

ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE EMPLOYEES
INQUIRY INTO SECESSION
AUCE LOCAL 4

QUESTIONNAIRE

As you were informed in our recent letter to you, this questionnaire is being circulated as the first step of our inquiry into the petition to secede received from members of Local 4.

We are sure you will agree that the question of your Local's future is a serious one. Please give us your responses and your views on each point. Your answers will not only help us conduct our inquiry but will be an aid in evaluating AUCE and its organization.

Enclosed is a return addressed, stamped envelope. The completed questionnaires must be returned to the Provincial and:

MUST BE POST MARKED NO LATER THAN

Thurs. April 8/82

1. Why do you think your local wishes to secede from AUCE?

2. Are you: Male _____

Female _____

3. Please check your age group: under 20 _____

20 - 30 _____

30 - 40 _____

over 40 _____

4. How long have you been a member of AUCE? _____

5. Have you ever belonged to another union? Yes _____

No _____

If so, which ones? _____

6. What kind of work do you do at the College? _____

INQUIRY INTO SECESSION QUESTIONNAIRE
PAGE 2

7. Please check the appropriate choice --

At present I am: laid off _____

on leave _____

regular full-time _____

temporary full-time _____

regular part-time _____

temporary part-time _____

I work: on campus _____

off campus _____

8. Have you ever held any office in AUCE Local 4: Yes _____

No _____

Do you plan to? Yes _____

No _____

9. Do you always get notices of membership meetings well in advance, contract proposals in time to consider them before meetings to discuss them, ballots and newsletters in timely fashion?

10. Have you attended local meetings where secession was discussed?

Yes _____

No _____

How many? _____

11. Were arguments presented on the advantages of staying in AUCE as well as on the advantages of leaving? Did you feel only one side was given fair time? Please comment.

12. Would you attend a meeting to hear other opinions?

Yes _____

No _____

13. Your elected Provincial Representatives have not attended a Provincial Executive meeting for many months. It is our understanding that Local 4's Provincial Representatives have been expressly forbidden from attending Provincial Executive Meetings and also from

making reports to you at Local membership meetings. We are info that this decision was made not by the membership, but by the Executive of the Local. Do you feel that your Representatives which are elected not by the Executive but by you should have the right to attend meetings of the Provincial and to report to you on what goes on at those meetings unless you, the membership recall those Representatives? Do you feel that an Executive should be able to forbid membership-elected Representatives from fulfilling their duties of office as laid out in the by-laws and constitution? Please comment.

14. Have you ever felt that members of your Local were prevented (by intimidation or any other means) from expressing their opinion on agenda items, or from raising issues of concern at meetings?

15. Are all meetings of your Local -- be they membership or committee meetings -- open to all members of the Local as the Constitution demands (section 21 K 1)?

16. Are you aware that on occasion, members of your Local have been to leave meetings because issues to be discussed were "confidential" from them, in violation to the Constitution?

17. Yours is the only Local of AUCE which holds "in camera" (secret) meetings from which certain members are barred. How do you feel about this practice?

Do you feel that barring members from meetings prevents full democratic participation in your union? Should there be full rights participation by members of a union in the affairs of their union?

18. AUCE was set up as a feminist alternative to the more traditional "male-controlled" unions. Our aims and objectives include:
- organizing the unorganized -- especially women
 - speaking out publicly on issues important to workers -- especially women
 - maintaining a membership controlled (as opposed to an executive controlled) structure

Do you generally agree or disagree with these objectives:

Agree generally _____

Disagree generally _____

What changes would you make to these aims and objectives?

How well has your Local lived up to these principles?

If you disagree with the aims and objectives of AUCE, what do you think the aims and objectives of AUCE and of other unions should be?

19. Do you think that the Provincial Executive has lived up to its responsibilities?

Yes _____

No _____

What have they done right or wrong?

20. What should a Provincial organization do to assist and support a union such as yours?

INQUIRY INTO SECESSION QUESTIONNAIRE
PAGE 5

21. Do you have specific complaints about AUCE or the Provincial Executive? What are they?

22. Is one of your reasons your Local is interested in leaving AUCE the fact that Local 5 is a member of the CCU?

Yes _____

No _____

In order for any disciplinary action to be taken against Local 5 for this violation of AUCE's policies and procedures, one of the member locals of AUCE would have to file an appeal of the sentence imposed by the previous Provincial Executive. So far, no local has appealed and asked for a sentence to be imposed (possible sentences include suspension and/or expulsion from Provincial). Do you think your Local should file such an appeal? Why do you think they have not?

For your information, Local 5 has also submitted a petition to secede from AUCE. If they did in fact leave AUCE, would this alter in any way your attitude about Local 4 leaving? How?

23. If your local does secede from AUCE, do you hope to:

Remain independent: _____

Join another labour organization: _____

If you wish to join another organization, why?

24. Do you want your Local to secede from AUCE? Yes _____

Please feel free to use the other side of this page for any comments you may have. We would be pleased to hear anything you have to say.