes."

But an Athabasca Chamber of Commerce member, Jiggs Geisinger, said because the initial expectations of a boom in the town haven't materialized, even 50 new jobs will be welcomed.

University employees reluctant to move are also worried they will lose equity in their homes because of a depressed housing market in Edmonton.

The university has agreed to cover any loss incurred by homeowners but the fluctuations of the market mean it could take many months to sell a home.

Among those who will be going to the town of Athabasca is Joan Carter.

She thinks the surroundings may have been portrayed unfairly. "It's ideal for outdoor enthusiasts who don't mind the drive to the city for excursions."

Don Avirom, 42, of student services, looks forward to the move. The New York native has lived in various Alberta small towns and enjoys the atmosphere.

Despite lengthy explanations, much
of this is confused and/or
incorrect.

CFRN editorial

SUNWAPTA BROADCASTING LIMITED BROADCAST HOUSE EDMONTON
G. B. A. RICE, PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER • BRUCE HOGLE, NEWS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER

EDITORIAL for WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1984

Having lived and worked in communities of all sizes in five different Provinces, I'm somewhat surprised over the furor being created by some staff members of Athabasca University. Upwards of 100 have quite, or are thinking of it, rather than move from Edmonton to the correspondence University's new location in the Town of Athabasca some 60 miles north of here.

The University, to its credit, has gone out of its way to make the transformation as easy as possible. They'll cover all losses incurred by staff selling their homes here. They'll also provide daily bus service for those wanting to commute from Edmonton. And anyone who has ever worked in Toronto will tell you that distance is no big deal.

But aside from that, there's much to be said for moving to a place like Athabasca and the way of life they enjoy.

There's also the challenge which newcomers to Fort McMurray found out a few years ago as they helped that community become a vibrant city of 25,000 with an excellent community college, superb recreational facilities and a fine appreciation for the arts.

Then, too, some of Canada's best universities are located in small centres. Such as Acadia at Wolfville, Trent at Peterborough, St. Francis at Antigonish, Mount Allison at Sackville and the University of Lethbridge.

Now I might be able to understand Athabasca University staff leaving the Town of Athabasca if they found out it didn't work out to their expectations. But how can anyone determine that when they haven't at least given it a fair trial?

- 30 -

Bruce W. Hogle

PERMISSIC

Was
6 p.m. TV
News with
footage
of Athabasca.

"The boondocks" A better place without the criers

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STEADY ROVER... STAY UNDER THE PORCH BOY... WE KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE TO DO TO BIG WHEELS.

They are at it again, those pesky assidents working for Athabasca University who cannot come to grips with reality. A story in the March 20 edition of the Edmonton Journal carried the eatings of Jay Smith, vice-president of the AU faculty association, who is still yling about the university's move to Athabasca. He went as far as to call Athabasca "the boondocks". The man's idacity is exceeded only by his norance of rural living. Anyway...who really cares? With ver \$20 million invested and AU scheduled to open in September there is o turning back. Call it "a purely olitical patronage plum" (love Mr. mith's alliteration), a terrible government mistake, outrageous political interention...call it anything you like; AU's ome is in Athabasca. Cry a river Mr. mith, it's not going to change a damn ing.

Frankly, this town does not cater to riers. Athabasca can be as red-neck as ell...because folks in these parts are xtremely proud of their region and its

people. The town and surrounding area has prospered and will continue to grow, with or without underpaid academics who are forced from their city way of life. In Texas there is a bumper sticker that is popular. It refers to living in the Lone Star State. "Love it...or leave it." is the message.

Another point that must be made is the manner in which Edmonton Journal staff writer Gretchen Pierce gathered her material. Obviously the AU crybabies buy good whiskey. How else could a responsible reporter knock a community without taking the time to travel 80 miles up the road to have a first-hand look at what Athabasca has to offer. Suggesting Athabasca's school system is inferior to Edmonton's halls of learning is horse dung. The results of recent departmental examinations written by grade twelve students across the province showed Athabasca students were above the provincial average. The Edwin Parr Composite High School Band is good enough to play in an International music festival in

Los Angeles in May...even good enough to play for the AU Convocation this summer. One could go on and on about academic excellence in the Athabasca school system. Unfortunately the Edmonton Journal writer failed to ask the questions which would have enlightened her. Instead her comments were merely a shot in the dark and AU criers pulled the trigger.

Athabascans realize not all AU employees are opposed to the move. Those who have visited the community, or committed themselves to the move, are decent people. The kind of individuals that will enhance every aspect of the region.

Athabascans also understand that not everyone can make the move here, even if they wanted to. Depressed real estate markets have some AU employees over the barrel. In cases where the spouse has a high-paying job, there is very little opportunity to find the same employment and salary level in Athabasca. But any employee facing a transfer or in search of a new job faces

the same problems. An upheaval of a lifestyle is not nice, but it happens every day, for whatever reasons. The job security of four or five years ago is gone, likely forever. If a move to the country goes against the grain, a person is a damn fool to move here. By the same token, do not blame the people of Athabasca for the university relocation. If the truth were known, Athabascans probably had very little to do with the decision. Politics is tough but who ever said it had to be fair.

The people in the Athabasca region and a good number of AU employees view the move as a positive step. Others like Jay Smith and Gretchen Pierce are strongly opposed...for all the wrong reasons.

Calling a community "the boondocks" is bush league. Putting the knock on a community without checking it out is bush league. Such attitudes are best kept in Edmonton where your next door neighbor is a stranger and most people spend more time crying than contributing.

urged that the reporter talk not only to the faculty association, but also to the staff association, the university executive and also that she visit Athabasca. Only then could the relocation of the university be put in perspective. Obviously, not all of this was done or the story might have come out differently.

Finally, it is also obvious that one of the barriers to the university's successful relocation to Athabasca is poor communication. The university and community must be better informed about one another. Your paper provides one means by which this can be done. The door is always open at our end.

Yours sincerely,
Jay Smith, Vice President
Athabasca University Faculty Association.

Concern for fair journalism is shared

Editors comment...Mr. Smith

We did call you for comment on two occasions but were not favoured with a reply...for whatever reason. If the story in the Edmonton Journal was contrived I have absolutely no qualms in offering you an apology because I am equally concerned about factual reporting. I must add, however, that The Journal is not as incompetent as people sometimes suggest.

Fourteen years in the weekly newspaper business has taught me one thing. There are facts and there are truths and sometimes there is a vast difference between the two. One fact, or truth, is that Athabascans will give Athabasca University employees the same welcome as anyone else...no more and no less. As far as relocation problems are concerned, we appreciate the myriad of stumbling blocks employees are facing. Hopefully everyone can be satisfied.

Jiggs Geisinger
Publisher-Editor

Special Contributions

EPC Band appreciative

Hats off to the Kinsmen and Lions Clubs and the Athabasca Legion for the contributions to the EPC Band. The Kinsmen and Lions donated \$1,500 each and the Legion gave \$1,000 to help the band on the trip to the L.A. Music Festival.

new business competing against an established newspaper.

I have never found it difficult to meet new people. At the same time the people in this community are eager and willing to extend their friendship. Within a few days I was feeling right at home. I plan to make Athabasca my home because there is so much good here. A positive lifestyle that only a small community can provide. That's why many people in this community, including myself, find the negative comments from the Edmonton media and AU employees annoying (we agree there may only be a few complainers but for some reason they are always the ones who seem to make themselves heard.)

If Jay Smith was misquoted, or the quote "the boondocks" was invented by The Journal reporter, there is still an underlying suggestion that Athabasca is the villain of the piece. In the past year or two The Journal and other Edmonton media have made statements that put the rap on this community. In all due respect, I personally cannot accept the suggestion that all negative media reports regarding the AU move to Athabasca have been contrived. We realize The Journal is anti-government having assumed the position of the unofficial opposition in the Alberta political arena. Therefore any form of decentralization which pulls people out of Edmonton is dumb and outrageous. I guess what I'm saying is the big city media have seldom, if ever, reported the positive aspects or the relocation of AU. The people of the Athabasca region feel there are positive aspects. Only through the local media can these positive things be emphasized. The Advocate has a small voice in terms of Edmonton media. Because we are small, it is very easy to say we don't check our facts, that we're amateurs who should jump every time an academic or big wheel says we're wrong. Having spent fourteen years in this business, with a respectable record of accomplishment such allegations are objectionable and unacceptable.


In an effort to help local people understand AU and its people we have published numerous articles from your public relations department and carried a weekly column by Jim Neaves, your liaison officer in Athabasca. All of this information is 'second hand', but it has been published without question. There is no doubt it is slanted, coloured, biased...but at least it is positive. If you want to weigh journalistic integrity against public relations hype there is quite a creditability gap.

In closing I would like to point out that my first obligation is to the community I live in. I don't tell people to go shop at West Edmonton Mall (in fact I strongly discourage it) because we have to support each other in order to help our community grow. I don't knock the school system because I know it's as good as most in Alberta. I support rural lifestyles because I believe it's the best way to live. People are honest, hard-working and willing to compromise.

All this might seem like motherhood and apple pie philosophy to you, but I happen to think those things are important - important enough to defend when they come under attack...for whatever reason.

I am also quite willing to apologize to Mr. Jay Smith, not because of your letter, or his, or the phone call from public relations director Joan Carter. If Mr. Smith didn't call Athabasca "the boondocks" I feel a lot better, and so do a lot of other people. But the fact still remains nearly one-half million people read the Edmonton Journal and to them, Athabasca has been portrayed as a hick town.

That, Mr. Henry, is the underlying problem and like it or not, Athabascans really can't do a damn thing about it.

Athabasca University 
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

Acc. No.:

THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Sunday, June 10, 1984

Staff told to make best of Athabasca U's move

The Alberta government was wrong to move Athabasca University but staff must make the best of a bad thing to ensure the organization's survival, says the university's former president.

The university has a promising future if the staff work together to overcome the obstacles resulting from the government's decision, Sam Smith said Saturday following his convocation address to the school's 42 new graduates.

Smith said staff shouldn't let the "niggling" problems of the move get in the way of teaching students.

The government's 1980 decision to move the correspondence university to Athabasca from Edmonton created a furore among staff, prompting the resignations of Smith, board chairman Edward Checkland and some professors.

At the time, Smith called the government's action an attack on the "autonomy and integrity of the university."

Current President Stephen Grew acknowledged there will be

some problems but he expects they will be overcome in time.

"Athabasca University will survive, healthier and stronger than ever," he told the graduates.

Bill Birge, co-ordinator of facilities and services, estimated about 35 of the 120 academic and administrative staff won't move as well as 50 per cent of the support staff. The move still angers people, Birge said.

One graduate was Gary Winker, 38, who's serving five years for fraud at the Bowden Institute. The university has given him hope for the future, particularly in bettering his job chances once he is out of prison, Winker said.

With more help like that offered by Athabasca University, more inmates could make it on the outside, Winker said. "What the availability of education has meant to me is that I've been able to spend my spare time productively, and that will end up being a benefit to the Canadian taxpayer."

NOTEBOOK



Soup's on

New chef George Kolic stirs things up at the University Club. (The club's new manager, Joy Staines, didn't want to be in the picture.)

Beat It: At last, there's a way to take out your frustrations with your computer terminal—a way that doesn't damage the walls, your fellow workers, or the equipment. Punch-In, available at the Open Door gift shop for \$4.98, is a soft foam miniature terminal and keyboard. "Punch, squeeze and throw me!" the instructions urge. The booklet also explains start-up procedures ("step on me") and trouble-shooting tips ("tax evasion made easy").

Epithets (1): We understand that in some quarters the new portable buildings between Physics and Biology are being referred to as Stephenson Hall I and II.

Epithets (2): There was a headline in the Financial Post the other day which read, "Another coup for Waterloo"—something to do with one of the recent big deals between UW and the corporate sector. And so a Post reader of our acquaintance is starting to refer to all of these deals (IBM, DEC, H-P, ICR, OUP) as "Watcoups".

Epithets (3): "When I arrived at the University of Waterloo in 1967," writes a mathematical faculty member, apropos of last week's reference to Dr. Ken Fryer as an early mainstay of the variety show FASS, "and saw advertisements for FASS, I naturally asked the derivation of the name. I was told that it stood for Fryer, Adlington, Students and Staff—a justifiable tribute to the contribution of Ken Fryer."

800 numbers: An operation called the Annenberg/CPB Project, funded by a private foundation and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, is about to offer its first extension courses for students across the United States. They are available, says a recent ad, through "on-air broadcast, cable, cassette and ITFS". Sorry, no indication what ITFS stands for. But you can find out more, says the ad, by phoning 1-800-LEARNER. (We have a sneaking suspicion it won't work in Canada.)

Prize for Pearson: Dr. Bill Pearson, variously known on campus as a former dean of science and a seller of excellent brown eggs, is also a distinguished researcher in the field of

crystal structures, somewhere on the borders of metallurgy, chemistry and physics. To recognize a lifetime of work in the field, The Metals Society has just given Pearson its Hume-Rothery Prize, which carries a token £200 cheque plus a great deal of honour. The citation notes that the prize honours Pearson's "many theoretical and experimental investigations into alloy phase relationships and especially... massive contributions to knowledge of lattice spacings and crystal structures of alloy phases". He has turned the £200 over to UW's Watfund, as a little boost to the academic development fund.

Raises at WLU: Wilfrid Laurier University has announced the salary increases which its faculty and staff members will receive this year. The increase will be 4.1 per cent for faculty, senior executives, and "executive-professional" staff, and 4.2 per cent for secretarial-clerical, technical and food services staff, plus 1 per cent for merit increases in all cases.

Watnews retires: For years now, a UW agency called the Computer Systems Group has been distributing Waterloo-developed software to educational institutions (and sometimes businesses) around the world, bringing in more than \$2 million last year alone. CSG has been publishing a newsletter, called Watnews, to explain and promote its products. But the university has now contracted with a private firm, Watcom, to be the distributor of UW's products, with CSG to concentrate on software development. Along with the UW distribution system, the UW newsletter is being closed down, its latest issue reports. Subscribers will start receiving something called Watcom News instead.

Ah, research parks: A cluster of articles in the latest issue of the magazine *Technology Review* considers whether technology parks and similar concentrations, in the style of Route 128 in Massachusetts and Silicon Valley in California, are really the salvation of universities, industries and the developed world. They're certainly a complicated phenomenon, and a major one in the world of higher education in the 1980's. "We chose to be near MIT because it helped us," says one graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who's now heading a software firm out on Route 128. "It is not a matter of proximity. It is a matter of never having left."

Scholarships up: The value of Ontario Graduate Scholarships is—like most things financed by the Ontario government—going up by 5 per cent this year. That will take the value to \$2,035 per term. The Ontario Council on University Affairs has recommended to the government that the number of OGS awards be increased this year (it has been 1,200 ever since 1978) but the government said no; and education minister Dr. Bette Stephenson has reserved judgement on another OCUA recommendation, making it easier for landed immigrants (as opposed to Canadian citizens) to get the scholarships. They are a major source of graduate student support, especially in non-scientific fields of study.

Athabasca moves: Athabasca University is telling its students that "Relocation of the university's central offices from Edmonton to Athabasca will occur from May through December 1984," and that "there may be unavoidable delays or interruptions in services to students," although the staff will do their best. One pivotal date: July 9, when

Athabasca's main phone number will change from 453-3466 in Edmonton to 675-6111 in the town of Athabasca, Alberta.

Five thousand of them: Correspondence students at UW have been told that they're going to get some attention from the university's development programme, although there are no specific plans yet. In the latest issue of the quarterly newsletter *The Correspondent*, the director of development, Jon Dellandrea, says, "I think we might be able to set out a project that would be of interest to correspondence students." That would likely be a fund-raising effort to pay for some new departure in distance education. Dellandrea adds: "I think chequebooks are only the second or third priority from correspondence students as far as we're concerned." Higher priority is "a friendly attitude", says the article in *The Correspondent*, as manifested in "a letter to politicians, urging proper funding for universities, or a word in the ear of someone at the corporations where they work".

Lionel Robbins: He was a distinguished economist and academic, and then in 1961 the British prime minister persuaded him to

chair a committee on higher education. That committee's work, which led to enormous expansion of the British university system, establishment of polytechnics, and other changes aimed at bringing higher education to all the people, made him the father of the system which now exists, and along the way he became Lord Robbins. He died in May at the age of 85.

One-tenth scale: Charlie Gardner may be retired as manager of the engineering machine shop, but he was on campus first thing on Monday morning—in the president's office, to show Dr. Doug Wright the memento he was presented at last week's going-away party. It's a fully working miniature model of the machine shop's old workhorse Standard Modern lathe—made of brass, aluminum and gleaming dark wood by the guys in the shop, presumably in moments when Gardner wasn't keeping an eye on them. Wright was away the day of the going-away party, which drew a sizeable crowd of Gardner's friends, but said he was delighted to see the little lathe and its new owner this week.

PROFILE

He tends microscopes

An electron microscope costs dozens of thousands of dollars, requires careful adjustment and looks like something out of a science-fiction movie, but the "real art" doesn't involve the microscope itself, says technician Dale Weber.

The creative part of the job, he says, and the part which takes the most time, is preparing biological specimens in super-thin slices so the microscope's stream of electrons can view them.

Insect cells, fish sperm, pollen grains and viruses are among the tiny animal and plant items which can be seen more sharply with an electron microscope—able to magnify up to 500,000 times—than through a standard optical microscope. Weber's work involves preparing such specimens, or showing biology faculty and students how to do it.

And, he adds, it's up to him to "babysit" the biology department's three electron microscopes (two of the "transmission" kind, which see right through thin specimens, and one a "scanning" microscope, good for examining surfaces).

With the transmission microscope, a stream of electrons passes through a tissue sample, and strikes a phosphorescent plate. The result: a bright image which shows cell walls, mitochondria and other details of cell structure.

But a researcher can only turn off the lights in the electron microscope room and start to look at those tissue samples after somebody—often, Weber—has prepared them: embedded a tiny chunk of tissue in wax (or, nowadays, more often plastic), sliced it carbon-paper-thin with a glass knife, and "stained" it with heavy metals to make the hard structures harder and keep the tissue from breaking down under the electrons' bombardment.

That's where the "art" comes in, notably the art of getting the microtome (the slicing machine) to do just what you want it to. That's also where technological improvements have affected Weber's job in the years he has been doing electron microscope work, too. The big machines themselves are much the same as they were (one of UW's dates from the 1960's and should be, Weber predicts, still useful well into the 1990's). But new plastics and better "fixation" chemicals are changing the way microscope slides are made.

Weber has been a technician in the biology department since 1973, originally "helping with the undergraduate labs and in the summer helping with research". That research work got him involved in histology—the study of tissue structure—and that qualified him for the electron microscopy job when it came along in the late 1970's.

"What better place to work?" he

asked himself when he started at UW, and he says he still has the same atti-



tude. One cherished part of his job: "meeting and interacting with very interesting people from all over the world. It's a very cosmopolitan little community we have here."

He says getting to know biology graduate students from "Ethiopia, South America, everywhere" is a temporary substitute for going to see those places himself. "I'd love to travel." He and his wife Anne, a senior demonstrator in the school of optometry, did get to Europe on their honeymoon, and he gets excited as he describes everything they saw there.

They continue to enjoy "the romance of travelling and food" through cooking, wine-tasting ("we belong to several groups") and wine-making.

"My family and home life is probably the most important thing to me," Weber says, mentioning a garden and a 16-month-old daughter. "I used to play squash," he adds, "but I took up running a couple of years ago."

Chris Redmond

GAZETTE

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Advertising, except for Unclassified personal ads, is not accepted, but all announcements about UW affairs will be carried without charge in the appropriate space, subject to editing. Letters and submissions are welcome. Editorial material may be reprinted freely; credit would be appreciated.

28 May 1985,
The Echo

Perspective

Relocation

Kerry Joyce
Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE



Rapacious rents

The prices people have to pay for rental units in the Athabasca area are outrageous.

While the real estate market in larger centres is reeling from the economic downfall, and landlords are no longer lords of their apartment complexes who can charge what they want at will, and are in fact battling each other for rental dollars, Athabasca is still a landlords market.

With the scarcity of rental units in the area the unfortunate person or family that has to move into the area is faced with two choices from the reigning lords of the land — take what I have to offer or don't take anything at all.

While other community newspapers can fill columns with For Rent classified ads, in Athabasca it's a rarity. And if you're lucky enough to spot one, a quick phone call will like-

ly end up with a repetitive answer. Sorry, it's taken.

The newest rental complex in the Town of Athabasca is a classic example, although the landlords there are not alone in their arrogance.

For months the landlords were using gimmicks such as free color televisions, free microwave ovens, and finders fees as an incentive to fill the building.

They reduced rents (from already absurdly high prices) in an effort to woo the renter.

But was this done for the benefit of the would-be tenant? Of course not. The developer had to have his complex 90 per cent occupied before a certain date or he would lose a portion of their investment as agreed to before construction.

And now, the building is virtually filled, and the landlords have decided to raise the rent \$20 for any newcomers.

To charge \$388 for a single bedroom apartment (and that is subsidized. Big deal!) is highway robbery.

Of course you can argue that they can charge anything they want within the framework of provincial legislation.

However, you have to sympathize with the low-income family and single people who are subject to these outrageous rents in light of the economy.

And the construction of the Cornwall Place Complex was financed in part through the Alberta Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Here is an example of "The Heritage Fund Working in Your Community."

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Is it really necessary?

What do you think of Sunday shopping

Last Thursday a representative from the Retail Merchants Association of Canada met with the Athabasca Chamber of Commerce to discuss proposed legislation which would make it illegal to open most retail outlets on Sundays. According to the RMA spokesman, the regulations presently in force under the Lord's Day Act would be revised to be more effective. Legal language will replace the religious connotations of the Lord's Day Act.

Regardless of how the new rules are written, there is a need to set rules which will stand up in a court of law. Existing legislation is weak and provides paltry penalties for those who break the law.

Sunday opening is just another attempt by big business to undermine and eventually destroy small town business. If Sunday becomes a day of opening in Edmonton, every little community in northern Alberta will have to follow suit. Costs for additional staff and increased operational expenses will deal a deadly blow to small business.

It may be fine to say the consumer is the ultimate critic, the person who will spend his dollar where and when he feels like it. Unfortunately, the concept is not a practical one. The only way it makes sense is if rural people want to spend all their money in Edmonton. It will soon come to that if rural business trade is destroyed.

This week the Alberta Liquor Control Board announced reduced shopping hours and staff for Edmonton and Calgary liquor stores. There is a

message in this decision by the provincial government. Even in the highly profitable liquor business the cost of extended and often unnecessary hours, take away from the bottom line. Not many businesses, in Edmonton or in rural Alberta work on the type of profit margin the ALCB does.

While it is correct to say the ALCB has a captive audience, the decision to cut hours and staff stems from the fact approximately \$5 million will be saved by the move. Very few rural businesses even gross that much, in fact there are many small communities where the entire business community cannot generate such a volume.

Consumers must realize increased shopping hours reflect higher prices. In a community such as Athabasca or Boyle one night of late shopping is just about all the businessman can stand. Even then, there are many nights when extra hours do not produce enough sales to pay for the staff and lights.

If forced to do so, local business will stay open longer hours, perhaps even Sunday, but the consumer will pay the extra cost. In a few weeks the Athabasca Chamber of Commerce will be circulating a shopping survey. One of the questions will concern Sunday shopping...are you for or against? Maybe it is time the consumers in the greater Athabasca region make it very clear where they stand on Sunday shopping, and other matters concerning local business. The answers and suggestions generated by the survey will be a determining factor in the future of Athabasca's business community.

AU should start hiring people now

One of the major concerns facing Athabasca University as it makes its move from the bright lights of Edmonton to the whispering hills of Athabasca is staffing. With the move less than one year away, there is still much uncertainty as to how many of the present staff will continue to work for AU here in Athabasca.

With upwards of 200 employees, AU officials anticipated a degree of confusion however it appears the problems may be a blessing in disguise for job-hunting Athabascans. Although there are few people in the community who are looking for academic positions, the list of clerical hopefuls is long and deep. It appears the most uncertainty concerning AU staff transfers is in the area of clerical expertise. A good number of the employees in this category are not under contract and could terminate their services with two weeks notice. Therefore AU's personnel

department really won't know where they stand until the last moment.

It would seem to be in the best interests of AU to advertise for clerical and support positions now, and keep a record of prospective employees. Some could be hired now and told their duties will begin three or four months down the road. Apparently AU has received extra funding to double-staff some positions in order to train new employees. If this is so, prospective employees should be hired now in order to become competent in their new positions.

The Athabasca region has a chronic unemployment problem. AU has provided a great deal of hope for many. Special secretarial courses have been offered and enrollments have been to the maximum. Obviously not all who need a job will be hired. There are just too many. But for those who are, the arrival of AU will be the biggest thing since sliced bread.

Get ready for family fun at the Frosty Festival

Plans for the Frosty Festival are well underway. Publicity director Dale Wuschke reports there will be a wide variety of activities offered during the three-day celebration on February 17 - 19.

One of the newer attractions is the Fur Exhibit. Furs and related exhibits will be accepted at the Athabasca Performing Arts centre on Friday, February 17 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Judging will take place at 2:00 p.m. The public will be able to view the exhibits on Saturday and Sunday.

There will be a dog sled pull. Bud Goupil attended last Wednesday night's

meeting and confirmed the pull will be held. It is an excellent attraction which will enhance the festival.

The major event will be the Kinsmen coordinated snowmobile events which will include oval racing, cross-country racing, drags and a poker rally. There will also be oval racing for bikes and trikes. The action will take place at the Lions Rodeo and Race Track just north of the Athabasca River Bridge.

Other attractions include a Heritage Day Dance sponsored by the Athabasca Kinettes, a bingo sponsored by the Athabasca Lions and a festival-type promotion by the local business community.

NEWS ITEM: ACES 50'S DANCE BRINGS BACK OLD MEMORIES.



AU move almost complete

Athabasca University experienced a historic occasion last Thursday afternoon as the Governing Council held their first official meeting in their new building. During the three-hour session several important matters came up for discussion.

Council was told the relocation program is all but completed. With the Library move beginning this week the only department still located in Edmonton is the Course Materials section which is slated to come to Athabasca in the beginning of December. According to reports the move went well.

33 positions filled locally...

Vice-President Neil Henry reported 33 positions, primarily support staff, have been filled from the Athabasca area and that as many as 18 more could be filled by local people once all the recruitment has been completed.

Staff vacancies were created by resignations as some Edmonton employees declined to make the move to Athabasca. Henry provided a breakdown of resignations since July 31, 1983 which showed 32 professional and 50 support staff tendered their resignations since that time.

Promotion of junior staff and local recruitment have helped in filling a large number of support staff positions however there are two areas of concern. AU is experiencing difficulty in recruiting professional Computing and Administrative Studies staff. The reason for the difficulty is tough competition in the labour market for these two particular fields of expertise.

More apartments needed...

To date approximately 100 AU employees from outside Athabasca have found accommodation in the area. Another 38 are commuting at the present time. Neil Henry told Council the greatest need is one-bedroom apartments. AU has enlisted the services of a local real estate firm to find rental accommodation when it becomes available however the market is tight.

An apartment planned on the site next to the

Town of Athabasca's administration building has failed to materialize to the disappointment of AU officials. Alberta Home Mortgage lending policies limit their participation to 65 per cent of the value of the project. Under current financing conditions the 35 per cent required by the developer often is too great to get the project underway.

Henry says a new lending program under CMHC is being introduced in Alberta. The Canadian Rental Supply Program (CRSP) is designed to help developers overcome the situation by offering an interest-free 15 year-second mortgage for up to 20 per cent of the project.

The program is intended for communities where the need for rental units exceeds the market and development is curtailed by lack of developer funding by conventional lending agencies.

The search begins...

President Stephen Griew has declined the opportunity to continue as head of Athabasca University for another term and his leaving will implement a world-wide search for a replacement. Council addressed the situation and discussed a draft of a memorandum of procedures for the search for the new president. The process has to be completed by September of 1985 under the terms of the draft.

Although the position will be advertised world-wide Canadian Immigration requirements say the successful candidate must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident unless a suitable candidate cannot be found. If this happens, candidates from other countries can be considered.

Dick Hobbs, a Council member and retired Barrhead area businessman, was involved with the last presidential search. He was appointed to Council on the same day the move to Athabasca was announced. "We had a stack of applications two-feet high...shortlisting was an incredible task." Hobbs said he enjoyed the job because it allowed him to meet interesting and highly qualified people. "Not all of the applicants had the qualities we wanted in a president but it was fun talking to them anyway."

Oct 2 1984 The Athabasca Advocate p1

up
RELOCATION

HU -

March 6, 1985

AU Insider 8

ATHABASCA WOLVERINES
HOCKEY CLUB



**ROCK CABARET
AND
DANCE**

**Saturday March 16, 1985
8:30 p.m.**

Athabasca Community Centre

**Midnight Lunch
TICKETS \$7.50**

No Minors Admitted

**Advance Tickets Available at:
Red Rooster Store**

OR

**Athabasca University
telephone: 675-6111**

OR

from Club Members

Members and Invited Guests

Governing Council Briefs

by Joan Carter

The 58th regular meeting of the Athabasca University Governing Council was held on February 27 in the Council Chambers in Athabasca. Some of the major actions taken were as follows:

1985-86 budget guidelines set

Following a review by VPUS Neil Henry of extensive documentation on the university's financial situation, present and projected, Governing Council authorized the following:

- Preparation of a regular operating budget for 1985-86 not to exceed \$15.2 million (an increase of approximately \$1.2 million over 1984-85), with an estimated commitment level in 1986-87 not to exceed \$15.4 million.
- The retroactive allocation of 1981-82 and 1982-83 relocation planning costs totalling approximately \$400,000 to the relocation budget.
- Preparation of a special budget for capital, term, and other limited project expenditures, considering annualized operating impact, if any, to be funded by an allocation from accrued operating surplus not to exceed \$1 million in 1985-86 and \$1.9 million in 1986-87.
- Preparation of a regular capital budget for 1985-86 not to exceed \$200,000.

The university expects to finish the 1984-85 fiscal year (March 31) with an accrued operating surplus of \$2.3 million because of: (i) temporarily high interest income derived from relocation project cash flow (a temporary situation), (ii) underspending because of delayed hiring of new and replacement staff before and during relocation (special circumstance), and (iii) unexpectedly high tuition revenue. The guidelines call for maintenance of a healthy surplus against funding uncertainty of approximately one-third the present level.

At its February 25 meeting, Academic Council elected Hendrik Slegtenhorst, Barbara Spronk, and Harvey Passis to serve on the Budget Committee.

Final update on relocation presented

In presenting his final update on relocation, VPUS Neil Henry reported that, as of mid-February, there were 19 professional vacancies. The situation in Administrative Studies appears to be improving, while recruitment to Computing Services is expected to remain a problem. Support staff recruitment is well under control, although a smaller second wave of relocation-related resignations may occur in the spring.

Although the housing situation is presently under control, it is being monitored closely. Current vacancies, commuters, and new budget positions could bring 50 to 60 new households into the area over the next six months, he said.

Athabasca University
Archives
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by Cass Paul. clip
relocation

AU EDMONTON FAREWELL PARTY SONGS

JUNE 22, 1984

Parts:

All -- everyone
Horsman -- all men
Sam -- all women
Premier -- staff members who have power
staff -- all staff (except Neil)
" " -- spoken bits (Neil or Chuck or Jane or Lorraine)

1. SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY (All)

Goin' to take a sentimental journey
Back through time at old AU
Then I'll contact my attorney
And decide which ones to sue

Packed my bags, I've got my "cv" ready,
Lookin' for jobs across the land
'til I find a job that's steady
Retribution I'll demand.

"This relocation idea, it all began about 1977. It was just a ho-hum (Hohall) issue around the cabinet -- little did they know that by the time it took effect in 1984, it would be called a mega-project. It all began when the Premier gave some instructions to Jim Horsman, his new Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower:"

2. HOME IN THE HILLS: (Premier)

Oh give them a home where no one else roams
Where the deer and the antelope are slain
Show the urbans effete the real prairie wheat
And teach them the ways of the plain.

Home, home in the hills
(Where is that place, anyway?)
Where seldom is heard a four-letter word
And the skies are at twilight all day.

"The staff had heard rumours of a pending relocation (the Spronk estate in St. Albert was a prime site) but they scoffed at the idea."

3. THAT'LL BE THE DAY (Staff)

Well, that'll be the day when we say goodbye
Yes, that'll be the day when you make us cry
You say we're goin' to move but that is just a lie
Cuz that'll be the day when we die

"So, even though it wasn't his idea, the Minister called the AU President for consultation (an hour before he announced the decision made two years previously). Fortunately, Sam Smith was a Liberal."

4. THEY'LL HAVE TO GO (Horsman to Smith):

Put your tutors a little closer to the phone
Cuz you're moving to the midnight twilight zone
From 'neath Alberta's lengthy shadow now you'll grow
And you can tell your staff there with you, they'll have to go.

5. A HUNDRED MILES (Horsman, Staff)

HORSMAN: A hundred miles a hundred miles a hundred miles up the road
It's distance education in your new abode

STAFF: A hundred miles, a hundred miles, a hundred miles up the road
We're off to tell CAUT all about this episode

"Sam wasn't too happy about all this."

6. IF I HAD MY WAY (Sam)

You read about Manning and the AU birth
It was the strongest distance place upon this earth
Hohall and Horsman, together they did plot
And when they had finished, our ideals all were shot
If I had my way, If I had my way, If I had my way
I'd tear that building down.

7. SINGIN' THE BLUES

Well, I never felt more like singing the blues
Cuz, I never thought that I'd ever move
Oh Horsman, why'd you do me this way?
Well, I never felt more like crying all night
Cuz everything's wrong and nothin' ain't right
Without AU, you got me singing the blues.

Dan and John'll no longer shine
The dream is gone I thought was mine
The only thing that is left for me
Is to find another presidency

Well, I never felt more like runnin' away
Cuz I never thought that I couldn't stay
At AU, they got me singin' the blues.

"After the initial anger, the staff settled into general bitterness, cynicism and ire, but this was soon replaced by bile and hatred. Then they got more philosophical:"

8. I'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER AU (Staff)

There's a new world somewhere, they call the promised land
And I'll be there someday if they'll just understand
But as I leave this place behind me, I don't know what to do
For I know I'll never find another AU.

It's a long long journey to find another job
No matter where I go, I'll miss this mob, miss this mob,
If they gave me a fortune, my pleasure would be small
What would I do without West Edmonton Mall?
I still need course teams beside me no matter what I do
For I know I'll never find another AU.

"Many thought of commuting, but they quickly realized that it was a long, long way (though some have already petitioned Betty Hewes for a Via Go-Train):"

9. IT'S A LONG WAY TO ATHABASCA: (Staff who plan to commute)

It's a long way to Athabasca, such a long way to go
It's a long way to Athabasca to the biggest flies I know
We will travel in the footsteps of the Athabasca Trail
It's a long long way to Athabasca, you must go, by mail.

"Even after the Commission Report supported the relocation, some staff were still trying to reverse the decision:"

10. HANG DOWN YOUR HEAD, JIM HORSMAN: (Staff)

This time tomorrow, reckon where I'll be
Out in some wooded building, attending DSC
Hang down your head, Jim Horsman
Hang down your head and cry
Hang down your head, Jim Horsman
Why can't you tell us why?

"And, when all else failed, you could always blame it on the people who are paid to take the blame for everyone else's failings (this line paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Tim Byrne, Sam Smith and Stephen Griew):"

11. THE THREE STARS: (Staff)

Look into the skies, up above tonight
There shine three stars, the ones who made our plight
The presidential three, in our hearts embossed,
Pulling in three directions, no wonder we got lost.

"On the left stands Tim Byrne, using his intercom
His ideals came first, he wrote the ID Psalm
He gave us Ancient Roots in the name of inter-D
But we won't forget him, cuz he's writing the history."

"In the middle paces Sam, he's never ever still
To prevent our relocation, it took all his skill
But, sadly, he was unsuccessful, they ignored his noble plea
But we rewarded him anyway with an honorary degree."

"On the right stands our Stephen, (I think he's in that smoke)
He thought the relocation was just an Alberta joke
But when he found they meant it, he confronted the beast
By flying off to Toronto and other places east."

"So today is to say thank you, to those who stood it all. And it's
also to remember, cuz that's the one thing they can't relocate. This
song doesn't remember all the originals, like the wives of defeated
leadership candidates and the Channel 10 interviewers and the others
who comprise the AU mythology. Instead, it pays homage (of sorts) to
those who "chose to leave or had to leave because of relocation"
(excerpt from AU Mission Statement)..."

12. MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS: (all, unless it's you we're singing
of)

Take one cuddly Woolsey bear
(sweet sweet, the memories you gave to us)
Add the amazing Jensen pair
(you can't beat the memories you gave to us)
The Larry Ridges
And Linda Bridges
ACCESS Chuck
and Gordichuk
Memories are made of this

Then take the man from Birge
(PLEEZE -- he drove us to the verge)
Two Anns and Marys add the flavour
Sexy voices like the Lorraines'
And the Tomislavian brains
These are the memories we will savour

Have some madeira, Linda, dear
Barry's come back to give us cheer
One Kate, one Tom,
Served long, with aplomb

Memories are made of this.

Then there's the registry's Pryde
Pamela right by her side
How can we survive without them?
Joanne selling songs and eggs
Donna wanting longer legs
Let me tell you all about them

Take one Gwen and Second Giles
With Joan McKee to keep the files
"Teli" Don, Robertson
Melanie, Cori, and the Loris
Memories are made of this.

Sherry, Vi and John Smyrnew
Several Sues (and Patrick, too)
Wanda, Chris Swann and the Vivians
When you lose an Alan Meech
No one else can fill the breach
Are we headed for oblivion?

Take one Del and one Lynn
Gail Blocka, the Ruby twins
Marilyn, and Zimmerman
The debt we're owing Maja Hoeing
Memories are made of this

If you take away Mike and Wayne
Betty, Lloyd and Bente Cochrane
What will you do for an encore?
Software Steve, Jean-Claude and crew
Take away Frank and Colleen too
And all the funds will be drawn more

Names like Deb and Sylvia
Phoebe, Dolores, Salina
Jennifer and Louise
Elly and Denise
Memories are made of this

If I forgot your name,
I accept the complete blame,
You can vote to extend my probation
But since to your name I gave no voice
It seems that you have no choice
But to be part of relocation.

Sweet sweet, the memories you gave to us...etc.

"So, we're on to a new era. Those who are leaving will be missed but the spirit of AU will prevail. Whether you're going north or just going, please join us in the two AU theme songs:"

13. ATHATHABASCA: (staff, Horsman)

They looked into St. Albert and north to Chipewyan
They even tried Regina but that's in Saskatchewan
They looked at Drayton Valley and even Stony Plain
But every time they thought of it, they came back to the name.

CHORUS: Oh, Atha Athabasca is the place the we must go
Atha Athabasca, where winds of change do blow
In the town of Athabasca, they know what is the score
Atha Athabasca, we're going in '84.

HORSMAN: You're in distance education, but you'll never make it pay
Unless we pick you up and move you very far away
And just to be certain there's no credibility gap
We'll move you to the town that's in the centre of the map.

CHORUS

They thought of Fort McMurray and other places east
Of Wabasca and Carcajou and even Lac La Biche
Manyberries, Grouard, every town that staked its claim
But every time they thought of it, the answer was the same.

CHORUS

They never thought of Edmonton, or even Lake Louise,
Nor any other attraction that might the inmates please
They scoffed at Banff and Jasper, those places were too known
They had to find a little town far away from home.

CHORUS

"And even if you leave us, you can stay in touch by enrolling in AU courses:"

14. STAY HOME AND GO TO UNIVERSITY: (A11)

Stay home and go to university
Three credits at a time
We'll help you through all adversity
Even if you've passed your prime

You don't have to go to lectures and labs
There really is no fuss
No more mugging on the way to class
Nor catching the school bus. You just...

Stay home and go to university
You can do it in bed
Overcome all obversity
There's nothing more to dread

No more hassles from nagging profs
No more dirty looks
No more checking if your homework's right
The answers are in the books. You just...

Stay home and go to university
Get that distance beat
Don't worry 'bout cultural diversity
There's no one else to meet.

And if you study eight hours a day
'til 1993
You'll be older and wiser then
(You might even get a degree). Just...

Stay home and go to university
It's the way to educate
Stay home and go to university
You'll never have to graduate.

Advertisement

To appear in 11 Edmonton area
weeklies (within Edmonton
free-calling zone), week of
May 28.

Athabasca University ...on the move

The central offices of Athabasca University are relocating from Edmonton to Athabasca May through December 1984. Moving a university is not easy; there will be some unavoidable delays and disruptions. We ask for your patience and understanding.

Registry Closure - Relocation of the Registry will force its closure and the suspension of most registry services June 18 - July 6. Registry information: **452-9990**, until June 24; **675-6111**, after June 24.

New Edmonton Office - The university's new regional office in Edmonton will open **June 4** at **10324-82 (Whyte) Avenue** to provide in-person services (information, counselling, registration, etc.) to Edmonton and area students. After June 4, the university's west end offices will no longer provide these services.

For more information, call: **Edmonton**, 453-3466 (until June 3), 432-1550 (after June 3); **Toll-free long distance in Alberta**, ZENITH 22273.

*We're just relocating,
not dislocating*



copy
various

~~Advertisement~~
To appear in 53 Alberta weeklies,
(outside Edmonton and area)
week of May 28

Athabasca University ...on the move

The central offices of Athabasca University are relocating from Edmonton to Athabasca May through December 1984. Moving a university is not easy; there will be some unavoidable delays and disruptions. We ask for your patience and understanding.

Registry Closure - Relocation of the Registry will force its closure and the suspension of most registry services June 18 - July 6. Registry information: **452-9990**, until June 24; **675-6111**, after June 24.

Regional Services - Services provided by the university's regional operations in **Calgary, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, and Grande Prairie** will be largely unaffected.

For more information, call: **toll-free long distance in Alberta, ZENITH 22273; Edmonton, 453-3466** (until June 3), **432-1550** (after June 3); **Calgary, 262-4522; Fort McMurray, 743-1846; Grande Prairie, 539-2062; Athabasca, 675-5800** (until July 9), **675-6111** (after July 9).

*We're just relocating,
not dislocating*



copy
variation

Date May 22, 1984

T. Edge



Memorandum

RECEIVED

MAY 22 1984

To **Distribution Below**
From Joan Carter, Public Affairs Co-ordinator
Subject **Relocation Information**

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY

The attached materials are for your information/awareness. They are part of on-going efforts by many (i) to keep the university's various publics informed of relocation-related developments, and (ii) indirectly, to increase awareness of AU.

Relocation Bulletin - The purpose and distribution are outlined in issue Number 1, dated May 17. Please keep me informed of developments, things that could/should be covered. "Bulletins" to be issued this week will cover the Edmonton office opening in more detail and relocation of the Registry.

Notice to Edmonton and Area Students - In this case, the "Relocation Bulletin" letterhead was simply used for expediency (no new design required). That is why this "Bulletin" is not numbered or dated.

Relocation Ads - The major purpose of these ads is to create awareness and, one hopes, empathy for our situation, as opposed to conveying a great deal of "hard" information. Details re publication of the advertisements in Alberta dailies are presently being finalized. Costs for this advertising are being borne by the relocation budget.

If you have questions or concerns, please call.

Joan

Joan

Distribution: S. Griew
N. Henry
R. Paul
K. Baker
B. Birge
B. Gibson
C. Nelson
J. Woolsey

Managers
AUGC

Attached

JC/amm



RELOCATION BULLETIN

12352-149 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1G9

Number 2, May 18, 1984

UNIVERSITY'S RELOCATION ON SCHEDULE

The relocation of the central offices of Athabasca University to Athabasca are under way and are on schedule. The complete move will occur May through December, 1984, and will involve more than 200 staff positions. The university will remain open for business throughout the move period and will make every effort to minimize disruptions in services to students. The first major department move, Computing Services, will occur June 6-11, with the bulk of the university move completed by mid-September.

Historic Occasion: History was made in early May when Athabasca University, following an inspection and subsequent commissioning, officially assumed control of the first phase of the new Athabasca facility. Previously, the university has operated out of rented facilities. Total commissioning of the new facility will occur in four phases; all are expected to be on schedule.

First Staff Begin Work from Athabasca Facility: Seven staff members are now working out of the Athabasca facility on a part-time or full-time basis. These include Neil Henry, Vice-President University Services, and Phil Rowlands, Director of Facilities Management.

Background: Carlson Management Services Ltd. of Edmonton was awarded the contract in March, 1983, for construction of the university's 11,975 gross square metre Athabasca facility at a tender price of \$13,249,592. This tender price was substantially below the \$18.3 million in funding for construction of permanent facilities which the Alberta government had approved in April, 1982.

New Edmonton Office: The university's new Northern Regional Office in Edmonton is opening June 4 to provide in-person services (information, counselling, registration, etc.) to Edmonton and area students. Effective June 4, the university's west end offices will no longer provide these services. However, other support functions will continue to be provided from the west end offices. The new Edmonton office address is
Athabasca University, Northern Regional Office
10324-82 (Whyte) Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1Z8
Telephone - 453-3466 (until June 3)
- 432-1550 (after June 3)

Other Regional Services: It is hoped that services provided by the university's regional operations in Calgary (262-4522), Fort McMurray (743-1846) and Grande Prairie (539-2062) will be largely unaffected by the relocation of the university's central offices. Check directly with these outlets for further information. The university's Athabasca Community Liaison Office number is 675-5800.

Contact: Joan Carter, Public Affairs Co-ordinator, 452-9990, 2207/8



RELOCATION BULLETIN

12352-149 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1G9

Number 1, May 17, 1984

INTRODUCING THE ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY "RELOCATION BULLETIN"

The central offices of Athabasca University are relocating from Edmonton to Athabasca, May through December 1984. Moving a university is not easy; there will be some unavoidable delays and disruption of services. Moving a university is also an interesting and challenging experience; there will be some good story and picture possibilities.

Purpose: The purpose of the "Relocation Bulletin" is to keep you up-to-date on our relocation -- progress on the new facility in Athabasca, the movement of staff and departments to Athabasca (which are scheduled for different times), and how all of this activity will affect the external world with which we deal, especially present and prospective students.

Distribution: Distribution of most "Bulletins" will be to co-operating institutions and agencies which provide some services to Athabasca University students, to selected Alberta media, to some government departments, and to the admissions/counselling offices of other Alberta institutions providing further education opportunities. Not all issues will be distributed to everyone on the list.

Format: Every effort will be made to keep the "Bulletins" brief. Only basic details will be provided, with the names and telephone numbers given of contact individuals who can provide additional information. They will not, in most cases, be written in news release format.

We hope you will find the "Relocation Bulletin" of interest and of use. Please feel free to circulate issues to others as appropriate. If you have suggestions for improving our relocation communication attempts, please contact Public Affairs.

Contact: Joan Carter
Public Affairs Co-ordinator
(403) 452-9990, Ext. 2207/8

Copy of letterhead used



Athabasca
University

RELOCATION BULLETIN

12352-149 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1G9

The Edmonton Office of Athabasca University is Moving

The university's new Northern Regional Office in Edmonton is opening **June 4**.

**Athabasca University
Northern Regional Office
10324-82 (Whyte) Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1Z8
Phone: 432-1550**

Note: In-person services that students have received from the university's west end offices will, effective June 4, be available through the new Edmonton office. Other support functions—library, academic, and tutorial services—will continue to be provided through the west end offices. The **1984/85 Athabasca University Calendar** will give details of the relocation dates of these departments to Athabasca.

Services Available at the New Edmonton Office (effective June 4)

- Registration and course materials pick-up for most courses
- Information • Program advice • Counselling*
- Examination supervision* • Information on financial aid and awards
- Computer terminals for student use* • Audio-visual materials*
- Seminars (as scheduled)

**Please phone to arrange an appointment/booking at a time convenient to you.*

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday - 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

(Please Note: Registration and course materials will be available only until 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays)

**For more information: 453-3466 (before June 4)
432-1550 (after June 4)**

May 17, 1984

*Mailed May 18 To
1,953 Edmonton and area AA students
(as per telephone exchange)*

Relocation (1984)

clip

Bowdens

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

(416) 598-2625 ✓

ATHABASCA
ATHABASCA, (1984)
W

FEB. 8

8/11/84 H.M.H.

Chamber of Commerce

Mall plans encouraging

C-5-6

Hal Harrison

What could be termed as an information meeting was held by the Athabasca and District Chamber of Commerce at noon at Thursday, February 2. Presentations were heard from Athabasca University, the Retail Merchants of Alberta and IDEX Development.

Ann Minns, after attending a Bridal Fair in Edmonton brought back suggestions that merchants in Athabasca could hold a small Fair of this kind and show prospective brides and grooms that they do not have to go to the city to get the materials, services and other things needed for their wedding and reception. Ann volunteered to work with the retail committee to try and set something up in the near future.

Jim Neaves, newly appointed Community Liaison Officer with Athabasca University gave a short presentation outlining plans of the University over the coming months which will see the shift made to the building in Athabasca. He

spoke about the impact which the move will have on the community and outlined some of the concerns still being felt about the relocation. He pointed out some of the possible job opportunities which will or could be inherent in the move as decisions are made by present staff members not to relocate, or services required which will not be contracted out. He stated that the A. Campbell Moving firm has been contracted to handle the moving of furnishings and said a suggestion for an unpacking crew was that locals be hired if they are available. Concerns are still being felt about the integration of the University community and the present community and how smoothly it can be accomplished.

While some portions of the University will move earlier the greatest portion of the shift will come in September and impact on the community will not likely really be felt much before next Christmas. Jim will be invited back at a later date

when he might be able to give more specific information on certain phases of the move.

Mr. Selt of the Retail Merchants' Assn spoke briefly asking for input into Bill 240 introduced last year to the Legislature as a private member's bill. The Bill represents a "Holiday" Closing Act and would take the place of the Federal Lords Day Act. Copies of the RMA handout are available from Secretary Joy Hayward. Mr. Selt said that the government is seeking input in order to pass legislation which would end the present Sunday opening war.

Jack Snary of IDEX Developments made a short presentation about the shopping mall in downtown Athabasca. He told the Chamber that he was present in Town that day contacting businesses and possible leases and was very encouraged about the contacts he had made before noon. He told the Chamber that the proposal would not detract business

Athabasca University 
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

Acc. No.:

2

from the downtown merchants the way some malls do. A more complimentary set-up is envisaged by the firm. There will be parking

space for 95 cars in the development if it goes ahead but it will not go ahead unless local businesses become

leasees. The grocery portion of the mall will take up 11,000 square feet of the 25,000 proposed by the developer.

University relocation incomplete

By JOANNE MUNRO

When the province decided in 1980 to relocate Athabasca University 145 km north, there was one positive aspect to the move. The name didn't have to be changed.

Seven years later, and three years after the distance education institution moved to the town of Athabasca, the process of relocation has proved painful and costly.

In keeping with its oil-boom years policy of economic decentralization, which was politically expedient if not economically sound, the Lougheed government selected the town of Athabasca over 21 other Alberta communities as home to the fledgling institution.

At the time the decision defied logic. The university, which began granting degrees in 1975, had a viable, established location in northwest Edmonton. It was able to tap the physical and human resources at the University of Alberta, attract and keep qualified staff and researchers.

But former advanced education minister Jim Horsman stood firm. "In this particular case, decentralization policies of this government overrode the concerns that had been expressed with regard to location," he said at the time.

The town's 1,900 residents were, predictably, overjoyed. The university relocation was expected to create jobs, a housing boom, a wider economic and tax base. It was going to put the town on the map.

Athabasca University staff were, predictably, horrified.

Citing the government's decision as a major attack on the autonomy and integrity of the university, its president Sam Smith resigned. His lead was quickly followed by other staff members, including the institution's longest-serving member of the governing council.

The relocation bill was hefty. Recent provincial figures show the new campus cost \$20.5 million to design and construct. Bringing roads and services, such as water,



University staff packed up and moved
... the government decision defied logic

additional \$5.2 million. And the institution was given a relocation grant of about \$2 million to offset the estimated one to two per cent higher costs associated with operating from Athabasca instead of Edmonton.

Terry Morrison, who became university president in August 1985, says the institution has created about 75 jobs for the town's residents. And the town's population has grown to about 2,400. But he acknowledges some problems still exist.

Wayne Allison, president of the university's faculty association, outlines the many human costs associated with relocation. Some of the problems have been overcome, many more remain. High staff turnover, staff members separated from spouses who continue to live and work in Edmonton, staff who commute from Edmonton to work each day, the lack of quality rental accommodation,

entertainment facilities, and difficulties professional staff have in doing research, continue to plague the institution.

Recently, the Spousal Employment Action Group, which includes both professional and support staff, prepared a report detailing the problems experienced by a large number of spouses of university staff. The group criticizes the institution for failing "to meet the legitimate expectations of these spouses for employment assistance" and suggests it establish an effective spousal employment policy which ensures fair treatment of employees' partners.

The report says lack of spousal employment causes poor morale and a high staff turnover.

If there is a positive aspect to the relocation, it's that students haven't suffered. Because courses are taken by correspondence, there is no need for a central campus. The university's growth rate was 18 per cent in 1986, and is expected to be 17 per cent this year.

Regardless, the government's decision to relocate the university was short-sighted, expensive and politically expedient. The benefits to the town of Athabasca do not outweigh the hardships experienced by the institution's staff and their families.

But sending the university back to Edmonton at this time would be as senseless a move as the initial relocation.

The economic recession has, in some measure, assisted the institution. With academic jobs in short supply the university has been able to keep its staff — something it may not have managed to do if jobs were plentiful.

But if it is to attract and keep staff in the future, the university must increase options available to them, their spouses and families. Efforts must be made to enhance the quality of life. If that means using extraordinary measures to help spouses find work, or families find homes, then those efforts must be made.

RELOCATION - clip

CLIPPING BUREAU

207 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1H7

Edmonton (Alta.) Journal

MAR. 31. 1987

191 Merger decried

A few years ago, the Conservative party decentralized the post-secondary education system. Millions of dollars were spent to move Athabasca University and the Alberta Correspondence School. Millions more went into building Keyano College, Lakeland College, Red Deer College, etc. The Westerra Institute of Technology was also part of this decentralization although its plans were affected by the fact that NAIT didn't have sufficient space to expand.

The attorney general's department now intends to change the Technical Institutes Act to allow Westerra to amalgamate with NAIT. Since NAIT has purchased seven acres of some of the most valuable realty in Edmonton, despite the fact that Westerra has over 250 acres of undeveloped serviced land available at Stony Plain, one would wonder if recentralization of the post-secondary system has not become the new plan of the Getty Conservatives. Perhaps the employees at Keyano, Lakeland, Fairview, etc., had better start checking out the availability of housing in the nearest major urban centre in preparation for a move.

J. Danielson
Instructor
Westerra Institute
of Technology
Stony Plain

Athabasca University
Archives
For Reference Use Only



Memorandum

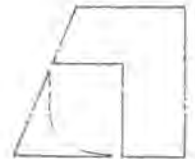
To All Staff
From Stephen Grew
Subject Commission on Relocation Planning

At its meeting on Monday evening the Relocation Commission discussed certain proposals by Barry Snowden designed to modify the Commission's Terms of Reference and functions and his own authority as Relocation Commissioner. It was decided to take no immediate action on these proposals but to convene a special meeting of the Commission Board on 29 September before the meeting on that date of the Governing Council. This deferral is calculated to give Board members an opportunity to reflect further upon the proposals and, in the case of its staff representatives, an opportunity to consult staff.

I greatly regret that my commitment to be in Toronto from 18 to 28 September prevents me, before the special meeting of the Board on 29 September, from meeting staff in order to provide an indication of my own feelings on this subject and to hearing at first hand how people respond to these suggestions. I think, therefore, that it may be helpful if I were to summarize my own views on the subject.

First, I believe that all aspects of University planning should be closely integrated with each other. We have a great deal to gain from approaching planning in this way, and a great deal to lose if we encourage a situation in which the studies calculated to inform the relocation issue are conducted outside the process of University planning as a whole. For this reason alone I believe that it should be the responsibility of the President to maintain executive oversight in the area of relocation planning, and to be responsible for ensuring that reports of these activities are made on a regular basis along with reports of other planning activities.

I thus support to the hilt Barry's suggestion that the Commission Board should function as an advisory committee to the President and that, in essence, the Commissioner should be responsible to the President for his activities.



All Staff

- 2 -

Secondly, it seems to me that while the Governing Council is committed to reconsidering its earlier decision to accept the Government's decision to relocate the University in the Town of Athabasca, it remains patently clear that the University cannot afford to be blind to the chances that relocation will become a reality. This being so, I believe that it would be both irresponsible and self-defeating if we were not to move ahead with speed and effectiveness in completing certain planning studies to help make the move implementable if it should occur. The problems of planning a move of this magnitude are such that if we do not proceed in this manner many of our options could well be closed by decisions later taken without sufficient preparation.

Thirdly, if the Governing Council is to be in the position to reconsider its earlier decision in any rational and serious manner, it will need a great deal of hard, objective information about the implications of relocation, both educational, economic and logistic. Again, this information, I believe, must be obtained via a planning process that encompasses general University planning as well as planning directed solely at informing the relocation issue. To give one very obvious example, relocation planning must go hand-in-hand with some coherent long-range academic planning. Academic development requires an enormous "lead time", and if we do not at least begin to treat the two activities as closely interrelated, we will be in no position, when the time for reconsideration arrives, to give an account of the implications of the move for possible long-term academic development.

Lastly, I perceive an urgency in all this that I am most anxious should be uppermost in our minds in determining all these questions. Everyone deserves to know as quickly as possible what the future is going to be, and I believe that until this knowledge is available relocation will continue to dominate our thinking and activities to such an extent that they will all be damagingly affected by the anxieties, uncertainties and frustrations we all feel to a greater or lesser extent. It would be my intention, if the changes that are now being proposed are adopted, to move ahead as quickly as ever possible towards an early determination of the questions that currently hang over our heads; and I simply believe that it is more likely that speedy action will be possible within the framework of these proposals than if the tasks are handled in a different manner.

There, then, is a summary of my own position on this matter. It is not an idle gesture to say that I shall be particularly dependent during the coming months upon all the advice that I can obtain. It would be absurd to hold out any hope that I shall follow all that I receive, but I shall very greatly appreciate it if any colleagues, either as individuals or groups, who wish to do so would write to me with comments, suggestions or advice.

Stephen Grieve

/pdc

- 3 -

2. That the Commissioner prepare a budget for approval by the Governing Council upon the recommendation of the President, such budget to accommodate the program of work (projects and tasks) to accomplish the objectives of the Commission.
3. That the Commissioner seek the advice of the Commission Board with respect to the program of work and the budget and that progress reports be made to a regular schedule of meetings.
4. That, within the approved budget, the operations of the Commission be directed by the Commissioner, and that the Commissioner be authorized to hire or second such other staff, on a full time, part time term basis; to engage such consultants and to authorize such expenditures as are necessary to accomplish the program of work of the Commission.
5. That the Commissioner report to the Governing Council through the President.
6. That the findings and recommendations which result from the program of work undertaken by the Commissioner be made available to the Commission Board for review and that the results of such review accompany recommendations to the Governing Council.
7. That a preliminary report be prepared for consideration by the Governing Council not later than 15 December 1980.
8. That final reports be prepared and submitted to the Governing Council by 30 June 1980.

I believe that these clarifications and changes to the terms of reference will increase the probability of the Commission becoming operational. Depending upon the structure of the work program, they may enable the Commission to provide the Council with the information necessary for its establishment of position with respect to implementation of the relocation decision prior to the date anticipated in the original operational terms of reference.



Barry L. Snowden

Athabasca University

Bowdens

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

(416) 598-2625

THE SAULT DAILY STAR
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT.
DAILY

NOV...19..1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

Athabasca now in north

ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

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(416) 598-2625

CAMBRIDGE DAILY REPORTER
CAMBRIDGE, ONT.
DAILY

NOV...20..1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

Dateline Can Northern move

ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

to residents in
Saskatchewan and the
Northwest Territories.

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(416) 598-2625

STANDARD-FREEHOLDER
CORNWALL, ONT.
DAILY

NOV...26..1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE

ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

(416) 598-2625

THE WESTERN STAR
CORNER BROOK, Nfld.
DAILY

NOV...24..1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE ATHABASCA

ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) — Athabasca University has become one of Canada's most northerly universities — just south of the 55th parallel. The university, which recently completed a move from Edmonton to Athabasca, offers home-study, teleconference and seminar-supported courses to residents in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

Northern move

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RECEIVED

Circulation Slip

From Joan Carter JAN 21 1984

Date Dec. 19/84 **REGISTRY**

Comments We made CP! I don't know what member

media submitted the

info but I wish they

hadn't restricted us to Sask,

Alta & NWT. It appears to

be a pickup on my Beloit

Reference.

Circulate Attached To: S. Green ☒ Date Forwarded

N. Henry ☒ 14/01/85

R. Paul ☒ 15/01/85

H. Slegel ☒ 850121

D. Abrams ☒ 22/1/85

D. Radtke ☐

IT also made the - the location ☐

Glover (RAF) ☐

The attached is provided for your information. Please circulate and return to Joan Carter

Bowdens

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
(416) 598-2625

THE TIMES JOURNAL
ST. THOMAS, ONT.
DAILY

NOV...21...1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE

H 41-16
ATHABASCA, Alta. (CP) -
Athabasca University has become one
of Canada's most northerly univer-
sities - just south of the 55th parallel.
The university, which recently com-
pleted a move from Edmonton to
Athabasca, offers home-study,
teleconference and seminar-supported
courses to residents in Alberta, Saskat-
chewan and the Northwest Territories.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION
(416) 598-2625

THE OWEN SOUND SUN-TIMES
OWEN SOUND, ONT.
DAILY

NOV...28...1984

220 RICHMOND ST. W. TORONTO

NORTHERN MOVE
ATHABASCA, Alta.
(CP) - Athabasca
University has become
one of Canada's most
northerly universities
- just south of the
55th parallel. The
university, which re-
cently completed a
move from Edmonton
to Athabasca, offers
home-study, telecon-
ference and seminar-
supported courses to
residents in Alberta,
Saskatchewan and the
Northwest Territories.

Date 5 May 1980

Today Board
East.
Commission for
Relocation Planning



Memorandum

To Today Boards, AUSA/AUFA Presidents
From Murray Richmond
Subject AUGC, Commission on Relocation Planning, and VPLS Search Committee Elections.

The following persons have been duly nominated as staff representatives on the following:

1. COMMISSION ON RELOCATION PLANNING

Professional/Academic

Dan Coldeway
~~Larry Ferguson~~
David Gregory
Paul Nedza
Geoff Peruniak
Iain Taylor

withdrawn

Support

~~Alex Hay~~
Marlene Pain
Doreen Palichuk

with drawn

2. UNIVERSITY GOVERNING COUNCIL

Wayne Allison
Bill Birge

3. VPLS SEARCH COMMITTEE

Jane Brindley
Craig Cunningham
Joe Pivato

4. ACADEMIC PLANNING AND POLICY COMMITTEE (APPC)

Gail Crawford is declared elected following the withdrawal of Bill Birge.

BALLOTS will be available from and BALLOT BOXES located with

Betty Tyrlik - A.U. East
Billie MacLean - A.U. West

You will be required to sign a voters' list to cast your ballot. Ballots will be received from 12:00 noon May 5 until 4:00 p.m. May 9.

Elections
May 5, 1980
page 2

In counting ballots each vote cast shall count as one. Candidates with the most votes will be declared elected in order of descending number of votes until all positions are filled.

In the case of a tie vote for the last position to be filled, a run-off election will be held.

Date: 29 April 1980

Today Board Case
Commission for Relocation
Planning.



Memorandum

To: Today Boards, AUSA/AUFA Presidents

From: J. Murray Richmond

Subject: MORE ELECTIONS!

Elections are required to renew or establish staff representation on the following:

1. COMMISSION ON RELOCATION PLANNING

- two (2) academic/professional staff members of the University nominated by and from among staff members holding appointment to academic or professional positions
- one (1) support staff member of the University nominated by and from among staff members holding appointment to support positions

Term of Office: For the duration of the Commission (a minimum of one year).

2. UNIVERSITY GOVERNING COUNCIL

- one (1) staff member holding an appointment to an academic or professional position nominated by and from among staff members holding appointment to academic or professional positions in the University

Term of Office: Three (3) years.

3. VPLS SEARCH COMMITTEE

- one (1) academic/professional staff member of the University nominated by and from among staff members holding appointment to academic or professional positions in the Learning Services Division.

Term of Office: Duration of the Search.

4. The run-off election for APPC will also be conducted during the week of May 5-9.

Elections will be conducted as follows:

1. Call for Nominations April 29, 1980
2. Nominations Received From 8:30 a.m., April 30
To 4:00 p.m., May 2
3. Call for Voting May 5, 1980
4. Ballots Received From 8:30 a.m., May 5
Until 4:00 p.m., May 9
5. Results Posted May 12, 1980

Nominations should be submitted on the forms available from
and returned to:

Betty Tyrlik - A.U. East
Billie MacLean - A.U. West

The list of nominees for each position together with ballot box
information will be posted with the Call for Voting on the
Today Boards.

If you have any questions, please call me.

J. Murray Richmond

Your Opinion

Restraints mean university unable to help

I would like to commend *The Journal* for publishing two recent articles (University staffers claim pledge broken, Jan. 29, and University relocation incomplete, Feb. 11) which reveal that the relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to Athabasca has caused severe problems for AU staff members and their spouses who were forced to relocate.

My own experience with AU has not been a particularly pleasant one. Before the university relocated to Athabasca, university employees received a memo from the university's personnel department indicating that the department was introducing a spousal employment service. The department encouraged spouses of employees to submit resumes so that the personnel department could assist them to find jobs both within AU and in the Athabasca community.

My husband, who is on the AU staff, and I decided to relocate to Athabasca at the beginning of November 1985. During September 1985 I applied for a clerical staff position in the AU library and went to the university for an interview. To my astonishment, the day after I was interviewed I was telephoned by someone from the university's personnel department who told me that I was the most qualified candidate for the position, but I would not be hired because the university could not wait four weeks for my husband and me to relocate to Athabasca. Hardly an example of the university's providing assistance to spouses looking for jobs, especially in an area such as Athabasca where jobs are not plentiful.

After we moved to Athabasca, I applied for some 11 clerical positions at the university but was unsuccessful in securing anything more than short-term temporary

employment. Since I was one of the people responsible for the preparation of the report by the Spousal Employment Action Group, I can certainly say that many spouses have had considerable difficulty obtaining meaningful employment within the university or the surrounding community and that many university families are suffering from poor morale, personal stress and financial hardship because of this situation. Unfortunately, since AU, along with other Alberta universities, will receive a three-per-cent decrease in provincial funding during the coming fiscal year, it does not appear likely that the university will be able to repair its broken promises and help many spouses with employment during the immediate future.

I. Willis
Edmonton

Thomas A. Edge Archives
& Special Collections
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Clipping Files

We Have Moved



Athabasca University has moved
its central offices from
Edmonton to the town of
Athabasca, Alberta.

Please note that effective
immediately our new mailing
address is:

Name: Dr. R. G. Holmberg

Dept: Sciences

Athabasca University
Box 10,000
Athabasca, Alberta
T0G 2R0

Phone: (403) 675-6111
Envoy 100: ATHA.U.GENERAL

Received from
North American War Fund
May 1950

FOR ALL THE TREASURES OF YOUR WORLD



PROCEDURES FOR HOUSEHOLD MOVES UNDER RELOCATION PROVISIONS OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GENERAL

Policy guiding household moves is set out in Terms and Conditions Agreements (Professional Agreement Section 23.5; Support Agreement Section 27.5) and in the supplementary comment in the interpretation document. Please note that this document refers only to the removal clauses under the relocation provisions of Terms and Conditions Agreements, and does not apply to the standard Removal clause.

1. Choice

You can choose to move yourself by hiring a truck, etc., for which the university will reimburse you, or you can use the services of the moving company which the university has contracted to carry out staff household moves. Combinations of the two are not allowed.

2. Time Limits

To receive this benefit you must move within one year from your position relocation date regardless of when (or if) you sell your principal residence after that date.

3. Return Service

Whichever of the two moving options is chosen, the return service provisions apply, and appropriate documents must be signed at the time of receiving the benefit.

4. Prior Approval

The Relocation Administrator must have prior warning of which of the two options is being chosen, and when the projected move is to take place. The appropriate return service documents must be signed before the university undertakes the obligation to pay the costs of the move, and evidence must be presented that this is the relocation of your principal residence.

PROCEDURES FOR MOVING WITH THE UNIVERSITY MOVERS

The university has entered into a contractual agreement with AMJ Campbell movers (North American Van Lines) to perform the moving tasks necessary to relocate staff to Athabasca. University and moving company have between them worked out these procedures, which we hope will ensure a smooth move. The main requirement of a smooth move is communication between all parties about what is expected of each. These guidelines are a step in that direction, but each staff member should make sure that in her or his case there is as clear an understanding of what the movers will do, and what the person being moved will do. If this is done, there is every reason to expect that moves will go without any hitch.

1. Initiation

All moves must be initiated through the Relocation Administrator or the Relocation Assistant. Staff may not go directly to the moving company. As many requests for information as possible should be directed to the Relocation Assistant, who is working in close cooperation with the moving company.

2. Advance Notification

Staff should give one month's notice of intention to move. There

There is a strong probability that there will be congestion in bookings at the ends of the month, especially in July and August. For that reason, bookings will be on a first come, first served basis. The more notice is given of your intentions, the more likely that the move will occur on the date chosen.

3. Moving Date

Although every effort will be made to accommodate staff requests for specific moving dates, it will not always be possible to arrange them for precisely the day requested. Any changes to a staff member's moving arrangements that cause inconvenience to the staff member should be accommodated within the terms of the "Interim Living Expenses" section of the agreements.

4. Moving Time

For a move of about 5000 pounds weight (an apartment), it should take one day to pack and load, and one day to deliver and unload. For a larger move of a whole house, the estimate may be two days for packing, one day to load, and one day to unload.

5. Services

Standard moving services through the university's moving company, AMJ Campbell, include: packing, transportation, unpacking, and insurance, from a single pick-up point to a single destination. Any variation from this must first be approved by the university.

6. Goods Transported, Packed, Etc.

According to Terms and Conditions, no university payment will be made for:

- transport of household pets, plants, frozen food, or other perishable foods;
- transport of goods restricted by the moving company, such as paint, alcohol;
- dismantling and/or reassembling swing sets, outdoor furniture, apparatus
- services to take up or install wall-to-wall carpets;
- to remove install such items as picture wall hooks, drapery/curtain rods, and so on; nor
- to perform any other service not normally supplied by moving companies.

The staff member may choose to have other services such as those excluded above performed and paid for out of "Incidental Expenses". The moving company is not to be requested to perform any of them without the staff member first checking with the Relocation Assistant. Prior permission from the university is required for any variation from the above.

7. Prior Consultation

The Relocation Assistant will arrange a consultation between the staff member and Mr. Dave Hodges or Mr. Barry Stanton of AMJ Campbell. At this consultation, the representatives will explain their procedures, estimate the weight of the shipment and the packing, transport, and unloading time, and do a walk-through of the premises with the residents in order to explain how various items are handled and establish any special requirements. Communication and the establishment of clear instructions are very important at this point.

8. Packing

AMJ Campbell will pack all items. If packing is performed by AMJ Campbell, then contents of moving boxes are insured against damage; if the staff member packs, then insurance will not apply except in case of catastrophe affecting the moving truck itself.

Valuable Items
Specially valuable items that are irreplaceable, such as antiques and paintings, should have some indication of their purchase price, or should have appraisals supplied if full replacement insurance is expected. Small valuable items such as jewellery, or stamp and coin collections, etc., should be moved separately by the staff member in the family vehicle, and not consigned to the mover unless they are supplied with an itemized inventory and current appraisal of value. The staff member should take care with small items that could be inadvertently discarded with the packing paper. Family photo albums are irreplaceable, and should be carried separately.

10. Appliances Disconnection

Arrange to have such appliances as may require professional disconnection such as stove, automatic washer and automatic dryer, disconnected and serviced for moving before the moving so they are ready to be moved. The moving company does not perform these services. The moving company can, however, arrange for them to be performed for the staff member so that the timing of appliance disconnection is appropriate for the moving schedule. The university will reimburse the staff member for these costs.

11. Packing and Loading

There should be someone home with the packers at least at the beginning of their work to give special instructions, etc.. Children should be kept out of the way of the packers. Similarly on moving day, someone should be home with the movers, especially if there is any material that is not to be moved or is to be moved to another location. At the new residence there should be someone present to ensure that unloading is done to the satisfaction of the staff member. Again, children should be kept out of the path of passing pianos.

12. Keeping Track of the Shipment

All items to be moved are inventoried, and their condition described, before loading. Upon receipt of goods, the staff member signs the bill of lading for the shipment, and then signs the inventory to indicate that the goods were received as shipped.

13. Insurance

Goods are insured at full replacement value. The minimum rate is \$4 per pound. If the staff member is of the opinion that his goods should be insured at a higher rate, this should be specified to AMJ Campbell, and the amount of coverage will be increased correspondingly.

14. Unloading

It is the responsibility of the staff member or his representative to ensure that the moving company has access to the residence in order to make the delivery of the goods. If there is waiting time or other charges incurred because of failure to ensure entry to the residence, then the staff member will be liable for these extra charges.

15. Unpacking

Unpacking will be done in full or in part, depending upon the request of the staff member; however, it will be done when the moving truck arrives at the house. No repeat trips can be made by the packers.

16. Damages and Claims

The staff member will fill out a claim form for any damages and send it to AMJ Campbell, which will then arrange for repair or replacement.

17. Supplementary Charges

If, after prior approval from the Relocation Assistant, and agreement from the moving company, the staff member has had services performed outside those for which the university will pay, then the staff member is responsible for payment for those services.

The usual practice in such cases is for the shipper to pay such charges to the moving company, by certified cheque, at the time the goods are received.

If the staff member obtains prior university approval to incur any additional charges, however, the additional costs can be added to the total sum to be paid by the university to the moving company, saving the staff member the necessity of paying on the doorstep for carriage of these goods. The staff member will then directly reimburse the university for these costs within thirty days. Failing reimbursement, the sum may be with-held from the staff member's salary.

18. Storage

Should the staff member find it necessary to place goods in storage temporarily, this may be arranged with the moving company, but only after first obtaining consent of the Relocation Assistant. The university will pay for storage for up to sixty days.

□ please answer
□ for your approval
□ prepare for my signature
□ take appropriate action
□ per your request
□ for your information
□ investigate and report
□ see me about this
comments

The Green Valley
A. Brown

the Reporter



EVANS, FRANK
BOX 1781,
SPRUCE GROVE, ALTA.
T0E 2C0

bar 19, 1978

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF STONY PLAIN, SPRUCE GROVE,
PARKLAND AND LAC STE. ANNE COUNTIES

VOL. 34 No. 31

PRICE 25 CENTS

University coming to Grove?



By Ursula Tillmann
of The Reporter

There is a good chance that Athabasca University will be relocated to Spruce Grove.

MLA Bill Purdy told The Reporter last week that he will hold a meeting with Dr. Bert Hohol, Minister of Advanced Education and Spruce Grove Mayor George Cuff to discuss that proposal.

Asked what Spruce Grove's chances are in getting the university, Purdy noted it "appears"

Headline



Put a little light in your life with The Reporter's 44-Page special Christmas section, featuring our young readers' Christmas thoughts.

FIRST SECTION

Snowmobiles	2
NSF Cheques	3

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& Special Collections
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Asked what Spruce Grove's chances are in getting the university, Purdy noted it "appears" that there is "a pretty good chance if and when they relocate that it should come west." He added "it should come there (to Spruce Grove)."

He said Athabasca University is "looking for new sites." At present the university is on 119th Street in Edmonton and needs "more office space."

The topic of relocation was first brought up in the House on April 18, following estimate studies.

Operating on a correspondence base, Athabasca University would need "more support staff," making jobs available. If the university comes to Spruce Grove it could also mean "grants in lieu of taxes."

"I am excited about it," said Purdy.

When the issue was brought up in council, last Monday, Mayor George Cuff pointed out that the university would be "an excellent addition to our community" and that the town will do its best to realize the possibility of relocation to Spruce Grove.

He told The Reporter that Spruce Grove would be a "prime spot," because the town has "an awful lot of good selling features."

Cuff also said that he has written a letter to Premier Peter Lougheed, outlining why the university should come to Spruce Grove.

With easy access (Highway 16, Highway 43) and close proximity to Edmonton, the mayor also pointed out to the Premier that Spruce Grove's "residential/industrial assessment base is very healthy and we intend to keep it that way."

Mayor Cuff told The Reporter that although council has had "the co-operation" of the provincial government, it "has not" been particularly "generous to us."

Headline



Put a little light in your life with The Reporter's 44-Page special Christmas section, featuring our young readers' Christmas thoughts.

FIRST SECTION

Snowmobiles 2
NSF Cheques 3
Sports 8, 9, 10
Graminia 16



Eagles hockey and more sports are on Page 8, 9, 10

SECOND SECTION

Duffield 1
Onoway 7
Education 10
Agriculture 12, 13, 14



How do people live behind the Iron Curtain. The Reporter found out. Feature is on Page 2.

CENTRE

T.V. Guide

being Santa and kissing a young girl.

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working with that advisory group.

Purdy noted that there should be "more flexibility" for communities just "starting up", such as Sandhills. Proposed legislation by attorney general Jim Foster is asking for stricter rules of bingos, raffles and casinos.

One suggestion is that clubs be not allowed to go into other communities to raise funds.

Foster also proposed that casinos would be cut in half to one day, starting April 1.

While there has been much opposition from charity and community groups to the gaming laws, there have been no details as to when a final decision will be made.

"It has been a big issue," noted Purdy. He couldn't say, however, how long it

will take before the input of community groups will have been evaluated.

The MLA said that he welcomes briefs from organizations on the topic.

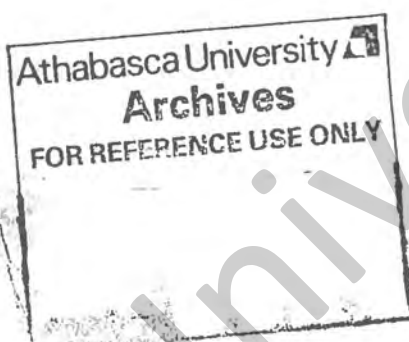
Purdy also rejected the charge of organized crime within gambling in Alberta.

When Foster announced the new gaming rules Nov. 1 he noted that "new gaming event policies will help prevent criminal activity in licensed gaming. . . If we let gambling in Alberta increase so rapidly that it gets out of control, we're going to find criminal activity in it."

Although investigations were launched, evidence of wrongdoing hasn't been presented yet.

Purdy said that the freeze on gaming rules will come as a relief to clubs.

Relocation *Clips*



THE ECHO, Athabasca, November 29, 1978--7

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

The concept of bringing Athabasca University to Athabasca is a "positive step" that will certainly benefit both the town and the County as a whole, says Peter Opryshko.

Mr. Opryshko, NDP candidate for Athabasca constituency in the provincial election expected next spring, says the Friends of Athabasca University Committee must be commended for the efforts they are making to effect the move of the university.

"Education must be viewed as a priority investment in people," he said in a news release, "and students are a primary natural resource."

Mr. Opryshko said the scenic setting of the Tawatinaw Valley is "ideal" as a site for a university campus and Athabasca is ideally located geographically to draw students from all of northern Alberta.

"I firmly believe higher education must be decentralized out of the two large urban centres, Edmonton and Calgary."

He said there are many "obvious social, economic and cultural" advantages

that will result from the relocation of the university, particularly if the future holds an actual campus.

On such an "exciting" concept and possibility, "I believe the local MLA should be involved at the direction of the local committee promoting the university move," Opryshko said.

Opryshko, a 36-year-old farmer and part-time teacher, said the supporters of the university's move need "positive, assertive and vocal support" from the local MLA.

He added the Athabasca Chamber of Commerce had made a "good move" in tackling a study designed to outline the effect an additional 125 families will have on the community.

Looking to long term, "I see many benefits for the greater community such as facilities for adult education, a university library, recreational facilities, laboratories and perhaps even facilities for drama."

Opryshko said eventually the university could be the centre for many types of research geared to the needs of northern areas.

Relocation

Today's File
Nov 1989

NOV 1989

Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

HC 25-10-78 p.1

hole. The other holes bored, to a length of 150 to 155 underground, varied from a drip to 4 gallons a minute to this final gusher.

After each hole is bored finely slotted pipe (slots the width of a match

Update on Athabasca University

FOR ATHABASCA COMMITTEE

It is our intention to keep you, the people of the Athabasca area, informed of the on-going planning of the committee that has set as its goal the obtaining of the permanent home of Athabasca University in Athabasca.

In order that all groups and organizations in this area may become more familiar with Athabasca University and the reasons why it should be able to address service clubs and various other groups at their regular meetings. We know that unless the entire community is fully behind this venture that it will not be effective.

The machinery is in motion to put together an audio-visual slide presentation on the history of Athabasca and the potential of this area, especially as it relates to the establishment of a home for Athabasca University.

Information is being gathered from various sources so that a complete study into the impact and implications of such a large venture on this community could be done in a realistic way. For instance; What would gaining this institution do to our way of life and to the way of life of the staff of Athabasca University? What would this mean to the growth of the business community? What might this do to the educational climate in the County? What would be the cultural implications of becoming a University town? And there are many other questions that will be addressed.

As you will read elsewhere in The Echo, a grassroots FRIENDS OF A.U. is already underway and YOU can participate in this. We think that this will be the key to

Hopefully this will solve some of the problems experienced this past year with highways in and around town.

everything. If you, the people, are willing to commit some funds into a venture that cannot be guaranteed to succeed, then we will know that the entire community backs this enterprise, and is willing to take some risk. (The government will realize that we really are sincere, and that is important.)

The tentative plans for a gala DINNER on January 13th are underway. Special invitations to key political persons in Alberta are already being prepared, and it is the hope that a cheque can be presented to the representatives of Athabasca University from the FRIENDS OF A.U. in Athabasca & District.

A representative from AU will be in attendance at the Resource Day scheduled for November 10 at E.P.C.H.S. and we would urge everyone who is able, to attend this fun day and hear about the University from a staff member of the University.

It is also the intention of the committee to charter a bus that would bring interested A.U. staff and friends of the University from Edmonton to Athabasca for the dinner on January 13.

Do you have any ideas that could help us in insuring that A.U. locate in Athabasca? We welcome any thoughts and suggestions. If you wish to join the committee, contact John Shannon, Bob MacGregor or Lionel Cherniwchan. Or give them your ideas. They will be most appreciated.

And, lastly, become a FRIEND, and leave your donation at The Echo or McLean's. There will be additional places to leave your donations in the weeks to come. Start talking about ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY and get your friends and neighbors involved.

Annual convention of the Mid
Twilight Tourist Association was held
Father last week end. As a part of
regular business of the meeting an election
of officers for the coming year was held.

Officers for the year will
President Garry Johnson of St. A.
First vice president Milt Lawrence, St.
Vice President Keith Dewey. Treasurer
will be Olga Romanchuk and Recording
Secretary is Hal Harrison.

By-Laws of the Association
brought up to date when the set which
been studied over recent months received
the approval of the meeting.

Area reports were given for
parts of the zone and some interesting
information regarding tourism and problems
being encountered in these regions
came out. Suggestions made by
directors in their reports often become
integral part of business sessions of the
coming year.

Highway report was given



STURGEON * Morinville * Legal

Le Carrefour



Mrs. Juliette Montpetit, manager of the Carrefour, invites you to come and visit the French atmosphere boutique for your card, book and information needs. The word "carrefour" means place of crossroads. The Francophones of Morinville-Legal named their shop Le Carrefour because it is meant to be a place of diversified activity. Located in the Nault Centre in Legal, it is acting presenting as a French book, card, record and game shop from Tuesday to Friday, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.,

and Wednesday between 5 and 9 p.m.; as a pre-school for toddlers on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons; and as a meeting place for all ACFA committees and sub-committees. It is to be noted that different organizations can rent this shop space for different purposes.

The Regional Council of the ACFA is studying the feasibility of having a French mobile book store in Morinville one or two nights a week. Meanwhile you are invited to shop at the Carrefour.

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Would the man who was so kind as to direct traffic at an accident at 6:00 a.m., south of the Morinville overpass on October 23rd, please write Drawer 60, Box 1290, Westlock or phone 428-8804.

Kinsmen Club News

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Mr. Windfeldt will be speaking about "Round Table", a European organization, very similar to the Kinsmen Association. Joergen is presented the Danish Trade Commissioner in Edmonton, sent by the Ministry of Trade. He has his M.Sc. in electrical engineering and his M.Econ. in management. After serving

Cont. on page 25

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Morinville Wants University

By Louis Leclair

All indicators are that the Morinville Board of Trade is going to be a busy group during the upcoming season.

Several members expressed concern regarding the delays encountered in obtaining lighting at the Morinville accesses to Highway No. 2. The Board proposes to study the matter and take the necessary initiatives to obtain adequate floodlights for the overpass as well as the more southern entrance into town.

For the upcoming provincial elections the Board is committed to setting up a forum to which the aspirants to the St. Albert M.L.A. post will be invited. This public meeting will be an information and debate-type session with a question period. All candidates will get the opportunity to inform us on their political policies and those of their respective parties on all issues affecting Morinville, the constituency, the province and finally the country.

The highlight of the meeting was our President's report on the progress being made in connection with inviting the University of Athabasca to establish itself in Morinville. Although the Morinville site proposal is one of ten, we have good reason to be confident that

most. Our presentation has the unconditional support of the Town, the School Division, and Recreation Center as well as many other groups and organizations. A brief has been submitted to the Minister of Education, University president and various organizations. It contains a formal application and a familiarization with Morinville, past, present and future. It concentrates on emphasizing the extent to

which our town fills requirements, as defined by the University, and outlines the availability of much land as 80 acre serviced land in downtown Morinville, the proximity to Edmonton and the enthusiasm about receiving a University.

If this proposal materializes, one cannot begin to enumerate all the direct and indirect benefits that can be had by Morinville. Feedback has been positive. The Board of Trade is enthusiastic and committed to a tenacious follow-through, and would like to solicit everyone's encouragement and co-operation.

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5" with Trojan Board

Rustic Cedar Panelling..... \$48.95 per b

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Special \$5.37 per sq. yd.

Specials End March 10th, 1979

CHARGE and MASTERCARD WELCOME

Edmonton Journal, 4 September 1979, p. A4

Athabasca U

"We will lose most of our staff. I'm convinced of that," says the chairman of Athabasca University's board of governors. What awful threat looms?

The provincial government may move Athabasca University from Edmonton to a small town as part of Mr. Lougheed's commitment to decentralization. Such a move would be irrational.

A university consists of highly trained people with intense needs to communicate with other highly trained people. Universities in small towns suffer from two problems: they have difficulty attracting the best people to non-urban environments; and the people they do attract tend to fade over time without constant personal exposure to fresh human and material resources.

Athabasca University is a special case. It is a young "open university" that conducts most of its programs by correspondence. Some assume on that account that the university's location is unimportant. On the contrary.

Athabasca U is struggling and will always have to struggle for credibility among Alberta's post-secondary institutions. Part of its status depends on proximity to the University of Alberta with its major libraries and other resources. Removing Athabasca U to a small centre would leave it high and dry, without the back-up resources so important to its quality. Moreover, Athabasca would always have difficulty attracting and keeping top quality staff.

Moving Athabasca U would break an implicit contract with the 75 members of its academic staff who have worked so hard to get it off the ground. Most important, Athabasca's students will suffer if the university is decimated by a move outside Edmonton.

Leave Athabasca alone; it is fragile enough as it stands.

The friendly skies?

It has taken nearly two years and a change of government or Edmonton-based Wardair Ltd. to win merely the conditional right to fly charter flights within Canada.

The Canadian Transport Commission decision last month means Canadians will have one more option to choose from.

economic and political consideration of the first magnitude.

In the catalogue of historical causes, this one has a wonderful simplicity... The finitude of the world's oil supply is an unmistakable, inescapable fact, and there is nothing arcane, ambiguous or foggy about it. No exam question will ever be asked about the basic causes of this shortage because such a question could be

government or the the OPEC countries each of these people manipulated, misjudged it, or resolve it, none of them.

It was created 1 ago, when nature laid much oil under the more. Without this in the background misbehavior or but possible.

Has Britain

LONDON— William Whitelaw, the home secretary, faces his first test on immigration.

He will have to answer, one way or another, the Commission for Racial Equality's request for an inquiry into possible racial bias in the immigration service. As homework, he should ask himself a few questions.

Does multi-racial Britain, with its black and Asian population of nearly 2.5 million, need to imprison Asian children in the immigrants detention centre at Harmondsworth near Heathrow airport? Does the country's security depend on detaining a 65-year-old Indian woman with an entry certificate for 28 hours before she was allowed to join her relatives? (A recent case reported by the UK Immigrants Advisory Service.)

The racial equality commission, suspects that colored people are treated unfairly at ports of entry, especially at Heathrow. Immigrant welfare organizations say that they have files full of examples, mainly involving Asians, of discourtesy, unjustified detention and arbitrary



Relocation
JUL 29 1976
Chp



- 2 -

Following is a listing of criteria for the selection of a future site for Athabasca University. No attempt has been made to weight their importance at this time.

- a) The site should be within a community or district where Athabasca University would be visible and recognizable, and where A.U. would receive community/district encouragement and support. As well, the site should ensure and promote institutional identity and autonomy.
- b) The site should allow for future development and growth.
- c) The site should be conducive to work. (Some individuals prefer a "pastoral" environment for working; others prefer a "commercial" environment.
- d) The site should be reasonably accessible to services and facilities such as restaurants, hotels, banks, retail outlets, and recreational facilities for the convenience of staff members and visitors.
- e) The site should be reasonably accessible to special services and facilities such as libraries (U of A), consultants (U of A), recording and filming studios and libraries (U of A, ACCESS-CKUA), and computer (U of A) for the operations of the university.
- f) The site should be within Edmonton's communication system for business contacts and computer connection.
- g) The site should be reasonably accessible by, and within Edmonton's transportation system including roads, bus and subway, and air.
- h) The site should be available for development within a reasonable time and at a reasonable cost.
- i) The site should be reasonably close to the present site for the convenience of the present staff members.

To: All Staff
From: Larry Dawson

Re: Permanent Site

The above criteria for the selection of a future site for A.U. were presented at the last meeting of the Authority, and were tabled to the next meeting for further consideration. I would be pleased to pass on any staff comments on these criteria to the Authority.

STURGEON * Morinville * Legal

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Special \$5.37 per sq. yd.

Specials End March 10th, 1979

CHARGE and MASTERCHARGE WELCOME

EDITORS' NOTES:

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

It is no secret that the people of Athabasca and district wish Athabasca University located here. The efforts of many people are concentrated on influencing the decision makers to make that decision.

The name of the University makes the choice obvious. The history of our area is compatible with the objectives of the University. It is one of leading the way in developing new areas - in this case in Education.

The Athabasca University must develop an identity - Athabasca is the place to do it. To develop this identity, the University must get out from under the shadow - the protection - the aura of the University of Alberta. To do this it must move far enough so as to cast its own shadow. The placement of the Athabasca University anywhere in the area of metropolitan Edmonton would be a disservice to the University, the staff, and the students that will use its services.

The University's services are aimed at rural Alberta. Rural students experience difficulty in identifying themselves with a University in the city. The placement of Athabasca University in a town within easy commuting distance of Edmonton, would alleviate this problem.

If the Alberta Government is truly committed to decentralization and development of rural areas then the choice is also clear. Situating Athabasca University in a bedroom community of Edmonton would be a travesty of stated policy.

Athabasca University is committed to "distance education" so there should be no problem if one practices what one preaches. Athabasca is connected to Edmonton by Highway 2; The major North South highway in Alberta. Six buses a day connect Edmonton and Athabasca. A paved lighted airstrip has been built next

to the town. A.G.T. through their communications facilities in the town, can offer the most up-to-date sophisticated communications available anywhere in Canada. Communications should be no problem, except for those who have no imagination.

For those people who have never lived in a small town, one does not know what one is missing. The staff may not like being uprooted from the glamor of Edmonton. What we can offer you, are acres of green grass, trees, blue sky and clean air, rivers lakes and freedom to grow. We can offer this in place of concrete, tall buildings and other "amenities" of the city.

It may be a little more inconvenient to take in some of the cultural activities of Edmonton, but we can assure you that it is easily done. Many people from this area hold seasons tickets to the various functions at the Jubilee Auditorium and Citadel Theater. A one and one half hour drive can be very pleasant in the company of friends. Twelve hundred Edmontonians cannot be wrong. These are the landowners and cottage owners who have chosen our area to spend as much of their free time in as possible.

We also know at 10:00 p.m. each evening, where our children are. This to us is a powerful advantage and a good reason for living in a small town.

The decision on the new home of the University will probably be made after the election - we sincerely hope, the decision will not be made on the basis of whether we elect a Progressive Conservative member for this constituency or not.

The proper choice of a site for a University of the impending stature of Athabasca University, should not be political but one based on solid logical choice. This we are sure will be the case with Athabasca University and its "home" Athabasca.

Oklahoma to be produced

An enthusiastic group of local actors and actresses has been at work for the past month rehearsing the Broadway musical *Oklahoma*. Production dates are being set at March 22, 23 and 24th.

Oklahoma, a favorite since it was written in 1947, centers around the love affairs of three different couples; Curley and Laurey, Will and Annie, and Ali Hakim and Gertie. The play is set at the turn of the century to a backdrop of trouble between farmers and the cowmen. Besides long time favorite songs such as, "O What a Beautiful Morning," "Surrey With the Fringe," and "Oklahoma," the play contains action, suspense and humour that will keep patrons smiling for a long time after the production is over.

Lead roles in the production are being played by Phyllis Coy (Aunt Eller), Jeff Lowe (Curley), Bev Benn (Laurey), John Shannon (Will), Barb Armstrong (Annie), Jim Duplessies (Ali Hakim), Charles Parker (Jud), Steve Bemount (Cord Elam), Bob Garton (Carnes), Jill Lowe (Gertie) and Ed Reeves (Slim).

Future editions of the Echo will present further information on the production.

Leon Stocki

Letters TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Does the County of Athabasca feel that the people of Caslan and surrounding areas do not support the Town of Boyle?

Since winter has started, the road between Caslan and Boyle has been cleaned maybe twice. This is a disgrace.

There is even a good skidoo trail along the side of the road.

They have cleaned as far as the Bonidess Corner lately and have left the rest as if to say they do not want the people of Caslan supporting the business in Boyle.

That snow is like a trap now when you have to get off the main trail. It pulls you right into the ditch.

How about the Department of Highways for the County getting into gear and cleaning the so-called road? Thank you.

Concerned Citizen of Caslan Community.

JUSTICE PREVAILS

Our justice system is a slow unchanging process which with time eventually acts as a deterrent for perpetrators of the law. This procedure involves highly Professional people and thus is most costly. Why mature adults are unable to govern their actions, thus, eliminating the judicial process is a mystery to all and history clearly shows the need for such a system. A civil or criminal

from an unbiased standpoint to prevent misunderstandings based on rumours and misconceptions on recent proceedings.

QUOTE:

An honest man nearly always thinks justly.

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives and property, and obedience is the premium we pay for it. UNQUOTE

Thank you.

E. Keith DEWEY

(Re Nancy Appleby)

It is not too often that I get the urge to take pen in hand and write a letter to the editor, but this is one of those times.

Athabasca and district has been fortunate over the years, in the many community minded citizens who have helped contribute to its betterment, but all would, I am sure, agree that none have had more influence than the one you have singled out to honour this February 1979. I am referring of course, to Athabasca's own Nancy Appleby. It would be difficult indeed to think of anyone in the community whose lives have not been touched; and yes, some influenced, by this remarkable lady.

As a start, one could mention her years of service to her church, including the related dedication of her talents as organist and soloist in the choir, weddings, funerals, etc., but this would only be a small part of her contribution.

District Journal

EDMONTON JOURNAL, Thursday, January 11, 1979 B7

Spruce Grove suggested by mayor

Going hunting for a university

By ROBERT SIBLEY

SPRUCE GROVE — Spruce Grove would make a good home for Alberta's highly successful Athabasca University, says town Mayor George Cuff.

The university, currently located at 14515 122nd Ave. in Edmonton, is looking for a permanent home.

"We're going after it," said Mayor Cuff.

While acknowledging that other communities also want the popular open university to locate in their towns, Mayor Cuff said "from my biased standpoint Spruce Grove has more positive aspects to offer" than other communities.

Spruce Grove, said the mayor, is close to the city and because of this would provide convenient access for university staff for existing universities and colleges in Edmonton.

The town, with a population of 8,000 and a regional population of about 15,000, would also be able to provide support staff to the university, he said.

"For supply and service reasons it is a good



Mayor George Cuff

idea (for the university) to be close to the city," he said.
The community has approached provincial

cabinet ministers, written letters and generally used a soft-sell approach to indicate its interest in obtaining the university, said Mayor Cuff.

Locating Athabasca University in the community, just west of Edmonton, would prove to be a financial gain for the town, said the mayor.

He said local businesses would benefit, and so would the cultural and intellectual life of the community.

Last fall the university reported a 194-per cent increase in correspondence course enrolments over the previous year.

"I like to think our community is highly ranked" in the government's consideration of where to locate the university, said Mayor Cuff.

Other communities interested in the university include St. Albert, Leduc, Devon and Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton.

Athabasca group beating drum to bring university to the town

ATHABASCA — Rather than going to school, Athabasca residents are trying to bring the school to them.

A group of locals in this community 145 kilometres north of Alberta have formed a Friends of Athabasca University Society to raise funds for an alumni association.

Town councillor Mike Murphy says the society is only indirectly related to another recently-formed local group that is pushing to have the Edmonton-based "open university" permanently located in the town of the same name.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, as part of the alumni promotion effort, the society will be busing a group of people, including university members, to the town.

About 50 persons are expected to take the ride north. Included in the trip will be a tour of the town, an historical briefing on the region, and, later, a cocktail party and dinner.

Guest of honor at the dinner will be university president, Dr. Sam Smith. Also in attendance will be former president Dr. Tim Byrne.

Dr. Smith will be presented with a cheque to go into an alumni association fund, said Mr. Murphy.

The bus tour leaves Edmonton from the campus at 14515 122nd Ave. at noon on Saturday. It will return to the city later in the evening.

Behind the community tour and the alumni promotion is the desire of the town to bring Athabasca University to the region, said Mr. Murphy.

The university is currently looking for a new permanent home.

Athabasca University has no strict campus facilities, but serves students throughout the province largely by correspondence.

It is based on the British "open university" concept, and since its establishment in 1973, has proven popular with Albertans who are unable to attend regular universities.

Beside the Town of Athabasca, other regional communities have expressed interest in having the university locate in their towns, including Spruce Grove, Leduc, Devon.

Edmonton
Journal
Y.M.C.A.



DAYTIME
FITNESS
PROGRAM

EDMONTON

Due to the success of the evening Shape-Up Edmonton Program and the request by the public for daytime fitness, Shape-Up Edmonton has expanded its program offerings.

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All classes are one hour in duration. After the class, participants may stay and chat for half an hour over coffee or juice.

*** THE CANADIAN Y.M.C.A. PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM IS ENDORSED BY THE ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**

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10:00-11:00 a.m.	MONDAY	Our Lady of Victories School	7925-158 ST.
1:30-2:30 p.m.	TUESDAY	Providence Centre	3005-119 ST.
10:00-11:00 a.m.	WEDNESDAY	Norwood United Church	110-10-80A ST.

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Town Council Report

Cont'd from page 8

will be sold when repaired and that Landing Motors has tendered the lowest bid for a new truck. Council recommended acceptance of this tender and learned that the new truck will go into use when it arrives.

A resolution was approved that Council sign a notice of acceptance of paving work done in 1980. This allows for the cash holdback to be released to the company who performed the work.

It was noted that this project was finished very close to its budget. Council was advised that a \$30,000 surplus from the 1979 project was still in reserve. No paving is planned for 1981 but dust control is needed on the east-hill area and some sidewalks have to be replaced.

Councillor Gibson made a suggestion concerning the proposed excavation for the new senior citizens' home. He said the dirt coming from the excavation could be useful to the town in filling in a ditch at the west end of the town. This could be used to provide more parking for big trucks. He estimated it would cost approximately \$10,000 to fill in the ditch. He stated a 36 in. drainage pipe and manholes could be installed in the spring. In the meantime the dirt could be stockpiled at the edge of the bank. This would drain west into Muskeg Creek and he thought it would help tidy up the river front. It was suggested this proposal should be cost-estimated more closely then brought back to Council for

consideration.

Proposed changes to the A.G.T. Directory for the Athabasca area brought a strong response from Council. The new directory intends to drop listing of Westlock, Slave Lake Barrhead and other areas. As many town and county residents have business needs in areas adjacent to the County of Athabasca, Council advised objecting strongly to the proposed changes in the directory.

Council approved sending two personnel from the water plant to Edmonton to attend a four day basic operators course.

POLICE:

Another area to bring strong response from Council was the increased costs for R.C.M.P. services as recently imposed by the federal government. The need for a fourth member to be added to the Athabasca detachment was discussed. The increased costs are already being protested through our M.P. Jack Shields. Councillor Brown suggested that now was the time to make use of the "Twin M.P." that this area has been given by the prime minister. This is M.P. Roger Simmonds (Liberal) who offered to be of assistance when needed. Councillor Brown stated now was the time to hold him to his offer.

The appointment by the solicitor-general of Vern Lewis as special constable was then ratified by Council. His terms of reference were discussed and it was stated that he will not be required to carry a fire-arm. He will seek the assistance of the

January 14, 1981 - Following the release of the Report on Impacts, Consequences and Costs of Relocation commissioned by the Governing Council of Athabasca University, Marlene Pain, President Elect of the AU Staff Association (AUSA), expressed the Association's dissatisfaction with the Report.

"It was felt that there were obvious omissions of costs and consequences. The Report does nothing to alter AUSA being opposed to the decision to move the University to Athabasca. It does not alleviate our concern that such a move would alter the very nature of the University.

The Association heartily agrees with the Report's assessment that "Athabasca University is based on people and simple dollar figures cannot capture the human costs of moving the institution."

The Report then fails to detail exactly what these 'human costs' are and simply suggests that the University has a moral obligation to pay a severance allowance to the estimated 75% of the support staff who cannot go to Athabasca.

In all the lobbying and statements that AUSA has made since the decision was announced, it has emphasized that there is more at stake than even jobs. The fundamental nature of the University and its autonomy of governance is at stake. The Association reaffirms its commitment to the provision of university distance learning, designed for adults with or without the conventional entrance requirements. The

Association believes the only way that the provision of distance education can be effective is from a location within commuting distance of a metropolitan area. The Report, even with its conservative estimate on costs, gives supporting evidence that the capacity to serve would not simply be more difficult and costly but practically impossible in a non-metropolitan region."

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tries to Box 1926, Athabasca,
Big Game to Nick Rubik phone
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FEB 14th Valentine's Dance at
Rochester Hall, Music by
Vibrations - 9:30 - 1:30 4-3N
FEB 14 St. Valentine's Day An-
nual Tea, Craft & Bake Sale
2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Anglican
Church Basement Sponsored
by Grosmont 4-H Multi Club
Raffle to be drawn for Diatal
Clock Radio. Ask any 4-H
Member for tickets 4-1N
FEB 14 Valentines Box Social
& Dance at the Legion Hall.
Dance starting at 9:00 p.m.
Box auction at 11:00 p.m.
Music by Joe Boisvert. Ladies
not bringing lunch will be
charged admission. 3-4N
FEB 16 Annual Meeting of
Riverside Recreation Associa-
tion at 7:30 p.m.: Change of By-
Laws Major topic of Discus-
sion. All interested people are
urged to attend. Meeting held
at Richmond Park Hall 3-4N
FEB 21st Cabaret Paxson
Flatlake Hall, Band "Andy &
The Boys" For tickets call
675-4691 3-2N

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CIAL BUILDING. 4-2N
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Dance at Grosmont Commu-
nity Hall Music by "Rainbow
Ryders" For Cabaret Tickets
Phone 675-4790 or
675-4576 4-3N

FEB 14th Valentine's Dance at
Rochester Hall, Music by
Vibrations - 9:30 - 1:30 4-3N

FEB 14 St. Valentine's Day An-
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Flatlake Hall, Band "Andy &
The Boys" For tickets call
675-4691 3-2N

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OFFICE

Relocation report leaves Athabasca staff uneasy

The academic staff of Athabasca University is unhappy with both the proposed move to Athabasca by 1984 and an official assessment of that move.

Commenting on a relocation cost and impact study commissioned by the university governing council, Marlene Pain, Athabasca University Staff Association president-elect says: "It was felt that there were obvious omissions of costs and consequences. The report does nothing to alter AUSA being opposed to the decision to move the university to Athabasca. It does not alleviate our concern that such a move would alter the very nature of the university."

Although the report states that "simple dollar figures cannot capture the human costs of moving the institution," the report fails to detail exactly what these human costs would be," says Ms. Pain.

Simply suggesting that severance allowances be paid to the estimated 75 per cent of the support staff who will not go to Athabasca is not enough, she says.

JOURNAL 81-01-21

Edmonton Week

Ice centre

EDMONTON—Pro-
Culture Minister
Messurier has
city to withhold
development per-
other approvals
struction of the
\$5-million Space
Centre in the
area of the city
Historical Re-
Impact Assess-
be completed on
the project.

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Messurier noted
as one of Ed-
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a Historical
Impact Assess-
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cheduled for
an. 15 and
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neeting the
irements.

"Any delay (in the pro-
ject)," he says, "will
result in an escalation of
costs and the city assumes
the provincial government
will compensate the city
for these additional ex-
penses."



MARY LeMESSURIER
... Minister of Culture.

The centre, which will
include a 250-seat planet-
arium, a similar-sized
multi-use theatre, display
area, observatory and ad-
ministration area, is being
funded by a provincial
75th anniversary grant.

the West

en we get a
world price)

liberal MP
on-Strath-
es said the
ed itself
indicated

he added the party is not
closed to westerners only.
They plan to invite dele-
gates from Northern
Ontario and the Maritimes
as well.

Dr. Harries said the
party's long-term goal is

Edmonton Week

EDMONTON Pulsebeat

• The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce will hold a one-day conference on Confederation—the Great Challenge—Feb. 6 at the Edmonton Inn.

The chamber says the objectives of the conference, which will feature speakers from across Canada, are to: assist Albertans in understanding the challenges of Canadian confederation; to stimulate awareness of the problems and prospects for change; to provide a forum for the statement and discussion of current concerns and positions, and to explore future constitutional development.

Registration for the conference is \$60 and further information is available from the chamber office at 426-4620.

• The Faculty of Extension of the University of Alberta is sponsoring a one-day seminar Feb. 4 on effective communication and work direction.

The seminar, the faculty says, is aimed at personnel officers, supervisors and managers and will focus on supervisory communications and the ways in which on-the-job communication problems can be overcome. Instructor is Robert Chapman.

The fee for the seminar is \$95 including materials and luncheon. Further information is available from the faculty at 432-5066.

• Athabasca University president Dr. Stephen Griew has released a report which indicates the cost of relocating the university from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca at more than \$32 million in 1980 dollars.

The report, prepared by Barry L. Snowden, includes \$19.7 million for construction of new facilities and non-recurring operating and capital costs of \$8.7 million and \$3.9 million respectively.

After relocation, the university would incur an additional \$1.3 million in operating expenses and \$218,000 in capital requirements each year, over and above the costs which it would encounter if the university remained in Edmonton.

The report will be presented at a special meeting of the university's governing council Jan. 26.

Squa seek

EDMONTON
Edmonton cor-
have applied to t
planning depart
development per
construct a nun
single-family dwel

Squair Home
wants to consti
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dwellings in the He
area, while Costa
has applied to cons
single-family dwel
the Southwood are

Other applicati
development
received recently
city include those b

• Interiors 170 S
to construct partit
multi-tenancy
fice/warehouse i
Stone industrial are

• Hanefeld and
to construct a w
15-suite apartment
at 108 Street a
Avenue;

• Kenneth A.
Architects Ltd., t
struct a walk-up, 2
apartment house,
Glenora area;

• Ellis Petro L
construct a s
building in the
industrial area;

• Mona Dib, t
struct partitions
shopping centre
barber shop, in th

Building permits

Ed Miller gets permit to complete warehouses

EDMONTON—Ed Place, to construct in- tions on the second
and fourth floors

JAN 14 1987



Moving schools to the boonies

Recent articles in *The Journal* have made me wonder what priority our provincial government places on education.

The university does not have the resources to train as many computing science students as our province needs in the future. It would appear that our government is more concerned with saving money than with education. But what is ironic is that Athabasca University and the Alberta Correspondence School are to be moved out of Edmonton into the backwoods, despite the fact that taxpayers' money has to be used to pay for new facilities and other expenses. (There is also a high office vacancy rate in Edmonton now.)

By moving from Edmonton, these two correspondence institutions will lose many experienced staff, and they will have fewer candidates to choose from to fill the gaps. Also, thousands of students who take advantage of their accessibility for faster service can no longer do so. As a result, education will suffer even when extra money is spent.

People who ought to know have bluntly said that these relocation decisions to Athabasca and Barrhead were purely political. Other people, who denied that these decisions were political were hard pressed to give good ways in which education would be improved by the move. Whom am I to believe?

Our government is to be commended for its foresight in establishing the Heritage Trust Fund for a time when our oil runs out. However, as Japan has clearly demonstrated, a well-educated public can do wonders despite a lack of natural resources. I hope that our government will see better-educated people as another valuable asset in times of need, rather than depending on inflation-eroded dollars.

To implement the government's decentralization program, I would suggest tax incentives for new industries in small towns. This would be better than playing political football with education, and thereby taking backward steps so far as our province's long-term interests are concerned?

Werner Brozek
 Edmonton



John Lennon

1 across the Pond, te to a legend lost

ving tribute to
arrived from
w available from
rnal.

Lennon, The
and is published
ndon Times.
ssy pages of
musician's ca-
from the early
e pubs of Liver-
turbulent years
his tragic death
9.

the talented

singer and songwriter from the
tough side of Liverpool, who went
on to make an indelible mark in
the music world.

Lapse into a bit of nostalgia
with the black and white photos of
the early days, the 20 pages of full-
color photographs from the later
years, original versions of Len-
non's early songs in his own hand-
writing, a reproduction of the
original Beatles' contract and
other mementoes.

Available today from The Jour-
nal front office at a cost of \$3.95.

cent increase in costs for the
municipalities and a 90-per-cent
jump for the province.

Letters warning about the possible
sharp increases in costs have gone
out from the Alberta solicitor
general's office and there are already

72-per-cent increase.

"It would have quite an effect on
anybody's budget," says secretary-
treasurer John Stasiuk.

"Hopefully, by the time we get our
budgets finalized, we'll get more
information from the province."

New life for Athabasca University 'costly'

By CATHY LORD

The human and dollar costs of
relocating Athabasca University will
be great, says the university's
president.

Dr. Stephen Griew, who released
the report of the university's
commission on relocation planning
Tuesday, says the findings should
provide enough information for the
university's governing council to
review its original support for the
move.

When the province announced it
planned to move the correspondence
university from the city to the town
of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north
of Edmonton, the university's faculty
association opposed it.

Former university president Sam
Smith and longest standing member
of the university's governing council,
Edward Checkland, resigned. A poll
of 70 university faculty showed only
one willing to relocate.

But the university's governing
council said it would work with the
government and the town of
Athabasca "to facilitate what will be
for some a very difficult transition."

Several staff members, opposing
the governing council's position,
asked the government to establish an
independent commission to study
the relocation.

The government refused the
request, so the council agreed to set
up a commission on its own. The
council said it would review its stand
once the report was complete.

The report says the construction
costs of university facilities in the
town would be \$19.7 million, plus
nearly \$8.7 million in operating costs
and \$3.9 million in capital costs,
respectively. There will be additional
annual costs of \$1.5 million, above
what it would cost if the institution
were to stay in Edmonton.

The provincial government
predicted earlier a new building for
the university in Athabasca would
cost \$16 million.

These are not the only costs, the
president maintains.

"Athabasca University is based on
people, and simple dollar figures
cannot capture the human costs of
moving the institution," says Dr.
Griew.

"Studies carried out for the
commission indicate that problems
faced by existing staff members
wishing to relocate or to leave will
require careful and sympathetic
attention," he says.

"Recruitment of support staff will
be the most severe problem the
university faces."

The report estimates 50 per cent of
the university's professional staff

and more than 80 per cent of its
support staff will not relocate.

However, the report suggests
training schemes, favorable salaries
and working conditions and greater
use of office technology may
alleviate these problems.

The 112-page report says "there is
a substantial pool of highly-qualified
academic and professional staff
available for and interested in

positions at the university which
may become vacant."

There are other positive findings.

Long-range planning "indicates no
major problems beyond those
identified for current operations and
perhaps, some advantages."

The report will be discussed at a
special meeting of the governing
council, Jan. 26.

Anyone spotting the bird is asked
to call 482-5075 or 454-2307.

Christmas without Tweets;
or: bye, bye (frozen) birdie

The partridge you see in your pear
tree this Christmas could be Tweets.

The bird — well, it's actually a
grey cockatiel — flew the coop
Tuesday night and Patty Dewar is
frantic about it.

The 18-year-old city resident lost
her three-year-old bird when the
bottom fell out of its cage while it
was being transferred to a friend's
west-end house.

Christmas will be "just rotten"
unless the bird is found, Ms. Dewar
said.

If the bird didn't find a warm place

to spend the night, she doesn't figure
it can survive the minus 35-degree
Edmonton weather. "I can only hope
he will get to a chimney or someplace
warm."

If anyone spots the bird, he
shouldn't be afraid if it flies toward
his head, Ms. Dewar said.

"He likes people. He'll be scared,
so he'll fly to them."

The bird responds to a "wolf" or
"girlie" whistle.

Anyone spotting the bird is asked
to call 482-5075 or 454-2307.

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special meeting of the governing
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"He likes people. He'll be scared,
so he'll fly to them."

Alberta Report. vol. 8, no. 8, Jan 30/81 p. 31

Unsentimental journeys

An uproar accompanies the relocation of Alberta's mail order schools

Since 1972 the Tory government has officially followed a policy of decentralization — moving itself out of Edmonton and into smaller cities and towns whenever possible — to boost local economies and to slow down growth of the provincial capital. The relocation of the Alberta Opportunity Company to Ponoka and the Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Commission to Lacombe are cited as proof of the policy's success. Nevertheless, the people involved have not always embraced the idea of leaving Edmonton for more remote points. In no instance has this been more evident than the case of Athabasca University and the Alberta Correspondence School — two Alberta educational institutions which operate mainly by mail. The announcement a

condemning the economics of the move. The AUFA claims the government's estimated \$20.5 million moving cost is far too low. Association President Alvin Finkel says that the government is going to have a major fight with the school's 150 full-time and 60 part-time staff over severance pay. AU has computed those costs as two weeks' pay for those who quit rather than move. No staff members will accept that, says Dr. Finkel.

Dr. Finkel admits, however, that the main reason most staffers don't want to move 90 miles north to Athabasca, a town of some 1,700, is social. "I've been to Athabasca. I've seen the houses for sale and I tell you there isn't anyone on this staff who would live in them. Call it snobbish, but we have our standards."

roof leaks. The floor recently caved beneath a stack of books. Nobody expected to wind up in Barrhead, however, Education Minister Dave King explains that the town of 3,500 was picked because it was only 70 miles from Athabasca — close enough for close communication with AU. The choice had nothing to do, he takes pains to explain, with the fact that Alberta Liberal Leader Nick Taylor came with 350 votes of winning the Barrhead riding in its last by-election. Bau MacKay, president of the ATA local 100 ACS, says Mr. King's explanation doesn't make sense because the two schools have had nothing to do with or another while they were in Edmonton. She predicts many staff members will quit because there are not enough jobs



Athabasca in Edmonton
A battle over severance pay.



VP Finkel
Call us snobs.



ATA's MacKay
Many will quit.



The Correspondence School today
A problem with cave ins.

year ago of AU's relocation in the town of Athabasca has produced a string of resignations, slowdowns and threatened lawsuits. A similar uproar has surrounded ACS since notice last fall that it was moving to Barrhead. This week, the AU governing council is meeting to discuss the implications of an internal report on the impact and costs of relocation.

Instructors from both schools complain that they cannot work as efficiently in small towns as they can in Edmonton. AU faculty members argue that they need ready access to resource materials at the University of Alberta in order to produce the texts, workbooks and visual aids. Two weeks ago the AU Faculty Association fired off a press release, with a copy to the commissioner of relocation planning,

Furthermore, he doubts any staff person would be foolish enough to buy in Athabasca. "You couldn't sell them, and nobody's going to stay more than a year or two. You'd go nuts." He concludes the only answer is for the government to build 300 or so houses, at a cost of about \$100,000 each, and rent them with a subsidy to the staff.

In any case, he says, with the move three-and-a-half years off, most teachers will hang on as long as possible, building up a six-month sabbatical every three years. "They'll milk it for all they can. They'll go on sabbatical with full pay when the move comes and they won't come back. Nothing says they have to."

The nearly 200 employees of the Alberta Correspondence School have expected to move for some time. Their 60-year-old building is falling apart. Its

for spouses in the new location.

According to Stephen Odynak, associate deputy minister in the department of education, the government is doing its best to accommodate husbands and wives of its teachers. It is, for example, giving priority to hiring spouses in the Correspondence School and is helping look for government-related jobs in Barrhead. He does not, however, expect a mass resignation of the teaching and clerical staff and those who do resign should not disrupt the system. Ever since the government knew it would be moving the school to Barrhead, it has stopped replacing teachers who quit. Instead it has sent the work out to freelance teachers to be graded. In about a year it will start replacing the positions on the understanding the new people will agree to move to Barrhead.

Who put this up?
Where's it from?

Who put this up?
Where's it from?
Chips
Education

University re-location is meeting topic

What the future of Athabasca University is going to be has to be decided before the decision to relocate the university is made, Hon. Dallas Schmidt, Associate Minister of Energy and Natural Resources told a meeting of Wetaskiwin city aldermen, directors of the Wetaskiwin Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Kinsmen Club. The supper meeting at the Driad Hotel had been called for by the chamber prior to the call for the election. Schmidt said he was attending the meeting as an individual and had no legal status.

Mayor Leavert Johnson brought both the minister and the chamber directors up to date on what steps the city had taken in pursuing the relocation of the university to the city. He asked Schmidt what action could be taken to influence the cabinet, who will make the final decision as to where the university will be moved.

At the present time Schmidt said there were only about five administrative staff members who would be involved with the move. But he added that if the future of the institution is to become a full fledged university which ever community got the administrative staff should get the campus.

At the moment the university is a

correspondence university and the majority of the staff are not full-time employees. Most of them work at other teaching facilities.

The university was established as a pilot project in 1972 in the northwest commercial-industrial area of Edmonton. In April of last year the university's governing council set up a task force to "evaluate and consider facilities and siting requirements" for the future. These recommendations would go from the council to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower.

Wetaskiwin, Schmidt said has the growth factor needed to accommodate the university and the geographic location is suitable to provide the university with its own identity. If the relocation was any closer to Edmonton the university would be more of a wing of the University of Alberta.

In the report it states that it is "becoming increasingly important to establish and maintain a greater identity with the public and to be situated in a location more consistent with the expectations of the various publics served".

Selling the university staff on relocating the facility to Wetaskiwin would be the difficult aspect, Schmidt told the meeting.

Relocation
JUN 01 1979



NEWS RELEASE

Athabasca University
14515 - 122 Avenue
Edmonton
Alberta
T5L 2W4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 1979.

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY ASKS MINISTER TO DEFER ANY CONSIDERATION OF RELOCATION

At a recent meeting with the Hon. James Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, Athabasca University asked that further consideration by government about a relocation of Athabasca University be postponed indefinitely.

"Any decision to relocate an educational institution that has developed in Edmonton for nine years must be made very carefully," said University Governing Council Chairman, Ken Chapman.

Athabasca University is a distance learning institution that is facing phenomenal student growth. The University is presently occupied in meeting the increasing educational demands from all over the province and in preparing courses in the new Bachelor of Administration program.

"We simply don't have the time or people now to adequately consider a new location, a building design, feasibility, construction, and service implications involved in such a move," noted Mr. Chapman.

The University is housed in a number of buildings in Northwest Edmonton, and will definitely need more appropriate accommodation in the near future. However, the University does not require the campus or buildings that characterize the traditional university.

The Athabasca University Governing Council has gone on record as being interested in a permanent administrative facility for the University but is concerned that the decision be made in consultation with the University and that any site selected support the continued effective operation and delivery of the unique Athabasca University programs and services.

- 30 -

Alicia Maluta,
Coordinator of Public Affairs.
(403) 452 - 9990

December 24, 1980

University of Athabasca
12352 - 149 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5V 1G9

ATTENTION: Bob Reckhow

Dear Sir:

RE: Relocation of Athabasca University

As a charter member of the Student Association for Athabasca University, I view the proposed move of the University to the town of Athabasca with dismay.

I cannot see where it would be to anyones advantage, except possibly the Athabasca area. Surely if Athabasca is a deprived area and requires an economic boost our Government could find another way to assist.

The proposed move of the University has to be politically and not economically based as the move will cost us all. I'm sure operation of the University will also cost more in a smaller centre. Why must we all suffer because of political expediency?

It is obvious that all support staff such as tutors and facilities will still be located in Edmonton.

Will those of us who live North of Athabasca visit the campus if it is located in Athabasca? Not likely. We do go to Edmonton frequently but have no reason or desire to go to Athabasca.

What about future convocation? Will we see this headline?
Athabasca University Convocation held in Edmonton due to lack of accommodations in Athabasca.

One reason I've been given for the proposed move is to get Athabasca University located as it name implies. I'm sure it would be much less expensive and would serve all the students of Alberta better if we changed the name to University of Edmonton rather than move the facility.

Yours truly,

M. Wityshyn
Marie Wityshyn
Student 79.1104.6695

4915 Verulum Pl. N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T3A 0J9

December 22, 1980

Dr. Stephen Griew,
President,
Athabasca University
12352 - 149 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5V 1G9

Dear Dr. Griew,

Please allow me to introduce myself: my name is Chris Cormack and I tutor Computing Science 205 and Computing Science 245 for Athabasca University. On December 1, Bob Reckhow, Co-ordinator of Computing Science, sent a letter to my students and myself urging us to write to you about our views on the relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca.

I have had the opportunity to discuss relocation of the university with my students and I would like to express their concerns: ALL of the students who called me about relocation are not in favor of the move. Here are some of the reasons for such strong opposition:

1. The majority of my students (26 out of 47) live in small towns and want to be accredited by an educational institution in a large urban centre. It seems to be academically more appealing to the student (and to some extent his future employer) if the student has worked towards a degree from Athabasca University "Edmonton" rather than Athabasca University "Athabasca" where is that?
2. The majority of my students like the idea of travelling to Edmonton to work on the computer, clear-up administrative details, do a bit of shopping perhaps go to the opera or theatre or do things they otherwise cannot do in their own town or city. The city has a tremendous academic and motivative appeal. My students find there would be very little incentive for them to travel to Athabasca on university related business.

- 2 -

3. Students fear that relocation would affect the quality of their education in a negative way:
 - a) Many well-qualified valuable people from the academic and support staff simply won't move (because their spouses have good jobs in Edmonton) resulting in a large staff turnover and administrative problems.
 - b) Further isolation from the University of Alberta and computer experts is a chaotic move. The computer industry is constantly changing so effective communication with computer experts is a necessity and more easily attained in a large urban centre.
 - c) The university is run in a "correspondence" environment. The isolation of a small town contributes to even greater delays in the mail service and a wider communications gap among student, tutor and the university.
4. Lastly, students feel the move is another unnecessary costly burden on the taxpayer. Why not improve existing facilities, spend money on advertising, and become recognized as a good university?

I predict a drastic decline in enrollment with relocation because the university will lose its academic appeal. Check your statistics. The majority of students who take our courses live in small communities and want to upgrade their status by receiving credit for their work from a large urban centre such as Edmonton.

Thank you for giving the concerns of my students and myself your careful consideration.

Yours truly,

Chris Cormack
Tutor Computing Science 205/245
Athabasca University

CC:sh

cc: Bob Rechhow

the many workers involved.

The unfortunate death in the Milk River area of James G. McLachlen, 29, of Ontario, reported in a filler item of the November 28 *Journal* as having occurred the previous morning casts doubts as to the effectiveness of that campaign. Letters to the editor castigating *The Journal's* method of reporting these deaths have proven just about as effective.

I quote from a July 19, 1979, letter and the editor's note:

"...the (rig) deaths ... were at least mentioned in *The Journal* at the time of their occurrence...

"When reporting these deaths did *The Journal* mention the name(s) of the oil companies operating the well, the drilling contractor, the number of the rig

individuals trying to carry on in a safe and workman-like manner be tarred with the same brush used to castigate those inadequate performers who some times seem to so dominate the oil patch.

"Unless and until *The Journal* decides to make this information available when reporting these deaths the anonymity provided by the type of reports we have seen in the past will help allow this carnage to continue.

"Editor's note: Names of companies whose rigs are involved in accidents are published when those names are available. The immediacy of news reports sometimes precludes names because police are unable to supply them..."

Mr. McLachlen's death was reported as having occurred the

supervisor(s) and other pertinent details?

Ignoring that parts of what appeared seemed to this former oil patch worker inaccurate (and obviously not written or reviewed by former North Sea derrickman and currently the morning edition's news editor, Nick Lees), is nearly one whole day not enough to get all these facts surrounding this needless bloodshed?

Oh well, perhaps in the oil war being waged between Alberta and Ottawa, threatening to send the drilling rigs stateside and making them unsafe investments would help reduce the number of deaths associated with them.

Raymond Pallard
Edmonton

Variations on a monetary theme

In these days of multi-billion dollar resource development projects, it is a bit difficult to understand the significance of a comparatively small sum like the "\$40-million moving bill" for Athabasca University that was reported in *The Journal* of November 27.

Let's look at it in terms of the average citizen: A provincial expenditure of \$40 million means that \$20 must be taken in taxes from each of the two million residents of Alberta. That means that the typical family of four will have to pay \$80 so that the government can move Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca.

The \$40 million is the cost of relocation only; it is not for any expansion of the university. *The Journal* has reported that the university could be given a permanent facility in Edmonton for \$10 million. The government's justification for the \$30 million extra cost is that it "will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow." It has never been suggested that Athabasca University would derive any benefits from relocation.

What does that \$30 million mean to the people of Athabasca?

If it were given as a cash grant, it would mean more than \$15,000 for every one of the 1,900 residents of Athabasca, or nearly \$50,000 per household. If the money were distributed among the approximately 1,500 households in the 1,800 square miles of Athabasca County, each household would receive approximately \$20,000.

In addition to this one-time capital cost, the move will also cause an increase in the university's annual operating costs, probably by about one-third. On top of the current annual cost of \$6 million, that would mean an added cost of \$2 million for every year that Athabasca University operates from Athabasca. That \$2 million per year would only cost the average Alberta family about \$4

each year, but that same sum would mean an annual grant of more than \$3,200 if it were distributed among the 620 households in Athabasca.

The tragedy of this whole situation is that the people of Athabasca and the surrounding county will never benefit from the relocation of Athabasca University as much as figures like these would suggest.

The main beneficiaries of the relocation will instead be a few large construction companies (most likely Edmonton-based) and the suppliers of furniture, books, computers, and other equipment, most of which will have to be purchased from outside Alberta.

The provincial government's decentralization policy is calculated to project a Robin Hood image of taking from the (urban) rich and giving to the (rural) poor. But, in fact, the poor taxpayer's money is going to pay the big businessman and developer. If this government really wanted to improve the economic well-being of every family in Athabasca, it could do so without at the same time turning Athabasca University into the world's most expensive white elephant.

Bob Reckhow
Edmonton

The Journal welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be brief, must be signed with a hand-written signature, and must include the writer's address and telephone number. *The Journal* reserves the right to edit letters for length and taste. Please send to *Letters to The Journal*, Box 2421, Edmonton, T5J 2S6. For information contact Letters Editor Shel Wilson at 423-9533.

final say whether Mr. Clark is an obstructionist or a correct reader of public sentiment.

For Western Canada, Mr. Trudeau's announcement does nothing to allay fears that the Constitution Act is a document designed to forever deny the West meaningful channels into national decisions. Unless Pierre Trudeau addresses these concerns, he will preside over the dismantling of Canada as even he knows it.

Athabasca move

In announcing the move of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca, last April 3rd, Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman said: "In this particular case decentralization policies of this government overrode the concerns that had been expressed with regard to the location."

Now, besides the cost of the philosophical violence done to the concept of university autonomy, a relocation planning commission reports the price tag for the move could reach \$40 million. In the present context, admittedly, \$40 million is only the monthly interest on the Heritage Fund.

This begs the question: Why dismantle a viable, emerging entity like Athabasca university, which has proven itself well situated in Edmonton to tap the physical and human resources of the University of Alberta?

The Lougheed government's reasons have nothing to do with academics. They are a blatant response to political pressure from northern constituencies, given form, function and licence through the so-called decentralization policy. The relocation costs (\$5 million) and the capital building costs (\$35 million) must be considered needless.

But, in the political context, the Lougheed government no doubt considers the \$40 million price tag a prudent investment. After all, as long as the province pays most of the freight, it can speak with a loud voice. And Mr. Horsman's well-chosen words must be remembered: "In this particular case" government policy overrode all other concerns.

In other words, Athabasca University is a malleable instrument of government policy — not an autonomous learning institution. It is frightening to consider that a government whose record suggests it has few qualms about riding roughshod over long-established principles may not be content to stop at merely relocating a fledgling university.

ble solution to the irony of being house-rich but cash-poor: the "reverse mortgage".

It lets a person borrow money against his home to buy an annuity. This gives him a regular cash payment so he can live in the style to which his home equity entitles him.

Meanwhile, the mortgage lender acquires an increasing claim against the home. That claim, the reverse mortgage, is paid off when the home is sold — when the owner dies or finally moves away from the burdens of home ownership.

Without a reverse mortgage, the low-income home owner faces two absurd alternatives. One is to stay in his home and live poor — with \$50,000 or \$75,000 of savings under his feet in the form of home equity.

Or he can sell the home for a bundle of cash — when all he needs is a trickle of cash flow. Then he must move out of the house and neighborhood that he could have enjoyed for years to come.

The reverse mortgage offers the best of both worlds; he can have his home and sell it, too. He has it to live in, and he receives the cash as he needs it, with the actual sale deferred until he no longer needs the home.

Forms of reverse mortgages already are available in France, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

But despite their logic, they are not available in Alberta. Mortgage company spokesmen say nobody wants them.

Edmonton Journal

Wednesday, December 3, 1980

A \$40-million moving bill

By KATHERINE DEDYNA

The relocation of Athabasca University would cost Alberta taxpayers \$40 million.

The preliminary report of the relocation planning commission, leaked to The Journal, estimates the move will cost at least \$5 million for relocation expenses. Another \$35 million will be required for capital building costs, according to university officials.

When the project was originally

announced, the provincial government said the new construction would cost \$16 million.

University officials say that figure could double. The same sources say the university could have been relocated to the old Edmonton public school board building for only \$10 million.

The \$5-million relocation figure is more likely to increase than decline, says commissioner Barry Snowden.

The provincial government decided early

this year to relocate the correspondence university 145 kilometres north to Athabasca, population 1,800, by 1984.

At that time, university president Dr. Sam Smith resigned saying "my effectiveness as president is seriously eroded by the decision."

The longest standing member of the university governing council, Edward Cheekland, also resigned, saying the relocation decision was "high-handed,

arbitrary and arrogant."

A poll among the 70 university faculty last year showed only one willing to relocate outside Edmonton. The move was also opposed by Edmonton city council and was called "bizarre and stupid" by the coordinator for distance education for the University of Victoria.

The \$5-million relocation bill includes: \$3.75 million for library services; \$120,000 for communications; \$100,000 for the

University of Alberta; \$70,000 for staff travel budget increases for trips to Edmonton; \$50,000 for expanded courier services; \$175,000 to build a small video studio; \$775,000 for offset printing and binding services; and \$75,000 for a broadcast studio.

The costs would be unnecessary if the university continued to operate in Edmonton where there is easy access to University of Alberta facilities and staff.

The inside story

Wealth in numbers

Tickets worth \$100,000 each, picked in the Western Express lottery draw Wednesday night, are numbered: 1978341, 1882445, 1747974, 2520276 and 2986690. Numbers of tickets worth \$10,000 each are: 2124551, 3923720, 2475344, 1986569 and 3720814. There are also prizes of \$1,000, \$100, and \$25.

— Details Page C15

Generous Hawks

When the smoke had cleared, the Oilers had scored 10 against the Chicago Black Hawks' 3.

— Page G1

United we stand

Edmonton publisher Mel Hurtig rallied an audience of pro-Canadians on Wednesday to fight the good fight against separatism.

— Page B1

Breaking tradition

The Loughheed government is set to mark another first in Alberta by adjourning the fall session instead of ending it formally.

— Page B6

New battlefield?

Syria and Jordan build up troop and tank strength along their common border.

— Page A13

Quake relief bungled

Delayed rescue efforts after the Italian earthquake lead to the interior minister's resignation.

— Page A15

Heavenly bodies

A new monthly column on stargazing begins with a look at astronomical delights visible in December skies.

— Page C14

Tattle-tale

John Lennon tells all about the hostility between him and Paul McCartney.

— Page E16

Selfish separatists

Western separatists are selfish, right-wing businessmen, says a visiting economist.

— Page H1

Explanation wanted

The Ontario Securities Commission asks two top executives from Royal Trustco to explain their actions in opposing a recent takeover bid.

— Page H1

Back to The Pill

The dangers of the birth control pill have been exaggerated, says a 10-year study.

— Page A10

Alex Mair	E15
Allan Fotheringham	A6
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Births, marriages and deaths	E2
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Mini Cross	E9
Olive Elliott	A7
Patterns	E10
People Journal	E16

Britain duty-bound to pass bill — PM

Journal News Service

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said Wednesday the British Parliament has no right to reject Canada's constitutional reform package.

The prime minister also denied a Journal report that Ottawa is exerting extreme pressure on British MPs to go along with the proposal.

Trudeau told the Commons that no "extreme pressure or any other pressure" had been put on Britain and that he found it undignified that any Canadian MP would make such suggestions.

Amid shouts of "blackmail" by Tory MPs, Trudeau said Canada didn't have to go "begging" to the British Parliament for anything.

Westminster had a "duty" to respond to a joint request from the Commons and the Senate.

"It's as simple as that," he said.

Trudeau was answering charges by Flora MacDonald, former Progressive Conservative external affairs minister, that government officials were exerting pressure on the British government to rubber-stamp the federal proposals.

MacDonald quoted from a story in Tuesday's Edmonton Journal which said

the federal government has threatened to pull Canada out of the Commonwealth, or impose economic sanctions, if Britain holds up the Liberal constitutional reforms.

Sir Anthony Kerhaw, chairman of the select parliamentary committee on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, told The Journal that Ottawa is putting extreme pressure on Westminster to approve, without hesitation, Trudeau's plan to petrify the British North America Act with an amending formula and a charter of human rights.

Trudeau told MacDonald her questions should be addressed to Kerhaw.

An infuriated MacDonald charged that Trudeau, in denying the stories of pressure tactics, was accusing Sir Anthony, and other British MPs who backed up the story, of "lying."

Trudeau countered by saying the only pressure tactics being made in Britain against the proposals were those being made by provincial governments.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Jean Chretien said he is surprised Alberta has chosen the "colonial route" by deciding



Trudeau

to make a submission to the British Parliament.

The decision was announced Wednesday in Edmonton by Alberta Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dick Johnston.

Chretien said there is no precedent for a provincial submission to a British parliamentary committee.

He said Westminster would become the arbitrator of Canadian problems which would relegate Canada to colonial status.

Related story B6.

Edmonton Journal - 06.26.80

The urban advantage: choice

As a staff member of Athabasca University, I must reply to those residents of Athabasca who have been trying to convince us to move to their town with Athabasca University.

I'm sure the residents of Athabasca are happy with their lifestyle. They are satisfied with their schools, hospital, swimming pool, and the selection of fresh fruit in their grocery store. They are also happy to be "only" about 150 kilometres from Edmonton, with all of its facilities and attractions. They seem to think there must be something wrong with anyone who doesn't see these advantages and wants to live there too.

But a city like Edmonton has one thing to offer that a small town like Athabasca can never provide: choice. If I don't want my children to attend the nearest public school, I can send them to a school in another neighborhood, or to a separate school, or to any one of several private schools. If I don't like my doctor, or dentist, or hospital, there are many others in the city to choose from. If the fresh fruit in my neighborhood supermarket doesn't satisfy me, I can drive a short distance to another store that may have what I'm looking for. If I'm not a Christian of European descent, I can join the Chinese Fraternal Society, the Hindu Society, or any other of the several hundred ethnic, cultural, and religious organizations in the city. If my wife wants to find a job as a computer operator, there are dozens of computer installations in the city, at least some of which will be hiring operators at any given time. What is the job market like for computer operators (or photographers, or chemical technicians, or...) in Athabasca?

I could go on and on with

examples like this, but I think I have made my point clear. The attraction of the city is not any specific amenity, but the diversity of amenities that are available. We don't all go to Oiler hockey games, but some of us do. We don't all send our children to private schools, but some of us do. We don't all have season tickets to the Edmonton Symphony, but some of us do. We aren't all non-Christian, but some of us are. We aren't all vegetarians, but some of us are.

We don't all think that 150 km is too far to drive for a football game or a visit to the museum, but most of us do.

In contrast, a small centre like Athabasca must necessarily be

limited in the diversity of the lifestyles it can support. Anyone whose lifestyle doesn't fit must either leave or learn to conform. The way of life in Athabasca must be ideally suited to the people who live there. After all, they have chosen to live there, and I assume their reasons are good ones, just as I have good reasons for choosing to live in Edmonton.

But let's try the shoe on the other foot. How would the typical resident of Athabasca feel if the government told him he had to either move to Edmonton or find another job? If he would be happy to move to Edmonton, then he must understand why I would rather stay here than move to Athabasca. If, on the other hand, the prospect of finding another job in Athabasca doesn't bother him, then it must be that Athabasca has a healthy economy with plenty of employment opportunities. (If that were so, then why would the town need a decentralization gift from the government?) I suspect that this typical Athabaskan would in fact be unhappy with either choice, and would resent any government that tried to infringe on his freedom in this way.

Life in Athabasca may be well suited to the needs of the people who live there, but it is unreasonable to expect it to be suitable for the majority of the present Athabasca University staff members, each of whom has chosen to live in or near Edmonton for a different combination of reasons. Athabasca (and other rural Alberta towns) may be in need of an economic boost, but is forcibly uprooting the families of 130 people who have chosen to live elsewhere the best way of providing it?

Bob Reckhow
Edmonton

Points

• I am the spouse of an employee of Athabasca University and would like to offer my opinion on the government's decision to relocate the university to the town of Athabasca. The town of Athabasca thinks that the reason Athabasca University is being moved there (instead of Spruce Grove or St. Albert) is because of its strong campaigning. Believe me, the only effective campaigning the people of Athabasca did was to nearly elect a Liberal in the last federal election. Very clever! That has the Conservative government so scared that it will do anything the town says to win back votes. Congratulations to the people of Athabasca on their successful campaign to throw 130 people out of their jobs. — Diane Reckhow, Edmonton

EDMONTON JOURNAL

Line-up to locate proposed \$30 million facility

Saturday, June 7, 1980 A21

Communities want new technical institute

By Kelly McParland

Some of the communities that lost the Athabasca University relocation sweepstakes are lining up to try for another prize.

At least five communities have already notified the government they plan to make bids to have a new \$30 million technical institute located within their boundaries.

The institute, announced by Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman in April, will be built by 1984, and will complement the Northern and Southern

Alberta Institutes of Technology.

The cities of St. Albert, Camrose and Wetaskiwin and the towns of Stony Plain and Spruce Grove have already put themselves in the running for the new school. The chairman of the site selection committee, Jack Starritt, says he expects more applications.

Communities within commuting distance of Edmonton may have an edge in the new bidding war, since the government's decision in March to move Atha-

basca U. to Athabasca, 145 kilometres from the city, drew considerable opposition.

St. Albert and Spruce Grove were both rejected as locations for the overcrowded university, which will be housed in a new \$16 million building by 1984.

Mr. Starritt said the selection committee hasn't decided yet what criteria will govern its choice, but that "it's a distinct possibility" proximity to Edmonton will be one of them.

The competing com-

munities are attracted by the economic boost the institute would provide. There are no figures yet on how big a boost could be expected, but it would include

a payroll for between 100 and 200 instructors, as well as administrative staff and their families and the spending power of up to 3,000 students.

Athabasca town manager C.M. Sawatzky says the town hasn't figured out how much extra income it will get from the relocation of Athabasca U.

Spruce Grove mayor George Cuff says many of the same reasons the town felt it deserved Athabasca U. can be applied to the technical school.

1. Today Board East
2. Today Board West - Upstairs
3. Today Board West - Student Materials
4. Today Board South

1. Today Board East
2. Today Board West - Upstairs
3. Today Board West - Student Materials
4. Today Board South

EDUCATION

**Moves Shakes
Athabasca U.**

It was a case of the movers versus the shakers. The announcement by the provincial government to move Alberta's only correspondence university out of Edmonton has caused a major conflict amongst the academic staff. The people of Athabasca town may regard the arrival of Alberta's fourth university there as a boon, but as far as the staff is concerned, "boondocks" is a bit nearer the mark. Most of those who work at Athabasca University think the upheaval will be a disaster and in their various ways they've made their feelings clear. For sheer ingenuity and a welcome dash of humour, however, Russ Scarlott is way ahead. Right now, about 130 replicas of a rather snappy tee-shirt he's designed are walking around Edmonton spreading the slogan "Boondocks U" backed up with some pointed comments on government interference.

On a more formal basis, the fight is being headed by the Faculty of Association led by Alvin Finkel. It has decided to seek outside legal help to look into the possibility that the provincial government has violated the Universities' Act. Although the staff is united on the issue, the University is a house divided, with the Faculty Association passing an open censure of the Governing Council for its "abject failure" to examine the legal implications of the decision.

It's shaping up to be a battle to the bitter end. While an understandable reluctance to uproot home and family must play some part in the resentment, a great deal of the opposition comes from a feeling that a ten-year struggle to launch a new concept in education will have been wasted.



"We teach people degree level courses in their own homes," explains Alvin Finkel. "This means we have to produce workbooks, texts, radio and television programs, and provide a tutoring service by telephone. We depend very much on other institutions and people in Edmonton and I can't see how we can offer the kind of service we've managed to develop if we're stuck out in a place as small and isolated as Athabasca." The Governing Council, however, appears to have accepted the move as inevitable and is trying to divert the energies of the staff into a commission to figure out what kind of a deal it can get to make the shift more bearable. With the Faculty Association and the Council already at loggerheads, this kind of defusing tactic seems hardly likely to work. Lengthy meetings have little appeal, especially in the summer months, and maybe Russ Scarlett is right in figuring his zany tops will be more effective.


MURIEL STRINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

University to move

Athabasca University
Please do not adjust your set

EXCLUSIVE
Government relocation announcement



**We need to have faith
in the system,
but not blind faith.**

TODAY/BULLETIN BOARDS

**No
Politician
Spreads
It
Better.**



**Thou shalt have
no other gods
before thy
government—
this is
the law—**

**P.S.—I WOULDN'T WANT THIS MESSAGE TO FALL INTO
THE WRONG HANDS, SO PLEASE MEMORIZE IT AND
THEN DESTROY YOURSELF!!**

[June, 1980?]

Deans & Bob Reckhow: Re your letter in journals

First of all maybe I suggest that I feel along with many others that the government is making a very wise move in its attempt to decentralize some of our govt depts, industries and institutions. You would seem to favor creating problem cities such as Chicago, Detroit, etc after all setting Athabasca up in Spruce Grove or St. Albert would just be contributing to centralization. Maybe you should move to Ontario.

Did you ever think of the move as a challenge and opportunity should that not be an educators approach? Or that many of us paying taxes to provide these many facilities have to move frequently if we hope to advance.

If the 130 staff people you mention have the ME ME approach your letter so amply shows just maybe the institute would be better without them. May I suggest you get rid of that attitude, get with it, and live.

J. K. Kiser.

2—Edson Leader, Wednesday, March 26, 1980



In Our Opinion

By Doug Caston

So called big city people have always given me a pain in the neck. Somehow they seem to believe that the bigger the city the better. We come up against it when city orientated people shop. Somehow it's a big deal to tramp miles through a shopping complex for many items that can be purchased locally and you don't have to lug them around and spoil the day or two we all spend in the city from time to time.

These are the thoughts that come to mind with the bleating that is coming out of Edmonton about the decision of the Alberta Government to move Athabasca University to the small town of Athabasca. We think it is a logical extension of the policy of the provincial government to decentralize as many services as possible. Our two main cities of Edmonton and Calgary don't need to have everything right at hand.

There are advantages to centralization but a correspondence university that has no resident students can be located anywhere in the province. The specious argument by the president in his resignation doesn't hold water. Does he really think that the government who is responsible for the location of universities should have to consult with the present board all along the way. We're presuming that there was some consultation away back and the board which is composed of people living in and around Edmonton had voiced their opposition to any move except to the environs of the capital city.

MAY 26 1980

The argument that close proximity to the University of Alberta library and other facilities for subject material and research has no doubt some validity. But Athabasca town is only a hundred or so miles from Edmonton. We venture to say that the travelling time involved is only about double what present staff spend getting to and from their homes in and around Edmonton. So a once or twice a week trip in Athabasca shouldn't be all that great a problem.

The principle of decentralizing government services is a sound one. One that comes to mind is the locating of the head office of the Alberta Opportunity Company at Ponoka. A town about the size of Athabasca which already had a mental hospital. We haven't really heard any griping from potential borrowers about a head office being located at Ponoka.

We feel sure that those taking courses through the correspondence university wouldn't be too alarmed at getting their materials and markings from a small town.

One of the problems we have in small urban centres is attracting professional people trained in city universities. They appear to want to take the chance of less financial return so they can continue a citified lifestyle they have gotten used when getting their education. They don't realize the quality of life possible in a smaller community.

So, hooray for Advanced Education and Manpower Minister Jim Horsman and the rest of Premier Lougheed's Government!



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Leader, Bob Clark
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n core of the cities.

of five per cent of the amount
invested in construction of qualifying
apartment buildings started between
Jan. 1, 1980, and Dec. 31, 1980.
This tax credit, says Mr. Walker, is
an even better incentive to encourage
apartment construction than the
federal government's former, capital
cost allowance scheme, which
investors merely used as a tax shelter.

A chain-saw vandal destroyed
hundreds of trees along the river bank
during the weekend, apparently
seeking a better view from his house.
"It's just devastating," Mike Patton,
a general supervisor of maintenance
and construction for the city parks
and recreation department, said
Wednesday.

"The river valley is so beautiful and
this sort of thing just drives me crazy."
He said the swath of cut trees near
90th Street and Valleyview Drive is 15
metres long by 54 metres deep and
includes hundreds of large poplars,
Saskatoons and willows along
Valleyview Drive.
"Why someone would do something

like this is beyond my comprehension.
Some of those trees took 15 years to
grow and just can't be replaced," Mr.
Patton said.
The vandal could be prosecuted
under city bylaw but he said all he
would probably get is a "slap on the
wrist."
Kayla Shocter, of 9022 Valleyview

Drive, said while she has at times
requested the city thin the trees so
they did not obscure the river, it
would certainly have to be done by
professionals.
"This sounds like a real desecration.
It's sheer mischief but I'm not
surprised because some people do
strange things," she said.

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Dupres, said about
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Princess Patricia's
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surrounding area.
Dupres believe their
n abducted and are
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Frank Hutton

Why wait four months?

Why didn't Premier Petro Lougheed make
the announcement of Joe Hutton's
appointment to the Alberta Liquor Control
Board last December?

Wasn't the little charade a bit foolish when
it left the three-man liquor board short one
member all that time?

Let's face it!

When the retirement of board member
Russell Sheppard was announced last
November everybody GUESSED Joe
Hutton would get the job.

And when, about a month later, Joe
announced he was resigning from his post as
press secretary to the premier, everybody was
CERTAIN he was about to get the job.

So what's happened?

Joe has spent four months painting his
home — inside and out — while Premier
Petro gathered the courage to bestow yet

another 'patronage' position on a faithful
footman.

(Gee! I hope that four-month period of
unemployment between government jobs
hasn't thrown a monkey wrench into Joe's
Local Authorities Board pension.)

And then Premier Petro defends his
decision by saying Joe was appointed to the
ALCB because he's the best man for the job.

Good Heavens!

Could that mean it took the premier four
months to review the qualifications of a man
who'd been at his elbow for eight years.

If so, it would certainly explain why some
of the 'snap decisions' he made in placing
former cabinet ministers into cushy jobs have
met with such loud GUFFAWS from the
public sector.

I just hope Joe Hutton's background in the
news media wasn't a deciding factor.

Board chairman A.D. (Pete) Elliott,

y'know, was a reporter here at The Journal
before he went to work in Premier E.C.
Manning's office.

And Russell Sheppard, you may recall,
was news director at CJCA before he
followed Mr. Elliott into Mr. Manning's
office and eventually to the liquor board.

I'd hate to think the idea is rampant that
nobody knows more about booze than old
newsmen.

How TACKY!

Oh, by the way, I might as well answer the
questions posed by every second person I've
met since Joe Hutton's appointment was
announced.

NO! He is not my brother.

NO! He is NOT related to me.

NO! I am NOT likely to get an ALCB
credit card now that he's on the board.

AND, while I'm putting erroneous
impressions to rest, let's take a look at the
dog licensing regulations which go into effect
next year.

Everyone seems to understand that
licences for unaltered dogs will be going up
to \$30.

But some folks have indicated to me that
they're unclear as to the exact meaning of the
part of the news report which read:

Owners of spayed or neutered dogs will pay
\$10 for a licence, as will seniors and owners of
dogs too old to be sexually active.

Well, the truth is that seniors only have to
pay a \$5 licence fee — not \$10 — regardless
of the condition of the dog.

And that last part 'too old to be sexually
active' refers to the DOG — not the owners.

AND FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH it
appears I MAY have to change my views on
the relocation of Athabasca University.

Last night CFRN's good old Bruce Hogle
came up with proof positive that universities
CAN succeed in minute communities.

Mind you, two of the three examples he
trotted out occurred before the turn of the
20th century and the third was the
establishment of Notre Dame University at
Wilcox, Sask., 50-odd years ago.

And he neglected to point out that Wilcox
is only 48 kilometres from the University of
Saskatchewan in Regina — not 160
kilometres away like AU would be from the
U of A.

And then again, he forgot to mention that
none of his three examples were distance —
or correspondence, if you prefer —
universities relying, for part-time input, on a
pool of experts in a variety of disciplines that
can be found only on the campus of a major
university like the U of A.

But it shows good old Bruce is digging into
the matter.

And he still has three or four years before
AU moves so he may YET come up with
something conclusive.

Edmonton Journal, May 1, 1980, p. B1

Decision 'unilateral'

President resigns over government move

A RECENT DECISION by the Alberta government to move Athabasca University 145 kilometres north of Edmonton to the Town of Athabasca has led to the resignation of the university's president, W. A. S. (Sam) Smith.

In offering his resignation Dr Smith called the provincial government's decision "unilateral" and "a serious attack on the integrity and autonomy" of the university. Edward Checkland, vice-chairman of the university's governing council, has also resigned in protest.

The government chose the town of Athabasca after studying submissions from 22 communities and the university. The town, says James Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, will give "permanence and visibility to Athabasca University and, at the same time, will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow".

The town, which has a population of approximately 1,800, is a major trading and service centre situated on the banks of the Athabasca River. Construction of the university's new headquarters will take three to four years and cost about \$16 million.

Athabasca University was founded in 1970 as an open university and offers correspondence courses to about 5,000 students. It has been operating out of leased facilities in Edmonton since that time. It was granted permanent status as an undergraduate degree-granting university in 1975 and was incorporated under the provincial Universities Act in 1977. After it received permanent status, Athabasca's governing council went on record as recommending a permanent site in the greater Edmonton region.

According to Dr Smith, the government's 40 university affairs

choice is based on economic and political considerations and "lacks educational rationale". He notes that the Athabasca submission to the government listed a multitude of academic reasons why the university should stay in Edmonton, all of them apparently ignored. These include access to libraries and computer networks and "the constant interaction of Athabasca staff with professionals in the city and at the University of Alberta".

Government promises to provide money for a library and computer equipment are of little comfort, he adds.

"It is an illusion to say that millions of dollars will instantly produce a library of the University of Alberta's calibre."

The decision to move far from the city will also affect staff, says Dr Smith, who predicts that a large number will be unwilling to relocate. The government, however, anticipates that the university's staff will increase from its current 130 to 300, thereby

creating "a buoyant economy and considerable employment opportunities for residents of Athabasca and area".

Not all staff will be located in Athabasca, the government notes, because the university will maintain learning centres in Edmonton, Calgary and other major cities.

In his resignation statement, Dr Smith expressed his indignation at the government's lack of consultation with the university. He and the chairman of the governing council were informed of the decision only one hour before it was made public, he says.

Although the governing council agreed that the decision to move to Athabasca was a wrong one, it later passed a resolution stating its "disappointment" with the government's decision-making process and committing the university to continued development in its new location.

Dr Smith disagreed with this resolution.

"I had to take a stand. It was my strong recommendation to the council that they appreciate the fact that an acceptance of this decision without the most vigorous of resistance constituted an acceptance of a role as a government agency and a change in the basic nature of our university."

His decision to resign "was not reached lightly", he says, "but is one with which I am comfortable of conscience".

Meanwhile, the government has indicated that the relocation decision is final.

"The building of Alberta's youngest university in Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's well recognized policy of decentralization.

"The move to the town that shares its name will provide the university with a greater opportunity to develop its identity and visibility throughout the province."



According to Dr Smith, the government's choice "lacks educational rationale".

U council to consider opposing gov't

By JOANNE MUNRO

Athabasca University staff members won a major victory Monday in convincing the institution's governing council to consider opposing the government's decision to relocate the university.

After a six-hour debate, attended by more than 60 staff members, the council agreed to reconsider their acceptance of the relocation decision when a fact-finding commission makes its report a year from now.

The 11-member internal commission was

established by the council to investigate implications of the university's move to the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton.

"The governing council has finally decided not to make an official decision about the move," said Dan Coldeway, an executive member of the faculty association. "It's what the university should have done in the first place."

"I think the staff will be ecstatic with the news," he said during an interview after the meeting. "This was our objective from the very start."

In early March, Jim Horsman, minister of advanced education, announced the correspondence institution would be relocated permanently in Athabasca as part of the government's economic decentralization policy.

The university staff greeted the news with dismay and anger, charging the government had interfered with university autonomy and had acted without proper consultation with the institution's administration and governing council.

In response to the government's decision, Athabasca University president Sam Smith resigned.

But the governing council, while protesting the government's method of announcing and handling the decision, did not flatly reject it.

A month ago, staff and faculty representatives attempted without success to convince the council to take a hard-line position against the move. They felt the institution would suffer if located outside a metropolitan area, away from University of Alberta and other resources.

The council's acceptance of the government's decision prompted the staff and faculty associations to pass a motion of censure against the governing body.

Closures report unnecessary

An Edmonton public school trustee criticized downtown administrators Monday for asking for \$10,000 to make new policies on school closures.

Trustee Elaine Jones said the request, which came from the board's department of planning and accommodation, was unnecessary.

Trustees ordered their own report on small schools and declining enrolment in September, 1979, she said.

Yet the report, which was completed by University of Alberta professor C.S. Bumbarger in December, 1979, has never been placed on the trustee's public agenda, she said.

"It's very difficult for us to make a policy if this report has never come before us," she said. "I don't know how this got past us, but Mr.

Superintendent, I'm really affronted."

Courtney Smith of planning and accommodation said that Mr. Bumbarger's study was undertaken after the board recommended the closure of 15 schools in the city in January, 1979.

Since then, he noted, trustees have rescinded the recommendations and entered into new school building regulations.

The goals stated in the 1980 budget are therefore more realistic for the system as a whole, he said.

The report should be talked about by trustees publicly, Mrs. Jones said.

Trustees are expected to pass the budget, which includes the \$10,000 request, during the next three weeks.

Public housing questioned

Wolf Willow and Westridge residents have armed themselves with a 350-name petition to continue their protest against construction of public housing in their neighborhood.

Greg Harrison and 35 neighbors asked city council's public affairs committee Monday to rescind council's approval of a public housing

development until all socio-economic effects of council's public housing policy are examined.

Mr. Harrison, comptroller for a stationery firm, repeated an earlier written appeal for an analysis of existing low-cost housing in Edmonton to determine whether the city's policy of mixing public with private dwellings is working.

"What is the rationale for including five-per-cent public housing in different areas?" he said. "It doesn't make any more sense to me than putting all public housing in one area."

Council voted 8-4 last month to approve development of 67 townhouses for low-income families in the new Wolf Willow area in West Jasper Place.

One of the two parcels allocated for the project is across the street from the existing

Milk price rise 'not enough'

CALGARY (CP) — Minimum consumer milk prices will rise a cent a litre in Alberta

area at 10-minute intervals. officers patrol on foot crackdown, the number of the streets at night dramatically, indicating it shifting their working hours. Police are also discouraging customers with check stop continue throughout the sum

No-smoking sought for

The city is drafting a smoking in elevators, although sure if it can be enforced.

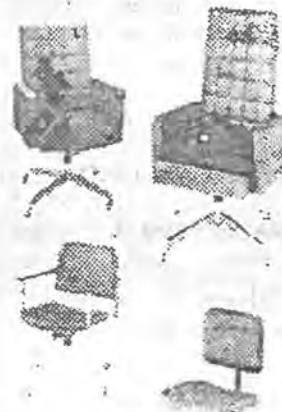
An order for the draft was department Monday from the committee in response to a letter from the United Church.

Ald. Percy Wickman said Presbytery was organizing a petition for a ban on smoking in public

City solicitor Tony Konye attempted to pass a smoking bylaw last week but failed because it purported to place a burden of enforcement on the city. Since then, he said, the city and Toronto passed the bylaw and the Ontario Ministry of Health referred to as the "omnibus clause".

COMME

11223 -



Norris swayed on grant bid

ce again, government warned

groups will undoubtedly be envious of the settlement, Mr. Young said he hopes they would not use the award as a gauge for their contract negotiations.

In the legislature, Hospitals Minister Dave Russell said the government would provide extra money for the salary settlement rather than take the funds from hospital budgets.

Attorney-General Neil Crawford said he does not think any charges would be laid against the nurses for defying a cabinet back-to-work order, now being disputed in court.

Verne Rheault, spokesman for the AHA, said Monday he had no comment on whether his group will be making representation to the government to have all nurses declared essential in a labor dispute.

He said that has to be discussed further with the board.

UNA and the AHA accepted a memorandum of agreement early

Monday after mediation efforts by Mr. Young.

Mr. Rheault said the secret meetings that began Thursday were initiated at the AHA's request because "our hospitals were down and we wanted a settlement — and we got one."

The proposal, to be voted on by the members at 85 hospitals May 8, will give nurses an average 18.6-per-cent increase retroactive to Jan. 1, 1980, another 8.7 per cent on Oct. 1, with a final 6.9 per cent March 1, 1981.

The wage increase by the end of the contract will range from \$2.87 to \$3.16 an hour (36.6 to 39.8 per cent).

By the end of the contract, a starting nurse's salary will have risen to \$10.09 an hour from \$7.22. The top rate will be \$11.79 from \$8.63.

The AHA spokesman said he is not concerned the package is higher than the final offer of 30 per cent in two years made by his group, because Mr. Russell has already committed his

department to picking up the extra costs.

Mr. Renouf said the pact is satisfactory with the union achieving some success in all areas.

Included is a dental plan and something in the way of a professional responsibility clause, details of which aren't being released until studied by the membership.

The nurses' union is going ahead with a challenge to Section 163 of the Alberta Labor Act, which gives cabinet the right to order strikers back to work.

The nurses were ordered back April 21 on the fourth day of their strike, but instead of pulling their picket lines, filed a notice of motion in court challenging the validity of the order.

In preliminary court hearings Saturday, UNA maintained that because the Labor Act provides penalties for ignoring an order, without prosecution, it is in conflict with federal legislation.

three weeks.

Meanwhile, superintendent Mike Strembitsky said Edmonton taxpayers can expect an eight-per-cent raise in public school taxes in 1980 if trustees pass both phases of the board's budget.

Phase 1 deals with the first eight months of the calendar year, while Phase 2 deals with a 20-month period from Sept. 1, 1980, to Aug. 31, 1981.

The rise in taxes will roughly translate to a \$20 increase for the average homeowner in 1980, Mr. Strembitsky said, and represents a continuing trend of more money coming out of the taxpayer's pocket for education costs.

he said.

"I can only say that to raise salaries by one per cent this year will mean an additional \$6.25 hike on average residential property."

Jim McClaren, Edmonton local president of the Alberta Teacher's Association, said he could not comment on the proposed eight-per-cent salary increase for teachers.

However, he said, he was angry over the lack of a quorum at the budget meeting.

"I think it's discourteous for trustees to call a special budget meeting and then not attend it themselves," he said.

More board coverage, Page B2

Inside City

— Results from Kiwanis music festival. Page A8

— Milk prices will rise a cent a litre across Alberta on Thursday, but producers, distributors and processors aren't happy. Page B2

— A former prostitute admits she signed a false affidavit to protect her former pimp. Page D19



Frank Hutton

There's no doubt in MY mind.

Athabasca University is about to undergo TWO relocations in rapid succession.

After spending about four hours observing a meeting of AU's Governing Council yesterday afternoon, I'm convinced the 'distance' university — or correspondence university, if you wish — WILL be relocated in the Town of Athabasca in the next three to five years.

I'm ALSO convinced, mind you, that the institution will remain in the Town of Athabasca for a VERY short time before moving into oblivion.

The tip-off, I think, was the CRISP decision of the Governing Council to give consideration to opposing the government's

decision to relocate the university — about a year from now.

By THEN a fact-finding commission will have reported back on the pros and cons of the move.

And by THEN, of course, even the ponderous wheels of the provincial government will have been in motion too long for the UA General Council to stop them.

A year from now that would be a job only Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman could handle.

But it takes a BIG man to admit a mistake.

Anyway, as they say in advanced education circles, the prospect of the matter

being 'reconsidered' is purely ACADEMIC.

General Council member Michael Liknaitzky removed all doubt of the eventual outcome from my mind when he exhibited his GRASP of the situation.

You see, to support his contention that relocating AU outside the Metro Edmonton area presented no real problems Mr. Liknaitzky explained to the assembled throng that he had, at one time, been enrolled as a student in a correspondence university and therefore considered himself an expert on the operation of Athabasca.

And I know exactly how he feels.

At one time I corresponded for several years with Santa Claus and I consider myself to be an expert in the operation of the reindeer-powered sled.

And I dare say I've had as much experience in MY area of expertise as Mr. Liknaitzky has had in HIS.

Nevertheless I found the proceedings to be educational.

Actually it was more of a 'study session' than a 'business meeting' with an in-depth discussion of Robert's Rules of Order occupying the council members for a good chunk of the time.

I just can't WAIT for next month's get-together.

By then they'll probably discover that Major Henry M. Robert was an 'American' and they'll want to rehash yesterday's meeting using the 'Canadian' Bournot's Rules of Order as their guide.

Mind you, there was one teensy aspect to the meeting that I found disquieting.

I couldn't shake the thought that I was witnessing the reincarnation of the NIX SIX of Edmonton city council fame.

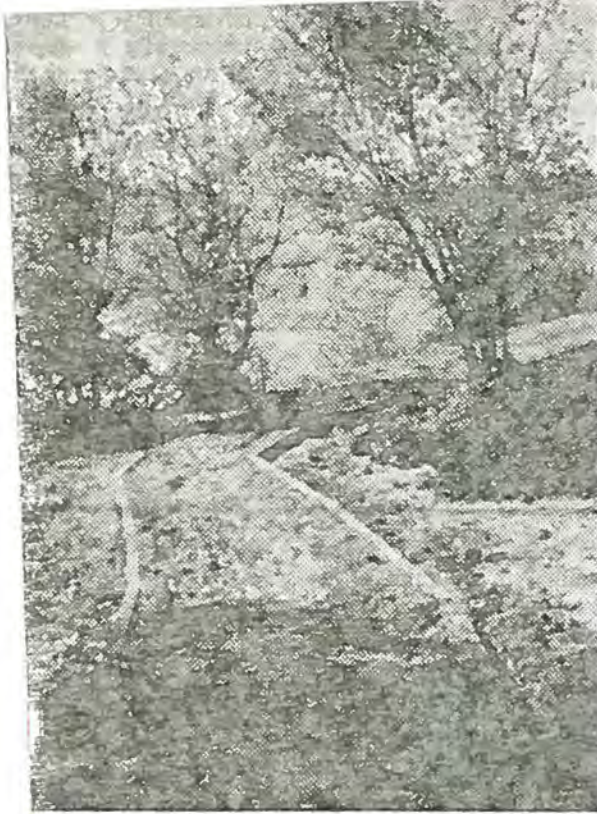
The same six hands seemed to shoot up in opposition to every vote — except the call for a coffee break.

AND FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH here's a humorous note (if you can call it that) to add to the story of Athabasca U.

The place is becoming known as the Athabasca School of ACTING.

You see, with the uncertainty about its future it's been impossible to fill the mounting number of vacancies at the senior academic staff level.

So the administration has an increasing number of 'acting' members.



ty parks not fit man or beast

I am thoroughly disgusted at the way thoughtless people litter in our parks and ravines for others.

I am referring specifically to White Mud Ravine. While walking with my dog, I was appalled at the amount of garbage and trash littered liberally throughout — plastic, paper, tin cans, bottle caps, as well as broken bottles on the paths and hidden in the bushes.

Not only is the garbage offensive to the eye, broken bottles are a dangerous hazard, especially for children and pets.

Perhaps more police supervision is needed to prevent the needless smashing of beer bottles at night in this area.

As the city grows as rapidly as Edmonton I would like to see the city council take steps to respect and protect the environment.

foolishness. My mind boggles at the cost. And still they are not happy.

We spend half a billion on French teachers for the civil service and the department of national defence. Judges and school children are being sent all over the place free to "help us understand one another". The French program for Ottawa civil servants,

and, especially a second one, but it is not for every child. I am more concerned that English language skills of university entrants are not up to acceptable standards. Russian kids are coming out of school with four years of calculus and physics behind them.

A. Valstar
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta

photographer. And, regardless of whether city officials, sometimes over-sensitive to public complaint, would in any way discipline this employee on the strength of your unfeeling pictures, I feel your paper owes this man, whoever he is, a public apology.

E. Dykstra
Edmonton

AU move: mere centralization

In my opinion, the government's decision to relocate Athabasca University does not reflect a commitment to decentralization. Instead, it masks a commitment to centralization, at the same time as it poses a threat to the existence of the university.

Superficially, one might regard the relocation of an educational institution to a small community as a move towards decentralization. After all, in most educational institutions, the students outnumber the staff by about twenty to one and the combined expenditures of staff and students have a significant impact on local economic activity.

But, in the case of Athabasca University, the students are scattered throughout the province. Only the staff are required to be on the campus and, in fact, even a large percentage of the staff — tutors, consultants,

course authors — need not live in the town where the university is located.

The government estimates that Athabasca's staff size, at the time of the move, will be about 300. Even if most of the staff did move to Athabasca — there is little doubt that many will simply commute from Edmonton once or twice a week and never spend a penny in the town — the result would likely be a rather tiny increase in the population of the town, an increase that would probably not be equal to the population that the County of Athabasca has lost in the last two decades.

Meanwhile, while an educational institution that will have negligible economic impact on the town of Athabasca is moved from Edmonton, the government has announced that a new technical institute will be opened in Edmonton.

The message is clear: Athabasca will receive what amounts in economic terms to a crumb, while Edmonton receives an institution whose students will reside in Edmonton and spend money in the city. In my opinion, such a decision indicates that the government, while preaching decentralization, is practising centralization.

I believe that the people of Athabasca should demand an educational institution that will put jobs and money into their town, not an institution whose campus is province-wide, which requires the communications and transportation links that only a large urban centre can provide, and which is not capable of having a major economic impact on the town in which it is located.

Dr. Alvin Finkel
Co-ordinator, history
Athabasca University
Edmonton

Edmonton Journal, April 25, 1980, p. A5.

Young people

We are writing about Alberta's censorship rules, which work against young people aged 13 to 15 years.

Although we are nearly 16 we are not allowed to see an adult movie unless we are with a parent or legal guardian. We cannot go with a teacher or another adult even with our parents' written

considered to be adults for paying purposes but not for viewing purposes.

A recent edition of *The Journal* lists only four family-rated movies compared with 36 adult and restricted adult movies.

We think this shows discrimination against young adults. We would like to see fair and equal treatment for 13- to 15-year-olds in the theatres of Alberta.

Boycott

Why would some athletes not support the boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games? The freedom of small, helpless countries like Afghanistan is at stake. The cooperative efforts of athletes from free countries could cause the U.S.S.R. to think more seriously about its blatant military action, which is threatening

14515-122 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5L 2W4
(403) 452-9990



Athabasca University

April 2, 1980

TO: All Students of Athabasca University

As you may know, on March 5, 1980 the cabinet of the Alberta Government announced the decision to relocate Athabasca University in the town of Athabasca (approximately 100 miles north of Edmonton).

All the staff at the university, both academic and support staff, regard this as a very bad decision on the part of the government:

First, the decision was made without prior consultation with the university administration or staff. The government ignored the university's advice against relocating outside a major urban area.

Second, the decision does not consider the academic and physical needs of the university (approximately 50% of our students are in the Edmonton area and the rest are scattered throughout the province).

Third, the relocation and operation of the university in the town of Athabasca will consume a huge amount of public funds that could better be used to improve service to all our students across the province.

Fourth, the relocation could eventually mean the destruction of the university as we know it because of increased operating expenses, deterioration of services (mail, telephone, exams, workshops, meetings), isolation from libraries, computers and other essential urban facilities.

As a result of these serious issues Dr. Sam Smith, President of Athabasca University, has resigned to protest the government decision. We are asking all concerned students to write a letter of protest to Mr. Peter Lougheed, Premier, 307 Legislative Building, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2B7. Write also to your local paper and to your M.L.A. Tell them that it is a bad decision to relocate Athabasca outside the greater Edmonton area. In your letters of protest feel free to use any or all of the above reasons for asking the government to reconsider its decision.

Remember it may mean the very survival of Athabasca University and its future service to the people of Alberta as a distance learning institution.

In the meantime be assured that we, the staff at your university, will remain dedicated to serve all the students of Alberta.

J. Pivato
Humanities

/as

Commerce News, vol. 2, no. 4 April 1/80 p. 2

Kulabahan clip

New Home for Athabasca University

"The town of Athabasca has been chosen as the permanent site for Athabasca University. The building of Alberta's youngest university in Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's well recognized policy of decentralization."

Jim Horsman, Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, made the announcement recently

"The final decision was reached by Cabinet following extensive study of briefs and submissions from 22 Alberta communities, and Athabasca University. Reviews were conducted during the past two years by department officials and Cabinet," said Mr. Horsman.

"Athabasca University

has a special role and is based on the 'open university' concept, with no resident students. It provides distance learning opportunities, without a traditional campus, to adults through-out the province. Currently the university operates out of leased facilities in the light industrial area of Edmonton. The relocation will have the advantage of giving permanence and visibility to Athabasca University and, at the same time, will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow."

Located 145 kilometers north of Edmonton, Athabasca is the geographic centre of the province. It serves as a major trading and service

centre for the 50,000 residents of Census Division 13. It is approximately one and one half hours driving time from Edmonton.

"The Cabinet had a difficult decision to make. The briefs from other towns were well presented and had much merit. Every one was given serious consideration. Athabasca is one community that has not yet benefited from a major provincial facility, and the north central region of the province currently has no post-secondary institution. The move to the town that shares its name will provide the University with a greater opportunity to develop its identity and visibility throughout the province."

"The new Athabasca University will be constructed on recently acquired land on the banks of the historic Athabasca River. It is estimated that 7,000 square metres (50 to 60 thousand square feet) of space will be required to accommodate the expanded administrative and course production activities. Construction of a suitable facility is to be completed in three to four years.

"The cost of site acquisition, construction, furnishings and equipment will be approximately \$16 million. The influx of staff members with their families will necessitate construction of housing units before the fall of 1984 (the University

currently employs 130 staff and expects to increase that to 300). These factors are expected to create a buoyant economy and considerable employment opportunities for Athabasca and area.

"As well, opportunities are seen and encouraged for private enterprise in such areas as mail services, transportation, printing, commercial suppliers, and media and film production," Mr. Horsman explained. "Not all staff will be located in Athabasca because the University will maintain a learning centre in Edmonton, and offices in Calgary and other major centres."

"I am pleased," Mr. Horsman added, "to announce the appointment of four new

members to the Governing Council of Athabasca University. They are Dick Hobbs of Barrhead, Ronald Gordon of Athabasca, Mitchell Wujcik of Edmonton and Jeanette Sylvia Richter of Bieseker. These Albertans will bring an additional perspective to the Council. The Council will be strengthened by the addition of volunteer Albertans who are prepared to continue their years of service on behalf of others.

"The leadership and staff of Athabasca University have pioneered the concept of distance education in Alberta. I have every confidence in their ability to meet the challenge of this new phase in the life of the university," Mr. Horsman concluded.

**This
Edmonton Business
Meeting Package
is a sleeper.**

\$200.00

**So you've decided to buy a computer system
...but which one?**

**WHAT
ABOUT ME?**

Athabasca and 1984

- J. Pivato

In George Orwell's novel, 1984, mankind is eventually enslaved by an impersonal political machine called, Big Brother. Given the recent behavior of Athabasca University's Governing Council this prophetic vision is not farfetched. The Alberta cabinet unilaterally decides the fate of Athabasca University and the majority of Governing Council members gosestep along chanting, "Hail Big Brother." The government's decision was made without careful and open consideration of the university's needs or mandate. When the Governing Council meekly accepted the Cabinet edict it betrayed the university and the trust of its staff and students.

The Alberta government can wax eloquent about provincial autonomy and provicial rights. Yet it can crush university autonomy and trample on staff, and student rights. The government's decision violates the Alberta Universities' Act and the Governing Council chants approvingly "Hail Big Brother."

It seems that the only persons with principles are Dr. Sam Smith, the University president and Rev. Checkland (Vice-Chairman of the Council) who both resigned in protest over the government's decision and the irresponsible behavior of the Governing Council.

Given the recent meetings of the Governing Council how can any staff member take them seriously? The political appointments to Governing Council reveal themselves for what they are. How can a Council dominated by political appointees represent the true interests of the university? These people are ignorant of the day-to-day operation of the university and they have now shown themselves to be indifferent as well.

The public members' cavalier treatment of the concerns of university staff make it abundantly clear that the unicameral system has broken down. The staff has been betrayed and no longer has confidence in the Council. This was clearly shown in recent motions against the Council by the Faculty Association of the university.

In its April budget the Provincial Government gave the university an additional \$730,000 for "growth and development." This is hush money reminiscent of the Nixon administration. It indicates the depth of cynicism in this government; our university autonomy, and academic freedom are being bought. When compared to the \$75 million being dissipated on the Provincial anniversary the university's growth and development to say nothing of its soul come very cheaply.

Yes 1984 will soon be here. The cabinet decision to relocate Athabasca has all the elements of a totalitarian system. It was secret, sudden, unquestioned, unopposed and, it seems, final as death. The public members of the Governing Council compounded this questionable situation by putting their political positions above the best interests of the university and its students.

The entire council should resign because of their abject failure to protect the best interests of the university.

Alberta Hansard, no. 4, 26 March 1980, pp. 85-86

Relocation

March 26, 1980

ALBERTA HANSARD

85

the old beginning farmer program and upgrade the direct lending programs.

MR. MANDEVILLE: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. At this time, will it be possible with the new policy for the guaranteed loans to be transferred to the direct loans?

MR. SCHMIDT: Mr. Speaker, in a very general way, if an individual were holding a guaranteed loan for which repayment was almost impossible, then the applicant would perhaps be wise to make application to ADC for consolidation of the loan for repayment purposes.

MR. MANDEVILLE: One final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will there be any changes in the maximum amount of \$150,000 under the direct loan program for an ordinary loan? Will that maximum be increased?

MR. SCHMIDT: Mr. Speaker, to try to keep the programs and opportunities fairly equal, it was the intent to increase the maximum of \$150,000 to \$200,000 to match those of the beginning farmer.

MR. SPEAKER: The time for the question period has elapsed. I have recognized the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview. If the Assembly would agree, without wishing to establish any kind of precedent might I respectfully propose that we add, say, 10 minutes to the question period this afternoon.

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Public Service Pension Board

MR. NOTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct this question to the hon. Provincial Treasurer. Is the government currently planning the transfer of authority over the provincial public service pension plan from the Public Service Pension Board to the direct administration of the Department of the Provincial Treasurer?

MR. HYNDMAN: No, Mr. Speaker. The administration of the Public Service Pension Board will continue to report to me as the minister responsible for pensions.

Athabasca University

MR. HIEBERT: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower and relates to the relocation of Athabasca University. Could the minister clarify for the House the level and extent of consultation with the board of governors and the staff of Athabasca University prior to and subsequent to the decision for relocation?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, the first discussions I had with the governing council, the staff, took place about a year ago, shortly after I became Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower. At that time I discussed with them the possibility of moving their location from Edmonton, and I indicated I would do my best at the earliest opportunity to remove the uncertainty hanging over the head of that institution. Subsequent to that time I was in receipt of a number of briefs and letters from staff, staff associations, the council, and I held additional meetings from time to time with the chairman of the governing council and the president of that institu-

tion. When the decision was made that if the institution were moved it would be moved to the town of Athabasca and not to any of the other communities seeking it, I advised the chairman of the board to that effect.

Subsequently, of course, the decision was made and announced to the chairman of the board and the president immediately prior to making the information public. I then arranged to meet with the governing council of the institution, which I did the week following the announcement. On that date we met for one hour and a half, after which the council indicated some displeasure with me. I think it's fair to say. However, on the bottom line they indicated they would continue their commitment to the long-term success, vitality, and growth of Athabasca University in meeting a very important need in the field of distance education in its new location.

I might say that I had the pleasure today of meeting with the chairman of the governing council, who has indicated he is committed to continuing his dedication to seeing the institution succeed in its new location in the town of Athabasca. I've assured the chairman of the governing council that he will have my continuing interest and support, and that from now on the decision-making with respect to the development of the institution will be very much in the hands of the governing council as they plan to carry out their mandate in the town of Athabasca.

MR. HIEBERT: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. What assurance can the minister give the House that the level and quality of educational services at Athabasca University, with due regard that it is a distant learning institution, will not be adversely affected by this announced change?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, that was part of the discussion that took place with the governing council when I met with them on March 11. I indicated then that the government was committed in terms of both support and funding to ensuring the physical facility met the requirements that the governing council felt necessary for the development of the institution, and that what additional funds might be required by way of provision of library services and matters of that nature would be made available. In addition — and I repeat — we made it very clear in my meetings on March 11 and again today that the government is committed to the role of the institution as it presently exists and as it may be determined in the future by the governing council. That is their function and responsibility. I have assured the governing council and the chairman that the development of plans and the location in the town of Athabasca would get under way very quickly and would receive every co-operation from my department. Indeed the government, including the other departments involved, particularly Housing and Public Works, is firmly committed to the long-term success of Athabasca University.

MR. HIEBERT: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Since many outlying communities had made representation regarding site selection, could the minister outline briefly for the House the basis for relocating to the town of Athabasca?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in the news release, which was made public on the date the decision was announced, many factors went into that consideration. But the fact that the town of Athabasca is centrally located in the province of Alberta, that the

people of Athabasca very much wanted the institution there and very actively promoted its transfer to that location [interjections] . . . Well, I might say the hon. members opposite, some of whom were interested in having the institution located in their constituencies, are acting as rather sore losers.

The fact of the matter is that the town of Athabasca was in a competition and it won. I think that speaks very highly not only of the people of the community but of their member in this Assembly. The hon. member was active in support of the bid. That was one of the factors that was taken into consideration. But primarily there was the aspect of decentralization of government services. In this government we have a commitment to that. The identity of Athabasca University was also taken into consideration. We believe that providing that identity in the town of Athabasca will give this institution, in the long-term, a much greater chance of success.

MR. SPEAKER: Might this be the last supplementary. We're really running short of time, and I've already recognized the hon. Member for Edmonton Whitemud.

MR. APPLEBY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to just ask one short question for clarification from the hon. minister. I have some concern with the term "relocation". Was this not choosing a permanent site for the university rather than relocation?

MR. HORSMAN: Mr. Speaker, that is actually the case. They have been temporarily located in the city of Edmonton. The definition of the role of the institution took place under my predecessor as Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower. I'm pleased to say that the provision of a permanent home for the institution has now become a decision of this government.

Multiple Unit Housing

MR. KNAAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs. It concerns a matter raised in the throne speech, in particular the reduction of multiple unit residential housing starts and the elimination by the federal government of the capital cost allowance regarding those starts. I understand the program had an automatic termination. I wonder if, prior to the automatic termination, the minister or his department contacted the federal government that Alberta would request an extension of that program?

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps that question might more properly be directed to at least two of my colleagues. At this time I could report a broad perspective on behalf of our government.

I recall in late January or early February, 1978, the then Minister of Housing and Public Works called a sectoral meeting, on the request of the then Prime Minister of Canada. In that meeting the province clearly outlined to the federal minister that it was our firm belief that the capital cost allowances could well stimulate the investment by the private sector in the needed multiple unit residential building in Alberta. At that time we recommended that the capital cost allowance be extended indefinitely. I can assure the Assembly that subsequently other ministers have followed up on that request and that the federal government is well aware of the impact on the housing starts in Alberta of the withdrawal of that regulation.

MR. KNAAK: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise the federal government's reaction to the successive attempts?

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister of Housing and Public Works may want to supplement. I'm sure we're well aware that the regulation was extended through to the end of 1979.

MR. CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, I might add that I corresponded, without success, with my federal counterpart last year. The capital cost allowance expired at the end of the year. I've recently corresponded with the current federal minister responsible for housing and as yet have received no reply.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

(Second Reading)

Bill 15

The Appropriation
(Interim Supply) Act, 1980

MR. HYNDMAN: Mr. Speaker, I move second reading of Bill No. 15, The Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 1980. The purpose of this Bill is the same as those introduced in the House on previous occasions at this time of the year.

[Motion carried; Bill 15 read a second time]

MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would ask unanimous leave of the Assembly to deal with the matter in Committee of the Whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the hon. Government House Leader the unanimous leave requested?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: So ordered.

[On motion, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole]

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

(Committee of the Whole)

[Mr. Appleby in the Chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Committee of the Whole Assembly will please come to order.

Bill 15

The Appropriation
(Interim Supply) Act, 1980

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions or comments with regard to any sections of the Bill?

[Title and preamble agreed to]

TODAY BOARD (EAST)
Ratification

Date: 26 March 1980

Memorandum

To: AU Staff
From: Lochan Bakshi
Subject:

These are copies of correspondence between the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Jim Horsman.

I obtained these through the Chamber's Parks Committee of which I am a member.

Lochan

TSB/sm

Encls.



ADVANCED EDUCATION
AND MANPOWER

Office of
the Minister

Deputy Government House Leader

*Copy
Geddes
J. Horsman
March 5, 1980*

403/427-2291

130 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

T5K 2B6

March 5, 1980

Mr. E. A. Geddes
Edmonton Chamber of Commerce
#600, 10123 - 99 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3G9

Dear Mr. Geddes:

I am pleased to announce that government has decided to relocate Athabasca University in the Town of Athabasca.

This has not been an easy decision. It was made over several months of carefully reviewing the briefs submitted by the university, and by several communities across Alberta. As you may know, twenty-two communities expressed interest in becoming the future home of Athabasca University. Each one made an excellent case. The Town of Athabasca, situated in the center of the province, seemed the best location for a university with a province-wide mandate for reaching students in their home communities through multi-media learning packages.

I am sure this decision would come as a disappointment, particularly to those communities and groups which had become very committed to the idea over the last three years. But it is my hope that the Chamber of Commerce will see fit to continue its interest in the university and cooperate with government in developing it as the foremost distance learning institution in the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your submission on behalf of the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce. The Premier and my Cabinet and Caucus colleagues appreciate the interest you have expressed in the future of Athabasca University.

Yours very truly,

James D. Horsman
Minister



NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

RELEASE DATE: MARCH 5, 1980 (9:30 A.M.)

"The town of Athabasca has been chosen as the permanent site for Athabasca University. The building of Alberta's youngest university in Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's well recognized policy of decentralization."

Jim Horsman, Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, made the announcement today in a meeting with Ken Chapman, Chairman of the Governing Council and Dr. Sam Smith, President of Athabasca University.

"The final decision was reached by Cabinet following extensive study of briefs and submissions from 22 Alberta communities, and Athabasca University. Reviews were conducted during the past two years by department officials and Cabinet," said Mr. Horsman.

"Athabasca University has a special role and is based on the 'open university' concept, with no resident students. It provides distance learning opportunities, without a traditional campus, to adults throughout the province. Currently the university operates out of leased facilities in the light industrial area of Edmonton. The relocation will have the advantage of giving permanence and visibility to Athabasca University and, at the same time, will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow."

Page 2

Located 145 kilometers north of Edmonton, Athabasca is the geographic centre of the province. It serves as a major trading and service centre for the 50,000 residents of Census Division 13, and is linked by highway to both the northeast and northwest regions of Alberta. It is approximately one and one half hours driving time from Edmonton.

"The Cabinet had a difficult decision to make. The briefs from other towns were well presented and had much merit. Every one was given serious consideration. Athabasca is one community that has not yet benefited from a major provincial facility, and the north central region of the province currently has no post-secondary institution. The move to the town that shares its name will provide the University with a greater opportunity to develop its identity and visibility throughout the province.

"The new Athabasca University will be constructed on recently acquired land on the banks of the historic Athabasca River. It is estimated that 7,000 square metres (50 to 60 thousand square feet) of space will be required to accommodate the expanded administrative and course production activities. Construction of a suitable facility is to be completed in three to four years.

"The cost of site acquisition, construction, furnishings and equipment will be approximately \$16 million. The influx of staff members with their families will necessitate construction of housing units before the fall of 1984 (the University currently employs 130 staff and expects to increase that to 300). These factors are expected to create a buoyant economy and considerable employment opportunities for residents of Athabasca and area.

"As well, opportunities are seen and encouraged for private enterprise in such areas as mail services, transportation, printing, commercial, suppliers, and media and film production," Mr. Horsman explained.

Page 3

"Not all staff will be located in Athabasca because the University will maintain a learning centre in Edmonton, and offices in Calgary and other major centres.

"I am pleased," Mr. Horsman added, "to announce the appointment of four new members to the Governing Council of Athabasca University. They are Dick Hobbs of Barrhead, Ronald Gordon of Athabasca, Mitchell Wujcik of Edmonton and Jeanette Sylvia Richter of Bieseker. These Albertans will bring an additional perspective to the Council. The Council will be strengthened by the addition of volunteer Albertans who are prepared to continue their years of service on behalf of others.

"The leadership and staff of Athabasca University have pioneered the concept of distance education in Alberta. I have every confidence in their ability to meet the challenge of this new phase in the life of the university," Mr. Horsman concluded.

- 30 -

Mary Woodbury, Public Affairs Officer
ALBERTA ADVANCED EDUCATION AND MANPOWER
403/427-7160

Thursday, March 6, 1980

Mr. N.H. Whiston

Edmonton Journal

Athabasca U protests move

By JOANNE MUNRO

Despite protests from Athabasca University, the provincial government Wednesday announced that the institution will move to Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton.

Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman said a \$16-million university employing more than 300 people will be built in the town by 1984.

The provincial cabinet ignored repeated assertions by the university's governing council that a move outside greater Edmonton could prove disastrous.

The estimated influx of university staff and construction workers will have a

major economic effect on the town of almost 1,900 residents.

But the losers in the move will be the 10-year-old institution, its staff, faculty members and students, according to Journal interviews last fall.

Frank Evans, president of the 75-member staff association, said then he would be surprised if more than five per cent of the staff would be willing to move. He predicted most would resign before heading to a rural location.

Mr. Horsman doesn't see that as a major problem. "I hope that won't happen, but the time frame is such that if staff feel they don't want to

take advantage of living in a community such as Athabasca . . . they will have the opportunity to obtain alternate employment," he said Wednesday.

However, it is unlikely most of staff will sell their houses and uproot their children. And the town may have too small a population to fill the major gap created in the university's staff.

Another problem is that the institution relies heavily on material supplied by the University of Alberta's massive libraries. It also stores its records in the U of A's computers, requires the use of commercial printing found only in urban centres

and needs to be close to Access television, since many of its courses are broadcast.

Mr. Horsman says the government is willing to provide Athabasca University with a library and computer.

The institution, which is growing rapidly, also uses academic expertise available at the U of A and Grant-MacEwan College.

Knowledge is something the government won't be able to provide when Athabasca University moves.

In an interview last fall, Ken Chapman, chairman of the university governing council, said the administration was concerned the institution may lose its status as Alberta's fourth university.

"If we located too far away from the three other universities, we would lose touch with them and possibly go our own way," he said. "Right now, all our courses are transferable to the U of A, but that's only because we can meet their standards."

The government's decision to move Athabasca University is part of its policy of economic decentralization. However, an ineffective, understaffed, out-of-touch institution would do the town of Athabasca and correspondence students little good.

Athabasca University's governing council will meet Tuesday to discuss the problem.

OFFICE COPY

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Addressee (please check) ☐

Subject (please check) ☐

Other (specify name):

August 22, 1979

Mr. J. L. Chesney
General Manager
Edmonton Chamber of Commerce
600, 10123 - 99 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3G9

Dear Mr. Chesney:

Please find enclosed copy of a letter delivered by messenger today to
Hon. James Horsman, Hon. David King and Mr. A. Hiebert.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs.) D. Ettinger
Secretary to E. A. Geddes

Encl.

cc: Dr. D. R. Stanley



2401 Toronto Dominion Tower
Edmonton Centre
Edmonton, Alta T5J 2Z1
(403) 423-5234 Telex 037-3606

August 22, 1979

Hon. James Horsman, M.L.A.
Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower

Hon. David King
Minister of Education

Mr. A. Hiebert, M.L.A.
Chairman of Caucus Committee on Education

Gentlemen:

I am writing to express the serious concern of the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce in connection with a proposed recommendation, which we understand is being considered by the Caucus Committee on Education, to move Athabasca University from its present location.

We respectfully submit that the Caucus Committee on Education must deal with this issue solely on educational grounds - and none other - and any decision to move the University must meet the test of being clearly in the best interests of education in Alberta. The educational arguments in favor of Athabasca remaining in Edmonton can be demonstrated to you by the University's administration and its Board and we are confident that you will carefully consider the representations which they have made. While this letter does not intend to be a fully-documented case in favor of retaining Athabasca's present location the following matters must be taken into account:

1. Athabasca University employs a large number of part-time educational consultants, many of whom have associations with the University of Alberta; these consultants, who advise on such important matters as course content, could not function as effectively if Athabasca were to move.
2. Athabasca University is heavily reliant upon the library and computing facilities of the University of Alberta. These important educational facilities, which require prompt access by the user, would not be available without proximity to the U of A campus.

Hon. James Horsman, M.L.A.
Hon. David King
Mr. A. Hiebert, M.L.A.

- 2 -

August 22, 1979

3. Athabasca University uses television extensively in its teaching programs and such facilities are only available in a metropolitan area. The role of television and radio and the association of the University with other media forms will be increasingly important in the future and it is important for a university such as Athabasca to maintain close contact with these rapidly-changing areas of educational technology.
4. For a growing institution the guidance and involvement of its governing board on a continuous basis is important. One of the great strengths of an educational institution is the strong interaction between its administration and its governing board. The University would be denied this important source of strength if administration and Board were divided.
5. The University needs access to a flexible labor pool which can provide the wide range of skills required by a university on a continuous basis.

The academic administration, the support staff and the Board of Athabasca all strongly oppose the suggestion of moving the University as not being in the interests of education in Alberta. A move made over the strong objections of the governing board could bring about a serious conflict between the Government and the Board which it appointed. Such conflict would raise serious questions about the proper role of public appointees and the autonomy of our public institutions.

Finally, the costs involved in such a move are not justified and would represent an unwarranted waste of public money at a time when educational bodies are facing budgetary restrictions.

We trust that you will give careful consideration to this question and to the concerns expressed by the Chamber which are shared by many in the academic community.

Yours sincerely,

E. A. Geddes
On behalf of The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

EAG/de



ADVANCED EDUCATION
AND MANPOWER

Office of
the Minister
Deputy Government House Leader

403/427 2291

130 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5K 2B6

October 9, 1979

Mr. E.A. Geddes
Edmonton Chamber of Commerce
600, 10123 - 99 Street
EDMONTON, Alberta
T5J 3G9

Dear Mr. Geddes:

I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your letter dated August 22, 1979 on the subject of Athabasca University's relocation.

I appreciate the case made by the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce for maintaining Athabasca University at its present location. I will bring your letter to the attention of the Chairman and members of the Caucus Committee on Education. Every consideration will be given to your views in the final decision on the location of Athabasca University.

Thank you for being in touch.

Yours very truly,

James D. Horsman

JDH/ig

cc: Hon. David King
Mr. Al Heibert



— Photo by Nick Oldlick.

to the Dow Chemical plant at Fort Saskatchewan in a derailment that sent vinyl chloride to the river, Manitoba, earlier this month. Meanwhile, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is investigating its industrial facilities.

PAUL RIMSTEAD



still trying to convince his boss that he's not playing country music in the mornings.

Dan Kepley, one of the Edmonton Oilers' best inside linebackers, dropped in and would give Montgomery a big, silver hat to complete his outfit.

Actually, I will be seeing both of them this morning and this time, Montgomery and I will have an upper hand.

This is McHappy Day at the restaurants across Canada with proceeds going to various organizations for crippled children. Last year they raised more than \$1,000,000.

The idea is that every store will have a cook and they must have been shown by celebrities in Edmonton because they asked Montgomery, Kepley and me to do it.

In Edmonton, 50 cents from every hamburger sold will go to the Alberta Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled.

Why will I have an upper hand? Montgomery, my cooking partner at the restaurant this morning?

"I forgot," he suddenly remembered.

the Z-file last month after officially announcing the probe's end this morning.

DON'T MOVE!

Athabasca University should stay put. That's what Ald. Bettie Hewes thinks and she wants the city council to let the provincial government know that's how Edmonton feels.

"It would be a mistake to move Athabasca University anywhere else. It's a unique concept," Hewes said in defence of the mail-order institution.

She claimed the university was "just beginning to flourish and to move it now would have serious effects on its future."

Clips
Relocation
Education
Vol. 2, no. 300, March 26, 1980, p. 5

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main safety knew she was
jaywalking. Why didn't she admit her
wrong and accept the penalty?

Instead, these do-gooders wrote
in to say that she is right and the
police are wrong!

It's people like that who will bend
and break rules and find justification
in doing so. Yet, if they get caught
they feel they are not to blame; the
police are.

If only one per cent of all those
jaywalkers were struck by vehicles
while crossing illegally these
bellyachers would still blame the
police somehow.

Bob Mason
Edmonton

at wait lights when the traffic is
light. I object to pedestrians who
carelessly abuse their privileges.
Edmontonians often don't look
when crossing streets, daring
vehicles to hit them.

Maybe it's good that jaywalk-
ing is illegal, because Edmontoni-
ans are too conditioned to their
pedestrian rights.

In any large city, pedestrians
yield right of way to vehicles. In a
way, this is safer, because it's
easier for a pedestrian to stop,
especially on ice.

G. Krebs
Edmonton

9:45 p.m. to have a look at the blue Camaro with the tail
light missing and no mufflers as it barrelled westward
towards 75th Street on 111th Avenue at upwards of 60
miles per hour. To make matters worse it was sleeting and
snowing at the time, so visibility was poor to say the least. I
wonder whether they would strip-search the occupants of
that vehicle?

Considering the accident rate in Edmonton, I would
prefer to see one jaywalker of any age miss getting a ticket,
and just one of the types mentioned above find out what
criminal negligence means in regard to the traffic laws.

I personally think that our priorities should be
examined so that areas which require attention get it first.
With more traffic patrols, who knows, maybe our accident
rate could be reduced to the benefit of everyone.

Phil Mudge
Edmonton

Edmonton Journal, 24 March 1980, p. A5.

Apology requested of Jim Horsman

As a long-term staff member of
Athabasca University, I deeply resent
both the way in which the minister of
advanced education, Jim Horsman,
handled the decision to relocate the
university and the way he chose to
respond to the news of Dr. Sam
Smith's subsequent resignation as
president.

I believe that Rev. Edward
Checkland, who also resigned as a
member of the governing council,
best described the handling of the
move as "high handed, arbitrary and
arrogant".

Allow me to address the second
matter.

In an article in *The Journal* of
March 13, Mr. Horsman is said to
have declined, initially, to comment
on Dr. Smith's resignation of the day
before.

He then ignored his good
judgment and went on to state: "If he
felt that way and felt he couldn't
make the university work in the
town, it was obviously in the best
interests of the university to resign."

With this statement, Mr.
Horsman has only heightened the
resentment and mistrust I feel as a
result of the original bad decision. As
someone who has worked closely
with Dr. Smith throughout his tenure
as president, I know him to be a
dedicated, honest, sensitive man who
has committed himself fully to
making Athabasca University a
leader in the field of distance
education.

To do that, he has had to face and
overcome many difficulties —
through it all, he has always
welcomed challenges. Were he to

have interpreted the relocation of the
university as simply another
challenge, albeit one of staggering
proportions, I am confident that he
would have turned his energies
immediately to the task of leading us
into the next stage of our
development. But — that would be to
miss the whole point of this affair.

This is not simply another bad
government decision, although it
certainly qualifies as such on the
basis of its long-term economic and
educational implications. Rather, it
is, to quote Dr. Smith, "a major
attack on the autonomy and integrity
of the university". That is the point,
surely, of his resignation.

Mr. Horsman has both missed
that point and tried to cheapen the
honorable stand taken by our
president. One is tempted to add

"insensitive, petty, and shallow" to
the original three adjectives offered
to describe the government's
handling of this matter.

Mr. Horsman owes an apology —
to Dr. Smith and to those of us who
deeply regret his leaving.

Peter O'Donnell
St. Albert

The Journal welcomes letters
from readers. Letters should be brief,
must be signed with a hand-written
signature, and must include the
writer's address and telephone
number. *The Journal* reserves the
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taste. Please send to *Letters to The
Journal*, Box 2421, Edmonton, T5J
2S6. For information contact Letters
Editor Shel Wilson at 423-9533.

TODAY BOARD *Chp*
EAST Relocation

MAR 20 1980

EDMONTON JOURNAL 80-03-19

Students consider impact analysis of Athabasca U move

Athabasca University's student association is considering preparing an analysis of the effect of relocating the institution 145 kilometres north of Edmonton.

Bob Reid, association member, said during a telephone interview from Ponoka that students are "giving thought to analyzing the whole move to see what impact it will have on students' life and learning."

The study, when completed, will be submitted to Jim Horsman, minister of advanced education.

Mr. Reid said he has received several telephone calls from students concerned about the institution's move to the town of Athabasca.

"They weren't too pleased," he said. "Athabasca is kind of far removed."

"Having the university in Edmonton makes it accessible to students. It is a distance education university, but you can still drop in," said Mr. Reid.

"A move to Athabasca will make the university and staff that much further away."

Pat Caley, secretary to the university's president, Dr. Sam Smith, said she had also received several calls from students.

"Certainly the issue has not been ignored," she said.

"Most of the students are asking how the relocation will effect the university and its services, and they are offering

How about U of Tuk?

ST. ALBERT — The province's decision to relocate Athabasca University to its namesake community has left the city here with a 250-acre problem.

The city of St. Albert thought they were going to get the university, and in 1970 earmarked a large parcel of land in the city's northeast for the project.

They even installed sewers and water mains capable of meeting the campus's demand.

"I won't question the government now, that would take too long," said city Coun. Ron Thronson Monday.

"All I can say is it's a good thing they didn't name it the University of Tuktoyaktuk."

EDMONTON JOURNAL
80-03-19

Edmonton Journal, 18 March, 1980, p. A-5.
(morning edition)

Relocating universities

Apropos of the editorial in *The Journal* of March 13, *The bum's rush*, with regard to the relocating — not locating, as your editorial states — of Athabasca University, let me point out that, as the story of Dr. Smith's and my resignation on the front page of that edition mentions, the issue between ourselves and the government of Alberta was not of locating but of relocating the university.

This is confirmed by Advanced Education and Manpower Minister Jim Horsman's letter of March 5 to me, in which he refers to the "government's decision to relocate Athabasca University".

Under the Universities Act of Alberta the government does not have the power to relocate a university. Section 15:1 of that Act reads:

"Except as otherwise provided in this Act, a board has the management and control of the university and of the property, revenues, business and affairs thereof and in particular but without restricting the generality of the foregoing a board is empowered..."

There follows upon that certain housekeeping sections which do not affect the above.

Under Section 17:1:

"A board may acquire, by gift, devise, purchase, expropriation or otherwise, any estate or interest in land for the purposes of the university."

Under Section 63:

"The minister shall from time to time review, approve, amend, or disapprove the requests of a board with respect to expenditures for:

- (a) new buildings,
- (b) major alterations or additions to existing buildings,
- (c) the leasing of buildings,
- (d) major alterations to leased buildings,
- (e) the acquisition of land,
- (f) the furnishing and equipping of buildings whether owned or leased,
- (g) landscaping, paving and the provision of utilities services, and,
- (h) other facilities of a capital nature."

From the above it is clear that under the Act the government has no power to initiate the relocating of a university except at the request of the governing board of the university. No such request was made by Athabasca University Governing Council. Therefore, the action of the government of Alberta in relocating Athabasca University is *ultra vires* of the government.

It was on that point that Dr. Smith and I resigned and on which in my letter of resignation I described the government action as "high-handed, arbitrary and arrogant".

Edward M. Checkland
Edmonton

We need to know when the phones go

A household telephone is an accepted 24-hour necessity. behooves the city to maintain the issuance of an hourly bulletin over



Hurt ch caring, {

To children in anyone's care, the prime purpose of that care is to nurture that child in mind and body so that he can learn a vocabulary to express his thoughts and feelings to others, and they to him, giving him relationships and feelings of validity to help him live in the real world as a whole person.

You can never make anyone do anything (you can only make him want to) and you can never make hurt children live in the real world around them if that world, as they have experienced it, is causing them pain or has caused them pain. Their present fantasy world, a safe world has been created by them because of cruel and unusual treatment. You can only make them learn about and choose to live in the real world, to want to return to the real world by providing a real world that:

- makes sense to them,
- does not cause them pain,
- is inviting to them and make them feel approved of by their caretaker(s) and, especially, safe with their caretaker(s).

For any relationship to exist there must be caring and goodwill and the child must feel that caring and that goodwill. The feeling of being cared for must be amplified for a hurt child to actually feel it. The

Education Cl
Olds, Alberta
March 13, 1980

Hon. Jim Horsman,
Minister of Advanced Education,
Edmonton.

Dear Sir:

I wish to submit a suggestion
concerning the consignment of
Athabasca University to Athabasca town.

My identity is - Wilfrid N.
Jopp, a senior citizen student of
Athabasca U. living on a farm 12
miles N.W. of Olds.

The first point is that
Alberta may need a first rate
college of forestry. The suggestion
is that such a college be established
in Athabasca instead of moving
Athabasca University. This

could be an extension campus of the University of Alberta or it could be an autonomous College of Forestry. Autonomous or extension it should be able to grant undergraduate degrees in the science of forestry. And Athabasca town would be an ideal center.

The degree courses could emphasize ecology, biology and forest management. A first class research facility should be incorporated in the program.

As well as the college and research facilities a Forestry Corps could be developed and kept there. This corps could be uniformed but not military even as

our forest rangers, park wardens and fish and game guardians are now. This corps could be, should be, trained in forest fire containment and highly mobile. Each member should be trained and able to take charge of a crew of quickly recruited fire fighters. They could, also, assist in research programs and supervise summer student workers in planting programs.

I'm sure you have heard all the reasons why Athabasca U. should not move far from Edmonton. Problems of poor postal service would become even worse. The probability that most professors will

4

quietly try to obtain other positions during the period of building. That the few who will not find alternative positions during the two years or so of construction will not be happy in Athabasca town anyway. Many support staff cannot move for marital reasons. Replacement personell will not be trained. Replacement professors would be incompetents who could not keep or get positions in conventional universities. Travel would be a problem. Athabasca town is a cultural wasteland without theaters operas etc.

I do wonder whether the present high caliber of instruction could be maintained. I do wonder if the degree I hope to get one day will be given any respect if it comes from a place many have never heard of.

If there is a political debt to pay an institution which would fit well into the community would be better. A well developed College of Forestry (degree granting) centered in a forested region would be better, far better, than a university without respect in academia; in government or in the business world.

Perhaps, one day, a proposal to expand Athabasca U. to cover all Western Canada may be expected. Could this be feasible if it were centered in Athabasca town? Or - if Athabasca U. is now consigned to the bush will it become a "bush" operation and remain "bush" for ever?

I think I will photocopy this and send a copy to the president of Athabasca U. - If he is still around. I have never met him nor talked to him.

Yours. Truly

Wilfrid N. Jopp
Box 405,
Olds, Alberta
TOM IPO

Relocation

Clp 2

Box 307,
Whitecourt, Alberta.
March 13, 1980

James Horseman,
Legislature.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to protest your plans to move Athabasca University from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca. Having had experience with correspondence courses from Universities and Departments of Education in both Alberta and Ontario I feel qualified to tell you that Athabasca University offers an excellent service. It has allowed me to raise a family and maintain a household and part-time job while still making me feel a part of the school not just an extra bit of work for some

unfortunate teacher.

I am concerned that without the facilities and staff available in a large city the excellent courses offered by the University would suffer and the feelings of closeness would be lost amongst other worries caused by the lack of the varied and complete resources offered by Edmonton.

Please do further research before making such an untoward decision.

Yours Truly,
(mes) Jane Elinger

Sub-Office, OYEN
Box 285
PHONE 664-3651

Sub-Office, CONSORT
Box 146
PHONE 577-3770

Big Country Health Unit

BOX 279
HANNA :: ALBERTA
Phone 854-3325

March 13, 1980.

Honorable James Horseman,
Minister of Advanced Education,
130 Legislative Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Horseman:

As a student of extended studies at the University of Athabasca I am very concerned at the recent development in regards to moving the University from Edmonton to Athabasca. It is apparent that this move to a small center would be detrimental to the services offered by the center. The University of Athabasca has become a well-established institute within the Edmonton area where it can draw upon outside resources, therefore Why would it seem appropriate to uproot and isolate it in such a small town as Athabasca?

Yours truly,

Dalyce Greenslade

(Mrs.) Dalyce Greenslade, R.N.,
Home Care Nurse.

c.c. Dr. Lochan Bakshi

DG:mg

owner in the area.
is in the open, many Cold
they're glad that affordable
for workers before they get
mortgage.

on Bentyne said the town has
to start some land banking
years. In that time, he said,
light (Esso's) has gone from
and dollars an acre to \$15,000
since just blew it."

who owned half of the prop-
ed offers a good idea of how
are soaring.

Hebert sold her 147
that Ken Poluckoshko for
Cold Lake farmer Remi
subined 289 acres to Esso for
realtor Al Sanregret, who

Horsman not moved by gripes

By JEFF ADAMS
Advanced Education
Minister Jim Horsman
has said tough luck to
Athabasca University
staff griping about the
planned move out of
Edmonton.

Ken Chapman,
chairman of the
university's governing
council, said Horsman
wouldn't even budge
from his plans to put the
correspondence
university in Athabasca
within a couple of years.

After a session with the
minlater and a council
meeting yesterday,
Chapman said everyone
felt "extremely
disappointed with the
lack of consultation."

He said Horsman had
not asked staff for their
opinions on the proposed
move.

Chapman doesn't
expect any mass
walkouts, but says the
university could "lose a
great many people."

Getaway-car

The Education Sun, vol. 2, no. 288, Wednesday, March
12, 1980, p.3

Rebroadcast

Chp



CFRN editorial

G. R. A. RICE, PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER • BRUCE HOGLE, NEWS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER

EDITORIAL for Tuesday, March 11, 1980

Since when does The Journal think that size should dictate where Athabasca University should be located.

The Journal criticized the move by Education Minister, Jim Horsman to move Athabasca University from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca, after which it is named. *central!*

The Journal says Athabasca only has 2,000 population; it's too far from Edmonton and many of the current 75 staff members won't make the move. And I say balderdash.

The University of Lethbridge, with its 2,000 enrolment, has proven the most effective University in this Province as far as a one on one relationship is concerned. Compare that to the U of A where most kids are just numbers.

And what does the Edmonton Journal mean by intimating that small centres can't support Universities or get good staff.

That's certainly not the case with Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia; Mount Allison in Sackville, New Brunswick; or the PEI University in Charlottetown.

Where's the pioneer spirit of The Journal? The move of Athabasca University to the Town of Athabasca is the most exciting educational news I've heard in a long time. It's a university in the north and for the north. And it's long overdue.



Date: 7 March 1980

MAR 7 1980



Memorandum

To: All Staff
From: W.A.S. Smith
Subject: The Government's Decision to Relocate
Athabasca University.

A special in camera meeting of the University Governing Council will be held on Tuesday, 11 March 1980, at 3:00 p.m. at the Chateau Lacombe, 10111 Bellamy Hill, Edmonton. The only agenda item will be the government's decision to relocate Athabasca University to the Town of Athabasca.

Mr. Horsman, the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower will meet with the Council at 4:00 p.m. to discuss this decision and respond to any additional Council concerns.

A press conference will be held immediately following the meeting to present the Council's official position on the decision to the public.

I am also by this notice convening a general meeting of all University staff at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 12 March 1980, to be held in the Club Room, Jubilee Auditorium, 114 Street and 87 Avenue. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the implications of the government's decision for the University in the short term and for the future. The Chairman and some of the Public Members of Council will also be present to respond directly to staff concerns.

W.A.S. Smith
President

Politics determined university move

Surely moving the University of Athabasca to the Town of Athabasca must be one of the government's most illogical decisions.

Although the northern area must need revitalization, should it be at the risk of downgrading an educational institution such as Athabasca University?

There were so many options the government had...options that made sense in terms of relocating staff.

Leduc, Devon and of course Spruce Grove were all in the running for the university's home. If any of the three, or for that matter the majority of other surrounding Edmonton centres who pushed for the university, would have been chosen, it would have meant a chance for university staff to commute to a new location.

editorial angle

It would be a little hard on the gas bill to commute to Athabasca.

Many staff will not move to the northern town.

They are the ones who feel their careers would advance more readily in Edmonton.

There are the ones who cannot afford to move to Athabasca. Picture for instance a female secretary who is making \$10,000 a year or less. Perhaps she has a working spouse, and it would not make sense to relocate in Athabasca. Perhaps she has dependent children, and it would be difficult financially and emotionally to move to the northern centre of Athabasca.

However the government, in its so-called infinite wisdom, chose to ignore these factors in its recent decision.

It also chose to ignore our MLA, Bill Purdy, when making the decision.

It seems that just when Purdy decided to go on vacation, the government decided to make its announcement on the Athabasca University location.

Timely? Well, not for Spruce Grove.

However it probably would not have mat-

tered if Purdy were in attendance during the meeting. It appears the government's mind was made up long before the MLA discussion. The MLAs who spoke on behalf of their constituents, the towns who submitted briefs, were just going through the motions.

It was just wasted time and effort. The political dickering between the Government of Alberta and the centre of Athabasca was probably begun immediately following the last election.

Another promise fulfilled.

MAY 27 1980
Edmonton

TODAY BOARDS

TODAY BOARDS

Local MLA to investigate university's northern move

By Terry Willock
MLA Bill Purdy says he plans further action on the Department of Advanced Education's recent decision to move Athabasca University to the Town of Athabasca.

Purdy said Monday he will bring the issue up in

the legislature as there was no rationale to move the educational facility so far from Edmonton.

The education department last week announced that Athabasca was chosen as the permanent site for the university.

More than 20 Alberta communities, including Spruce Grove, Devon and Leduc, submitted briefs to the government bidding for the university location.

Spruce Grove Mayor George Cuff said last week he too was disappointed at the university's new home.

"It's a bad decision for a number of reasons, and that's not just sour grapes because we didn't get it," Cuff said.

"I have a hard time understanding the rationale of moving the university to Athabasca.

"It makes more sense economically for the Province of Alberta to keep it close to Edmonton."

Cuff said there will be a severe disruption of staff as many will face relocation. Others, who cannot afford

to move, will be deprived of employment.

As well the government will have to assume the added costs of transportation and more in depth communications systems.

Cuff said he felt the town had a 30 to 40 per cent chance of attracting the university to Spruce Grove.

He said he was not surprised that Spruce Grove did not get the university. But he was surprised it went to Athabasca.

"It seems to me it would have made a lot more sense if it would have been left in Edmonton or gone out to Devon or Leduc," Cuff said.

"It has to be politics behind the decision."

Athabasca University has no resident students. It provides instruction through aids such as video cassettes to persons throughout the province.

Purdy, himself a student of Athabasca University, says something is going to be lost in the university

system with the relocation to Athabasca.

"I'll find it very difficult to have to be on the phone for something like counselling services," Purdy said.

"I used to just drop into the university. I wouldn't mind driving the extra 20 miles to a new location, but there is no way I could drop into Athabasca."

Purdy said overall the decision is a bad one.

"The university is going to go downhill instead of becoming a facility or an institution that can serve the individual who can't be on a campus."

Purdy also said that staff will not relocate in Athabasca, nor is there

more page 2



University move irrational

Wednesday, March 12, 1980

page 1

Housing available there for persons who do wish to move.

"I think any centre around Edmonton, regardless of whether it is Spruce Grove or Leduc, is

a hell of a lot more logical than some place remote and isolated like Athabasca," Purdy said.

Meanwhile the province, in a news release, said that move to Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's policy of decentralization.

The new university will be constructed on 7,000 square metres and is expected to be completed in three to four years.

"The cost of site acquisition, construction, furnishings and equipment will be approximately \$16 million," the release says.

It adds that the influx of staff and family members will necessitate construction of housing units before the fall of 1984.

The university currently employs 130 staff and expects to increase that number to 300.

These factors are

expected to create a buoyant economy and considerable employment opportunities for residents of Athabasca and area," the release says.

Athabasca is located 145 km north of Edmonton.



Open wide . . . this won't hurt a bit. These marauding molars romped through CAB to put the bite on students last week, one of the many activities during Dental Health Week. Anyone wanna buy a hot toothbrush?

Gov't intervention criticized

by Lucinda Chodan

"The control of a university by a single government is a negation of the conditions necessary for its survival," resigning Athabasca University president Dr. Sam Smith told the U of A Senate Friday.

Government control is "the first step down the road to mediocrity," and the proposed relocation of Athabasca University in the town of Athabasca is "a major step in that direction," he said.

Smith and Ken Chapman appeared before the Senate to provide an overview of Athabasca University Friday afternoon.

But Smith said although it would be "inappropriate and unseemly" to use the previously scheduled presentation to criticize the proposed relocation, it would be dishonest not to discuss the government decision.

"There is a delicate tension between a university which serves society, is a critic of that society, but is in our case almost totally supported by the government of the day," he said.

Moving Athabasca University without consulting its staff would be a move away from this historic role of a university, Smith said.

Ken Chapman said that although he personally did not

like the government's decision, he would abide by the Athabasca University's governing council decision to accept the move.

"We're not here to engage your support for a protest; we're here to respond to questions about Athabasca University," Chapman said.

In mid-March, Minister of Advanced Education James Horsman announced that Athabasca University would move from St. Albert to the town of Athabasca, 125 kilometres northeast of Edmonton.

Staff protests and the resignation of president Smith followed the announcement.

resource is still the resource, Pidruchney said it is wasteful to force students do manual work over summer to support educations, instead of work related to their field.

In spite of this, Pidruchney cautioned delegates demanding free tuition for wrong reasons. The reason, he said, is that Alberta is a rich province and can

Sign on to

An Edmonton woman began a petition to keep controls in effect in Alberta.

Claire Botsford collected almost 1500 signatures in three weeks of canvassing. She hopes to present the petition to the Alberta legislature as soon as possible.

"I've been working in shopping malls and bus stops," says Botsford, "and it's not to get signatures."

According to Botsford, many home owners and landlords have been signing the petition. "I've been a landlord myself, and I know that landlords are fair, and I want to see anyone hurt by increases in rent."

Botsford has also distributed copies of the petition to people, hoping that with copies being distributed,



EXAM REGISTRY • Room 240
ORDER DEADLINE • A



oh well!

Relocation Chip



ADVANCED EDUCATION
AND MANPOWER

Office of
the Minister

Deputy Government House Leader

March 24, 1980

403/427-2291

130 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

T5K 2B6

An AU student



Mrs. Catherine Hilton
Box 585
Gibbons, Alberta

Dear Mrs. Hilton:

I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your letter dated March 13th, concerning the Government's decision to locate Athabasca University in the town of Athabasca.

As you are aware, Athabasca University, our province's youngest university is presently located in rented facilities in northwest Edmonton. Since the university was operating in uncertain circumstances, it was necessary to locate Athabasca University in permanent facilities. In Parliamentary Democracy it is the responsibility of Cabinet to decide on the allocation of public funds. After careful consideration of briefs received from 22 different towns and cities interested in being the home of the university and carefully reviewing representations made by the Governing Council and other components of Athabasca University, the Government decided to permanently locate Athabasca University in Athabasca.

Our Government's decision was ultimately based on our well recognized policy of decentralization of services and for the need of giving Athabasca University a clear identity.

The Government has no intention of changing Athabasca University's mandate of a "distant learning" institute unless such a request is initiated by the Governing Council.

For your information I am enclosing a copy of my press statement announcing the permanent location of Athabasca University.

Yours very truly,

James D. Horsman
Minister

JDH/ds

Enclosure



U.S.	H	L
Albany	1	13
Atlanta	7	2
Boston	0	-7
Cincinnati	6	-1
Honolulu	27	21
Jacksonville	26	20
Las Vegas	19	6
Los Angeles	19	12
Miami	31	23
Myrtle Beach	9	8
New Orleans	26	16
New York	1	-8
Orlando	26	18
Phoenix	25	11
Pittsburgh	1	-1
Portland	9	2
Raleigh	3	0
San Diego	17	11
San Francisco	16	10
Seattle	8	2
Spokane	8	1
Tampa	23	19
Washington	3	1

MLA denies U move would benefit him

By JOANNE MUNRO

Athabasca University staff are outraged by rumors the provincial decision to relocate the institution was to bolster an MLA's electoral base.

Several university staff members said at a meeting this week the government's purpose in moving the institution to Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, was purely political.

Dr. Iain Taylor, a member of the university's faculty association executive, said Thursday the government's decision would be politically beneficial to Frank Appleby, Athabasca MLA.

The relocation would "give him something to take back to his constituency," said Dr. Taylor.

Mr. Appleby dismissed suggestions the university move would benefit him.

"I have never heard this before," he said. "It's news to me." He dismissed suggestions he was being groomed to become Speaker of the legislature.

"(Current Speaker) Gerry Amerongen is a veteran speaker who has done a good job and has no intention of retiring," he said.

Mr. Appleby, who has been deputy Speaker of the legislature since last year, said he would be interested in the Speaker's job if Mr. Amerongen quit.

He said he regretted the resignation of university president Dr. Sam Smith, although it was inevitable some university staff would

leave their posts because personal reasons prevented them from relocating.

An official in Premier Peter Lougheed's office said the premier was not aware of the rumors and there were no plans for Mr. Amerongen to retire as Speaker.

An official in Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman's office said: "We see no basis in the foundation of those rumors."

Meanwhile, university

staff are recovering from Dr. Smith's resignation. University governing council member Edward Checkland also announced his resignation from the board.

"Sam (Smith) did the only thing he could do since he firmly believed we have been the victim of an arbitrary and unilateral government decision," said Murray Richmond, assistant to the president.

John Minnis, co-ordinator

of administrative studies, said Dr. Smith would be sorely missed by the staff.

"We are very sorry to see Dr. Smith go, but most of the staff realize he is the sacrificial lamb in this situation.

With relocation to a small rural town, "the university we have known intimately is going to change, and we feel a sense of loss," said Dr. Doug Shale, head of institutional studies.

New travel writer named

By Southam News

OTTAWA — Hazel Lowe, travel writer with the Montreal Gazette and a former travel editor of the Montreal Star, has been appointed travel writer for Southam News, effective April 1.

The appointment was announced here today by Christopher Young, general manager of the news service that serves the 14 daily papers published by Southam Inc.

Mrs. Lowe succeeds the late Frank Scholes, who died in February after a long illness. She will work out of the Southam News bureau in Montreal and will travel the world in search of stories on the fast-changing world

dian Press news agency. Later she worked for Canada Wire Feature Service and as a travel writer for Air Canada.

In 1972 she joined the Montreal Star and was for four years editor of its entertainment supplement, Montreal Scene. She was appointed travel editor in 1976 and held that position until the Star ceased publication last fall. She joined the Gazette in October.

Mrs. Lowe will be one of five specialist writers for Southam News, which now has offices in seven Canadian cities and foreign correspondents in five other countries.

**TENNIS
LESSONS
437-2892**

SCRATCH & DENT SALE

Beg your pardon

A Journal story on Burroughs Business Machines' newest small business computers last Thursday incorrectly reported a demonstration would be held that Friday at 3 p.m. in the Edmonton Plaza Hotel. In fact, demonstrations were held Wednesday and Thursday.

Press council

The Journal is a sponsoring member of the Alberta Press Council. The purpose of the council is to consider complaints from individuals about the conduct of the press in the gathering and publication of news and advertising, and to consider complaints from the press about the conduct of individuals and organizations towards the press. The address of the Alberta Press Council is 15 — 210 86th Ave. S.E., Calgary Alberta T2H 1N6.



213 Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6
April 25, 1980

Mr. Rod Cebuliak
15728-121 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5X 2V4

Dear Mr. Cebuliak:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 20, 1980, and please excuse the tardiness of this response.

The points you raise in your letter are good ones, and I find myself to be in fundamental agreement.

Of specific concern to me are the potentially disastrous effects of the move on the University's mandate to provide quality distance education across the Province of Alberta. There is little doubt in my mind that the town of Athabasca is at present wholly unable to meet the communications needs of the University in this regard: A small rural AGT telephone exchange and a sub-post office by themselves are wholly unable to meet the burden of this University's communications requirements.

Further, if the government is serious about wanting to maintain the University's current level of quality in its proposed new setting, then the \$16 million budgeted to meet this task is laughably inadequate. It is my understanding that the provision of proper library facilities alone would require that amount.

To be honest, living as I do in a small rural northern town, I have a little less sympathy for the argument that it would be next to impossible to attract competent and qualified staff to Athabasca University in such a small town rural setting. While understanding and appreciating the objections of the current staff in this regard, my primary concern remains the maintenance of the quality distance education for which Athabasca University has rightly become widely



GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Relocation *Archives Clip*

NEWS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: MARCH 5, 1980 (9:30 A.M.)

"The town of Athabasca has been chosen as the permanent site for Athabasca University. The building of Alberta's youngest university in Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's well recognized policy of decentralization."

Jim Horsman, Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, made the announcement today in a meeting with Ken Chapman, Chairman of the Governing Council and Dr. Sam Smith, President of Athabasca University.

"The final decision was reached by Cabinet following extensive study of briefs and submissions from 22 Alberta communities, and Athabasca University. Reviews were conducted during the past two years by department officials and Cabinet," said Mr. Horsman.

"Athabasca University has a special role and is based on the 'open university' concept, with no resident students. It provides distance learning opportunities, without a traditional campus, to adults throughout the province. Currently the university operates out of leased facilities in the light industrial area of Edmonton. The relocation will have the advantage of giving permanence and visibility to Athabasca University and, at the same time, will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow."

"Not all staff will be located in Athabasca because the University will maintain a learning centre in Edmonton, and offices in Calgary and other major centres.

"I am pleased," Mr. Horsman added, "to announce the appointment of four new members to the Governing Council of Athabasca University. They are Dick Hobbs of Barrhead, Ronald Gordon of Athabasca, Mitchell Wujcik of Edmonton and Jeanette Sylvia Richter of Bieseker. These Albertans will bring an additional perspective to the Council. The Council will be strengthened by the addition of volunteer Albertans who are prepared to continue their years of service on behalf of others.

"The leadership and staff of Athabasca University have pioneered the concept of distance education in Alberta. I have every confidence in their ability to meet the challenge of this new phase in the life of the university," Mr. Horsman concluded.

- 30 -

Mary Woodbury, Public Affairs Officer
ALBERTA ADVANCED EDUCATION AND MANPOWER
403/427-7160

Athabasca University's Staff Can't 'Exist' In A Small Town?

Guest Editorial From
South Peace News

The head of Athabasca University, Alberta's 'correspondence course' college and fourth university, is full of hot air.

There is talk of the provincial government relocating the University campus from Edmonton to a rural community. The town of Athabasca, population about 1,800, has

applied to be considered as a new site, as have about ten other rural Alberta centres.

But the head has spoken out against such a move. He says most of the staff would quit rather than move to the country. He says a small town couldn't attract the quality of staff required. He says the staff would 'miss' mingling with

the academicians of other schools in the city. He says the record keeping would have to be changed, because the school extensively uses the University of Alberta computer. He says the quality of life in a small town would stifle creative and progressive thought amongst the educators. And he says the many services required by the school couldn't be found in small-town Alberta.

What he says is, of course, all garbage.

There is no overwhelming reason in the world why the university couldn't be located in Athabasca or Slave Lake or High Prairie. Many of the most progressive and creative schools and institutions in the world are located in small communities. Right here in Alberta we have the Banff School of Fine Arts.

The incredible Massachusetts Institute of Technology is supported in a community of 100,000, far less than Edmonton. Bryn Mawr is located in a town of 5,800 in Pennsylvania. There are a great many research institutions, where progressive and creative thinking is commonplace. located wherever circumstance dictates, from the desert of Arizona, to Antarctica, to Jackson's Hole, to Florida to Beaverlodge, Alberta. The problems they have encountered have been overcome

by sound planning and management.

Premier Peter Lougheed has already addressed the very same issue, by announcing his decision to establish a world-scale medical research facility in Alberta. Following an errant line of reasoning, such as the head of Athabasca University seems inclined to, would dictate failure for Lougheed's plans. Such a facility should be located in London, England Paris, or New York. Certainly not Calgary, or Edmonton, or ...Red Deer!

But the facility will be established in Alberta, and with sound planning and management, will be a success and a credit to the province.

Establishing Athabasca University in a small community in Alberta need not detract from the school, or from Edmonton and will most definitely enhance the community in which it locates.

That in itself is reason enough for a move.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We agree that the Athabasca University should not be located in Edmonton and would put our support behind our neighbours in Athabasca.

6 The Edmonton Sun, Tuesday September 4, 1979

U's staff prefers to stay put

Athabasca is a nice name for a university, but the folks who run it wouldn't want to live there.

Working on a "firm rumor" that the province intends to move the city-based Athabasca University (AU) to its nameplace, faculty took a poll and learned that most staff would quit rather than move 110 km north of Edmonton.

AU's faculty association president Barb Spronk says that 84 of the 115 support and professional staff responded to the poll and 51 said they'd quit before such a move.

Another 29 said they would remain on staff but look for alternative employment; three were undecided and one person liked the idea of the move.

Spronk said the correspondence university would suffer from the loss of library and computer services it now obtains from the University of Alberta if repositioned in Athabasca.

These have proved "essential" in planning and delivering the university's courses to its students, says Spronk.

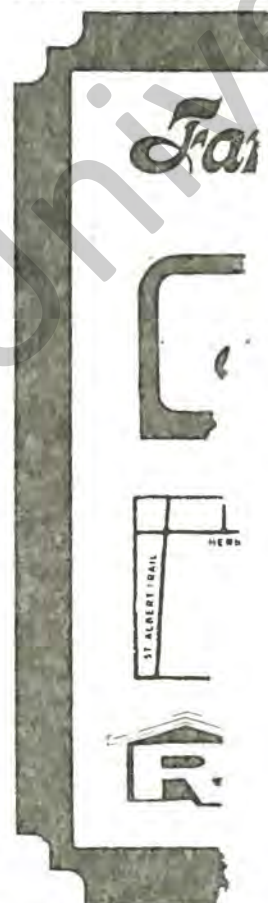
The lack of facilities in the small town would also hurt the academic staff's chances of conducting any research, she feels.

No official word about a move has been released by the province, but Spronk says the northern town has "put up a strong lobby."

Rumors have been circulating for some time, however, that the university's somewhat crowded administration offices in Edmonton would be relocated.

W.

More than 1,000 youngsters go to city schools today and police warn motorists to take a little extra care.



Survey

Relocation Clipping

No decision yet on Athabasca U

A decision on whether to move Athabasca University from Edmonton is not "imminent" but will "hopefully occur within a year," a department of advanced education spokesman said Thursday.

Randy Fischer, executive assistant to Advanced Education Minister Jim Horne, said the government has met to discuss relocation of the institution, but "nothing formal has been done."

The government's delays in making a decision on relocating the institution, and rumors that its new home will be in the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, has been "unnerving" for the staff and administrators, said Ken Chapman, chairman of the university's governing council.

"We hope the decision is made soon because the uncertainty is very destructive," he said. "We should be spending our time dealing with courses, students, new programs — not worrying about the survival of the university."

Possible relocation of Athabasca University to a small town or rural area sparked immediate concern from university staff and ad-

ministrators who feel the institution's quality and credibility will suffer.

The town of Athabasca, with a population of about 1,800, has expressed repeated interest in housing the university and is high on the list of places the government is considering. About 28 other towns have also applied to house the institution.

"The government knows the university's position on relocation. The decision should be clear that it should stay in Edmonton," Mr. Chapman said.

At a recent meeting, the university's faculty and staff associations agreed almost unanimously that if the institution is relocated in a small town it will become a "ghost university."

A statement prepared by the faculty association said: "Moving the university outside the Edmonton area may destroy it."

"It will increase the university's operating costs by 50 per cent and (will) mean an initial capital investment of \$5-million to construct a university building and replace shared facilities that the university will lose by moving from the city."

Edmonton Journal

6 September 1979, p. D2.

Edmonton Journal, 12 September 1979,

PAS
Clip

which annually require millions of hours of work on the part of church members. In so many respects, time is a much greater sacrifice than money. (Incidentally, the Mormon Church does not have a paid ministry.)

Mormons are not perfect by any means, but the principles and values we are encouraged to have give us a goal

David Roles
Edmonton

Holocaust

I protest the falsifications shown in the TV film *Holocaust*.

After protest in the U.S. and Canada last spring, the TV stations in Western Europe made proper cuts in the film. The Canadian TV stations not only refused to do that but have put deliberate lies — a scene where Polish soldiers execute Jews — in the preview, shown about 10 times a night

Aleksander Pruszyński
Edmonton

Buying tickets

As a warning to others, may I say that my recent attempts to buy tickets at the Bay for a show coming to the Jubilee Auditorium have, so far, resulted only in frustration and annoyance.

Because of something called the BASS computer ticket system, I find I will be charged an extra 50 cents per ticket for the "convenience" of using their system (when they are virtually the only ticket outlet in town). I can no longer phone in my order by quoting my charge-account number; there are no refunds on tickets purchased in advance.

The *Journal* welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be brief, must be signed, include the writer's address and telephone number, may be typed (double spaced) or hand written legibly and on one side of the paper only. The *Journal* reserves the right to edit letters for length and taste. Please send to *Letters to The Journal*, Box 2421, Edmonton, T5J 2S6. For information contact Letters Editor Shel Wilson at 423-9533.

Athabasca University

I do sympathize with the communities that seek to have Athabasca University (AU) located within their boundaries, in their desire to become a "university town"; however, I cannot help notice that, in their enthusiasm to attract AU, they pay little, if any, attention to the basic needs of this unique university. Let me elaborate.

AU is a provincial university that provides top-quality higher education to Albertans. This is where AU's resemblance to the other three Alberta universities ends.

AU differs from the other Alberta universities (and possibly from all others in Canada) in some very important ways. AU has no campus. The students do not "go" to AU; rather AU goes to the students. It produces home-study courses so that its students need not leave their homes and jobs to get a higher education. AU is a year-round operation. Students can enrol in most courses in any month of the year. They can study at their own pace and take exams in their communities.

There are no formal admission requirements except that the student be at least 18 years of age. All you need is the ability and willingness to handle AU study materials.

AU is an "advanced" university because it caters to students forgotten or ignored by other universities. If you are handicapped, you can "go" to AU. If you are 75 and wish to get a degree without the "embarrassment" of sitting with 20-year-olds in classes, you can "attend" AU. If you have taken many university-level courses from as many universities, you can ask AU for credit consolidation towards a degree. If you are a housewife and are not free when traditional universities offer their lectures, you can "attend" AU classes in your own home. If you are working shifts, you can work on AU courses at midnight, noon, morning or evening. If you go on vacation to Tahiti, you can "take" AU with you.

If AU must do all this (and it does do them) it must function in a unique



way. It must produce courses in a unique manner.

Its courses must be as perfect as possible. There must be no (or almost no) errors. Above all, the courses must be of high standard to be transferable to other universities. (If I am wrong in this conclusion, perhaps an AU academic can write to *The Journal* about it.) How can AU produce such high-quality courses when it has less than 8,000 books in its library, and has fewer than 120 professors on its staff?

There is only one way to do it: AU must have an easy and constant access to the marvellous library (two million books) and the superb academic staff of the University of Alberta. And don't forget the half-million volumes in our public libraries. Without these assets — the U of A and the public libraries — AU will stagnate. And as we all know so well, stagnation leads to extinction.

So why are towns like Athabasca trying to move AU out of Edmonton? Not because the move is good for AU but only because Athabasca can then call itself a "university town". This is a very foolish reason to move AU to the town of Athabasca.

If we want AU to grow and to serve its students well, we must keep it in Edmonton with its good libraries and a good source of top-quality academics. I am amazed that neither the city council nor the Chamber of Commerce of Edmonton have yet come forward with the slogan "AU needs Edmonton".

C. Johnson
Edmonton

Edmonton Clip

TOWN OF SPRUCE GROVE

BRIEF RE: ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

The Town of Spruce Grove has been made aware of the fact that Athabasca University is to be relocated outside the City of Edmonton within the relatively near future. Certainly the Government's policy of decentralization is one which we have supported and one which has been of direct and long-lasting benefit to many areas throughout Alberta. While our Town has not been the direct beneficiary of this policy as yet, we do recognize that there has been some spill-over effect from the benefits other communities in this area have received.

Obviously we would not prepare and submit this brief to you if we did not feel assured of our capabilities in assimilating and accommodating Athabasca University within our corporate boundaries. We have attempted to define what some of the criteria in such a site location decision would be and we feel very strongly that Spruce Grove warrants your serious and we hope positive consideration.

1. EFFECT ON THE HOST COMMUNITY.

Perhaps this is not the most important criteria from your viewpoint in making such a decision but certainly it is of great importance to us. We feel that a decision to relocate the University must take into consideration what impact that will have on the recipient community. The University should not, we feel, have such a major impact so as to upset the balance of community life nor should it be so insignificant a move as to be buried amongst all other major structures and developments. It should have a mutually beneficial effect so that both the community and the University are enhanced.

- 2 -

In our view, our Town has established itself as a significant independent community within the Edmonton region. We have a good financial base with a desirable mix of industry and residential components. While the University would certainly cause an impact, it would be a welcome one and very complementary to the remainder of the Town. The Town's status would not be totally dependent upon the University's presence and yet Athabasca University would occupy a very prominent spot in our overall development.

2. IDENTITY.

Related to our first point relative to its impact on the host community is the matter of identity. Obviously it is important that a University with an expanding function and an increasing degree of responsibility have a separate and distinct identity. Within the City, the Athabasca University has been over-shadowed to a degree by the University of Alberta, by Grant McEwan College and by NAIT.

Within Spruce Grove, the University would immediately assume a degree of prominence as a major and separate entity within our boundaries. It would be a major focal point both as a strictly academic institution but also as a centre of learning on a broader scale. In our opinion both the community and the University would benefit from their increased visibility.

- 3 -

3. SITE.

While we are unsure as to your timing for the relocation, obviously the availability of a site must be of some concern. As our senior government you are of course aware that we have within the past year doubled our physical boundaries and thus the planning of our long term growth is enhanced. We now have approximately 2,000 acres of undeveloped land within which a site could easily be located. We have also sites immediately available within our developed boundaries which would likely be of interest to you. A 12 acre site directly west of our Town Office is presently available which may prove to be an ideal spot depending upon your needs.

4. LOCATION.

While most of the University's efforts are off-campus through the utilization of home-study methods, there may be some advantage to keeping this facility fairly close to the capital city. Certainly any long distance move is likely to affect current staff as well as the Board members. While this may not be a critical factor, it is one likely to be of some concern to you. Our proximity to the City would result in a minimal degree of disruption to staff as we are within 15 minutes of the City boundaries and 30 minutes of downtown Edmonton. Many of our residents commute to the City and quite a number of Spruce Grove employees commute from Edmonton and further.

- 4 -

Our location on Highway 16 West provides direct accessibility to the City, surrounding towns and the International Airport. Our post office system is an off-shoot of the Edmonton main branch and our location would allow prompt access to the University of Alberta, NAIT and Grant McEwan College as well as to provincial government offices. We are accessible by rail, bus, truck and air being serviced either directly or indirectly by each form of carrier.

A main branch office of Alberta Government Telephones is located in Spruce Grove and they have just recently completed the installation of the most modern equipment. As much of the service of Athabasca University is dependent upon communication systems, this service may be of some value.

5. TOWN AMENITIES.

Spruce Grove is noted for its concern for quality living both in terms of physical amenities and people services. We have excellent recreation facilities which are the envy of many nearby Towns. We are currently examining the feasibility of a major cultural/recreation centre which would primarily house a new public library. We have been busy working on our park development and plan to give that area considerable emphasis again this year. Each of the major banks except one is located in our Town and we are well-serviced by the other usual commercial establishments (e.g. retail stores, medical offices, restaurants, Motor Hotel, etc.).

- 5 -

6. RESIDENT POPULATION.

We would expect that an institution of this magnitude will have a certain degree of staff turnover and thus the need for support staff will be an ongoing one. With a population of slightly in excess of 8,000 people and a rapidly growing number of rural acreages, we have a market population of about 15,000 - 18,000 people. This factor combined with our proximity to Edmonton should ease any possible concerns respecting availability of staff.

SUMMARY

Without knowing all the factors which you will evaluate in making your decision and recognizing that inevitably there will be some political considerations and ramifications, we have tried to present a somewhat more detailed case than our previous letter to Premier Lougheed and the Minister of Advanced Education, Honorable Dr. Bert Hohol. If additional information is required, we would be most happy to provide that to you.

Our appreciation for your consideration of our position and we look forward to further discussions with you.

Sincerely,

George B. Cuff, Mayor
and
The Town Council.

Date August 22, 1979



AU STAFF QUESTIONNAIRE

Memorandum

To All A.U. staff
From A.U.S.A. and A.U.F.A. executives
Subject Questionnaire re Athabasca University move

It now appears that there is a strong possibility that the cabinet will announce within the next few weeks the move of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca.

In order for us to make a strong case to the government on AU staff concerns about this move, we are asking you to do two things:

- 1) Return this questionnaire to Barbara Spronk or Frank Evans no later than Monday, August 27. The results will form the basis of a press release from the Staff and Faculty Associations.
- 2) Write, preferably send a telegram, to your M.L.A. A map of urban ridings and a list of M.L.A.'s is provided.

B. Spronk
BJS/DP

- 1) If Athabasca University is moved to a site within commuting distance of Edmonton, I will
☐ stay on staff.
☒ stay on staff but ^{probably} seek alternative employment.
☐ resign.
- 2) If Athabasca University is moved to the town of Athabasca, I will
☐ stay on staff.
☒ stay on staff but seek alternative employment.
☐ resign.

- 3) List any reasons you might have for favouring the University's move to Athabasca.

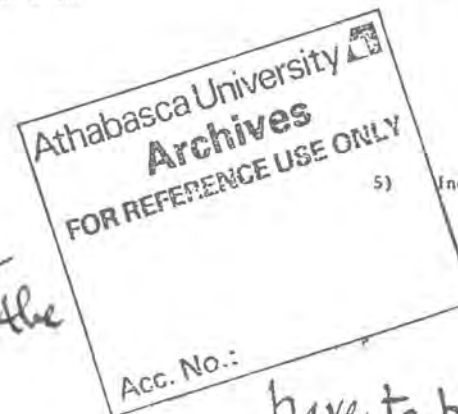
Are you kidding!

- 4) List any reasons you might have against the University's move to Athabasca.

Apart from personal reasons. It would be necessary to duplicate - on site - hundreds of services that we can now "contract out" by virtue of being in Edmonton. It would probably mean that our Library, for example, would

- 5) Indicate whether you are a member of the
☐ support staff
☒ professional staff

have to become more like a traditional undergraduate collection. Even if we made no pretense at being or having a research collection we would probably need a collection of 150,000 volumes (about 140,000 more than we have now) →



*Don, 27.9.79
As promised - for a "what if" section of the Task Force Report.
Tom*

The initial purchase costs of such a collect would run around one and a half million dollars, exclusive of processing or staff to do the processing. To maintain such a collection and continue to have it grow at a reasonable rate would probably require a total operating budget of about eight or nine hundred thousand ~~or~~ dollars a year including at least a doubling of current library staff.

To function as we now do, and as we could continue to do if we remained in Education, i.e., if we were as an other local research collections, in a place as far from Education as business would probably result in delays of ~~as~~ as well or worse in obtaining the materials we can now get in a 48 hour turnaround. If we had library staff would probably have to spend one day a week in Education dealing with reference questions we could not handle from our own collection. Service to our students would be crippled - costed even more than it is now. At the moment about 40% of A.U. students live in the greater Education area and therefore have direct access, if they wish, to A.U.'s own library. It would put almost all of our students out of reach.

See me if you want more info

Athabasca U seeks more space

Athabasca University is interested in buying the administration buildings of the Edmonton Public School Board, The Journal has learned.

Ken Chapman, chairman of the university's governing council, said Thursday the university is investigating the feasibility of purchasing the site buildings for their expanding campus.

The administration building is located at 10010 107A Ave. The board is to move into the the Grant MacEwan Assumption campus at 10766 97th Ave., on Jan. 1.

"We think that this purchase would be a really good one," Mr. Chapman said, "We are very excited about this possibility."

Meanwhile, Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman said Thursday no decision has been made on the relocation of the university.

Although Mr. Horsman announced earlier this month that a decision would be made after the current session of legislature, he said Thursday he had no decision to date.

The fall sitting of the legislature ended last Friday.

Mr. Chapman said although the Edmonton Public School Board has not decided whether they will sell their buildings, they are "being co-operative."

"Right now, we are conducting an appraisal of the buildings so that we can make an offer," he said.

If the board accepts the offer, the university will then go to the government and ask for capital grants to buy the buildings.

Listing some of the advantages of purchasing the buildings, Mr. Chapman pointed to their central location.

The buildings are also already designed for an administrative centre, "which is just what we want," Mr. Chapman said.

"It's also close to Grant MacEwan, NAIT and the University of Alberta," Mr. Chapman said. "This way, we would be able to continue using

the computer and library facilities of these institutions."

Now located at 12352 149th St., the university is rapidly outgrowing its facilities. Enrolment almost doubled at the university over last year, Mr. Chapman said.

In addition to Spruce Grove, other communities which have expressed interest in housing the university are Athabasca, St. Albert, Leduc and Devon.

But the final decision rests with the government, Mr. Chapman said.

He noted that moving the university out of Edmonton would increase operating costs by 50 per cent. It would also involve an initial capital investment of \$5-million to construct a university building and replace shared facilities that it would lose by moving from the city.

Dr. Don Massey, chairman of the public school board, said the university has had "informal" talks with the board.

Public school trustee objects to 'closed door' negotiations

An Edmonton public school trustee objected Thursday to the board's informal negotiations to sell its administrative buildings to Athabasca University.

Trustee Ernie Lund said the negotiations between the administration and university on the purchase are indicative of too much business being conducted behind closed doors.

Mr. Lund said he objected to the talks because trustees have not yet discussed in public five recommendations they received from hired consultants.

The consultants, Bell and Sutton, were hired to advise the board on what to do with their administration building after trustees considered renovating the structure at 10010 107A Avenue.

One recommendation by the consultant was to sell the buildings to Athabasca University, Mr. Lund said.

"Here we haven't even discussed these recommendations in public and the board going ahead with one of those recommendations in private."

The trustee said he thought all five recommendations should be discussed in public so the board can come to a conclusion on what it plans to do with the building.

"If we come to a conclusion to sell the building, it should be done in a public meeting so the sale could be advertised," Mr. Lund said.

"Something like this should be advertised to see if we can get a better price than what Athabasca University might offer."

\$2000 DINING ROOM TRAPPADE-AN

Athabasca University's Staff Can't 'Exist' In A Small Town?

Guest Editorial From
South Peace News

The head of Athabasca University, Alberta's 'correspondence course' college and fourth university, is full of hot air.

There is talk of the provincial government relocating the University campus from Edmonton to a rural community. The town of Athabasca, population about 1,800, has

applied to be considered as a new site, as have about ten other rural Alberta centres.

But the head has spoken out against such a move. He says most of the staff would quit rather than move to the country. He says a small town couldn't attract the quality of staff required. He says the staff would 'miss' mingling with

the academicians of other schools in the city. He says the record keeping would have to be changed, because the school extensively uses the University of Alberta computer. He says the quality of life in a small town would stifle creative and progressive thought amongst the educators. And he says the many services required by the school couldn't be found in small-town Alberta.

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The incredible Massachusetts Institute of Technology is supported in a community of 100,000, far less than Edmonton. Bryn Mawr is located in a town of 5,800 in Pennsylvania. There are a great many research institutions, where progressive and creative thinking is commonplace, located wherever circumstance dictates, from the desert of Arizona, to Antarctica, to Jackson's Hole, to Florida to Beaverlodge, Alberta. The problems they have encountered have been overcome

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Premier Peter Lougheed has already addressed the very same issue, by announcing his decision to establish a world-scale medical research facility in Alberta. Following an errant line of reasoning, such as the head of Athabasca University seems inclined to, would dictate failure for Lougheed's plans. Such a facility should be located in London, England Paris, or New York. Certainly not Calgary, or Edmonton, or ...Red Deer!

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Establishing Athabasca University in a small community in Alberta need not detract from the school, or from Edmonton and will most definitely enhance the community in which it locates.

That in itself is reason enough for a move.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

Relocation
[Oct. 1979]

Relocation

[last half of October 1979]

NAIT Chalkboard

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

It was Thursday evening, October 18, 1979, and the NAIT Cafeteria was filled with people paying tribute to our retiring president, George W. Carter.

It was a night to remember as family, friends, staff members and educational colleagues gathered to see George on to his next venture, whatever that may turn out to be. There was scarcely an empty seat in the house as the guests sat down to another dinner prepared and served by the NAIT Food Services students and staff.

It was an evening of highlights. One of those highlights was the Carter family, including Mrs. D. Sturges, George Carter's mother. She was 84 years young and came, we're sure to see that George shaved himself. The Carter family, son and daughter, were there with their respective spouses to share in the fun.

Another highlight were the tributes that crackled out from the head table, and acknowledge they did. After a nostalgic look back at the days they shared together at the Olds School of Agriculture, delivered by Fred Jorgenson from SAIT, presentations by the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, Dr. Henry Glesar, Kees Cusveller, NAITSA President took the microphone and said it for every NAIT student, past and present. It was a fine tribute by Kees, admirably delivered. Walter Hoffman came up from the audience and made a special presentation to George, along with the announcement that they were giving serious thought to retiring in the number 17 up in the Industrial building. Kerris Franklin presented George with the gift from the NAIT staff, and that portion of the program couldn't have been handled with more grace and charm than Kerris brought to the microphone. Another of the highlights was the message brought by the Minister, Hon. Jim Horsman, touched with just a trace of laryngitis, the Minister approached the microphone and when he left it six minutes later he had the audience in the palm of his hand



and a feeling of warmth and goodwill in the minds of everyone who heard his message. We've done a little checking since the dinner, and despite what the Minister said, there is no truth to the rumor that George's retirement plans hinge around the junk yard he bought in Millet. If that be the case, there probably isn't any truth to the other thought brought by the Minister, that thought that Athabasca University really was going to be re-located ----- right next to George's Junk Yard in Millet.

It takes a long time to run more than four hundred people through the buffet lines, and another of the evening's highlights was the thoughtfulness and consideration shown by some of the people whose table was called early in the proceedings. For example, Dennis Budnyk and his group at Table 7 would have perished long before they were

called to the buffet tables had it not been for the Care Packages delivered by Don Hamilton and the other fine folk at Table 56 who were lucky enough to be one of the early ones to the food tables.

It was an evening of laughter, good food and fine friends, and even though the odd lump of nostalgia appeared from time to time in a number of throats, it's safe to say that a good time was had by all.

There were many who would like to have attended and for reasons of space limitations, couldn't make it. There were others who would like to have been there, but for reason of other commitments, were not able to be there. But for those that were there, for those that wished they were there, and for those that couldn't be there, it was a night to raise a glass and say "Hail To The Chief!"



Relocation

Morinville Mirror, Wednesday, October 3rd, 1978

University of Athabasca for Morinville still a Possibility

by Garry Cavanagh - Mirror

Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

According to Mr. Lloyd Kachman, President of the Morinville Board of Trade Morinville still has a chance to acquire the much sought after Athabasca University.

Mr. Kachman told the Mirror that the "University Morinville Committee" is still negotiating with the Provincial Government in hope of convincing them that Morinville would be the most suitable spot for the Universities location.

Morinville established a committee early in January. It includes, Mayor Art Stapleton,

Dr. Paul Underwood Post President of the Morinville Board of Trade, Norm Chelifoux, Chairman of the Historical and Cultural Society and Lloyd Kachman, President of the Board of Trade.

Early this year they first sent communication to Dr. Hugh Hohol, then Minister of advanced education, but since the election the education and manpower portfolio has been assigned to the honorable Jim Horsman. Then Mayor Stapleton and Lloyd Kachman confronted Dr. Smith, chairman of the Board for the

University of Athabasca since these initial steps, the committee has been in constant communication with the officials of the Provincial Government who will have the final say in the Universities relocation.

Morinville is not the only community seeking the prestigious Universities location, other local governments, such as Spruce Grove, Sherwood Park, Leduc and Devon have indicated they would be more than interested in acquiring the University.

Since the University was established as a petit project in 1972, it has

operated from light office-industrial warehouse facilities located in the northwest commercial-industrial area of Edmonton. Current accommodations include approximately 16,000 gross square feet owned and provided rent-free by the Province of Alberta and approximately 10,400 gross square feet held through lease agreement until 1982 (Edmonton West Business Park - 149 Street and 121 A Avenue).

Accommodations planning for Athabasca University is becoming increasingly difficult.

Current facilities do not provide appropriate areas for existing staff and activities, nor are present locations adequate for the kinds of staffing and activity levels require more area than is currently available or than can be acquired on a satisfactory basis, given current uncertainty with respect to future permanent location.

In April of 1978, the Athabasca University Governing Council established a "task force" to evaluate and consider facilities and siting requirements and to make recommendations

to the Council and, through the council to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower with respect to criteria for selecting a permanent location for the University.

This prompted many local governments to bid for the project, Morinville was no exception. The town received numerous support from the Board of Trade, The Town of Morinville, Morinville Historical cultural society, Thibault R.C.P. School District No. 35, and the Recreation Centre to

negotiate for the facility.

A Morinville committee was set up, headed by Mayor Art Stapleton and Board of Trade President, Lloyd Kachman, who made up a lengthy brief to present to the University and to

the Provincial Government.

The committee was told by the Government that a decision would be made on the Universities location at the September setting of the Legislature, but as of

this writing no decision has been made.

Lloyd Kachman still very optimistic about Morinville's chances and hopes to have confirmation on the Universities site very shortly.

Relocation
clip

6 The Edmonton Sun, Tuesday September 4, 1979

U's staff prefers to stay put

Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

Athabasca is a nice name for a university, but the folks who run it wouldn't want to live there.

Working on a "firm rumor" that the province intends to move the city-based Athabasca University (AU) to its nameplace, faculty took a poll and learned that most staff would quit rather than move 110 km north of Edmonton.

AU's faculty association president Barb Spronk says that 84 of the 115 support and professional staff responded to the poll and 51 said they'd quit before such a move.

Another 29 said they would remain on staff but look for alternative employment; three were undecided and one person liked the idea of the move.

Spronk said the correspondence university would suffer from the loss of library and computer services it now obtains from the University of Alberta if repositioned in Athabasca.

These have proved "essential" in planning and delivering the university's courses to its students, says Spronk.

The lack of facilities in the small town would also hurt the academic staff's chances of conducting any research, she feels.

No official word about a move has been released by the province, but Spronk says the northern town has "put up a strong lobby."

Rumors have been circulating for some time, however, that the university's somewhat crowded administration offices in Edmonton would be relocated.

Relocation ^{clip}

Edmonton Journal 4 September, 1979 p. A4

Athabasca U

"We will lose most of our staff. I'm convinced of that," says the chairman of Athabasca University's board of governors. What awful threat looms?

The provincial government may move Athabasca University from Edmonton to a small town as part of Mr. Lougheed's commitment to decentralization. Such a move would be irrational!

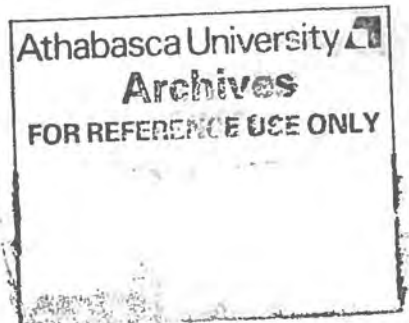
A university consists of highly trained people with intense needs to communicate with other highly trained people. Universities in small towns suffer from two problems: they have difficulty attracting the best people to non-urban environments; and the people they do attract tend to fade over time without constant personal exposure to fresh human and material resources.

Athabasca University is a special case. It is a young "open university" that conducts most of its programs by correspondence. Some assume on that account that the university's location is unimportant. On the contrary.

Athabasca U is struggling and will always have to struggle for credibility among Alberta's post-secondary institutions. Part of its status depends on proximity to the University of Alberta with its major libraries and other resources. Removing Athabasca U to a small centre would leave it high and dry, without the back-up resources so important to its quality. Moreover, Athabasca would always have difficulty attracting and keeping top quality staff.

Moving Athabasca U would break an implicit contract with the 75 members of its academic staff who have worked so hard to get it off the ground. Most important, Athabasca's students will suffer if the university is decimated by a move outside Edmonton.

Leave Athabasca alone: it is trouble enough as it stands.



Relocation *clip*

No decision yet on Athabasca U

A decision on whether to move Athabasca University from Edmonton is not "imminent" but will "hopefully occur within a year," a department of advanced education spokesman said Thursday.

Randy Fischer, executive assistant to Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsfield, said the government has met to discuss relocation of the institution, but "nothing formal has been done."

The government's delays in making a decision on relocating the institution, and rumors that its new home will be in the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, has been "unnerving" for the staff and administrators, said Ken Chapman, chairman of the university's governing council.

"We hope the decision is made soon because the uncertainty is very destructive," he said. "We should be spending our time dealing with courses, students, new programs — not worrying about the survival of the university."

Possible relocation of Athabasca University to a small town or rural area sparked immediate concern from university staff and ad-

ministrators who feel the institution's quality and credibility will suffer.

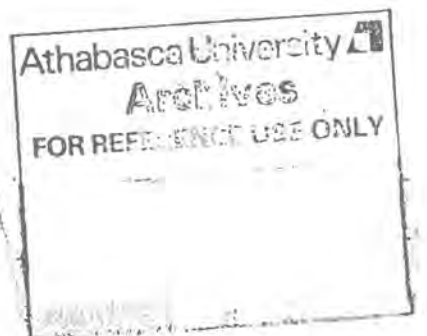
The town of Athabasca, with a population of about 1,800, has expressed repeated interest in housing the university and is high on the list of places the government is considering. About 28 other towns have also applied to house the institution.

"The government knows the university's position on relocation. The decision should be clear that it should stay in Edmonton," Mr. Chapman said.

At a recent meeting, the university's faculty and staff associations agreed almost unanimously that if the institution is relocated in a small town it will become a "ghost university."

A statement prepared by the faculty association said: "Moving the university outside the Edmonton area may destroy it."

"It will increase the university's operating costs by 50 per cent and (will) mean an initial capital investment of \$5-million to construct a university building and replace shared facilities that the university will lose by moving from the city."



Relocation
Education Seminar, 12 September 1979, *clp*

Athabasca University Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

Athabasca University



I do sympathize with the communities that seek to have Athabasca University (AU) located within their boundaries, in their desire to become a "university town"; however, I cannot help notice that, in their enthusiasm to attract AU, they pay little, if any, attention to the basic needs of this unique university. Let me elaborate.

AU is a provincial university that provides top-quality higher education to Albertans. This is where AU's resemblance to the other three Alberta universities ends.

AU differs from the other Alberta universities (and possibly from all others in Canada) in some very important ways. AU has no campus. The students do not "go" to AU; rather AU goes to the students. It produces home-study courses so that its students need not leave their homes and jobs to get a higher education. AU is a year round operation. Students can enrol in most courses in any month of the year. They can study at their own pace and take exams in their communities.

There are no formal admission requirements except that the student be at least 18 years of age. All you need is the ability and willingness to handle AU study materials.

AU is an "advanced" university because it caters to students forgotten or ignored by other universities. If you are handicapped, you can "go" to AU. If you are 75 and wish to get a degree without the "embarrassment" of sitting with 20-year-olds in classes, you can "attend" AU. If you have taken many university-level courses from as many universities, you can ask AU for credit consolidation towards a degree. If you are a housewife and are not free when traditional universities offer their lectures, you can "attend" AU classes in your own home. If you are working shifts, you can work on AU courses at midnight, noon, morning or evening. If you go on vacation to Tahiti, you can "take" AU with you.

If AU must do all this (and it does do them) it must function in a unique

way. It must produce courses in a unique manner.

Its courses must be as perfect as possible. There must be no (or almost no) errors. Above all, the courses must be of high standard to be transferable to other universities. (If I am wrong in this conclusion, perhaps an AU academic can write to *The Journal* about it.) How can AU produce such high-quality courses when it has less than 8,000 books in its library, and has fewer than 120 professors on its staff?

There is only one way to do it: AU must have an easy and constant access to the marvellous library (two million books) and the superb academic staff of the University of Alberta. And don't forget the half-million volumes in our public libraries. Without these assets — the U of A and the public libraries — AU will stagnate. And as we all know so well, stagnation leads to extinction.

So why are towns like Athabasca trying to move AU out of Edmonton? Not because the move is good for AU but only because Athabasca can then call itself a "university town". This is a very foolish reason to move AU to the town of Athabasca.

If we want AU to grow and to serve its students well, we must keep it in Edmonton with its good libraries and a good source of top-quality academics. I am amazed that neither the city council nor the Chamber of Commerce of Edmonton have yet come forward with the slogan "AU needs Edmonton".

C. Johnson
Edmonton

which annually require millions of hours of work on the part of church members. In so many respects, time is a much greater sacrifice than money. (Incidentally, the Mormon Church does not have a paid ministry.)

Mormons are not perfect by any means, but the principles and values we are encouraged to have give us a goal.

David Roles
Edmonton

Holocaust

I protest the falsifications shown in the TV film *Holocaust*.

After protest in the U.S. and Canada last spring, the TV stations in Western Europe made proper cuts in the film. The Canadian TV stations not only refused to do that but have put deliberate lies — a scene where Polish soldiers execute Jews — in the preview, shown about 10 times a night.

Aleksander Pruszyński
Edmonton

Buying tickets

As a warning to others, may I say that my recent attempts to buy tickets at the Bay for a show coming to the Jubilee Auditorium have, so far, resulted only in frustration and annoyance.

Because of something called the BASS computer ticket system, I find I will be charged an extra 50 cents per ticket for the "convenience" of using their system (when they are virtually the only ticket outlet in town). I can no longer phone in my order by quoting my charge-account number; there are no refunds on tickets purchased in advance.

The *Journal* welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be brief, must be signed, include the writer's address and telephone number, may be typed (double spaced) or hand written legibly and on one side of the paper only. The *Journal* reserves the right to edit letters for length and taste. Please send to *Letters to The Journal*, Box 2421, Edmonton, T5J 2S6. For information contact Letters Editor Shel Wilson at 423-9533.

Relocation clip

District Journal

Edmonton Journal
Saturday, August 25, 1979 C5

University brass see trouble in Athabasca U's relocation

By JOANNE MUNRO

Athabasca University will face a serious staff shortage the province decides to relocate it in a small town, it was claimed Friday.

"We will lose most of our staff — I'm convinced of that," said city lawyer Ken Chapman, chairman of the university's governing council.

For several months the provincial government has considered moving the location of Alberta's only institution catering to part-time, adult students on a correspondence basis. Athabasca University is now at 1515 122nd Ave.

But if a site outside the greater Edmonton region is selected, there will be disastrous effects on the credibility,

quality and staffing of the institution, Mr. Chapman predicted.

Frank Evans, president of the 75-member staff association, said he would be surprised if more than five per cent of the staff would be willing to move to a rural location, even if it meant losing their jobs.

The town of Athabasca, with a population of about 1,800, has expressed repeated interest in housing the institution and is high on the list of places the government is considering. About 28 other towns have also applied to house the institution.

"We are certainly not against the town of Athabasca," said Mr. Evans. "But we are concerned that most of our staff can't move to the town (about 145 kilometres north of Edmonton).

"Many are female, they are married and have families and want to raise their children in a large urban centre."

A permanent move is not likely for another two or three years. But if a site outside the greater Edmonton region is selected, "we are going to start losing staff now and I don't know how we will replace them," Mr. Evans said.

Rumors filtering from the department of advanced education indicate a decision on the relocation of Athabasca U is imminent.

"That doesn't give us much time," admitted Mr. Chapman, adding his governing council hopes to meet and discuss the issue with the government soon.

Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman could not be reached for comment.

"For our courses we use academic consultants from Grant MacEwan College, the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary," Mr. Chapman said.

Should Athabasca University be forced to leave Edmonton, "we will lose these linkages."

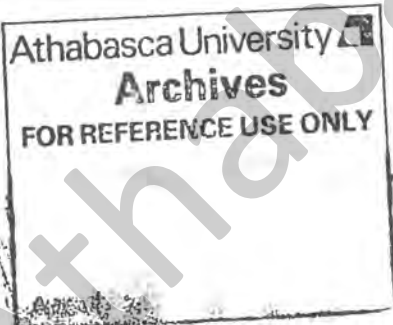
Mr. Chapman said the university relies heavily on material supplied by the U of A's massive library, has all its records stored in the U of A's computer centre, requires the use of commercial printing found only in urban centres, and needs close proximity to Access television since many of its courses are broadcast.

Of considerable concern to the university administration is the maintenance of its status as Alberta's fourth university.

"If we located too far away from the three other universities we would lose touch with them and possibly go our own way. Right now all our courses are transferable to the U of A but that's only because we can meet their standards.

"If we moved away we would have a hard time keeping our quality and credibility."

Mr. Chapman said he hopes the government will base its decision on educational criteria, not on economic or political reasons such as decentralization of academic institutions.



Relocation *clp*

Archives

Edmonton Journal June 2, 1979 B6

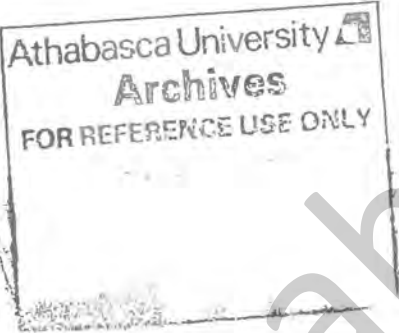
Athabasca seeks to postpone move

Athabasca University has asked Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman that government plans to move the university be postponed indefinitely.

"Any decision to relocate an educational institution that has developed in Edmonton for nine years must be made very carefully," said Ken Chapman, chairman of Athabasca's governing council.

"We simply don't have the time or people now to adequately consider a new location, a building design, feasibility, construction and service implications involved in such a move."

The institution is housed in several buildings in the northwest part of Edmonton.



JUN 01 1979



NEWS RELEASE

Athabasca University
14515 - 122 Avenue
Edmonton
Alberta
T5L 2W4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 1979.

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY ASKS MINISTER TO DEFER ANY CONSIDERATION OF RELOCATION

At a recent meeting with the Hon. James Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, Athabasca University asked that further consideration by government about a relocation of Athabasca University be postponed indefinitely.

"Any decision to relocate an educational institution that has developed in Edmonton for nine years must be made very carefully," said University Governing Council Chairman, Ken Chapman.

Athabasca University is a distance learning institution that is facing phenomenal student growth. The University is presently occupied in meeting the increasing educational demands from all over the province and in preparing courses in the new Bachelor of Administration program.

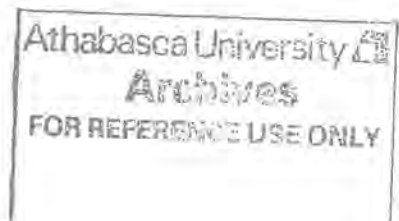
"We simply don't have the time or people now to adequately consider a new location, a building design, feasibility, construction, and service implications involved in such a move," noted Mr. Chapman.

The University is housed in a number of buildings in Northwest Edmonton, and will definitely need more appropriate accommodation in the near future. However, the University does not require the campus or buildings that characterize the traditional university.

The Athabasca University Governing Council has gone on record as being interested in a permanent administrative facility for the University but is concerned that the decision be made in consultation with the University and that any site selected support the continued effective operation and delivery of the unique Athabasca University programs and services.

- 30 -

Alicia Maluta,
Coordinator of Public Affairs.
(403) 452 - 9990



Who put this up?
Where's it from?

Relocation

University re-location is meeting topic

What the future of Athabasca University is going to be has to be decided before the decision to relocate the university is made, Hon. Dallas Schmidt, Associate Minister of Energy and Natural Resources told a meeting of Wetaskiwin city aldermen, directors of the Wetaskiwin Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Kinsmen Club. The supper meeting at the Driad Hotel had been called for by the chamber prior to the call for the election. Schmidt said he was attending the meeting as an individual and had no legal status.

Mayor Leavert Johnson brought both the minister and the chamber directors up to date on what steps the city had taken in pursuing the relocation of the university to the city. He asked Schmidt what action could be taken to influence the cabinet, who will make the final decision as to where the university will be moved.

At the present time Schmidt said there were only about five administrative staff members who would be involved with the move. But he added that if the future of the institution is to become a full fledged university which ever community got the administrative staff should get the campus.

At the moment the university is a

correspondence university and the majority of the staff are not full-time employees. Most of them work at other teaching facilities.

The university was established as a pilot project in 1972 in the northwest commercial-industrial area of Edmonton. In April of last year the university's governing council set up a task force to "evaluate and consider facilities and siting requirements" for the future. These recommendations would go from the council to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower.

Wetaskiwin, Schmidt said has the growth factor needed to accommodate the university and the geographic location is suitable to provide the university with its own identity. If the relocation was any closer to Edmonton the university would be more of a wing of the University of Alberta.

In the report it states that it is "becoming increasingly important to establish and maintain a greater identity with the public and to be situated in a location more consistent with the expectations of the various publics served".

Selling the university staff on relocating the facility to Wetaskiwin would be the difficult aspect, Schmidt told the meeting.

Athabasca University
Archives
FOR REFERENCE USE ONLY

2--THE ECHO, Athabasca, January 31, 1979

EDITORS' NOTES:

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

It is no secret that the people of Athabasca and district wish Athabasca University located here. The efforts of many people are concentrated on influencing the decision makers to make that decision.

The name of the University makes the choice obvious. The history of our area is compatible with the objectives of the University. It is one of leading the way in developing new areas - in this case in Education.

The Athabasca University must develop an identity - Athabasca is the place to do it. To develop this identity, the University must get out from under the shadow - the protection - the aura of the University of Alberta. To do this it must move far enough so as to cast its own shadow. The placement of the Athabasca University anywhere in the area of metropolitan Edmonton would be a disservice to the University, the staff, and the students that will use its services.

The University's services are aimed at rural Alberta. Rural students experience difficulty in identifying themselves with a University in the city. The placement of Athabasca University in a town within easy commuting distance of Edmonton, would alleviate this problem.

If the Alberta Government is truly committed to decentralization and development of rural areas then the choice is also clear. Situating Athabasca University in a bedroom community of Edmonton would be a travesty of stated policy.

Athabasca University is committed to "distance education" so there should be no problem if one practices what one preaches. Athabasca is connected to Edmonton by Highway 2; The major North South highway in Alberta. Six buses a day connect Edmonton and Athabasca. A

to the town. A.G.T. through their communications facilities in the town, can offer the most up-to-date sophisticated communications available anywhere in Canada. Communications should be no problem, except for those who have no imagination.

For those people who have never lived in a small town, one does not know what one is missing. The staff may not like being uprooted from the glamor of Edmonton. What we can offer you, are acres of green grass, trees, blue sky and clean air, rivers lakes and freedom to grow. We can offer this in place of concrete, tall buildings and other "amenities" of the city.

It may be a little more inconvenient to take in some of the cultural activities of Edmonton, but we can assure you that it is easily done. Many people from this area hold seasons tickets to the various functions at the Jubilee Auditorium and Citadel Theater. A one and one half hour drive can be very pleasant in the company of friends. Twelve hundred Edmontonians cannot be wrong. These are the landowners and cottage owners who have chosen our area to spend as much of their free time in as possible.

We also know at 10:00 p.m. each evening, where our children are. This to us is a powerful advantage and a good reason for living in a small town.

The decision on the new home of the University will probably be made after the election - we sincerely hope, the decision will not be made on the basis of whether we elect a Progressive Conservative member for this constituency or not.

The proper choice of a site for a University of the impending stature of Athabasca University, should not be political but one based on solid logical choice. This we are sure will be the case with Athabasca University and its "home".

FEB 08 1979

Oklahoma to be produced

An enthusiastic group of local actors and actresses has been at work for the past month rehearsing the Broadway musical *Oklahoma*. Production dates are being set at March 22, 23 and 24th.

Oklahoma, a favorite since it was written in 1947, centers around the love affairs of three different couples; Curley and Laurey, Will and Annie, and Ali Hakim and Gertie. The play is set at the turn of the century to a backdrop of trouble between farmers and the cowmen. Besides long time favorite songs such as, "O What a Beautiful Morning," "Surrey With the Fringe," and "Oklahoma," the play contains action, suspense and humour that will keep patrons smiling for a long time after the production is over.

Lead roles in the production are being played by Phyllis Coy (Aunt Eller), Jeff Lowe (Curley), Bev Benn (Laurey), John Shannon (Will), Barb Armstrong (Annie), Jim Duplessies (Ali Hakim), Charles Parker (Jud), Steve Bemount (Cord Elam), Bob Garton (Carnes), Jill Lowe (Gertie) and Ed Reeves (Slim).

Future editions of the Echo will present further information on the production.

Leon Stocki



Dear Sir,

Does the County of Athabasca feel that the people of Caslan and surrounding areas do not support the Town of Boyle?

Since winter has started, the road between Caslan and Boyle has been cleaned maybe twice. This is a disgrace.

There is even a good skidoo trail along the side of the road.

They have cleaned as far as the Bonidess Corner lately and have left the rest as if to say they do not want the people of Caslan supporting the business in Boyle.

That snow is like a trap now when you have to get off the main trail. It pulls you right into the ditch.

How about the Department of Highways for the County getting into gear and cleaning the so-called road? Thank you.

Concerned Citizen of Caslan Community.

JUSTICE PREVAILS

Our justice system is a slow unchanging process which with time eventually acts as a deterrent for perpetrators of the law. This procedure involves highly Professional people and thus is most costly. Why mature adults are unable to govern their actions, thus, eliminating the judicial process is a mystery to all and history clearly shows the need for such a

from an unbiased standpoint to prevent misunderstandings based on rumours and misconceptions on recent proceedings.

QUOTE:

An honest man nearly always thinks justly.

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives and property.

and obedience is the premium we pay for it. UNQUOTE!

Thank you

E. Keith DEWE

(Re Nancy Appleby)

It is not too often that I get the urge to take pen in hand and write a letter to the editor, but this is one of those times.

Athabasca and district have been fortunate over the years, in the many community minded citizens who have helped contribute to its betterment, but all would agree that no one has had more influence than the one you have singled out to honour in February 1979. I am referring of course, to Athabasca's own Nancy Appleby. It would be difficult indeed to think of anyone in the community whose lives have not been touched; and you, some influenced, by the remarkable lady.

As a start, one could mention her years of service to her church, including related dedication of talents as organist, soloist in the choir, weddings, funerals, etc., but it would only be a small part of her contribution.

Archives

Relocation
THE SCHOOLS

TODAY 8:00 AM
HU C&K

'Athabasca wants you, Athabasca U' cry the boosters

Alberta's very special "distance education university," Athabasca U., was confirmed as a university last year, and advanced education Minister Bert Hohol announced that in 1979 he'd be looking for a permanent location for it. Given the government's decentralization policy, it was not surprising that the growing institution was soon bombarded with letters from small

needs to be in view." He says settling it in a small town will give it identity and atmosphere, and be an economic "shot in the arm" for the town that gets it. Dr. Hohol himself studied for his doctorate in little Eugene, Oregon, and approved of the setup, which he says is far more common in the United States. Staff members get themselves on municipal council, and the university becomes the

were wined, dined and shown around town. No other community has tried so hard to please, it is said, although the Spruce Grove mayor got as much ink from the dailies. He points out that Spruce Grove is conveniently close to Edmonton.

Obviously, if administration must move to a place as far away as Athabasca, it will be an inconvenience. Many staffers have spouses employed elsewhere in Edmonton. How many of the staff are married? a project coordinator was asked, "That's hard to tell these days," he observed with a smile. "Let's just say I think most of us have commitments of one sort or another."

At present the university is cramped in three different locations in Edmonton. Once a site has been selected, he says, construction of the modest-sized building shouldn't take long. The university currently occupies about 40,000 sq. ft. Vice president Barry Snowden estimates it will need over 100,000 within a decade.

"Personally," he says, "I'd love to live in a small community." But he thinks a professor needs access to the big city. Athabasca co-ordinators use the U of A's library, computer and printing services. He thinks the new location should be in commuting distance from Edmonton.

Athabasca U., a 1970 project of the Social Credit government, was originally meant to become Alberta's fourth university with a campus in St. Albert, to absorb the growing masses of students. Once in office the Lougheed government took a look at enrollments, saw they were about to plummet, and decided the last thing the province needed was another traditional university. What it did need was a post-secondary institution for the Vegreville housewife and the Coleman miner, for the isolated people who want an education but can't afford a year away from incomes, or a move to the city to get it.

Using special T.V. and radio programs therefore, and libraries throughout the province Athabasca U's aim became achievement of accessibility for all Albertans. It now offers 35 courses in administration, sciences, French and above all the arts, and it boasts 2,500 course enrollments. Dr. Hohol considers it a definite success story and would like to see it expand its programs, particularly in management, and further its studies of the way people best learn. The traditional 16- to 24-age group market is on the decline, adult education is in vogue.



UNIVERSITY'S SNOWDEN, TOWN'S MURPHY
All sorts of advantages, and disadvantages too

enterprising communities throughout Northern Alberta, determined to lure it their way: Westlock, Leduc, Devon, Spruce Grove, Ardrossan, Morinville . . . Of these perhaps the most ardent and persistent wooer has been the town of Athabasca, 85 miles north of Edmonton, which has been going at it enthusiastically since 1976, with briefs both to Dr. Hohol and the Northern Development Council. Aware of rising competition from other quarters, however, last week the town sponsored a bus trip out to Athabasca, hoping to demonstrate to university staff members that the sticks aren't all that bad. Meanwhile, how do staffers feel about leaving the big city? Said one official: "I think all 120 of us can think of good reasons not to go."

But that choice is not theirs; it belongs to the cabinet, and so does the choice of town. It will decide which one some time in the next year. "As long as it's in Edmonton," says Dr. Hohol, "it will just be an address, a phone number, a place to send materials. Athabasca University

centre of town life, rather than withdrawing into itself and becoming "a city within a city." He thinks the advantages outweigh the disadvantages; the cost and technical problems of living far from the major supply centre can be resolved.

Athabasca's Mike Murphy couldn't agree with him more. Two groups in his town are campaigning. There is the "Athabasca Wants You, Athabasca U.," and there is its offshoot "Friends of Athabasca University." Mr. Murphy describes the former as merely a "lobbying group," whereas the latter (of which he himself is co chairman) is genuinely concerned with promoting the university and raising funds for its projects, acting as an "alumni association of sorts." (Mr. Murphy has never studied at Athabasca.) Its firm belief, however, is that Athabasca University belongs out of "the University of Alberta umbrella" and in the town which bears its name. The Friends sponsored the trip to Athabasca last Saturday. Staff members, "influential" Edmontonians and reporters

Edmonton Journal 15/1/79

Town is courting learned lass, hopes cabinet will play Cupid

ATHABASCA — The seeds of a love affair were planted here Saturday night.

If the Alberta government plays Cupid, as the people of Athabasca hope, the love affair between the townsfolk and Athabasca University may blossom.

The university and the town met each other for the first time Saturday, as Athabasca continued its bid to have Alberta's fourth university located in its namesake community.

Athabasca is not your standard university. Rather, it's based on the British open university concept. To risk being rude, one could call it the next evolution of the correspondence school.

Students take courses by television, telephone and mail.

If Athabasca U were to relocate in Athabasca from Edmonton, it would mean a substantial financial boost to the community of 1,850.

University vice-president Barry Snowden estimates about half of the university's academic staff of 55 and a



Ken Chapman tires to stuff \$2,000 cheque into Dr. Sam Smith's pocket

lesser percentage of the support staff would move, meaning a payroll of about \$1 million.

When you add the secondary services needed to support that population, Athabasca may be looking at a \$2.5-million boost to its economy, he says.

Saturday's bus tour of Athabasca for the university people was organized by the Athabasca chapter of the Friends of Athabasca University, which describes itself as a substitute for an alumni association.

The group presented the university with nearly \$3,000 at a banquet Saturday night, the first in a series of ongoing contributions.

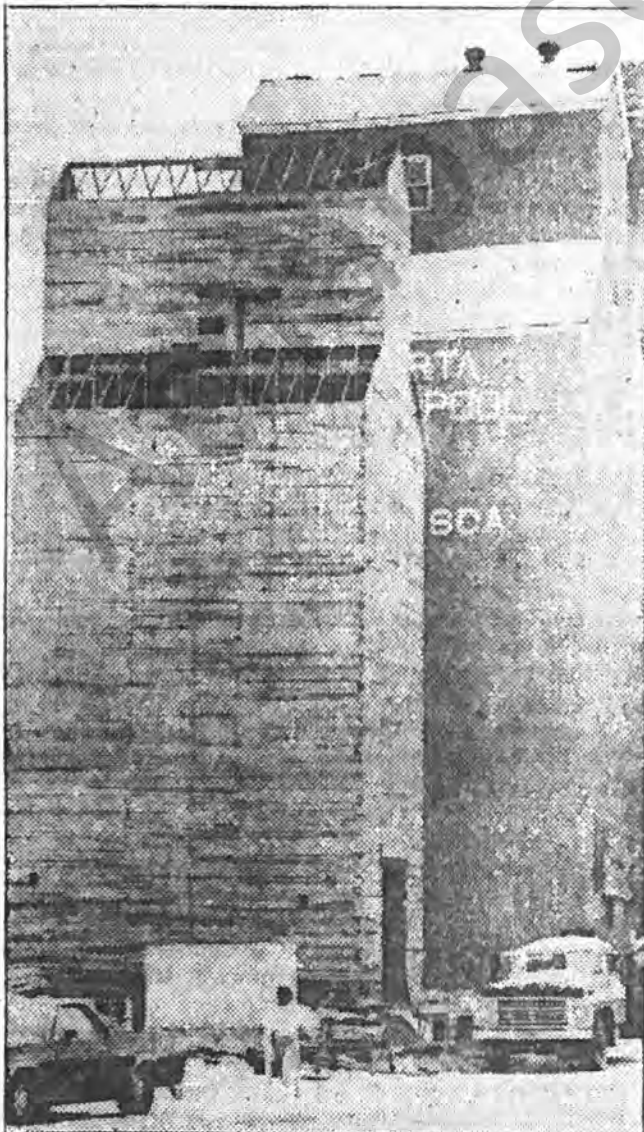
Athabasca is not the only town in bidding for the university. But so far, it seems to be the most aggressive.

The campaign started several years ago, with a group called Athabasca Wants U. Athabasca U. Now, with the first chapter of the alumni association based in Athabasca, the town's name is bound to keep popping up.

Community support for the venture was partly reflected by the nearly 300 people who showed up at the banquet.

"Our affections grow with every return," university president Dr. Sam Smith told the crowd, applauding "the integrity, sincerity, honesty and sheer class of this community."

The ultimate decision, though, rests with the Lougheed cabinet. That decision, says Athabasca MLA Frank Appleby, won't come until after the next election.



Relocation clip

Archives

// EDMONTON JOURNAL, Monday, January 15, 1984

Athabasca wants U to fuel growth

By SATYA DAS

ATHABASCA — There's a roar rumbling through the Land of the Whispering Hills.

It's a call for a university — Athabasca University.

The residents in this community of 1,850 want to make sure their town will be the permanent home of Alberta's fourth university, says Mayor Herman Leicht.

Athabasca, nestled in the transition between the parkland and the boreal forest 150 kilometres north of Edmonton, doesn't want to rely on the kind of industrial growth which will dot the banks of the Athabasca River with smoke stacks, he says.



Herman Leicht

"With a university here, we'd have a good base for real cultural growth."

Once the centre of Alberta's fur trade, Athabasca settled into an agriculture-based economy.

That was until three years ago, when rising energy prices saw the development of the low-pressure natural gas reserves in the area by Alberta Gas Trunk Line.

Recent months have seen a spectacular increase in secondary services and housing, a spin-off from the gas industry.

Yet the essential character of the town remains unchanged.

A new grain elevator is being built by the riverside tracks. New buildings are being built along main street, next to a church built in 1913.

Athabascans want to enhance what they've had for years, says Mayor Leicht. The town has a busy live arts society and boasts one of the oldest ceramic clubs in the province.

"A town like Athabasca needs bodies to grow," he says. "Without more people, there are only so many things you can support."

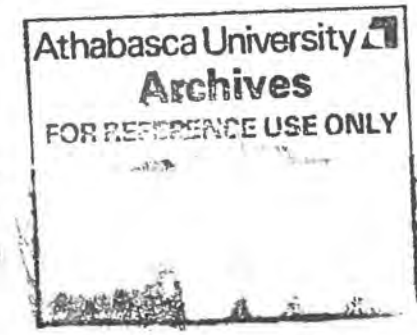
The beauty of Athabasca attracts settlers from far and wide. Descendants of the original French and Metis settlers have been joined by Ukrainians, other central Europeans, Britons and even two Goanese families.

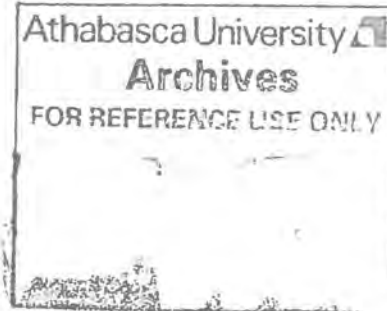
Americans disenchanted with life south of the border have settled here.

Former city dwellers wouldn't trade Athabasca for the world. Jim Neaves, who farms a section of land 30 kilometres from the town, came here 1½ years ago after 20 years as a journalist, most recently with The Canadian Press in Edmonton.

"We enjoy the community tremendously," he says.

"There's a hell of a lot of talent out here, it's just incredible."





Relocation
[1979] Clip

Edmonton Journal 1/1/79

Spruce Grove suggested by mayor

Going hunting for a university

By ROBERT SIBLEY

SPRUCE GROVE — Spruce Grove would make a good home for Alberta's highly successful Athabasca University, says town Mayor George Cuff.

The university, currently located at 14515 122nd Ave. in Edmonton, is looking for a permanent home.

"We're going after it," said Mayor Cuff.

While acknowledging that other communities also want the popular open university to locate in their towns, Mayor Cuff said "from my biased standpoint Spruce Grove has more positive aspects to offer" than other communities.

Spruce Grove, said the mayor, is close to the city and because of this would provide convenient access for university staff for existing universities and colleges in Edmonton.

The town, with a population of 8,000 and a regional population of about 15,000, would also be able to provide support staff to the university, he said.

"For supply and service reasons it is a good



Mayor George Cuff

idea (for the university) to be close to the city," he said.

The community has approached provincial

cabinet ministers, written letters and generally used a soft-sell approach to indicate its interest in obtaining the university, said Mayor Cuff.

Locating Athabasca University in the community, just west of Edmonton, would prove to be a financial gain for the town, said the mayor.

He said local businesses would benefit, and so would the cultural and intellectual life of the community.

Last fall the university reported a 194-per cent increase in correspondence course enrolments over the previous year.

"I like to think our community is highly ranked" in the government's consideration of where to locate the university, said Mayor Cuff.

Other communities interested in the university include St. Albert, Leduc, Devon and Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton.

Athabasca group beating drum to bring university to the town

ATHABASCA — Rather than going to school, Athabasca residents are trying to bring the school to them.

A group of locals in this community 145 kilometres north of Alberta have formed a Friends of Athabasca University Society to raise funds for an alumni association.

Town councillor Mike Murphy says the society is only indirectly related to another recently-formed local group that is pushing to have the Edmonton-based "open university" permanently located in the town of the same name.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, as part of the alumni promotion effort, the society will be busing a group of people, including university members, to the town.

About 50 persons are expected to take the ride north. Included in the trip will be a tour of the town, an historical briefing on the region, and, later, a cocktail party and dinner.

Guest of honor at the dinner will be university president, Dr. Sam Smith. Also in attendance will be former president Dr. Tim Byrne.

Dr. Smith will be presented with a cheque to go into an alumni association fund, said Mr. Murphy.

The bus tour leaves Edmonton from the campus at 14515 122nd Ave. at noon on Saturday. It will return to the city later in the evening.

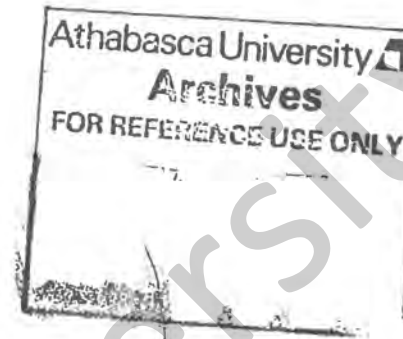
Behind the community tour and the alumni promotion is the desire of the town to bring Athabasca University to the region, said Mr. Murphy.

The university is currently looking for a new permanent home

Athabasca University has no strict campus facilities, but serves students throughout the province largely by correspondence.

It is based on the British "open university" concept, and since its establishment in 1973, has proven popular with Albertans who are unable to attend regular universities.

Beside the Town of Athabasca, other regional communities have expressed interest in having the university locate in their towns, including Spruce Grove, Leduc, Devon.



Edmonton Journal, January 11, 1979

Athabasca group beating drum to bring university to the town

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Ed. Journ., Mon. 17 Nov. 80 (p.B.2)

Moving institute north called stupid, bizarre

It's bizarre and stupid to move Athabasca University from Edmonton to Athabasca by 1984, says the co-ordinator of distant education for the University of Victoria.

"I just don't see the point of an institution delivering information to remote areas being located in a remote area," says Dr. Geoff Potter.

Last year, Dr. Potter completed a worldwide tour comparing correspondence and satellite education in remote areas.

Moving the correspondence-based university from Edmonton will undermine its access to research and

library facilities, and its ability to attract faculty and support staff, he says.

In his opinion, Canada needs only three long-distance education universities, one in the East, one in Central Canada and one in the West.

"Athabasca University would be perfectly good, perfectly reasonable place to put it (the one in Western Canada)," he said after addressing members of the Athabasca University staff.

Distance education works best when taught through a separate institution rather than tacked on as an extension department, he says.

The right choice for Athabasca "U"

Much ado has been going the rounds since Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman announced that Athabasca "U" would take up permanent residence in the Town of Athabasca. Ever since the election of a Progressive Conservative Government in 1971, Athabasca "U" has been mooted to move out of the greater Edmonton area. The real problem back in 1971 was whether or not Athabasca "U" would survive. It took real foresight by then Advanced Education Minister, Jim Foster, to get it on the rails.

Then through the tenure of Bert Hohol (1975-79) the "Open" correspondence University operating under the "Distance Learning" concept was brought to full recognition by the Province with strong endorsement by the public.

The policy of the PC Provincial Government has been to de-centralize Government offices, boards, departments and institutions since the throne speech of 1972 in line with the platform

The Gazette reflects

of the 1971 election. Edmonton is heavily developed with educational facilities including the largest University in Western Canada. Athabasca "U" is a correspondence university without permanent student residence and therefore fits perfectly into the Government's

policy of de-centralization.

The cry of "foul play on the part of the Provincial Government" at this week's Edmonton council meeting is ridiculous. If anyone should be disappointed it should be the councils of the MD of Sturgeon and St. Albert. Originally the former Social Credit Government had selected a site within the MD's boundaries on the border of St. Albert. Following annexation approvals by the Provincial Government last summer, the proposed site would have been within St. Albert's boundaries.

Congratulations to Jim Horsman and the Provincial Cabinet for a positive move.

University move a shot in arm

Thomas A. Edge Archives
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TS/2M400900792180/12/28
ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY
14515 - 122 AVE
EDMONTON ALTA

town of 1,889, about 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, will be the permanent home of Athabasca University.

The decision to move the administrative and course production facilities of the "open university" to Athabasca was announced last week by Jim Horsman, minister of advanced education and manpower. The announcement has been greeted with open delight

by Athabasca-town officials.

Mayor Herman Leicht says he is "very pleased" by the decision and sees the move as "an economic shot-in-the-arm for the town which has experienced a recent period of slow growth."

While it is difficult to gauge the size of the "economic shot-in-the-arm" the town will receive, Mr. Horsman said in announcing the decision

"the cost of site acquisition, construction, furnishings and equipment will be approximately \$16 million." He also said the influx of staff members is expected to require an increase in house construction and should generally buoy the local economy.

Mayor Leicht said the town has the servicing capacity to double its size. He said 140 serviced residential lots should be

(Please Turn to Page 19)

Small firms may get tax cuts

By GEOFF ELLWAND

EDMONTON—The Alberta government has announced plans to administer its own corporate tax as of the 1981 taxation year.

According to the government, the new made-in-Alberta business incentive tax system could mean tax cuts for small businesses plus assistance in diversification and expansion. It could also encourage the processing of more agricultural products in the province as well as persuade companies earning a significant portion of their revenue in Alberta to locate head offices here.

(Please Turn to Page 19)

Spotlight Centres Section: Pages S1—S10

**New hotel
project planned**

... Page 12

**Plant produces
first barrel**

... Page S5

**Bankers eye
Grand Centre**

... Page S8

University move a shot in arm

(Cont'd from Page One)
ready by the fall and others are being planned.

Athabasca University, which has no resident students and conducts most of its courses by correspondence, currently has a staff of 130 but, according to the minister, this is likely to swell to 300.

Construction on the university is expected to start by the summer of 1981. Tentative plans call for the estimated 7,000-square-metre facility to be built on already-acquired land on the banks of the Athabasca River. Accord-

ing to the minister work on the university should be completed "in three or four years."

Everyone, however, was not overjoyed at news of the move. Staff spokesman called the move a "kiss of death" for the university. "We weren't hired to work in Athabasca," he said.

Mayor Leicht acknowledged there was some resistance from staff members but said they would "fall in love" with the town if they "kept an open mind and gave it (the town) a chance."

Alberta Business Mar. 14, 1980 vol. 2, no. 19

Alberta Business Clip

University brass see trouble in Athabasca U's relocation

By JOANNE MUNRO

Athabasca University will face a serious staff shortage if the province decides to relocate it in a small town, it was claimed Friday.

"We will lose most of our staff — I'm convinced of that," said city lawyer Ken Chapman, chairman of the university's governing council.

For several months the provincial government has considered moving the location of Alberta's only institution catering to part-time, adult students on a correspondence basis. Athabasca University is now at 14515 122nd Ave.

But if a site outside the greater Edmonton region is selected, there will be disastrous effects on the credibility,

quality and staffing of the institution, Mr. Chapman predicted.

Frank Evans, president of the 75-member staff association, said he would be surprised if more than five per cent of the staff would be willing to move to a rural location, even if it meant losing their jobs.

The town of Athabasca, with a population of about 1,800, has expressed repeated interest in housing the institution and is high on the list of places the government is considering. About 28 other towns have also applied to house the institution.

"We are certainly not against the town of Athabasca," said Mr. Evans. "But we are concerned that most of our staff can't move to the town (about 145 kilometres north of Edmonton).

"Many are female, they are married and have families and want to raise their children in a large urban centre."

A permanent move is not likely for another two or three years. But if a site outside the greater Edmonton region is selected, "we are going to start losing staff now and I don't know how we will replace them," Mr. Evans said.

Rumors filtering from the department of advanced education indicate a decision on the relocation of Athabasca U is imminent.

"That doesn't give us much time," admitted Mr. Chapman, adding his governing council hopes to meet and discuss the issue with the government soon.

Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman could not be reached for comment.

"For our courses we use academic consultants from Grant MacEwan College, the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary," Mr. Chapman said.

Should Athabasca University be forced to leave Edmonton, "we will lose these linkages."

Mr. Chapman said the university relies heavily on material supplied by the U of A's massive library, has all its records stored in the U of A's computer centre, requires the use of commercial printing found only in urban centres, and needs close proximity to Access television since many of its courses are broadcast.

Of considerable concern to the university administration is the maintenance of its status as Alberta's fourth university.

"If we located too far away from the three other universities we would lose touch with them and possibly go our own way. Right now all our courses are transferable to the U of A but that's only because we can meet their standards.

"If we moved away we would have a hard time keeping our quality and credibility."

Mr. Chapman said he hopes the government will base its decision on educational criteria, not on economic or political reasons such as decentralization of academic institutions.

University of Athabasca for Morinville still a Possibility

by Garry Cavanagh - Mirror

According to Mr. Lloyd Kachman, President of the Morinville Board of Trade Morinville still has a chance to acquire the much sought after Athabasca University.

Mr. Kachman told the Mirror that the "University Morinville Committee" is still negotiating with the Provincial Government in hope of convincing them that Morinville would be the most suitable spot for the Universities location.

Morinville established a committee early in January. It includes, Mayor Art Stapleton,

Dr. Paul Underwood Post President of the Morinville Board of Trade, Norm Chelifoux, Chairman of the Historical and Cultural Society and Lloyd Kachman, President of the Board of Trade.

Early this year they first sent communication to Dr. Hugh Hohol, then Minister of advanced education, but since the election the education and manpower portfolio has been assigned to the honorable Jim Horsman. Then Mayor Stapleton and Lloyd Kachman confronted Dr. Smith, chairman of the Board for the

University of Athabasca since these initial steps, the committee has been in constant communication with the officials of the Provincial Government who will have the final say in the Universities relocation.

Morinville is not the only community seeking the prestigious Universities location, other local governments, such as Spruce Grove, Sherwood Park, Leduc and Devon have indicated they would be more than interested in acquiring the University.

Since the University was established as a petit project in 1972, it has

operated from light office-industrial warehouse facilities located in the northwest commercial-industrial area of Edmonton. Current accommodations include approximately 16,000 gross square feet owned and provided rent-free by the Province of Alberta and approximately 10,400 gross square feet held through lease agreement until 1982 (Edmonton West Business Park - 149 Street and 121 A Avenue).

Accommodations planning for Athabasca University is becoming increasingly difficult.

Current facilities do not provide appropriate areas for existing staff and activities, nor are present locations adequate for the kinds of staffing and activity levels require more area than is currently available or than can be acquired on a satisfactory basis, given current uncertainty with respect to future permanent location.

In April of 1978, the Athabasca University Governing Council established a "task force" to evaluate and consider facilities and siting requirements and to make recommendations

to the Council and, through the council to the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower with respect to criteria for selecting a permanent location for the University.

This prompted many local governments to bid for the project, Morinville was no exception. The town received numerous support from the Board of Trade, The Town of Morinville, Morinville Historical cultural society, Thibault R.C.P. School District No. 35, and the Recreation Centre to

Morinville Mirror, Wednesday, October 3rd., 1979

negotiate for the facility.

A Morinville committee was set up, headed by Mayor Art Stapleton and Board of Trade President, Lloyd Kachman, who made up a lengthy brief to present to the University and to

the Provincial Government.

The committee was told by the Government that a decision would be made on the Universities location at the September setting of the Legislature, but as of

this writing no decision has been made.

Lloyd Kachman is still very optimistic about Morinville's chances and hopes to have confirmation on the Universities site very shortly.



Office of the Mayor

962-2611
P.O. Box 130, Spruce Grove
Alberta. T0E 2C0

ALSO SENT TO ALL CABINET MINISTERS, EDMONTON & REGION MLA'S AND THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

August 2, 1979.

The Honorable P. Lougheed,
Premier,
Province of Alberta,
307 Legislative Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.
T5K 2B7



GEORGE B. CUFF

Mayor

TOWN OF SPRUCE GROVE
Alberta

Dear Mr. Premier:

Phone 962-2611

The Town of Spruce Grove would like to re-state our desire to have our fine community considered by Cabinet and the University Governing Council as a home for Athabasca University. We have had contact with representatives of both the Cabinet and the University over the past months and while we do not wish to over-state our case, we do want to reinforce why we feel Spruce Grove is a natural choice, and one that is supportable from almost any angle.

We are a growing (population 8,511), vibrant, young community with a solid industrial-commercial base to offset our role in providing housing for many of the people who live and work within the Edmonton region. We have recently been designated a satellite industrial centre by the Edmonton Regional Planning Commission and feel that our place within the Edmonton region has been recognized. We are separate enough from the capital city that even massive annexation bids still fall considerably short of our boundaries!

We are away from Edmonton and yet in close proximity to permit easy access to the centre of government, the University of Alberta and other senior learning institutions. That is a valuable consideration given Athabasca University's stated desire to maintain close contact with the foregoing bodies and to also allow existing staff to retain their current place of residence. Your Government would be encouraging decentralization by such a move and yet would not be forcing families to relocate in order to retain their present jobs. Certainly if they wished to move here (which would be likely once they had visited our excellent Town), we would be most willing to accomodate them.

The University, while it would be a fantastic asset to the community, would not create such a financial impact on the Town's fiscal base so as to create an imbalanced situation. Rather it would retain a distinct and separate identity within a larger context. While it would be immediately visible and a real heritage to the people of this area, it would not dominate the Town itself or the greater community.

Several of our major developers, including both Groveco and Melcor, have indicated their support to the Cabinet as well as their willingness to provide a site at a most reasonable price. The cost of construction would be comparable to Edmonton due to our proximity.

I could give support to many other considerations that we feel are in our favor but perhaps that is not required at this time. I am sure that the Minister of Advanced Education, the Honorable James D. Horsman would be willing to provide you with the back-up briefs which have been sent to his office earlier.

We would be pleased to meet with Cabinet or individual members thereof to further detail our position if that is desirable. Certainly our capable MLA, Mr. Bill Purdy, would be able to answer any queries concerning this as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

George B. Cuff,
Mayor.

c.c. Mr. Bill Purdy, MLA
Mr. Ken Chapman, Chairman,
Athabasca University Governing Council

DEC 24 1980



Athabasca University
12352 - 149 St.
Edmonton, Alberta
T5V 1G9

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 December 1980

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RELEASES RELOCATION REPORT

Dr. Stephen Griew, President of Athabasca University today released a report of the University's Commission on Relocation Planning.

Dr. Griew summarizes the Commission's Report, "It addresses a wide range of impacts, problems and consequences of the relocation of Athabasca University, describes potential solutions and provides estimates of probable costs. I believe the findings in the report should provide adequate information for the AU Governing Council to reconsider its action on the Government's announcement to move the University."

The Commission on Relocation Planning undertook a number of special studies, the results of which have contributed to the report. Staff throughout the University provided various inputs and assisted particularly with the identification of operational impacts and problems. No significant changes in programming mandate, academic curriculum, support services, and delivery technology have been assumed apart from growth forecasts made before the relocation announcement.

The Relocation Report indicates that the financial requirements of relocating the University will be \$19,700,000 for the construction of required facilities plus one-time costs of \$8,688,000 and \$3,860,000 in operating and capital respectively. After relocation there will be recurrent annual costs of \$1,283,000 in operating expenditures and \$218,000 in capital requirements over and above the costs which would be faced in these categories were the University to remain in Edmonton.

Athabasca University is based on people, and simple dollar figures cannot capture the human costs of moving the institution. Studies carried out for the Commission indicate that problems faced by existing staff members wishing to relocate or to leave will require careful and sympathetic attention.

These studies also suggest that there is a highly qualified pool of academic and professional staff available for, and interested in, positions at the University. The Commission's studies on support staff relocation and recruitment indicate possible problems in this area which may be alleviated by training schemes, favourable salaries and working conditions, and greater use of office technology.

Site studies have revealed no substantial problems in building to meet the University's needs.

"One of the most important factors in relocating the University in the Town of Athabasca is the effect the relocation will have on the community. It will be considerable, and detailed studies on this impact will need to be done," warns Dr. Griew.

The report estimates that the relocation of Athabasca University will bring approximately 300 employment positions to the community. The direct population increase generated may be approximately 800 and the total more than 1,200. Because of the population impact, it will be important that detailed assessment be made of the socio-economic impacts that the University and its staff will have on the community and the infra-structure demands that will be generated.

An examination of impacts on future developments and long-range strategic planning indicates no major problems beyond these identified for current operation and, perhaps, some advantages.

It is inevitable that the University will lose a significant proportion of its current staff over the course of relocation of central offices to Athabasca because of such factors as family situations, spousal employment, career development, special educational or health services needs, and others. The Relocation Report assumes that more than 50 percent of the University's current professional staff and more than 80 percent of its current support staff will be unwilling or unable to relocate.

The Commission Report identifies the costs associated with the various elements of the staff relocation and human resource consequences of relocation. The report estimates the cost of such relocation programs as relocation information programs, moving expenses, possible real estate concessions, financing assistance for relocating and other such programs.

One study asked whether the University will be able to recruit appropriate academic and professional staff, what the requirements of a successful recruitment program would be and what conditions are necessary to retain staff. The report suggests that recruiting and retaining academic and professional staff may be difficult, but it can be accomplished.

However, the recruitment of support staff will definitely be the most severe problem the University faces.

The report recognized one of the most obvious solutions to the support staffing problem as the establishment of local community and 'in-house' training programs well in advance of relocation. The report also recommends that the

University should consider the various ways in which the introduction of automated office systems may reduce demand for support staffing in some areas.

The operational impacts, problems, and consequences of relocation for Athabasca University are manifold and complex because of the high degree of interdependence of the various units within the University. Major problem areas include the provision of adequate library, media design, printing and computing services.

The report states, "Administrative service and logistical problems are relatively easy to determine and their solutions straightforward usually involving an expansion of current service levels and required increased operating and capital resources."

"Much more difficult to describe are the less tangible impacts and problems - such problems as the degree of isolation from academic and professional colleagues; liaison with collaborating agencies, research and professional linkages; loss of immediate and convenient access to a large concentration of AU consumers and the risk of loss of identity as a province-wide institution."

The Relocation Report suggests that to maintain an efficient, respected library service for students and staff in an Athabasca location, the University will have to acquire large quantities of materials in a relatively short period of time. Besides the traditional delivery systems, non-traditional delivery mechanisms such as microfilm, full text computer, and possible extended learning centres will need to be considered.

The costs of relocating the computing services unit and making it operational from an Athabasca location are based on the following assumptions; that information bases currently supported by access to U. of A. systems will be maintained; that substantial communications capacity will be required between Athabasca and Edmonton; that added terminals will be connected to the U. of A. facility; that computer-based operation and application will be expanded; and that reliable maintenance on equipment will be maintained.

The University's 1985-86 forecasts indicate that the University will be servicing 13,760 course enrolments with 459 course credits in delivery and 60 course credits in development. Staffing estimates for the University to support this projected growth are 135 professional and 138 support; a total of 273 employed in 1985-86.

The University projects an operating budget of more than \$12,000,000 and a capital budget of \$790,000 in 1985-86. Were the University to build facilities to the level of its projected requirements by 1985-86, the capital

facilities cost might be close to \$13,500,000 in a site comparable to that of its current leased facilities.

All estimated costs in the Commission Report are in 1980 dollars.

Prepared by Barry L. Snowden, the Commission Report provides the information called for by the AU Governing Council at its April 28, 1980 meeting, "to study the consequences and requirements of implementing the decision to relocate Athabasca University to the Town of Athabasca." Also at the April 28th meeting, the Council decided to reconsider its official reaction on the relocation announcement upon receipt of the Commission Report.

This Commission on Relocation Planning Report will be discussed at a special meeting of the Governing Council to be held on Monday, January 26, 1981.

- 30 -

Alicia Maluta
Coordinator of Public Affairs
403 - 452 - 9990

JAN 29 1981



News Release

Athabasca University
12352 - 149 St.
Edmonton, Alberta
T5V 1G9

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

28 January 1981

AU GOVERNING COUNCIL ACCEPTS GOVERNMENT DECISION

At a special meeting of the Athabasca University Governing Council Monday, January 26, 1981, the Governing Council reaffirmed its original position of March 11, 1980 to accept the Alberta Government's decision to move the University to the Town of Athabasca.

Mr. K.J. (Ken) Chapman, Chairman of the AU Governing Council, voiced the Governing Council's position, "Having made this decision, the Governing Council must address itself to the future. The University will continue to lead Canada in the development of adult distance education. However, the Government of Alberta must provide significant financial support for the University to realize this goal."

At the special meeting, which was attended by the majority of the University's staff, the Council heard presentations from the AU Faculty Association, the AU Staff Association, and individual staff members. Following its consideration of these presentations in conjunction with the Commission on Relocation Planning report, the Governing Council passed the following resolution.

WHEREAS the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower for the Province of Alberta on March 5th, 1980 announced the Provincial Government's decision to provide land and facilities for Athabasca University in the Town of Athabasca.

AND WHEREAS at a special meeting of the University Governing Council held on March 11, 1980, Athabasca University's official reaction to the Government announcement was passed by Resolution, namely:

- a) it is extremely disappointed by the lack of consultation on the part of the Government of Alberta in dealing with the important issue of the relocation of Athabasca University, and
- b) it is very concerned about the short term impact on the University and its staff of the Government's relocation decision, and
- c) it stresses the importance of continuing and meaningful Provincial Government financial support for not only the relocation of the University, but for its continuing operation and growth in its new location, and
- d) it is committed to working with the staff and students of the University, the Town of Athabasca and the Province of Alberta to facilitate what will be for some a very difficult transition, and
- e) it is committed to the long term success and vitality of growth of Athabasca University in meeting a very important need in the field of distance education.

AND WHEREAS the University Governing Council at its regular meeting on March 31st, 1980 established a commission to study the consequences and requirements of implementing the decision to relocate the University to the Town of Athabasca, such commission to be called "The Commission on Relocation Planning".

AND WHEREAS the Council at its regular meeting on April 28th, 1980 passed a further Resolution that upon receipt of the final report of the Commission on Relocation Planning this Council will reconsider its official reaction to the Government's announcement to relocate the University to the Town of Athabasca.

AND WHEREAS reports on impacts, consequences and costs of relocation have been received from The Commission on Relocation Planning, AUFA and AUSA Executives.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The University Governing Council, having considered the findings in the reports of the Commission on Relocation Planning, AUFA Executive and AUSA Executive, and in the expectation that adequate resources, facilities and funds will be made available to meet any reasonable needs associated with the relocation of the University to the Town of Athabasca, and upon reconsideration of its official reaction, hereby re-affirms its official reaction of March 11, 1980 and will proceed with planning for, and implementation of, the move to Athabasca.

Dr. Stephen Griew, the University's President, commented on the Governing Council's action, "Now the University can get on with the job of providing its students with a quality education, and realizing its undoubted potential."

-30-

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Relocation - 1980

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international council for correspondence education.

ICCE NEWSLETTER.

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Relocation

about
this
issue

Janet Jenkins

Some people choose to learn at a distance; others have no alternative. While in every country there are those people who, if they wish to study at all, can only do so at a distance, the problem is of a quite different order in most developing countries. Hundreds of thousands have no chance of a full education, for the formal schools and universities simply have no room for everyone. Opportunities for such people to learn at a distance are always to be welcomed. Two such schemes are described in this issue.

First, its director introduces the Open School in India, which will start teaching secondary-level courses later this year. Its overall aims are ambitious, and it will be interesting to watch its development.

Second, the Ramkhamhaeng University in Thailand is described. The university has been teaching for some years, and has come up against a number of difficulties. Edith Danskin raises interesting questions about tutorial support for distant students, and how this may need to vary in style for different cultures.

The seventies have not only been a time when many developing countries have seen the potential of distance education. The idea of permanent education has gained acceptance everywhere. Many new correspondence and distance-learning institutions have been established, in order to provide adults with more opportunities to continue their education whenever they want. The need for collaboration between institutions and for the regular exchange of information and experience is increasing all the time. The article on the European Home Study Council describes how, in one region, such co-operation has been developed.

ICCE has an important function in encouraging such co-operation both within and between regions. This issue announces an important new step in our work; the appointment of regional liaison officers. I hope that you will all support these officers, keep them informed of your activities, and ask for their help if you need it.

.....

There is one article I am sad to publish; a plea for help from Athabasca University. One of the new open universities of the 1970s, it must have impressed everybody with its dynamic approach. We have seen how, with a

speed and efficiency that we can only admire, it has not only built up a wide range of courses, but has developed its teaching to suit local needs and, as articles in recent ICCE newsletters have shown, has made efforts constantly to evaluate and improve its work.

Now that is threatened, by a government which seems bent on pursuing a policy of decentralisation to meaningless extremes. It wants to move the university to a remote and tiny town. One of the strengths of distance teaching is to build on resources and spare capacity available in the community. Quite apart from the common-sense economies involved, small organisations rely on such resources to enable them to provide a full and efficient range of services for their students. Barbara Spronk's article shows just how much Athabasca University uses and relies on the resources available in its urban location. The plan to relocate the university, imposed by the government, is expensive and apparently senseless, and has clearly already done much damage in creating conflict and distress.

I sincerely hope that the decision will be reversed. But the staff of Athabasca University must make plans for the worst. If you can offer any suggestions to them, please respond to Barbara Spronk's request and write to her.

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A UNIVERSITY IS MOVED.



Athabasca University is Alberta's fourth university and its only open university, providing undergraduate programs for adults studying at a distance. It was established on an experimental and pilot project basis in June, 1970, and in November, 1975, was given the authority to grant degrees. Enrolments have increased from 650 in 1975-76 to 5300 in 1979-80; the operation employs 131 full-time staff and 86 part-time staff, in developing and delivering over 80 courses.

Barbara Spronk has been on staff at Athabasca University since 1975, as a tutor, marker, anthropology consultant, part-time coordinator and course author, and finally, in 1979, as Head, Social Sciences. She is also the immediate past-president of the Athabasca University Faculty Association.

Barbara Spronk

On March 5, 1980, the government of the province of Alberta, Canada, announced that Athabasca University would be moved to the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, its present location.

The announcement was greeted with shock and disbelief by the Governing Council, administration, and staff of the institution. Since December 1978 the Council had been conducting a concerted campaign to inform the government of the many reasons why the distance education institution must remain in a metropolitan urban area such as Edmonton. In August 1979 a highly-placed rumour had it that the government was about to announce a relocation to a small, remote town. The University staff associations made their opposition to such a move public, reporting on television, radio and newspapers that only one of the existing staff of 120 would be willing to make the move to a remote location, and that even he thought that such a move would not be in the best interests of the institution.

With all this publicity, the rumour was squelched, and the Governing Council turned its energies to negotiating for a set of existing buildings and offices in downtown Edmonton. Those negotiations were only two days away from being made public, when the government made its announcement. The government (specifically, the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower) gave two reasons for the move. One, it was 'in keeping with the government's policy of decentralisation'. Two, 'the move to the town that shares its name will provide the University with a greater opportunity to develop its identity and visibility throughout the province'. The staff has this much for which to be grateful: at least the institution had not been named the University of Tuktoyaktuk, and relocated to the shore of the Arctic Ocean!

The effect of the decision has been devastating. The Governing Council met with the Minister, and then issued a public statement expressing their extreme disappointment in the lack of consultation on the part of the government and their concern about the short term and long term impacts on the University of the relocation decision. However, Council agreed to that decision, despite the urging of Reverend Edward Checkland, their longest-standing member and former chairman, to challenge the government's right to make unilateral decisions. Decisions about site, says Reverend Checkland, more properly rest with the Council members, who have been appointed by the government to oversee the University's affairs.

As a result of Council's unwillingness to challenge the government, the University has lost two of its most valued members — Reverend Checkland, and now Dr. Sam Smith, president of the institution since 1976. Dr. Smith could not agree with the Governing Council's decision:

'It was my strong recommendation to the Council that they appreciate the fact that an acceptance of this decision without the most vigorous of resistance constituted an acceptance of a role as a government agency and a change in the basic nature of our University.

I challenged the quality of the decision, arguing that none of the educational considerations on which we had made our voluminous recommendations to the government has been refuted, and that instead a set of values properly described as exclusively economic and political had been invoked; and that the process by which the decision had been reached was unconscionable.

I am completely convinced that this unilateral decision by the government

represented a serious attack on the integrity and autonomy of this University and indirectly on all universities in the province. I consider this a moral issue of the first order for the University'.

The overwhelming majority of staff members agree with Dr. Smith's stance, and are urging Council to reconsider their decision. Staff are also continuing to fight the government on political grounds, in the hope that the decision can at least be modified if not reversed.

Public reaction is largely puzzlement; there appears to be no good reason why the government should spend large sums of money sending a university somewhere it does not want to go. These sums are significant; the government's preliminary budget for the move, including capital and operating costs, is 19.4 million dollars.

The irony is that such an amount, almost four times our existing annual budget, could be put to many productive uses in developing existing programmes and funding new ones, in our present location. We now have the Bachelor of Administration and Bachelor of Liberal Studies programmes firmly established, and would like to take new initiatives into adult basic education and labour studies. However, these plans probably will have to be shelved. Even our existing programmes are jeopardized; staff resignations are inevitable, and those, plus the need to plan the move, will leave us with a manpower deficit in terms of delivering existing courses and developing new ones.

course. Many of the staff simply could not move, since they are tied to the Edmonton area by their spouses' careers or their children's special educational needs. The metropolitan Edmonton area has a population of over half a million; the town of Athabasca has a population of only 1800, and provides few opportunities for professional career development.

However, for most of us our concern for 'our University' takes primacy over even our personal concerns. The government decision has betrayed a fundamental ignorance of the exigencies of developing university courses and delivering them at a distance. In our Edmonton location, we are ten minutes away from the University of Alberta, its research libraries and laboratories and its subject-matter experts, on whom we rely to author many of our courses. We can also hook into their sophisticated computer facilities, links which for technical reasons will not be possible in Athabasca. We are now five minutes away from the television production facilities of ACCESS, the provincial educational network, and ten minutes away from excellent radio production facilities. For printing jobs that cannot be handled by our one small press, we have immediate access to several large printing firms in the Edmonton area. We are also only ten minutes away from one of two main post offices in Alberta, which offers (theoretically, at least!) next-day delivery to other centres in Alberta and Canada.

Some of these facilities, the University of Alberta libraries and staff, for example, could not be duplicated in the town of Athabasca. Others, like the computer and media production facilities, could possibly be duplicated, but at enormous cost. As for staff, we have difficulty attracting qualified professional and support staff to our Edmonton operation. In Athabasca it will be next to impossible. Most support positions are filled by women, who, if single, would find little in a town of even 2500 to hold their interest, and, if married, would have spouses who likely could not find jobs in a town of that size. Similarly for professionals, despite the current surplus of academics in the Canadian labour market, specialists in distance education are difficult to find, never mind attract to a small town that is two hours' drive from any urban centre or major library.

As for our students, over 60 per cent of them live in urban areas, and most of those live in the metropolitan Edmonton area or surrounding districts. Many of them like to be able to 'drop in' at the University, to talk with staff, pick up materials, or poke around the library and the course materials. The town of Athabasca is far removed from any major population area, and this 'drop in' business is unlikely to continue. Likewise, organising seminars and workshops for students will be much more difficult from a remote location, and will entail a good deal of travel, time, and wasted petrol.

In making his announcement, the Minister stated that 'the leadership and staff of Athabasca University have pioneered the concept of distance education in Alberta. I have every confidence in their ability to meet the challenge of this new phase in the life of the University.' Challenge it may be, but it is one we do not particularly need, and certainly do not want.

However, if the move is inevitable, the University does face the task of making it work. If sufficient funds are forthcoming from the government, it may be possible to regionalise our operation, establishing administrative-learning centres in areas of population concentration throughout the province. We may also be able to take advantage of the great advances being made in satellite communications and interactive computer technology in developing and delivering our courses, not only at a distance, but also from a distance.

In coping with this situation, we are going to need not only considerable amounts of money, but also much good advice. Are there distance institutions that have faced similar problems, and survived? If so, how did they manage it? Any suggestions or encouragement you might have would be most welcome. If you would care to contact me, I should be most happy to direct your comments and advice to the appropriate people in our institution.

Write to Barbara Spronk, Head, Social Sciences, Athabasca University, 14515-122 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5L 2WA

COMMISSION RECEIVES FUNDING AND REORGANIZES

Dr. Stephen Griew, President of Athabasca University, today announced two significant developments in the operation of the University's Commission on Relocation Planning. The Commission has received the funding it requested from the provincial government, and it has been reorganized.

Established by Athabasca University Governing Council in April of this year, the Commission was to examine the consequences of the Government's decision to relocate the University's central offices in the Town of Athabasca. But until very recently the Commission was hampered by lack of ~~~funding and insufficiently~~ detailed operating procedures.

The Commissioner, Barry Snowden, admits that lack of funding prevented him from getting some of the basic tasks underway, such as hiring consultants to study cost effectiveness and physical specifications. ^{In addition,} Mr. Snowden stated "The Commission was asked to look at some things such as academic planning that more properly belong in the Office of the President. The reorganization now solves that problem."

The reorganization involves a change in reporting lines. ~~Where~~ The original structure had the Commission Board acting as a Steering Committee to the Commissioner, and the Commissioner responsible to the Board through

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its Chairman, the Chairman of Governing Council, Ken Chapman; the new structure has the Commission Board acting as an Advisory Committee to the President, who is the new Chairman of the Commission Board. The Commissioner, himself, reports to Governing Council through the President.

This reorganization has the support of Dr. Griew, who stated, "The Commission Board should function as an ^{advisory} ~~advisory~~ committee to the President and the Commissioner should be responsible to the President for his action.

In this way all aspects of the University's planning will be integrated."

^{now A} cc I also believe it is imperative that the Governing Council act as quickly as possible to reconsider its earlier decision to accept the Government's decision to relocate. It is only by having the President as an active participant in the Commission's work that we can arrive at a resolution of this crucial issue.

We have to live with the Council's decision, whatever it is, and we cannot afford a long delay."

With the funding in place and the Commission reorganization^{ed}, the Commissioner feels he can now get his work done. "I am very satisfied with the working arrangement and have every confidence that the Commission will present a substantial report to Governing Council in December of this year."

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Mr. Snowden sees the Commission's report as concentrating on three basic issues: the cost of operating in the Town of Athabasca, situation evaluation, and relocation of staff. "The last issue," Mr. Snowden says, "is the most important at the moment. ^{If we do move to the Town of Athabasca,} ~~We~~ we've got to find fair and equitable means of dealing with staff who won't -- or can't -- relocate. And we also need to consider what we can offer to attract staff. These are difficult issues, requiring the most careful kind of thought, but I'm confident that they can be resolved to everyone's satisfaction."

The Commission will report to Governing Council first in December, and finally on June 30, 1981.



NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

RELEASE DATE: MARCH 5, 1980 (9:30 A.M.)

"The town of Athabasca has been chosen as the permanent site for Athabasca University. The building of Alberta's youngest university in Athabasca is a further step in keeping with the government's well recognized policy of decentralization."

Jim Horsman, Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower, made the announcement today in a meeting with Ken Chapman, Chairman of the Governing Council and Dr. Sam Smith, President of Athabasca University.

"The final decision was reached by Cabinet following extensive study of briefs and submissions from 22 Alberta communities, and Athabasca University. Reviews were conducted during the past two years by department officials and Cabinet," said Mr. Horsman.

"Athabasca University has a special role and is based on the 'open university' concept, with no resident students. It provides distance learning opportunities, without a traditional campus, to adults throughout the province. Currently the university operates out of leased facilities in the light industrial area of Edmonton. The relocation will have the advantage of giving permanence and visibility to Athabasca University and, at the same time, will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow."

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Located 145 kilometers north of Edmonton, Athabasca is the geographic centre of the province. It serves as a major trading and service centre for the 50,000 residents of Census Division 13, and is linked by highway to both the northeast and northwest regions of Alberta. It is approximately one and one half hours driving time from Edmonton.

"The Cabinet had a difficult decision to make. The briefs from other towns were well presented and had much merit. Every one was given serious consideration. Athabasca is one community that has not yet benefited from a major provincial facility, and the north central region of the province currently has no post-secondary institution. The move to the town that shares its name will provide the University with a greater opportunity to develop its identity and visibility throughout the province.

"The new Athabasca University will be constructed on recently acquired land on the banks of the historic Athabasca River. It is estimated that 7,000 square metres (50 to 60 thousand square feet) of space will be required to accommodate the expanded administrative and course production activities. Construction of a suitable facility is to be completed in three to four years.

"The cost of site acquisition, construction, furnishings and equipment will be approximately \$16 million. The influx of staff members with their families will necessitate construction of housing units before the fall of 1984 (the University currently employs 130 staff and expects to increase that to 300). These factors are expected to create a buoyant economy and considerable employment opportunities for residents of Athabasca and area.

"As well, opportunities are seen and encouraged for private enterprise in such areas as mail services, transportation, printing, commercial suppliers, and media and film production," Mr. Horsman explained.

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"Not all staff will be located in Athabasca because the University will maintain a learning centre in Edmonton, and offices in Calgary and other major centres.

"I am pleased," Mr. Horsman added, "to announce the appointment of four new members to the Governing Council of Athabasca University. They are Dick Hobbs of Barrhead, Ronald Gordon of Athabasca, Mitchell Wujcik of Edmonton and Jeanette Sylvia Richter of Bieseker. These Albertans will bring an additional perspective to the Council. The Council will be strengthened by the addition of volunteer Albertans who are prepared to continue their years of service on behalf of others.

"The leadership and staff of Athabasca University have pioneered the concept of distance education in Alberta. I have every confidence in their ability to meet the challenge of this new phase in the life of the university," Mr. Horsman concluded.

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Mary Woodbury, Public Affairs Officer
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Relocation Clp

Athabasca University

COMMISSION FOR RELOCATION PLANNING

Background

On March 5, 1980 the Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower announced that the Government had selected the Town of Athabasca as the permanent location for the central offices and facilities of Athabasca University. The University's unicameral governing council responded with a public statement indicating disappointment and concern with the Government's decision and the process by which it had been rendered. The Council's position did not indicate active opposition to the decision, however, and the events which followed included the resignation of the President and of a long-serving member of the Governing Council. In the face of nearly unanimous staff opposition to relocation, the Council established a Commission to determine the consequences and requirements of implementing the relocation decision. The University's Vice-President, University Services, was seconded to the role of Commissioner and the Commission was given a general mandate, specific objectives and operational terms of reference, including a reporting schedule of September, 1980 for a preliminary (progress) report and May, 1981 for its final report. By resolution, the Governing Council is committed to reconsideration of its position on relocation upon receipt of Commission reports.

Commission Mandate and Objectives

The Commission has been given a broad mandate and a number of specific objectives:

Mandate

1. The primary task of the Commission is to determine the problems of implementing the Government's decision and analyze their consequences, both positive and negative, for the University's operations and to make recommendations to the Governing Council.

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2. In analyzing specific problems and their consequences, the Commission should consider alternatives to the University's present modes of operation in order to overcome specific problems of operating from the Town of Athabasca.
3. To take such action as is required to implement such recommendations as are approved by the Governing Council arising from 1 and 2 above.

Objectives

1. To review current and proposed academic and development plans and proposals of the University and prepare recommendations for changes which may be appropriate, given the relocation decision.
2. To study the implications of the relocation decision for extending the University's program mandate. Such study shall include without restriction:
 - a) manpower training
 - b) labour studies
 - c) non-credit programming
 - d) contract programming (i.e. Blue Quills)
3. To analyze the educational services and delivery mechanisms currently employed by the University and propose modifications and/or alternatives to these consonant with the University's operation from the Town of Athabasca.
4. To investigate the potential of new and developing technologies for the University's operations in course design, production and delivery, library and computing services, media production, printing and administration and prepare recommendations, including capital request proposals, when the use of specific technologies is assessed to be appropriate.
5. To study the consequences (including but not limited to social, economic and career consequences) for the University staff, both professional and support, of the relocation decision, and prepare recommendations identifying opportunities, problems and solutions related thereto.
6. To determine initial architectural planning requirements of the new University facility including personnel and operational components.
7. To initiate contact with the Town of Athabasca and appropriate Government departments and to cooperate in the study of community and municipal planning aspects of the relocation decision.
8. To carry out such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the University Governing Council.

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Commission Organization

The organizational structure provided for the Commission at the time of its establishment included a Commission Board, consisting of the Governing Council Chairman as Chairman; two Governing Council members, four elected staff representatives, a student member and the President and Governing Council Secretary as ex officio (non-voting) members. The Commission Board was to serve as a steering committee for the Commissioner who was to report to the Governing Council, through the Chairman. This structure was adopted to provide a degree of independence for the Commission, considered appropriate under the circumstances. The Commission was to be financed from special grants to be sought from the Minister.

Since the appointment of a new President, three significant changes have been made which have the effect of reducing the independence of the Commission and its activities:

- (1) The President has become Chairman of the Commission Board, replacing the Chairman of the Governing Council in this role.
- (2) The Commissioner's reporting relationship has been clarified; the Commissioner will report to and through the President.
- (3) The Commission Board will act as an advisory committee to the President on matters relating to and/or arising from the relocation decision.

In addition to involving the President much more directly in the work of the Commission, these changes enable the President to bring relocation planning into closer articulation with general university planning and management.

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Commission Projects, Tasks and Priority Recommendations

In early June 1980, shortly following the establishment of the Commission, the Commissioner prepared an outline of projects and tasks arising from the terms of reference of the Commission and prepared a funding request based upon his assessment of the staffing and consultant requirements to undertake the work proposed. The Commission received a response from Government with respect to funding indicating that, while the full amounts requested would not be made available in 1980-81, substantial funding would be provided.

The work program proposed by the Commissioner in June included six areas of activities. These areas and the projects and tasks included within each were as follows:

1. Educational needs assessment and academic planning:

- 1.1 Assembly and review of readily available population forecasts, educational needs and demands assessment, student characteristics data, etc.
- 1.2 Survey of demographic and educational characteristics of Alberta population focusing in particular on "growth centres" including an assessment and forecast of higher and further education needs and opportunities arising from planned and potential economic developments.
- 1.3 Examination of alternative means for the delivery of programs and services to growth centres including an assessment of the organizational implications for regional offices, learning centres, etc.
- 1.4 Examination of alternative means for the provision of opportunities, mechanisms and facilities to encourage academic research and continuing professional development of academic and professional staff.

2. Technology Planning and Evaluation:

- 2.1 Survey of the "state of the art" in communications technology with special emphasis on the state of communications technology in Western North America and Alberta, including budgetary implications and regulatory and other obstacles and constraints to implementation in Alberta.
- 2.2 Evaluations of print and non-print production systems currently in use in selected organizations with recommendations for implementation at Athabasca University.

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3. Personnel Relocation Planning:

- 3.1 Survey of Athabasca University staff, spouses, dependents, etc., to identify, in addition to the usual "personnel information" elements, special interests, qualifications, career/vocational/community service/affiliation needs, housing requirements, etc.
- 3.2 Survey of Athabasca community services, employment opportunity, recreational/cultural opportunities, service organizations, educational/health/social services facilities, housing situations, etc.
- 3.3 Review of University organizational structure and requirements for staffing in central offices and learning centre and other locations.
- 3.4 Examination of the personnel administrative and logistical aspects of staff relocation including recommendations to facilitate alternatives for those unable to relocate or choosing not to do so. This project will include an assessment of the financial requirements of relocation activities and alternatives, including recommendations for phasing and/or timing of staff relocation.

4. Site Evaluation and Pre-Architectural Planning:

- ~~4.1~~ Assembly of climatic data including wind frequency, velocity and direction; sunshine; temperature means, ranges and extremes; precipitation, etc.
- ~~4.2~~ Preliminary site survey including legal survey, establishment of control points, contour survey, etc.
- 4.3 Preliminary sub-soil investigation to determine site requirements and to provide information with respect to building locations, foundation support and slope stabilization requirements.
- 4.4 Preliminary assessment of space and design requirements for Athabasca-based staff and activities to enable preliminary massing of building(s) and location(s).
- 4.5 Preliminary engineering study of municipal site servicing requirements including water demands (operating pressures, fire flow requirements, storage requirements, projection, and preliminary supply design recommendations); storm sewer and ground water control requirements; sanitary sewerage requirements; electrical (including supply, distribution, and special services consideration) and natural gas utilities requirements.
- ~~4.6~~ Evaluation of alternative project development and management alternatives.

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5. Community Planning:

The Town of Athabasca will be updating its General Plan beginning in the Summer of 1980. This activity will provide an opportunity for an appropriate degree of cooperation with respect to the objectives implicit in the Commission's seventh term of reference. Specific projects will depend upon progress made and problems encountered in other areas.

6. Research Opportunities:

Over the course of its work, the Commission will encounter other areas where, depending upon its information needs, the interests of personnel associated, or the special opportunity that is provided, consideration should be given to commissioned study and investigations. These may include the provision of academic research funds to individuals and/or research teams.

Also, consideration should be given to capturing some of the important data that will otherwise be lost over the next few years as the University and the Town develops. It has been proposed that the Commission ensure that an extensive visual (photographic) record be assembled and maintained over the course of its work and the developments that will ensue. In addition, support for the assembly and compilation of a more complete history of the Town and Region has been suggested.

Priority Recommendations:

The mandate and terms of reference of the Commission set out a broad range of tasks, some of which are directly related to relocation and others which are related more tangentially. Some of the tasks are intended to inform the Council's establishment of a position on implementation of the relocation decision; others to provide information more necessary to planning for the relocation. Funding delays and organizational difficulties have hampered the Commission's efforts to date. At the same time, the uncertainty created by questions of relocation is beginning to have what some consider to be an intolerable impact on institutional operations. It has become necessary, therefore, to set some priorities on activities. The following general principles are being used in this regard:

1. Those projects and tasks which do not have a direct relationship to the relocation decision, and those which result primarily in findings or recommendations warranting consideration independent by appropriate University officers, committees and/or task forces,

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2. Those projects and tasks which result primarily in information and recommendations necessary for implementation of the relocation should remain with the Commission's mandate, but should be given lesser priority than work necessary to inform the implementation decision.
3. Those projects and tasks which will provide information and findings required to inform the Council's "re-consideration" of position and its decision with respect to implementation should be given highest priority and, if possible, reporting should be advanced to as early a date as is feasible.

The Commissioner hopes to be in a position to provide a substantive preliminary report by 31 December 1980.

Commission Budget

The University has now received special grants in the amounts of \$ 75 000 (capital) and \$225 000 (operating) to fund Commission activities during the 1980-81 fiscal year. Funding for planning activities beyond 31 March 1981 has been requested as components of the University's regular capital and operating grant submissions.

16 April 1980

COMMISSION ON RELOCATION PLANNING

PREAMBLE

The Athabasca University Governing Council, at its 22nd regular meeting on 31 March 1980, passed a resolution, Motion 22.34, to "establish a commission to study the consequences and requirements of implementing the decision to relocate Athabasca University in the Town of Athabasca".

The mandate of the Commission has been established as follows:

1. The primary task of the Commission is to determine the problems of implementing the Government's decision and analyze their consequences, both positive and negative, for the University's operations and to recommend implementation steps to the Governing Council.
2. In analyzing specific problems and their consequences, the Commission should consider alternatives to the University's present modes of operation in order to overcome specific problems of operating from the Town of Athabasca.
3. To take such action as is required to implement such recommendations as are approved by the Governing Council arising from 1 and 2 above.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To review current and proposed academic and development plans and proposals of the University and prepare recommendations for changes which may be appropriate, given the relocation decision.
2. To study the implications of the relocation decision for extending the University's program mandate. Such study shall include without restriction:
 - a) manpower training
 - b) labour studies
 - c) non-credit programming
 - d) contract programming (i.e. Blue Quills)
3. To analyze the educational services and delivery mechanisms currently employed by the University and propose modifications and/or alternatives to these consonant with the University's operation from the Town of Athabasca.

- 2 -

4. To investigate the potential of new and developing technologies for the University's operation in course design, production and delivery, library and computing services, media production, printing and administration and prepare recommendations, including capital request proposals, when the use of specific technologies is assessed to be appropriate.
5. To study the consequences (including but not limited to social, economic and career consequences) for University staff, both professional and support, of the relocation decision, and prepare recommendations identifying opportunities, problems and solutions related thereto.
6. To determine initial architectural planning requirements of the new University facility including personnel and operational components.
7. To initiate contact with the Town of Athabasca and appropriate Government departments and to cooperate in the study of community and municipal planning aspects of the relocation decision.
8. To carry out such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the University Governing Council.

MEMBERSHIP

- Chairman of the Governing Council as Chairman of the Commission
- Commissioner as Chief Executive Officer
- President of the University, ex officio (non-voting)
- Two (2) public members of the Governing Council, one of whom shall be the Vice-Chairman of the Commission
- Two (2) academic/professional staff members of the University
- One (1) support staff member of the University
- One (1) of the University's tutors
- Secretary to the Governing Council, ex officio (non-voting)

OPERATIONS OF THE COMMISSION

1. The Commission Board will function as an active steering committee for the Commissioner who will be directly responsible to the Commission Board through its Chairman.

- 3 -

2. The day to day operations of the Commission will be directed by the Commissioner.
3. The Commissioner may hire or second such other staff on both a full time or part time, term basis as are deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the Commission within the budget allocation.
4. The Commission Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman or the Commissioner.
5. The Commissioner shall issue monthly progress reports to the Governing Council through the Commission Board.
6. A preliminary report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month of September 1980.
7. A final report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month of May, 1981.
8. The Commission Board will be responsible for establishing its own procedures.
9. The Commission's operations will be funded by special grants to be requested from the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower.

Relocation
C.S.C.
S.C.A. 22

In announcing the appointment of the Commissioner and Commission Board, Mr. Chapman emphasized the important of the work to be done. "The Commission should provide the University with an outline of the University's future given the Government's relocation decision." The Commission will have to determine answers to such questions as "What changes must be made in the way the university does things in operating from Athabasca?" He noted that the Commission will be particularly interested in discovering what opportunities are inherent in the new situation. For example, the move may provide the University with an opportunity to move into the 80's using new technologies such as course delivery via satellite. "The important thing," he stated, "is that we don't want to rule out anything in examining the possibilities."

Mr. Chapman acknowledged that he was "painfully aware" of the negative effects which the government's announcement has had on a majority of the university's staff. "It is my sincere hope that the work of the Commission, while it may not satisfy all staff in terms of outcomes, will at least clarify the situation for individual staff members so that they can make sensible decisions about their future commitments to the University." "It is clear," he added, "that there must be a lot of input into the Commission, and that, whatever recommendations are proposed must be defensible on objective grounds."

"Four major areas of study for the Commission are educational planning, personnel implications, technological implications and community and architectural planning" stated Mr. Chapman. "The Commission will take whatever action is required to gain the expertise needed to analyse needs, review problems and prepare recommendations on each of these areas."

"It is important that the Commission must be able to function apart from and without jeopardizing present operations." The Department of Advanced Education and Manpower will be approached for the necessary funding for Commission operations as part of capital planning. Staff persons who maybe seconded for the Commission on special assignment must not cause unnecessary interruptions in the normal University activities while working on Commission business.

... 2

Mr. Chapman emphasized his belief in the importance of maintaining the current momentum of the university during the transition period. For example, course enrollments are expected to increase to about 6,000 during 1980-1981. Maintaining both the growth and the quality of the University's course offerings will be given a high priority in the 1980-81 budget as well as student services, recruitment, course development and delivery.

"The university has faced many crises during its evolution and has developed a strong planning capability and focus as a result," Mr. Chapman added. The Commission has been established to deal with the specific set of problems arising from the relocation decision. While the issues facing the Commission are wider in scope and longer term than most recent planning task forces, Mr. Chapman indicated that he is confident that the Commission's work will be successful.

*Relocation Clp
A. Rayton
Never released*

GOVERNING COUNCIL TO RECONSIDER

At its meeting Monday, April 28, 1980, the Athabasca University Governing Council passed the following motion.

That upon receipt of the final report of the Commission on Relocation Planning this Council will reconsider its official reaction to the Government's announcement to relocate the University in the Town of Athabasca.

The Governing Council's official reaction to the Government's announcement to relocate the University was established at a special meeting of the Governing Council on March 11, 1980 when the Governing Council passed the following resolution.

- Be it resolved by the Governing Council of Athabasca University that
- a) it is extremely disappointed by the lack of consultation on the part of the Government of Alberta in dealing with the important issue of the relocation of Athabasca University, and
 - b) it is very concerned about the short term impact on the University and its staff of the Government's relocation decision, and
 - c) it stresses the importance of continuing and meaningful Provincial Government financial support for not only the relocation of the University but for its continuing operation and growth in its new location, and
 - d) it is committed to working with the staff and students of the University, the Town of Athabasca, and the Province of Alberta to facilitate what will be for some a very difficult transition, and
 - e) it is committed to the long term success, vitality and growth of Athabasca University in meeting a very important need in the field of distance education.

At the April 28th meeting the Governing Council ratified the establishment of the Commission on Relocation Planning and the appointment of Mr. Barry Snowden, formerly the Vice-President University Services as Commissioner. The Commission will function as an active steering committee for the Commissioner.

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP CONFIRMED

When ratifying the Commission on Relocation Planning the Athabasca University Governing Council, at its meeting April 28, 1980, agreed to hold an internal election for the staff members on the Commission.

The two academic/ professional staff members and one support staff member positions on the Commission will be elected by the University staff. These elections are now being conducted with the results to be posted May 12, 1980.

The Governing Council also agreed to add one student/alumni member to the Commission and appointed Susan Secord to the Commission on the recommendation of the AU Student/Alumni Association steering committee.

Susan Secord is the student representative on the Academic Planning and Policy Committee, a committee of the University Governing Council. She will complete her undergraduate degree at the University of Alberta this spring with the assistance of courses from Athabasca University. A committed community volunteer, Susan has a long standing interest in continuing education.

Other members of the Commission are John Elson and Ron Gordon, members of the AU Governing Council and Dr. Reinhild Rodrigues, an AU tutor. The Commission is chaired by Mr. K.J.(Ken) Chapman, Chairman of the Governing Council and included Dr. W.A.S. Smith, President of the University and Mr. J. Murray Richmond, Secretary of the Governing Council.

The Commission on Relocation Planning, a 11 member Commission, was established to study the consequences and requirements of implementing the decision to relocate Athabasca University. The primary task of the Commission is to determine the problems of implementing the government's decision and analyze their consequences, both positive and negative, for the University's operations. The Commission will make specific recommendations to the Governing Council in its monthly report.

The Commission will present its final report in May 1981 at which time the Governing Council's official reaction to the Government's announcement to relocate the University will be reconsidered.



To: Ken Chapman
From: Alicia Maluta
Subject: "Going Public"

I suggest a communication plan of a similar nature for the Commission.
Your comments?

cc. Barry Snowden

155

of endorsement sent with grant applications

18

Going public: Michigan Awareness: A program to increase public understanding – and state appropriations

BY SHARON LOUSDON YODER
AND JERRY A. MAY

There has never been an easy time for higher education to obtain adequate public money, but some of us think the times are getting tougher.

In Michigan, state appropriations for higher education's operating expenses have fallen from 22 percent of the General Fund 10 years ago to 16 percent today. At The University of Michigan alone, as a percentage of general operating income, state appropriations have dropped from 73 percent to 59 percent in the past 20 years.

"But that's politics," say those who compete for state funds. And they're right. When questioning shrinking state support, University of Michigan officials time and time again meet with one comment from legislators: "Nobody in my district asks me to care about The University of Michigan... just you guys with the budget figures!"

U-M's Board of Regents met extensively with the university's lobbyists and public relations staff in early 1977 to discuss the problem. At the end of a summer retreat, the direction was clear: In order to make a significant dent in the general apathy among voters regarding higher education funding, we needed a comprehensive program to make all concerned aware of the problem. We needed to take our case for higher education into the communities... to promote citizen caring about funding priorities for colleges and universities.

The Program

The next step was to design such a program. Based on past experiences, we assumed that legislators:

- in general feel that higher education is not a salient issue,
- rely heavily on other colleagues who are "experts" in higher education,
- listen closely to key political leaders;
- often vote on the basis of what they think their constituents want or what they actually hear from their constituents.

So we identified groups who might take a message about higher education's need for operating funds to lawmakers and their advisers. Included were U-M students, faculty, staff, alumni, families of students, community leaders, the general public, and the lawmakers themselves. Then we created a series of seven programs to deliver our message to these groups. These were:

1. *The Michigan Community Leaders Program*—sends regents and university officials to numerous Michigan cities,

2. *The Michigan Community Leaders Council Program*—encourages alumni, Presidents Club members, parents, and other U-M friends to assist in increasing public awareness;

3. *The Alumni Awareness Program*—asks Alumni Association clubs to sponsor programs with, and for, their state legislators,

4. *The Internal Awareness Program*—keeps students, faculty, and staff abreast of legislative developments affecting them and informs them of university programs that serve the state,

5. *The Regents Program*—brings regents to meet with alumni, community leaders, and legislators;

6. *The General Public Program*—seeks mass media publicity for the university's contributions to Michigan and

7. *The In-State Donors Program*—keeps donors and friends informed about the importance of public dollars working with private dollars.

The regents approved the program. More importantly, they agreed to fund it for three years without using state dollars.

Support system

Despite the relief we experienced after designing and obtaining approval and funding for our massive program, we were now faced with implementing it. To do that, we needed support.

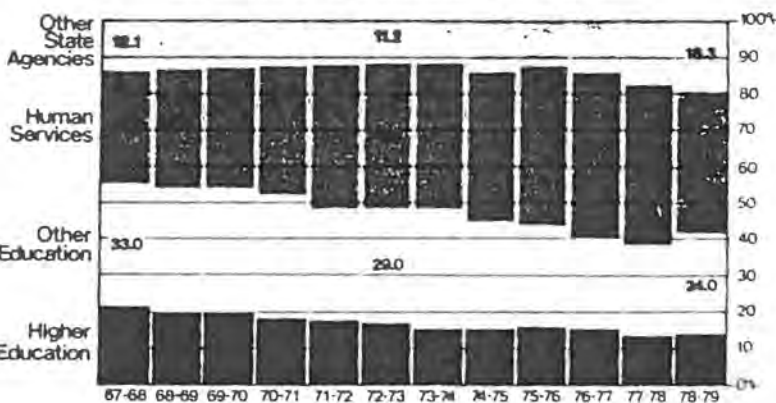
The real task was to accomplish as much as possible through reassignment of the existing staff. The only new people we were able to add to the program were a part-time research assistant and occasional temporary clerical help. Fortunately, we had great cooperation from the U-M administration. In addition, staff from divisions headed by the vice president for development and university relations and the vice president for state relations were asked to reallocate their time in this priority effort.

The complete cooperation of the Board of Regents, the president, and the executive officers has been crucial to our success. In addition, alumni and faculty have been most supportive.

Something to say

During the first year of the program

Legislative appropriations to higher education



Percentage Distribution of State of Michigan General Fund - General Purpose Operating Appropriations to All Agencies

lope to Office on Self-Regulation Act
 Suite 800, One Dupont Circle Washington
 DC 20036

19

Check Your Support System!

Essential:

- Board of trustees
- President
- Executive officers
- Public relations staff
- Government relations staff

Most Desirable:

- Alumni organization
- Faculty governing body
- Publications program
- Audio visual services
- Financial analysis
- Institutional research and planning
- Academic administrative units departments/colleges
- Admissions office
- Financial aid office
- Development office
- Information/media services
- Registrar
- Research grants & contracts division
- Alumni records

- slides, charts, or general speech material used by speakers at service clubs and internal university organizations

- a monthly *Memo To Michigan Citizens* newsletter, which we mailed to legislators, community leaders, selected university personnel, alumni club officials, and Presidents Club members in Michigan (total circulation, 4,000),

- a president's message devoted to state issues published in the football program,

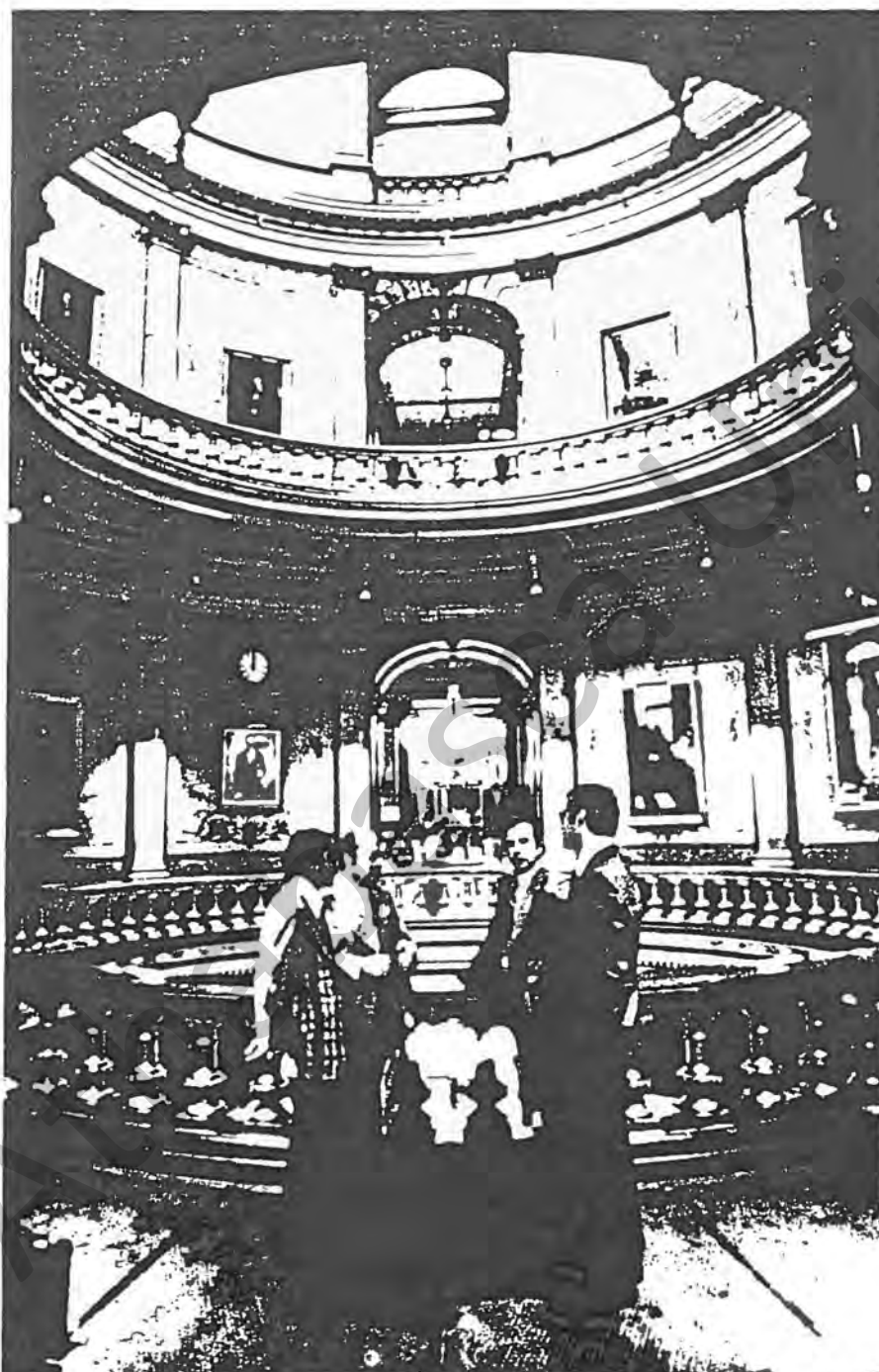
- a monthly page devoted to state issues in *Michigan Alumnus*, the Alumni Association's membership magazine,

- *Campus/Capitol Contact*, an occasional internal newsletter for key faculty and staff,

- coverage in the internal U-M newspaper (*The University Record* circulation 23,000)

Data at any price

Communication is only part of the process of "creating awareness." Collecting, analyzing, and sifting data to be communicated to our many audiences became a fundamental part of our effort.



The Michigan Awareness Program informs citizens about how the university's programs affect their lives and their government

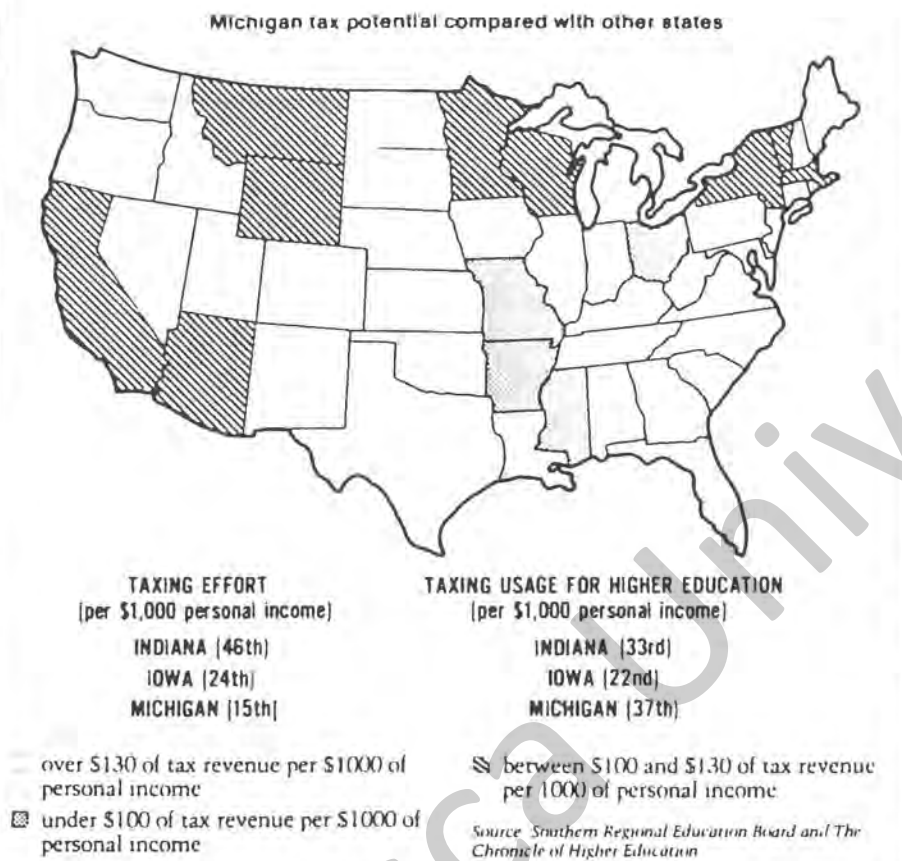
we concentrated on developing and taking to our audience certain information. It included analyses of the state budget process for U-M operating funds, state fund allocations to higher education and elsewhere, and revenue sources for U-M's general fund. Some of the most useful analyses were those that showed 10-year trends. We also compared higher education allocations

in Michigan with those in other states. This information went to audiences through myriad channels.

- a slide presentation used by U-M's president in meeting with important community leaders and legislators in locations across the state,

- a slide presentation used by the vice presidents before alumni club audiences;

20



STATE AND LOCAL TAXES PER \$1,000 OF PERSONAL INCOME IN FISCAL 1977

We gathered and refined data from a variety of sources. Within the university, we've found offices that deal with institutional research, students' records, university budget, and academic planning to be very helpful. Externally, a number of state and national organizations regularly provide valuable information that can be adapted to any college or university. Among these are: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, especially the FACT-FILE; *The Condition of Education*, published yearly by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES); state executive and legislative analyses; and reports from such organizations as the Education Commission of the States (ECS), the National

Politics at Rutgers has developed a hand book on lobbying useful to both men and women. *Lobbying in New Jersey* straightforwardly covers the legislative process, tactics and strategies, the history of lobbying, rules and regulations, and much more. Copies are \$3 each (prepaid) from Lawrence Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), and the American Council on Education (ACE). The checklist on page 19 shows the university offices whose resources you tap for data. Use it to see if you are getting all the data support you need.

Onward and upward

After only one year, university officials believe the program is working. It is too early to measure results in terms of increased appropriations to U-M's operating fund although we see a slight recovery in overall appropriations this year. One thing is sure: We brought our case for higher education to approximately 70,000 voters in the state of Michigan. We think that's a decent beginning. Yoder, formerly director of state community relations at The University of Michigan, is now director of university relations at the University of Missouri-Columbia. May, former research assistant for state relations in the Office of State and Community Relations, is now senior development officer at U-M. **CASE**

Austin Peay State University

In Clarksville, Tennessee, Austin Peay is located on an urban campus that has been used for educational purposes for over 150 years. Extensive liberal arts, teacher education and business programs at both graduate and undergraduate levels serve more than 5000 students.

We are pleased to have produced their catalog and number it as one of our 25 new college catalogs this year.

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Springfield, Illinois 62705
217/797 3014



1. That the Governing Council amend the operational terms of reference of the Commission to provide for the Commission Board to function as an advisory committee to the President and that the President act as Chairman of the Commission Board. The Commission Board will continue to make recommendations on matters brought to it or proposed by the Commission Board. University staff at large will be encouraged to participate in the activities of the Board through the staff representatives who, in turn, will report to the University staff on a regular basis.
2. That a program of work be drawn up by the Commissioner and presented through the President to the Board specifying projects, tasks and timetables.
3. That the Commissioner prepare a budget for approval by the Governing Council upon the recommendation of the President, such budget to accomodate the program of work to accomplish the objectives of the Commission.
4. That the Commissioner seek the advice of the Commission Board with respect to the program of work and the budget and that progress reports be made to a regular schedule of meetings.
5. That, within the approved budget, the operations of the Commission be directed by the Commissioner, and that the Commissioner be authorized to arrange the hiring or secondment of staff, on a full-time and part-time basis; to engage such consultants and to authorize such expenditures as are necessary to accomplish the program of work of the Commission.
6. That the Commissioner report to the Governing Council through the President and be responsible to the President for the day-to-day activities of the Commission. In addition, minutes of the Commission Board activities will be forwarded for information to APPC, APC, and for display on university notice boards.
7. That the findings and recommendations which result from the program of work undertaken by the Commissioner be made available to the Commission Board for review and that the results of such review accompany recommendations to the Governing Council.
8. That a preliminary report be prepared for consideration by the Governing Council not later than 15 December, 1980.
9. That final reports be prepared and submitted to the Governing Council by 30 June, 1980.

Date 17 September 1980

Memorandum

To All Staff
From Stephen Griew
Subject Commission on Relocation Planning

At its meeting on Monday evening the Relocation Commission discussed certain proposals by Barry Snowden designed to modify the Commission's Terms of Reference and functions and his own authority as Relocation Commissioner. It was decided to take no immediate action on these proposals but to convene a special meeting of the Commission Board on 29 September before the meeting on that date of the Governing Council. This deferral is calculated to give Board members an opportunity to reflect further upon the proposals and, in the case of its staff representatives, an opportunity to consult staff.

I greatly regret that my commitment to be in Toronto from 18 to 28 September prevents me, before the special meeting of the Board on 29 September, from meeting staff in order to provide an indication of my own feelings on this subject and to hearing at first hand how people respond to these suggestions. I think, therefore, that it may be helpful if I were to summarize my own views on the subject.

First, I believe that all aspects of University planning should be closely integrated with each other. We have a great deal to gain from approaching planning in this way, and a great deal to lose if we encourage a situation in which the studies calculated to inform the relocation issue are conducted outside the process of University planning as a whole. For this reason alone I believe that it should be the responsibility of the President to maintain executive oversight in the area of relocation planning, and to be responsible for ensuring that reports of these activities are made on a regular basis along with reports of other planning activities.

I thus support to the hilt Barry's suggestion that the Commission Board should function as an advisory committee to the President and that, in essence, the Commissioner should be responsible to the President for his activities.

All Staff

- 2 -

Secondly, it seems to me that while the Governing Council is committed to reconsidering its earlier decision to accept the Government's decision to relocate the University in the Town of Athabasca, it remains patently clear that the University cannot afford to be blind to the chances that relocation will become a reality. This being so, I believe that it would be both irresponsible and self-defeating if we were not to move ahead with speed and effectiveness in completing certain planning studies to help make the move implementable if it should occur. The problems of planning a move of this magnitude are such that if we do not proceed in this manner many of our options could well be closed by decisions later taken without sufficient preparation.

Thirdly, if the Governing Council is to be in the position to reconsider its earlier decision in any rational and serious manner, it will need a great deal of hard, objective information about the implications of relocation, both educational, economic and logistic. Again, this information, I believe, must be obtained via a planning process that encompasses general University planning as well as planning directed solely at informing the relocation issue. To give one very obvious example, relocation planning must go hand-in-hand with some coherent long-range academic planning. Academic development requires an enormous "lead time", and if we do not at least begin to treat the two activities as closely interrelated, we will be in no position, when the time for reconsideration arrives, to give an account of the implications of the move for possible long-term academic development.

Lastly, I perceive an urgency in all this that I am most anxious should be uppermost in our minds in determining all these questions. Everyone deserves to know as quickly as possible what the future is going to be, and I believe that until this knowledge is available relocation will continue to dominate our thinking and activities to such an extent that they will all be damagingly affected by the anxieties, uncertainties and frustrations we all feel to a greater or lesser extent. It would be my intention, if the changes that are now being proposed are adopted, to move ahead as quickly as ever possible towards an early determination of the questions that currently hang over our heads; and I simply believe that it is more likely that speedy action will be possible within the framework of these proposals than if the tasks are handled in a different manner.

There, then, is a summary of my own position on this matter. It is not an idle gesture to say that I shall be particularly dependent during the coming months upon all the advice that I can obtain. It would be absurd to hold out any hope that I shall follow all that I receive, but I shall very greatly appreciate it if any colleagues, either as individuals or groups, who wish to do so would write to me with comments, suggestions or advice.

Stephen Griew

/pd

SEP 17 1980

RELOCATION CLIP
THE COMMISSION ON RELOCATION PLANNING FOR ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY:

The Commissioner's Point of View

In spring of this year, the Government of Alberta announced that Athabasca University would be moving to the Town of Athabasca. Readers of the letters sent to the Edmonton Journal will be particularly aware that there exists a debate about the wisdom of that decision: put simply, the staff of the University seem reluctant to move, for a variety of personal and professional reasons.

The man at the centre is Barry Snowden, who was seconded from his position as the University's Vice-President, University Services, and appointed Commissioner. ~~In an interview, Mr. Snowden was asked for his views on the task of the Commission, and for some general opinions about the future of the University.~~

When asked what he saw as the scope and purpose of the Commission, Mr. Snowden responded:

"The Commission was established to study the consequences of the decision; it was not established to implement the relocation of the University, but to determine what the problems were should the implementation take place. Broadly speaking, our task is to examine the consequences, identify the problems, propose solutions to problems that can be solved, identify those that can't, and attempt to determine what the financial consequences are going to be."

In speaking of the programming opportunities that the University might pursue in its future, Mr. Snowden suggested that certain specific programs should be developed or expanded:

"There are many professional development or allied courses that we should be considering. These could include the fields of engineering, forestry, and agriculture. We are already active in business administration and some of the health sciences areas, and we have made formal transfer arrangements

with the nursing and social welfare faculties at the U of A and U of C. But I believe that we should examine the possibility of co-operating with other institutions in the health services administration field, and also co-operating in other programming areas such as special education."

Mr. Snowden made it clear that the examination of this kind of program expansion should be taking place independent of the relocation. One of the consequences of the Government's announcement of the move is the University's re-examination of program development.

When asked for his view of the debate, especially as it has been appearing in letters to the Journal, Mr. Snowden made the following comment:

"I think one has to be careful not to read the debate purely on the surface. Individual positions and attitudes are based on more fundamental things--pride in one's community on one hand, and concern for one's profession on the other. I think we've got to be careful as well not to conclude that the debate shouldn't take place. There is some value in the debate, and in fact I've seen in letters from both staff and townsfolk some important things being said: matters of pride, matters of principle. They have to be said, and no one can say them on their behalf. The Commissioner can't speak on behalf of the people presenting those issues. And so I think there is a degree of healthiness to the debate, so long as it doesn't get to the personal level--and I haven't sensed that."

The report of the Commission will be presented to Athabasca University Governing Council in May, 1981; meanwhile, the Commissioner will be faced with a uniquely challenging task.

8-17-15 J. L. L. L.

Date September 22, 1980

Memorandum

To ALL STAFF
From Relocation Commission Staff Representatives
Subject EMERGENCY MEETING

A meeting of all Athabasca University staff members is being called for Wednesday, September 24 at 12:00 noon in the AU East large boardroom. This meeting is being called so that staff can discuss their opinions about certain key issues regarding the Relocation Commission. These issues are:

- a) terms of reference for the Relocation Commission.
- b) action to be taken by Commission board members.
- c) university planning and its relation to the commission.
- d) other business related to the Relocation Commission.

The Relocation Commission will be meeting on September 29 and it is very important that AU staff representatives have a census of staff opinions regarding the above issues.

Attached are two memorandums which should be read prior to attending the meeting on Wednesday.

Be there!

Iain Taylor
Marlene Pain
Reinhild Rogrigues
Dan Coldeway

DOC/vm
attach.

Item #5.1



Date September 12, 1980

Memorandum

To Members of Commission Board
From Barry L. Snowden, Commissioner
Subject Commission Organization and Authorities

At the 28 August 1980 meeting of the Commission Board I agreed to provide recommendations for clarification of reporting relationships, authorities and accountabilities of the Commission Board and the Commissioner.

SOME HISTORY:

The Athabasca University Governing Council established the Commission for Relocation Planning at its 28 April 1980 meeting and provided the following terms of reference for "Operations of the Commission":

1. The Commission Board will function as an active steering committee for the Commissioner who will be directly responsible to the Commission Board through its Chairman.
2. The day to day operations of the Commission will be directed by the Commissioner.
3. The Commissioner may hire or second such other staff on both a full time or part time, term basis, as are deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the Commission within the budget allocation.
4. The Commission Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman or the Commissioner.
5. The Commissioner shall issue monthly progress reports to the Governing Council through the Commission Board.
6. A preliminary report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month of September 1980.
7. A final report shall be presented to Governing Council at a special meeting to be held during the month May 1981.
8. The Commission Board will be responsible for establishing its own procedures.
9. The Commission's operation will be funded by special grants to be requested from the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower.

- 2 -

The Council record of discussion (AUGC Minutes, 28 April 1980, page 9) indicated that the intention of the Executive Committee when establishing the Commission was to keep it small and flexible, and able to commence as soon as possible; that it was designed as a hard-working, fact finding, objective body; that reports were to be made to the Governing Council by the Commissioner, who would not have a vote on the Council; and that the Chairman of the Governing Council would be the Chairman of the Commission and act as liaison between the two bodies.

In assuming the role of Commissioner on 1 May 1980, I was advised that the Commissioner should operate with a degree of independence of the University, that he should develop a program of work (projects and tasks) to accomplish the Commission's tasks, that the Commission Board was a steering committee for the Commissioner and advisory to him, and that the Commissioner had the authorities necessary to commit such expenditures for staff and/or consultant services as may be required to accomplish the program of work, within the funding available.

At the 26 May 1980 meeting of the Governing Council, the Chairman of the Council gave notice that he wished to be relieved of the Chairmanship of the Commission for Relocation Planning and the Governing Council empowered its Executive Committee to appoint a new Chairman for the Commission. The 14 July 1980 meeting of the Council approved a recommendation of Executive Committee that the Chairman of the Council remain Chairman of the Commission until the appointment of a new President who will thereafter act as Chairman of the Commission and that the Chairman of the Council then become an ex officio member of the Commission.

With his appointment as President, effective 1 September 1980, Dr. Stephen Grew is Chairman of the Commission Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

While there is some reference in the above to the roles and responsibilities of the Commissioner and the Commission Board, there is little clear definition and/or delegation of authority and, therefore, over the period since establishment of the Commission, reporting relationships have been (or have become) somewhat confused. The following recommendations are offered in the interests of clarifying the Commission's organizational terms of reference and the delegations of authority. I believe such clarification to be necessary to enable the Commission to accomplish the objectives set out in its mandate and terms of reference.

1. That the Governing Council amend the operational terms of reference of the Commission to provide for the Commission Board to function as an advisory committee to the President and that the President act as Chairman of the Commission Board.

- 3 -

2. That the Commissioner prepare a budget for approval by the Governing Council upon the recommendation of the President, such budget to accommodate the program of work (projects and tasks) to accomplish the objectives of the Commission.
3. That the Commissioner seek the advice of the Commission Board with respect to the program of work and the budget and that progress reports be made to a regular schedule of meetings.
4. That, within the approved budget, the operations of the Commission be directed by the Commissioner, and that the Commissioner be authorized to hire or second such other staff, on a full time, part time term basis; to engage such consultants and to authorize such expenditures as are necessary to accomplish the program of work of the Commission.
5. That the Commissioner report to the Governing Council through the President.
6. That the findings and recommendations which result from the program of work undertaken by the Commissioner be made available to the Commission Board for review and that the results of such review accompany recommendations to the Governing Council.
7. That a preliminary report be prepared for consideration by the Governing Council not later than 15 December 1980.
8. That final reports be prepared and submitted to the Governing Council by 30 June 1980.

I believe that these clarifications and changes to the terms of reference will increase the probability of the Commission becoming operational. Depending upon the structure of the work program, they may enable the Commission to provide the Council with the information necessary for its establishment of position with respect to implementation of the relocation decision prior to the date anticipated in the original operational terms of reference.


Barry L. Snowden

Date 17 September 1980

Memorandum

To All Staff
From Stephen Griew
Subject Commission on Relocation Planning

At its meeting on Monday evening the Relocation Commission discussed certain proposals by Barry Snowden designed to modify the Commission's Terms of Reference and functions and his own authority as Relocation Commissioner. It was decided to take no immediate action on these proposals but to convene a special meeting of the Commission Board on 29 September before the meeting on that date of the Governing Council. This deferral is calculated to give Board members an opportunity to reflect further upon the proposals and, in the case of its staff representatives, an opportunity to consult staff.

I greatly regret that my commitment to be in Toronto from 18 to 28 September prevents me, before the special meeting of the Board on 29 September, from meeting staff in order to provide an indication of my own feelings on this subject and to hearing at first hand how people respond to these suggestions. I think, therefore, that it may be helpful if I were to summarize my own views on the subject.

First, I believe that all aspects of University planning should be closely integrated with each other. We have a great deal to gain from approaching planning in this way, and a great deal to lose if we encourage a situation in which the studies calculated to inform the relocation issue are conducted outside the process of University planning as a whole. For this reason alone I believe that it should be the responsibility of the President to maintain executive oversight in the area of relocation planning, and to be responsible for ensuring that reports of these activities are made on a regular basis along with reports of other planning activities.

I thus support to the hilt Barry's suggestion that the Commission Board should function as an advisory committee to the President and that, in essence, the Commissioner should be responsible to the President for his activities.

All Staff

- 2 -



Secondly, it seems to me that while the Governing Council is committed to reconsidering its earlier decision to accept the Government's decision to relocate the University in the Town of Athabasca, it remains patently clear that the University cannot afford to be blind to the chances that relocation will become a reality. This being so, I believe that it would be both irresponsible and self-defeating if we were not to move ahead with speed and effectiveness in completing certain planning studies to help make the move implementable if it should occur. The problems of planning a move of this magnitude are such that if we do not proceed in this manner many of our options could well be closed by decisions later taken without sufficient preparation.

Thirdly, if the Governing Council is to be in the position to reconsider its earlier decision in any rational and serious manner, it will need a great deal of hard, objective information about the implications of relocation, both educational, economic and logistic. Again, this information, I believe, must be obtained via a planning process that encompasses general University planning as well as planning directed solely at informing the relocation issue. To give one very obvious example, relocation planning must go hand-in-hand with some coherent long-range academic planning. Academic development requires an enormous "lead time", and if we do not at least begin to treat the two activities as closely interrelated, we will be in no position, when the time for reconsideration arrives, to give an account of the implications of the move for possible long-term academic development.

Lastly, I perceive an urgency in all this that I am most anxious should be uppermost in our minds in determining all these questions. Everyone deserves to know as quickly as possible what the future is going to be, and I believe that until this knowledge is available relocation will continue to dominate our thinking and activities to such an extent that they will all be damagingly affected by the anxieties, uncertainties and frustrations we all feel to a greater or lesser extent. It would be my intention, if the changes that are now being proposed are adopted, to move ahead as quickly as ever possible towards an early determination of the questions that currently hang over our heads; and I simply believe that it is more likely that speedy action will be possible within the framework of these proposals than if the tasks are handled in a different manner.

There, then, is a summary of my own position on this matter. It is not an idle gesture to say that I shall be particularly dependent during the coming months upon all the advice that I can obtain. It would be absurd to hold out any hope that I shall follow all that I receive, but I shall very greatly appreciate it if any colleagues, either as individuals or groups, who wish to do so would write to me with comments, suggestions or advice.

Stephen Griew

/pdc

14515-122 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5L 2W4
(403) 452-9990

Office of the President

Athabasca University

27 November 1980.

TO: All members of Athabasca University Governing Council
FROM: Stephen Griew
RE: Report in Edmonton Journal

You may already be aware that today's Edmonton Journal carried a front page story based in part on some preliminary working papers produced by the Commission for Relocation Planning and, unfortunately, "leaked" to the newspaper. A copy of the article is enclosed.

Also enclosed is a copy of a statement of my position with respect to this premature speculation regarding the costs and consequences of relocation. While I do not intend to release this statement as such, it will be the basis of any response or comment that I may be called upon to make. I have provided copies, as well, to the Executive Group and to the Commissioner.

With respect to the Commission's work, we are continuing to make good progress. The Commissioner expects to provide me with a draft report on the impacts, costs and consequences of relocation by mid-December and I remain confident that a final report on these matters will be delivered to Council Members by the end of the year.

I look forward to seeing you on December 15th, at which time I shall update you further on this matter and offer additional comment.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT ON REPORT
IN THE EDMONTON JOURNAL

I understand that a report appeared this morning in the Edmonton Journal to the effect that Athabasca University's relocation to the Town of Athabasca would likely cost \$40 million and that this figure was gleaned from data prepared by the University Commission on Relocation Planning and subsequently leaked to the Journal.

Having not yet had an opportunity to read the report, I cannot comment on it in detail. However, I think that the following general comments should be made.

The University is actually engaged in a number of studies calculated to assess the cost and other implications of its proposed move. To do otherwise would be entirely irresponsible. These studies are complex and time consuming and we are some way from the point of being able to provide accurate estimates of costs and impacts. I am not sure what information has reached the Journal but whatever it is it would have been in the form of internal working papers which provide certain very approximate initial estimates. These in the event may bear little resemblance to the final figures that our studies will generate.

It is thus rather misleading to quote a sum of \$40 million at this stage. No one expects the move to be accomplished without additional cost. However, whether this turns out to be \$20 million, \$30 million, \$40 million, or \$50 million will be a matter for further study.

When the University has completed its studies and has reliable estimates that can be supported with confidence, it will be reported to the

Relocation Chgo

- 2 -

Governing Council. Until that point is reached there is little to be gained from discussion of an estimate of only dubious reliability.

Stephen Griew,
27 November 1980.

EDMONTON JOURNAL, Friday, November 28, 1980

Athabasca U moving costs 'speculative,' says Horsman

By KATHERINE DEDYNA
and DUNCAN THORNE

The \$40 million which inside sources say the relocation of Athabasca University could cost was called Thursday "highly speculative" by Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman.

But his explanation was criticized by MLA Walt Buck (SC—Clover Bar), who said "that's not good enough."

In an interview Mr. Horsman said estimates leaked to The Journal concerning relocation costs for the correspondence university are "not definitive in any way."

The government projected that a new building in the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, would cost \$16 million. But university sources say the cost will more likely be \$32 to \$35 million.

Mr. Horsman said only that the \$16 million was projected in 1980 dollars, and "so by the time construction gets under way, there will, of course, be escalation."

He added the government was willing to invest an "appropriate" amount in relocating the institution.

A commission on the relocation has already drafted a preliminary report indicating the move will cost at least \$5 million more to provide services in Athabasca now provided in Edmonton.

In the legislature Mr. Horsman said he understands the reported \$40 million total

was from a paper "with various ranges."

But to repeated questions from Dr. Buck, the minister replied only that he has little to say until Athabasca's governing board reports its final estimates to him.

Dr. Buck asked: "The minister has indicated the cost will be \$16 million. Why do we go through the budgeting process in the legislature?"

The faculty opposes moving the university to Athabasca, and president Dr. Sam Smith resigned when the planned move was announced last spring.

When asked by a reporter whether \$40 million isn't a substantial amount to spend for a move prompting such bitter opposition, Mr. Horsman said the move has met with "great approval" from the public, which also has shown "overwhelming approval for decentralization (of government facilities.)"

Dr. Alvin Finkel, president of the faculty association, said university staff might live in the town, but they won't "patronize the over-priced stores in Athabasca."

Mr. Horsman said the town will not have any difficulty attracting staff, although the president of the faculty association says the small population (1,800) and isolation of the town will not be a drawing card for people who can find similar work elsewhere.

"It's a terrific community," said the minister, in a "beautiful natural setting."

Relocation Clp
EDMONTON JOURNAL, Thursday, November 27, 1980

A \$40-million moving bill

By KATHERINE DEDYNA

The relocation of Athabasca University could cost Alberta taxpayers \$40 million.

The preliminary report of the relocation planning commission, leaked to The Journal, estimates the move will cost at least \$5 million for relocation expenses. Another \$35 million will be required for capital building costs, according to university officials.

When the project was originally

announced, the provincial government said the new construction would cost \$16 million. University officials say that figure could double. The same sources say the university could have been relocated to the old Edmonton public school board building for only \$10 million.

The \$5-million relocation figure is more likely to increase than decline, says commissioner Barry Snowden.

The provincial government decided early

this year to relocate the correspondence university 145 kilometres north to Athabasca, population 1,800, by 1984.

At that time, university president Dr. Sam Smith resigned saying "my effectiveness as president is seriously eroded by the decision."

The longest standing member of the university governing council, Edward Checkland, also resigned, saying the relocation decision was "high-handed,

arbitrary and arrogant."

A poll among the 70 university faculty last year showed only one willing to relocate outside Edmonton. The move was also opposed by Edmonton city council and was called "bizarre and stupid" by the coordinator for distance education for the University of Victoria.

The \$5-million relocation bill includes: \$3.75 million for library services; \$120,000 for communications links with the

University of Alberta; \$70,000 for staff travel budget increases for trips to Edmonton; \$50,000 for expanded courier services; \$175,000 to build a small video studio; \$275,000 for offset printing and binding services; and \$75,000 for a broadcast studio.

The costs would be unnecessary if the university continued to operate in Edmonton where there is easy access to University of Alberta facilities and staff.

Relocation City

EDMONTON JOURNAL, Friday, November 28, 1980

p. 81

Horsman dismisses report of \$40m Athabasca move

By KATHERINE DEDYNA
and DUNCAN THORNE

A statement that it might cost \$40 million to relocate Athabasca University is highly speculative, says Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman. But his explanation was attacked Thursday by MLA Walter Buck (SC—Over Bar), who said: "That's not good enough."

Mr. Horsman said in an interview that estimates leaked to The Journal on relocation costs for the correspondence-based university are "not definitive in any way."

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A commission on the relocation has already drafted a preliminary report

indicating the move will cost at least \$5 million more to provide services in Athabasca that are now provided in Edmonton.

In the legislature Mr. Horsman said he understands the reported total of \$40 million comes from a working paper "with various ranges."

But to repeated questions from Mr. Buck, he added only that he has little to say until Athabasca's governing board reports its final estimates to him.

Said Mr. Buck: "The minister has indicated the cost will be \$16 million. Why do we go through the budgeting process in the legislature?"

Moving the university to Athabasca has been harshly opposed by the school's faculty, and president Dr. Sam Smith resigned when the planned move was announced.

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"It's a terrific community. Beautiful natural setting . . . accessibility to lakes, lovely cottages, hunting, fishing, winter sports, summer sports . . ." said Mr. Horsman.

John Lennon

Across the Pond, Tribute to a legend lost

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issy pages of
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color photographs from the later
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writing, a reproduction of the
original Beatles contract and
other mementoes.

Available today from The Jour-
nal front office at a cost of \$3.95.

New life for Athabasca University 'costly'

By CATHY LORD

The human and dollar costs of relocating Athabasca University will be great, says the university's president.

Dr. Stephen Griew, who released the report of the university's commission on relocation planning Tuesday, says the findings should provide enough information for the university's governing council to review its original support for the move.

When the province announced it planned to move the correspondence university from the city to the town of Athabasca, 145 kilometres north of Edmonton, the university's faculty association opposed it.

Former university president Sam Smith and longest standing member of the university's governing council, Edward Checkland, resigned. A poll of 70 university faculty showed only one willing to relocate.

But the university's governing council said it would work with the government and the town of Athabasca "to facilitate what will be for some a very difficult transition."

Several staff members, opposing the governing council's position, asked the government to establish an independent commission to study the relocation.

The government refused the request, so the council agreed to set up a commission on its own. The council said it would review its stand once the report was complete.

The report says the construction costs of university facilities in the town would be \$19.7 million, plus nearly \$8.7 million in operating costs and \$3.9 million in capital costs, respectively. There will be additional annual costs of \$1.5 million, above what it would cost if the institution were to stay in Edmonton.

The provincial government predicted earlier a new building for the university in Athabasca would cost \$16 million.

These are not the only costs, the president maintains.

"Athabasca University is based on people, and simple dollar figures cannot capture the human costs of moving the institution," says Dr. Griew.

"Studies carried out for the commission indicate that problems faced by existing staff members wishing to relocate or to leave will require careful and sympathetic attention," he says.

"Recruitment of support staff will be the most severe problem the university faces."

The report estimates 50 per cent of the university's professional staff

and more than 80 per cent of its support staff will not relocate.

However, the report suggests training schemes, favorable salaries and working conditions and greater use of office technology may alleviate these problems.

The 112-page report says "there is a substantial pool of highly-qualified academic and professional staff available for and interested in

positions at the university which may become vacant."

There are other positive findings.

Long-range planning "indicates no major problems beyond those identified for current operations and, perhaps, some advantages."

The report will be discussed at a special meeting of the governing council, Jan. 26.

Christmas without Tweets; or: bye, bye (frozen) birdie

The partridge you see in your Christmas tree this Christmas could be Tweeted away by the night, she doesn't figure out how to survive the minus 35-degree weather. "I can only hope it gets to a chimney or someplace warm."

The bird — well, it's actually a grey cockatiel — flew away Tuesday night and Patty Dewar was frantic about it.

The 18-year-old city resident lost her three-year-old bird when the bottom fell out of its cage while it was being transferred to a friend's west-end house.

Christmas will be "just rotten" unless the bird is found, Ms. Dewar said.

If the bird didn't find a warm place

"If anyone spots the bird, he shouldn't be afraid if it flies toward his head, Ms. Dewar said.

"He likes people. He'll be scared, so he'll fly to them."

The bird responds to a "wolf" or "girlie" whistle.

Anyone spotting the bird is asked to call 482-5075 or 454-2307.

The Edmt. Journal - 24 Dec 80

final say whether Mr. [redacted]ark is an obstructionist or a correct reader of public sentiment.

For Western Canada, Mr. Trudeau's announcement does nothing to allay fears that the Constitution Act is a document designed to forever deny the West meaningful channels into national decisions. Unless Pierre Trudeau addresses these concerns, he will preside over the dismantling of Canada as even he knows it.

Athabasca move

In announcing the move of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca, last April 3rd, Advanced Education Minister Jim Horsman said: "In this particular case decentralization policies of this government overrode the concerns that had been expressed with regard to the location."

Now, besides the cost of the philosophical violence done to the concept of university autonomy, a relocation planning commission reports the price tag for the move could reach \$40 million. In the present context, admittedly, \$40 million is only the monthly interest on the Heritage Fund.

This begs the question: Why dismantle a viable, emerging entity like Athabasca university, which has proven itself well situated in Edmonton to tap the physical and human resources of the University of Alberta?

The Lougheed government's reasons have nothing to do with academics. They are a blatant response to political pressure from northern constituencies, given form, function and licence through the so-called decentralization policy. The relocation costs (\$5 million) and the capital building costs (\$35 million) must be considered needless.

But, in the political context, the Lougheed government no doubt considers the \$40 million price tag a prudent investment. After all, as long as the province pays most of the freight, it can speak with a loud voice. And Mr. Horsman's well-chosen words must be remembered: "In this particular case" government policy overrode all other concerns.

In other words, Athabasca University is a malleable instrument of government policy — not an autonomous learning institution. It is frightening to consider that a government whose record suggests it has few qualms about riding roughshod over long-established principles may not be content to stop at merely relocating a fledgling university.

ble solution to the irony of being house-rich but cash-poor: the "reverse mortgage".

It lets a person borrow money against his home to buy an annuity. This gives him a regular cash payment so he can live in the style to which his home equity entitles him.

Meanwhile, the mortgage lender acquires an increasing claim against the home. That claim, the reverse mortgage, is paid off when the home is sold — when the owner dies or finally moves away from the burdens of home ownership.

Without a reverse mortgage, the low-income home owner faces two absurd alternatives. One is to stay in his home and live poor — with \$50,000 or \$75,000 of savings under his feet in the form of home equity.

Or he can sell the home for a bundle of cash — when all he needs is a trickle of cash flow. Then he must move out of the house and neighborhood that he could have enjoyed for years to come.

The reverse mortgage offers the best of both worlds; he can have his home and sell it, too. He has it to live in, and he receives the cash as he needs it, with the actual sale deferred until he no longer needs the home.

Forms of reverse mortgages already are available in France, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

But despite their logic, they are not available in Alberta. Mortgage company spokesmen say nobody wants them.

Edmonton Journal
 Wednesday, December 3, 1980

Athabasca University
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Athabasca University
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Variations on a monetary theme

In these days of multi-billion dollar resource development projects, it is a bit difficult to understand the significance of a comparatively small sum like the "\$40-million moving bill" for Athabasca University that was reported in *The Journal* of November 27.

Let's look at it in terms of the average citizen: A provincial expenditure of \$40 million means that \$20 must be taken in taxes from each of the two million residents of Alberta. That means that the typical family of four will have to pay \$80 so that the government can move Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca.

The \$40 million is the cost of relocation only; it is not for any expansion of the university. *The Journal* has reported that the university could be given a permanent facility in Edmonton for \$10 million. The government's justification for the \$30 million extra cost is that it "will give the community a strong economic and cultural base from which to grow." It has never been suggested that Athabasca University would derive any benefits from relocation.

What does that \$30 million mean to the people of Athabasca?

If it were given as a cash grant, it would mean more than \$15,000 for every one of the 1,900 residents of Athabasca, or nearly \$50,000 per household. If the money were distributed among the approximately 1,500 households in the 1,800 square miles of Athabasca County, each household would receive approximately \$20,000.

In addition to this one-time capital cost, the move will also cause an increase in the university's annual operating costs, probably by about one-third. On top of the current annual cost of \$6 million, that would mean an added cost of \$2 million for every year that Athabasca University operates from Athabasca. That \$2 million per year would only cost the average Alberta family about \$4

each year, but that same sum would mean an annual grant of more than \$3,200 if it were distributed among the 620 households in Athabasca.

The tragedy of this whole situation is that the people of Athabasca and the surrounding county will never benefit from the relocation of Athabasca University as much as figures like these would suggest.

The main beneficiaries of the relocation will instead be a few large construction companies (most likely Edmonton-based) and the suppliers of furniture, books, computers, and other equipment, most of which will have to be purchased from outside Alberta.

The provincial government's decentralization policy is calculated to project a Robin Hood image of taking from the (urban) rich and giving to the (rural) poor. But, in fact, the poor taxpayer's money is going to pay the big businessman and developer. If this government really wanted to improve the economic well-being of every family in Athabasca, it could do so without at the same time turning Athabasca University into the world's most expensive white elephant.

Bob Reckhow
Edmonton

The Journal welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be brief, must be signed with a hand-written signature, and must include the writer's address and telephone number. *The Journal* reserves the right to edit letters for length and taste. Please send to *Letters to The Journal*, Box 2421, Edmonton, T5J 2S6. For information contact Letters Editor Shel Wilson at 423-9533.

The ATA News vol. 15, no. 5, NOV. 3, 1980, p. 1

Correspondence teachers shocked

By Jo-Ann Kolmes

Disbelief is the reaction of the majority of Alberta Correspondence School teachers at an announcement by Education Minister David King that the school will be moved to Barrhead.

King made the announcement at 9 a.m. on Monday, October 27, at a staff meeting at the Correspondence School in Edmonton. The teachers had no prior indication that an announcement of this nature was coming.

The plans call for completing the move to Barrhead, a town of approximately 3,500 people about 125 kilometres northwest of Edmonton, by 1983.

The correspondence teachers knew that their building in Edmonton was being torn down, says Judy Michiel, an ATA district representative for the city of Edmonton and a Correspondence School teacher. But the teachers assumed they would be moving to another site in the city.

"We thought we'd stay in the city — it seemed logical," says Bauni Mackay, president of the Alberta Correspondence School Local of the ATA. There had been rumors of a possible move to Red Deer, but Barrhead was never mentioned, she adds. "We could have understood a move to Red Deer, which would provide easier access to students' homes."

There was no consultation with any of the Correspondence School teachers, from the director down, Mackay adds. "This was an arbitrary decision by the Cabinet."



Judy Michiel, ATA district representative and Correspondence School teacher.

ATA President Mac Kryzanowski says he is appalled that the government took this step without consulting the Correspondence School staff. "This total lack of consultation certainly would lead one to think that the decision was based on political rather than educational considerations."

The ATA president observes that "the government seems bent on an alarming course of indifference to any but political considerations. It increasingly refuses to seek out and weigh carefully the opinions of those members of the public who must

bear the consequences of the government's actions."

At the staff meeting at the Correspondence School, the Education Minister said that Barrhead was chosen because it is near the new site for Athabasca University. Mackay told *The ATA News*. "But," she points out, "we have been only two miles away from Athabasca University here in Edmonton for years, and we have had no contact with them."

The Correspondence School Local president says that there is probably nothing the teachers can do to reverse or

delay the decision. "This government has made decisions in the past, and there has been no recourse." As examples, she cites the transfer of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca and plans for dam construction on the Red Deer River.

"I don't think 145 employees of Alberta Correspondence School have any power," she adds. "At the meeting, the Minister was polite, but the atmosphere was one of 'too bad.'"

The Correspondence School teachers are worried about the impact on their students, says Judy Michiel. The Edmonton location allowed students to drop by periodically if their parents came into the city for errands. "How many people will go out of their way to go to Barrhead?" she asks.

She tells of students from a Port Radium camp who fly into Edmonton with their parents once a year and come to the school. "They won't be able to come to Barrhead," she points out.

Both Mackay and Michiel anticipate that many teachers will have to quit their jobs because they cannot move to Barrhead.

Most of the teachers have a spouse who works, Michiel points out. "Although many would like to follow the Correspondence School wherever it goes, if a spouse's job is not transferable, there is no choice."

"There was no human compassion involved in making this decision," Bauni Mackay says. "The government tends to work with theories, numbers, and charts rather than with human lives."

EDMONTON JOURNAL Friday, November 28, 1980

Horsman dismisses report of \$40m Athabasca move

By KATHERINE DEDYNA
and DUNCAN THORNE

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Athabasca University
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The inside story

Wealth in numbers

Tickets worth \$100,000 each, picked in the Western Express lottery draw Wednesday night, are numbered: 1978341, 1882445, 1747974, 2520276 and 2986690. Numbers of tickets worth \$10,000 each are: 2124551, 3923720, 2475344, 1986569 and 3720814. There are also prizes of \$1,000, \$100, and \$25.

— Details Page C15

Generous Hawks

When the smoke had cleared, the Oilers had scored 10 against the Chicago Black Hawks' 3.

— Page G1

United we stand

Edmonton publisher Mel Hurtig rallied an audience of pro-Canadians on Wednesday to fight the good fight against separatism.

— Page B1

Breaking tradition

The Lougheed government is set to mark another first in Alberta by adjourning the fall session instead of ending it formally.

— Page B6

New battlefield?

Syria and Jordan build up troop and tank strength along their common border.

— Page A13

Quake relief bungled

Delayed rescue efforts after the Italian earthquake lead to the interior minister's resignation.

— Page A15

Heavenly bodies

A new monthly column on stargazing begins with a look at astronomical delights visible in December skies.

— Page C14

Tattle-tale

John Lennon tells all about the hostility between him and Paul McCartney.

— Page E16

Selfish separatists

Western separatists are selfish, right-wing businessmen, says a visiting economist.

— Page H1

Explanation wanted

The Ontario Securities Commission asks two top executives from Royal Trustco to explain their actions in opposing a recent takeover bid.

— Page H1

Back to The Pill

The dangers of the birth control pill have been exaggerated, says a 10-year study.

— Page A10

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Britain duty-bound to pass bill — PM

Journal News Services

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said Wednesday the British Parliament has no right to reject Canada's constitutional reform package.

The prime minister also denied a Journal report that Ottawa is exerting extreme pressure on British MPs to go along with the proposal.

Trudeau told the Commons that no "extreme pressure or any other pressure" had been put on Britain and that he found it undignified that any Canadian MP would make such suggestions.

Amid shouts of "blackmail" by Tory MPs, Trudeau said Canada didn't have to go "begging" to the British Parliament for anything.

Westminster had a "duty" to respond to a joint request from the Commons and the Senate.

"It's as simple as that," he said.

Trudeau was answering charges by Flora MacDonald, former Progressive Conservative external affairs minister, that government officials were exerting pressure on the British government to rubber-stamp the federal proposals.

MacDonald quoted from a story in Tuesday's Edmonton Journal which said

the federal government has threatened to pull Canada out of the Commonwealth, or impose economic sanctions, if Britain holds up the Liberal constitutional reforms.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, chairman of the select parliamentary committee on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, told The Journal that Ottawa is putting extreme pressure on Westminster to approve, without hesitation, Trudeau's plan to patriate the British North America Act with an amending formula and a charter of human rights.

Trudeau told MacDonald her questions should be addressed to Kershaw.

An infuriated MacDonald charged that Trudeau, in denying the stories of pressure tactics, was accusing Sir Anthony, and other British MPs who backed up the story, of "lying."

Trudeau countered by saying the only pressure tactics being made in Britain against the proposals were those being made by provincial governments.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Jean Chretien said he is surprised Alberta has chosen the "colonial route" by deciding



Trudeau

to make a submission to the British Parliament.

The decision was announced Wednesday in Edmonton by Alberta Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dick Johnston.

Chretien said there is no precedent for a provincial submission to a British parliamentary committee.

He said Westminster would become the arbitrator of Canadian problems which would relegate Canada to colonial status.

Related story B6.

Ed. Journ., Mon. 17 Nov. 80 (p.B.2)

Moving institute north called stupid, bizarre

It's bizarre and stupid to move Athabasca University from Edmonton to Athabasca by 1984, says the co-ordinator of distant education for the University of Victoria.

"I just don't see the point of an institution delivering information to remote areas being located in a remote area," says Dr. Geoff Potter.

Last year, Dr. Potter completed a worldwide tour comparing correspondence and satellite education in remote areas.

Moving the correspondence-based university from Edmonton will undermine its access to research and

library facilities, and its ability to attract faculty and support staff, he says.

In his opinion, Canada needs only three long-distance education universities, one in the East, one in Central Canada and one in the West.

"Athabasca University would be a perfectly good, perfectly reasonable place to put it (the one in Western Canada)," he said after addressing members of the Athabasca University staff.

Distance education works best when taught through a separate institution rather than tacked on as an extension department, he says.

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Athabasca University

Are Alberta universities truly autonomous?

by Murdo McLeod

revised and reprinted from summer Gauntlet

Athabasca University is an adult university basically intended as a correspondence school. Up until March of last year the school was located in Edmonton and used a number of University of Alberta facilities. On March 10, 1980 it was announced by the Alberta Government that the university would be moved to the town of Athabasca. This announcement sparked a large controversy on the scope of university autonomy in Alberta.

The controversy surrounding the relocation of Athabasca University had its origins over six months ago in March when the provincial government announced its decision to move the institution from Edmonton To Athabasca. The controversy is due to the somewhat limited consultation between the provincial government and the Athabasca University Governing Council.

President W.A.S. Smith, who resigned in protest, and Chairman K.J. Chapman were informed of the decision to move the University only one hour before the news was made public. Op-

point in time Athabasca University is cost effective in that there are no maintenance or service costs for buildings. This means that the majority of money allocated to Athabasca University are used mainly for developing, producing and servicing courses. Because of the relocation decision there has been concern that these costs will change and that the University will no longer remain cost effective.

In their search for more specific an-

K.J. Chapman, Chairman of the Governing Council, said, "It is time for the University to investigate the implications of the government's decision to discover all the consequences of the decision and inform the government of the unique requirements to enhance the success of the University at this new site." Chapman also stated that the Governing Council "is committed to distance education and providing educational services

and argument offered by the government are largely economic and political in nature and there has been little effort by the government to offer facts that will improve the nature, quality or number of courses offered by the institution.

The provincial government has stated they will spend 16 million dollars on the new facility in Athabasca but there is disagreement between factions as to whether or not this amount will fulfill and satisfy the requirements that an institution of this nature will need. The major reasons given by the government for relocation is that it will be economically beneficial for the Athabasca community and that the move is in line with the current government policy of decentralization.

The government has further reasoned that their decision to relocate Athabasca University is the result of a detailed study of 22 possible locations (including Edmonton where it is currently situated) over a period of two years. It was decided during this study that Athabasca was the most favorable location of all the locations considered. Provincial Government spokesperson Barbara Deters pointed out that Edmonton was never considered a permanent location and said that location has nothing to do with the efficacy of the University. Deters cited Milton Keynes Open University which is 17 miles out of London, England, and explained that it has not experienced any problems as a result of its location. Deters also said that the town of Athabasca was chosen because although it has a population of only 1800, it "is a major trading and service center for 50,000 residents, and the very name of the town itself reinforces the individuality and identity of the institution." Deters also said that Athabasca was chosen because it had not yet benefited from any major provincial facilities.

Although the government does not see any transitional problems to be caused by the move, the availability of facilities such as a library and computer services at the

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~~Under the new structure~~
posing viewpoints have suggested that the one hour notice was not reasonable.

After the Governing Council was informed of the decision, several members of the Council were surprised. Later that day the Governing Council expressed their concern and met later on March 11, 1980 with Jim Horsman for an hour and a half discussing the matter.

On March 17, one week later, the Governing Council of Athabasca University released a statement concerning the Government's decision to relocate the institution. The statement said:

1. It is extremely disappointed by the lack of consultation on the part of relocation...
2. It is concerned about the short term impact on the University and its staff...
3. It is concerned about the prospects of delivering distance education at a distance and it stresses the importance of continuing meaningful provincial financial support and that it is committed to working with the staff and students of the University in the province of Alberta to facilitate for what will be for some a very difficult transition, and it is committed to the long-term success of the vitality and growth of Athabasca University in meeting a very important need in the field of distance education.

Following this press release different factions in the University made their own representation by giving their reasons against the move. There is general uncertainty among the staff and faculty association as to how well the University will operate in its new location. A. Maluta, Coordinator of Public Affairs for Athabasca University, pointed out that course coordinators and faculty researchers spend on the average one day a week using the library and computer services at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Whether the provincial government will replicate these facilities in the town of Athabasca remains to be seen.

The decision to move the university

answers the Governing Council established the Commission on Relocation Planning at one of its meetings to "study the consequences and requirements of implementing the decision to relocate Athabasca University in the town of Athabasca."

Various council members have indicated that this commission should have the freedom to look at different ways of implementing the decision, that both the negative and positive consequences should be very clearly stated to the Governing Council and to the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower. The members on the commission were chosen because of their ability and expertise in the field of distance education, and specifically because of their interest

to adult Albertans given our open enrolment policy."

The faculty made a presentation at the March 28 Governing Council meeting and passed a motion that the Governing Council will reconsider its position regarding the relocation decision as soon as the Commission makes its final report sometime during 1981.

The Governing Council of Athabasca University passed a resolution expressing serious concern over the decision and noted in particular that the decision to relocate the University appears to have been made for reasons other than educational ones and without effective consultation with the University Governing Council. The Council appears to be correct in their assumption concerning the

...YOUR GOVERNMENT - EAGER TO LISTEN ...
BUT DEAF IN BOTH EARS.



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new location has not yet been confirmed. Deters would only say that the province would channel more money into the institution if necessary. Deters did not comment on the lack of consultation between the government and the Governing Council.

On March 13, 1980, at a General Faculties Council meeting at the University of Calgary, President Wagner made a few comments concerning the decision to relocate.

"He then commented on the unexpected move of Athabasca University and that he was disquieted by the apparent lack of public response to the province, there were, he pointed out, two issues. First, the move of a presumable autonomous institution without consultation with its members or any of its governing bodies and secondly, an apparent complete misunderstanding of the role of the institution in the field of distance education. The move represents to say the least a curious use of resources. As members might already be aware, President Smith (of Athabasca University) resigned in protest."

During late March of 1980 the matter came up during a question period and President Wagner stated that he publicly criticized the relocation of Athabasca University from Edmonton to the town of Athabasca without consultation of the University's Board of Governors. It was in his opinion that the move indicated a misunderstanding on the government's part of the purpose of Athabasca University and a complete lack of regard for its autonomy. There was consensus that the Board of Governors at the University of Calgary opposed the decision to relocate Athabasca University.

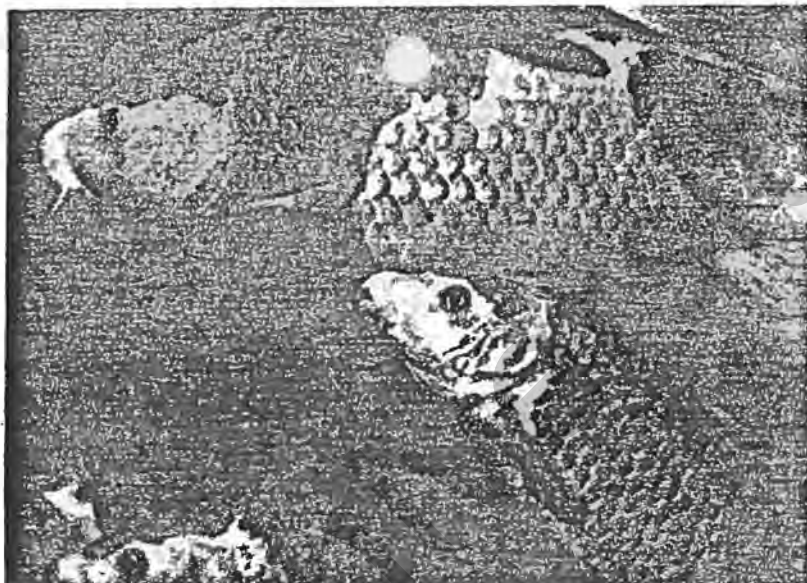
At this point in time, no one seems to know for certain how effective the University will be in its new location or what it will look like. There is, however, the opinion which suggests that Athabasca University works "just fine" where it is currently situated in Edmonton and that no educational or academic improvements could be made by the relocation

tremendous benefit to us. Such a facility would bring countless hours of enjoyment to residents and visitors of Edmonton and in addition be of immense educational benefit for our school children, university students, and yes, for us all.

That so much good could be squashed (only temporarily, I hope) by council while wasteful projects with no redeeming features (in my view) get the green light leaves me amazed. May opponents of the aquarium find a piranha in their bath, a stone fish in their pool, a vampire fish in their toilet, and a lion fish in their sink. (Actually, I do not really believe the aquarium has any opponents — just quibblers of detail; what a shame if that kills it.)

On with the Lions Aquarium.

Joseph S. Nelson
Edmonton



PICTURE: Steve Macris

Japanese koi fish

Small towns do have good side

Bob Reckhow makes much of his right to choose a way of life, in opposing the move of Athabasca University to the town of Athabasca from Edmonton (*Readers' Journal*, June 26).

I agree almost entirely with his sentiment, although his "facts" are somewhat exaggerated in his striving for comparisons.

We in Athabasca do, in fact, have many choices in lifestyle and, although there is not the variety of goods and services that can be found in a large metropolis, there is adequate provision for our needs and our retailers are only too happy to be shown that there is a need to be met (with the usual profit I presume).

I am somewhat puzzled by his statement regarding small-town conformity in lifestyle. Personally, I am quite happily non-conformist, as is my husband, and our fellow citizens couldn't care less. We are a very tolerant community, but try not to abuse our right of self-expression.

Both Mr. Reckhow and Diane Reckhow closed their letters with references to the current staff of the university ("throwing 130 people out of work", "forcibly uprooting the families of 130 people") and implied that there was some nefarious campaign afoot on our part. . . Not so, my friends.

You are being given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to examine your life plan and perhaps to adjust it for the better. Who knows, you might even improve our lifestyle should you move here with the university staff.

You will be welcomed, as I was when my husband moved here from Edmonton in 1949 because there was an appointment for which he was qualified, and we wanted to leave the stress of Edmonton for the peaceful life of a "small town".

Try it. You might like it. The choice is yours, as it will be for most of your 130 compatriots, but remember that there will be only one knock from opportunity.

Jeannette C. McCallum
Athabasca, Alberta

Centenary

In reply to G. B. Lytton's letter of June 20, regarding the celebration of the Healy Willan centenary: At least one Edmonton church is paying tribute to Willan during his centenary. Bruce Wheatcroft, organist and choir director of Robertson-Wesley United Church, has chosen to present at least four of Willan's works, both choral and instrumental, each month of 1980 during the Sunday morning services.

In addition, the choir performed three of the liturgical motets in a recent concert at the church and also as part of a program recorded by the CBC for later broadcast.

K. F. Hansen
Edmonton

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