

THE GATEWAY

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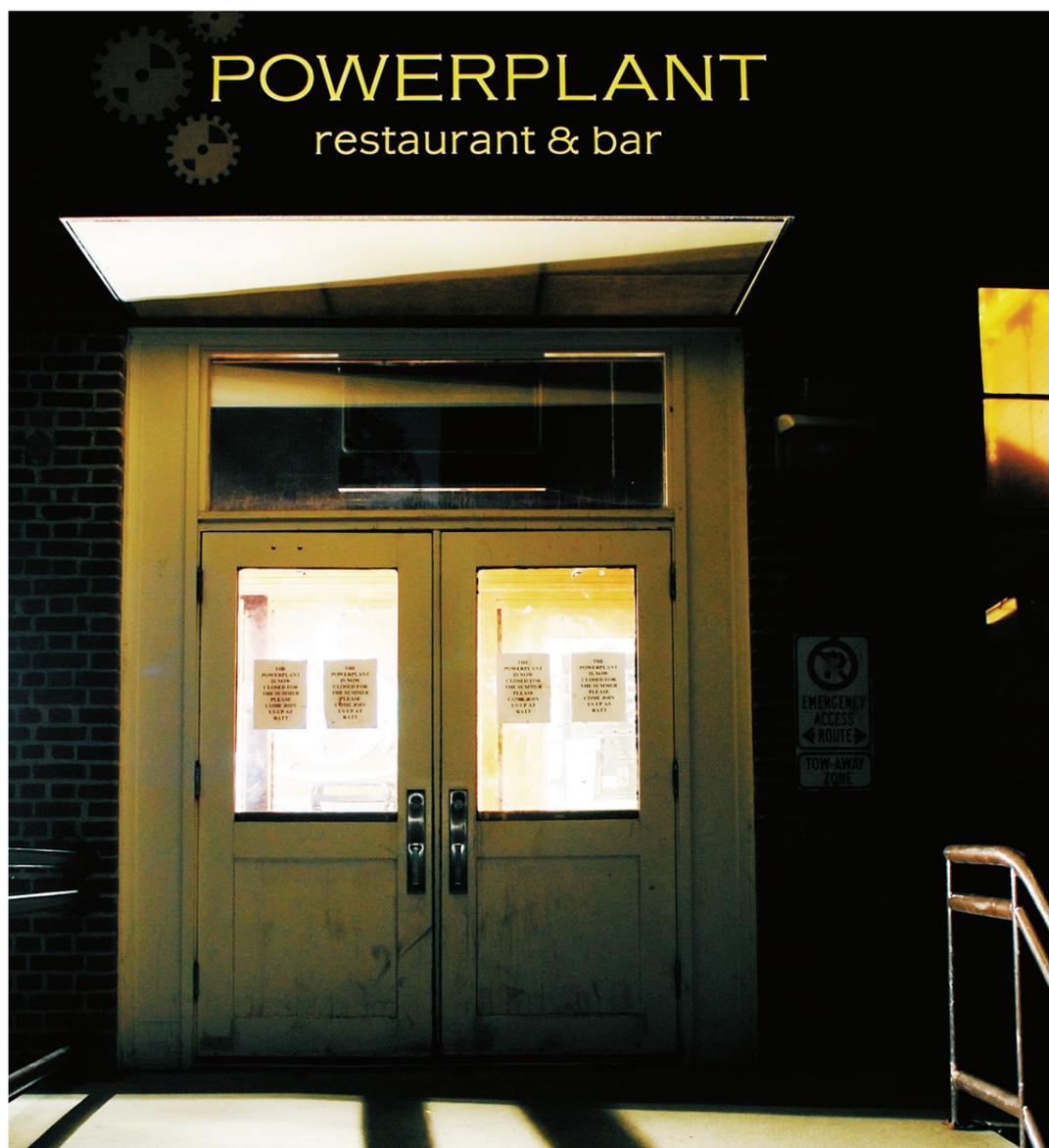


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MIKE OTTO

THE SECOND (OR THIRD, OR FOURTH?) COMING A short-term fix has been instituted at the Powerplant for next year.

New Powerplant plan promises fewer losses

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

After a summer of locked doors and dry taps, the Students' Union has revealed plans for the immediate future of the Powerplant.

The new strategy will see the 'Plant reopen its doors come September, but with a very different operational structure. The SU will run Dewey's Lounge as a licensed coffee shop while the space east of the main bar, formerly the buffet, will be used as student study and relaxation space, as well as an area for student groups.

The SU will also retain control of the kitchen space, to be used for short-order items at Dewey's and to house their catering service that currently operates out of L'Express in SUB.

"The primary goal in all of this is to make a functional space that students are going to use that's not going to be wasting students' money," said Eamonn Gamble, SU VP (Operations and Finance). "We use our business revenues to fund our services, to fund our space, to fund our advocacy; and if a business of ours is losing money, it's impractical."

The decision to shift the operational approach of the building was made when the University agreed to cut the SU's rent and utilities costs for the building by nearly 50 per cent. In return, the University will control the

space west of the main bar, as well as the games area.

"It's a short term solution in that we're making sure we are not going to be losing a lot of money this year on rent and utilities," explained SU President Michael Janz, who added that the ability for the SU to keep their liquor license was a big draw and may factor into the future of the space.

Over the course of the next eight months, the SU plans on putting together a Powerplant Refocusing Committee to evaluate the sustainability of the space and to come up with a longer-term solution. During this time, the Powerplant will see no major renovations or structural changes.

The University is currently unsure of what their plan for the west side the Powerplant will be.

Janz sees this solution as a win-win situation for the University and the SU as it addresses concerns that both groups have.

"It'll be a success because we're providing student group space; we're still going to keep the liquor license and the restaurant, and we're going to have time to sit back without the heavy burden around our neck ... to come up with a long term solution for the Powerplant," Janz explained.

By the end of 2006, the Powerplant had lost the SU nearly \$210 000.

PLEASE SEE GAUMONT • PAGE 5

Global Youth Assembly engages future world leaders to make change

SCOTT FENWICK
News Writer

Young people from around the world gathered last week at the Global Youth Assembly in Edmonton to discuss issues such as poverty, racism, and violence, as well as to find ways to tackle them.

The conference, hosted by the John Humphrey Centre for Human Rights, marked the first time it's been held outside of New York, and attracted over 500 delegates.

Kiran Chaudry, the coordinator of the event, explained that she wanted to attract more than just political science students and to engage youth from all walks of life.

"There's a lot of poli-sci people who are really interested in the issues," she said. "But in order to have greater change, we need to make sure we are engaging a broad and diverse spectrum of views."

Workshop presenters Aimee Fullman and Lisa Baroldi said they were impressed with how interested the delegates were. Their workshop had a mock debate on the Convention

on Cultural Diversity, an international agreement designed to promote and protect cultures within countries. Although the Convention is rooted in the UN, Baroldi said the workshop attracted more than those involved in global politics.

"Even the tech guy spoke with us for 20 minutes before and after [the workshop]," Fullman said. "What is very inspiring is how interested everyone seemed and how genuinely they cared."

"People were getting up and saying 'In my country, we practiced genital mutilation,' and talked about their own experiences."

Muna Peria, a delegate from Ottawa, said the inspiring stories shared at conferences such as the Global Youth Assembly is what people remember.

"Sometimes, as we're doing work, you can get jaded," Peria explained. "It's interesting to find out different ways people look at problems, and the ways [they] deal with them."

Peria said the Assembly is a "recharge" for her before going back to school in September.

"It's been stimulating in terms of

my own thoughts on what I'm going to do when I get back home," she said. "A place like this is a place of inspiration and an opportunity to connect with young people."

The Assembly also presented ways of reaching out to more young people. Sol Guy, a Canadian music producer, showcased *4REAL*, the TV series he's producing that's set to air on CTV and MTV Canada. The show takes rich celebrities to developing countries to meet young leaders changing their communities under extreme circumstances.

Guy hopes that presenting social problems on channels like MTV makes youth feel that it's "cool to care," explaining that serious issues get large followings when it's popular to discuss it.

"People [have] got to engage—and people don't tend to engage until it really gets to that point. I hope that we pass on the spirit and energy of those young leaders we feature around the world to ignite change."

Guy feels that if *4REAL* makes youth care, it will start the first steps toward helping others.



MIKE OTTO

FIRING UP YOUTH Kiran Chaudry explains the power young people have.

"If you open your heart up and open it to the world around you, you can't help but be affected," he said. "You give enough information to engage young people, and if they want, they can take it further."

Fullman feels the conference grabbed the attention of youths simply by thinking about their views on society. In the workshop she and Baroldi held, a 1997 trade dispute between Canada and the US was examined.

In that dispute, Canada argued that magazines represented a country's culture, justifying a tariff on American magazines. Attendees had to decide what items embodies culture and explain why.

"What was amazing about this session was that kids really picked up on [the] vagueness," she explained. "Success is having someone think about something in a slightly different way and just going home thinking about it."

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Festravaganzathon

Gateway photographers show us why Edmonton is known as Canada's festival city, and there's still a month to go.

PHOTO FEATURE, PAGES 6-7



Film Springfield

The *Simpson's Movie* must be hot. They don't need a big ad, or even correct spelling, according to Mike Larocque.

A&E, PAGE 10