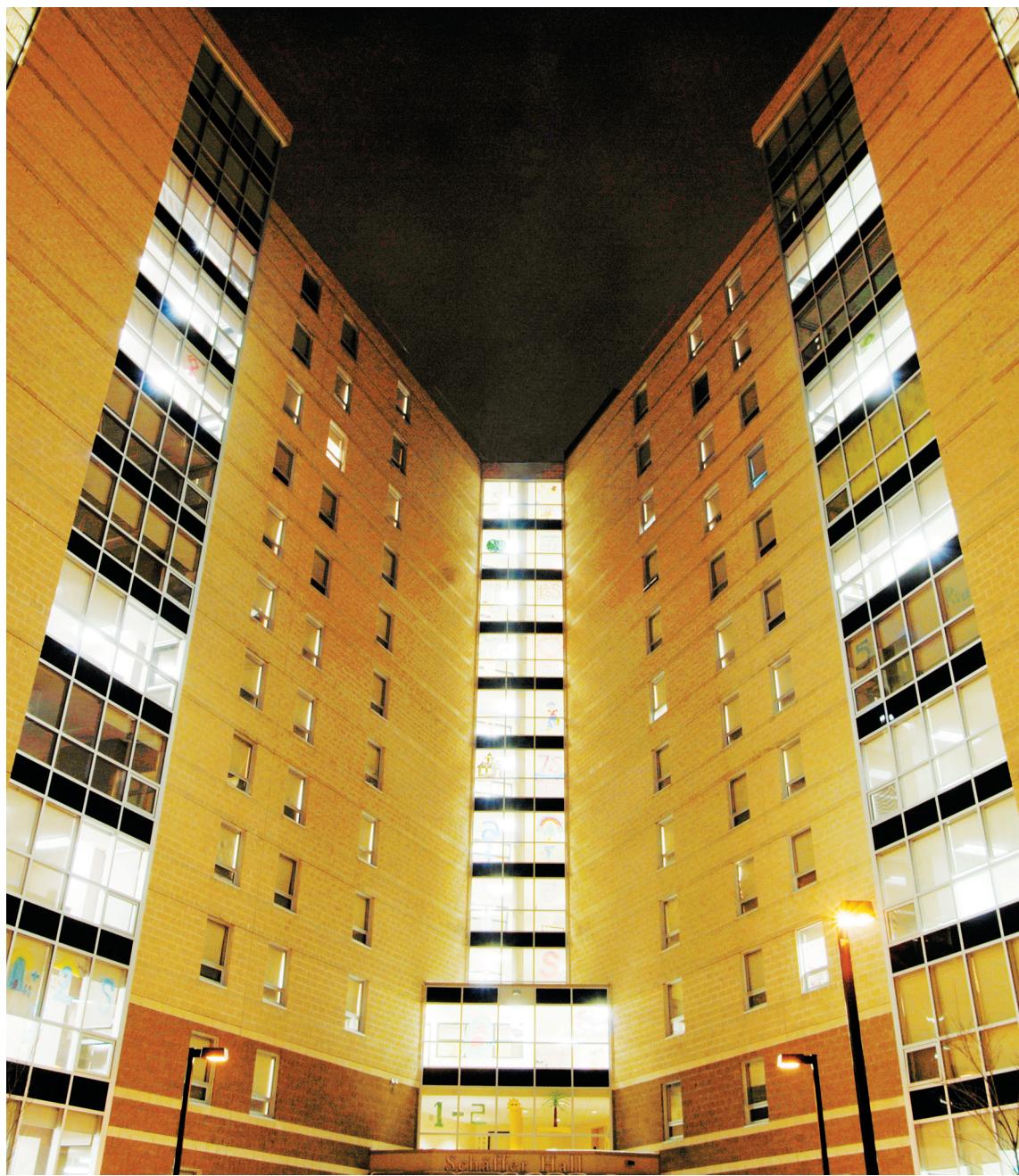


# THE GATEWAY

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**LOOK UP, WAY UP** Buildings aren't the only thing going up around campus, as residences face a ten per cent rent hike.

## Proposed rent increase raises worries

SCOTT LILWALL  
Deputy News Editor

Students living in campus residences might be facing increased rent next year as the University of Alberta considers raising fees to match the booming Edmonton housing market.

"We've been presented with a set of proposals for a rent increase that encompasses all students [living in residence]," said Omer Yusuf, Students' Union Vice-President (Student Life). "[It's] pretty much ten per cent across the board, with a few exceptions here and there."

Yusuf explained that the U of A was considering the increase as a way to pay for work that needed to be done on the residences. As well, it was set to be comparable to the rising costs of real estate city-wide, which, according to Yusuf, has seen jumps of up to 15 per cent due to Edmonton's recent economic boom.

However, Lister Hall Students' Association President Michael Janz disagreed with comparing residence

space to other homes in the city.

"Our worry is that, number one, we're going to be compared to market, when our rooms are not comparable. Our postage-stamp Lister rooms should not be compared to a one bedroom [apartment], and just because a one bedroom has gone up 15 per cent, I don't think our rooms should be matching that," Janz said.

He added that the rent increase might make it more difficult to present the U of A as an attractive option to students currently living in rural Alberta.

"A lot of rural students come to residence here as they aren't able to get accommodation here in the city. Predominately, that's what our residents are," Janz stated. "Attracting rural students is a priority for the University and a priority for the province."

Dima Utgoff, Director of Residence Services, declined the Gateway's request for an interview, saying that the Administration wasn't prepared to make a public statement until it

was able to discuss the proposal further with student representatives.

However, Yusuf and Janz both said that the University should look for other sources of funding to pay for the upkeep. Janz also expressed concern that the rent increases might be used to pay for future ventures.

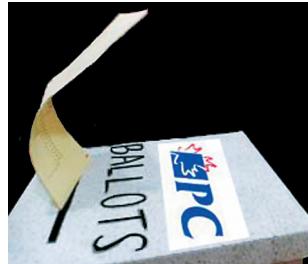
"That's sort of our worry, that the students of today are financing a capital project for the future. That we're being used as a cash crop, and we're concerned [about] what kinds of possible avenues have been looked at to pay for the deferred maintenance or the other costs," Janz said.

A presentation on the budget proposal will be made at the Board of Governor's meeting on 20 November at 7am. Janz is encouraging students to get involved in the approval process.

"[F]or most students this is going to be bigger than the foods issue," Janz said, referring to the University's food services contract with Aramark. This is going to be most important issue that we [will] face in a while."

## Inside

News	1-4
Opinion	5-7
Feature	8-10
Sports	11-14
A&E	15-17
Classifieds	18
Comics	19



## On the campaign trail

Eight candidates running to replace Premier Klein talk to the *Gateway* about their postsecondary platforms.

FEATURE, PAGE 8



## Hosting the best

The CIS men's soccer Nationals go this weekend at the Frozen Tundra of Foote Field, and we've got all the info.

SPORTS, PAGE 11

## RCMP breaks up Lake Louise party

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
News Staff

More than 230 students and alumni from the University of Alberta and five other western Canadian universities turned the stylish Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise into a party house last weekend, drawing the attention of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and numerous media outlets, as well as the ire of the U of A School of Business.

"I'm absolutely appalled. This is not the way we expect students to behave," Dean of the U of A School of Business Dr Mike Percy said.

Approximately 30 students from the U of A along with teams from the universities of Lethbridge, Calgary, British Columbia, Northern British Columbia and Regina were attending the 16th annual Western Business Games (WBG), which was hosted by Paradigm Promotion Ltd, a private company. The event wasn't officially sanctioned by any of the universities and none of the teams—which were composed primarily of business students—were sponsored or supported by their universities. The U of A stopped funding WBG teams in 2001.

Marketed as a team-building session,

and "the best networking opportunities available for students" in the delegate package, many of the events and activities scheduled for the weekend involved drinking, including one dubbed "The Beer Pond."

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DR MIKE PERCY,  
U OF A DEAN OF  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

"In terms of defending the conference itself, I can't condone what happened because really there's no academic content at all and it shouldn't have any association with the school and we've made that clear right from the start," explained James Matsuba, a co-organizer of the U of A team.

Matsuba also stressed that the event had received no University funding.

"Zero school dollars go into this, zero help is given to us from the school, we don't have an office on campus and we're not an official student group."

PLEASE SEE DEBAUCHERY • PAGE 2

## UN seminar to discuss treaty rights in Hobbema

ROBIN COLLUM  
News Staff

Experts will converge on Hobbema next week to discuss processes for making treaties with indigenous peoples, in the first United Nations seminar of its kind held outside of a UN venue.

**"Even in Canada, there are aboriginal people living in third-world conditions, and many of our indigenous brothers and sisters internationally live in terrible conditions."**

BOBBI OKEYMAW,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
CONFEDERACY

Commissioner on Human Rights, will be hosted at the Alberta reserve by the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations. There will also be a preparatory meeting this weekend in Enoch before the actual forum takes place from 14–17 November. Organizers and observers hope that the forum will bring much-needed attention to the conditions facing many aboriginal people in Canada and around the world.

"The main thing that we want to accomplish with this conference is to bring more international awareness to the plight of indigenous people everywhere," said Bobbi Okeymaw, executive director of the Confederacy. "Even in Canada, there are Aboriginal people living in third-world conditions, and many of our indigenous brothers and sisters internationally live in terrible conditions."

Ellen Bielawski, U of A Dean of Native Studies, agreed that conditions on Canadian reserves aren't what they should be.

PLEASE SEE UN • PAGE 3

## Inside

News	1-4
Opinion	5-7
Feature	8-10
Sports	11-14
A&E	15-17
Classifieds	18
Comics	19

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