

October 23, 1979.

SFU 18 VIDEO TAPE PROPOSAL

The following outline for the proposed AUCE 2-sponsored video tape around the arrests of the SFU 18 came about through the culmination of a number of events. We had already approved a film project back in July on the strike and to date nobody has had the time to even begin working on it. The Provincial expressed an interest in getting a copy of the existing video material on the arrests with a view to educating locals about the issues. Suzanne Marria contacted me with the information that an independent film maker, Jim Munro, was interested in assisting with the creation of a short (15-20 min. tape) concise product to use for educational purposes in a larger sense (e.g. the BC Fed Convention in mid-November at which the SFU 18 will be lobbying for the passing of a resolution of support and defense).

Jim is willing to do this for no charge for his time and only asks that any incidental expenses (e.g. gas, taxis, etc) be accounted for by AUCE 2. Suzanne and I are willing to be the co-producers of this tape. Jim is also going to give us a video tape for this purpose.

OUTLINE

- Introduction: -a short intro with footage of the actual arrests and the police violence.
- The Strike: -starting with the facts of the strike, the contract issues of wages and vacation scheduling
 -a history of negotiations, rotating job action (stressing our concern for faculty and students)
 -the University's move to lock us out and how this led up to all out strike action
 -wages as a larger issue:
 -equal pay for work of equal value
 -University keeping womens wages down to the level of non-organized level
 -first contract fought and won on the issue of = pay for = value
 -how we provide an example and goal for nonunionized women in job ghettos
 -BOG and Employers Council (Hamilton for example) connections
 -the events of the fateful day (rally, Fryer, police maneouvers, original charge laid)

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The State

- this section breaks down into three main areas:

1. The spectre of the government intervention in the form of the Essential Services Amendment and effects on negotiations. The impending election and the Minister of Labour's personal intervention.
2. The swift judicial process which granted the University its injunction limiting our picketing. The police intervention in the form of the Labour Liaison Committee on the picket line. Implications!!??
3. Contrasted with above, the slow justice meted out to the defendants; the second charge added a month later; the setting of individual costly trials; the use of the criminal rather than the civil proceedings

The first trial including the skimpy evidence, police tactics and criminal record.

The charges changed again.

The stay of proceedings which serve to point out the validity of the call to drop all charges.

The Struggle

- Why is this issue about defending the right to strike?
- We had a legal picket line during our strike and were not told otherwise.
- There is a conservative trend in government police and the courts to limit and/or abolish the right to strike:

In BC: ESA - CUPE
Labour Code re organizing
Labour Liaison Cttee's role in:
Adams Labs, Endako Mines, etc.

In Canada:
CUPW
Fishermen

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The Summary:

- pitch for the defense of the SFU 18 and others around the issue of the right to strike

- What you can do:

Endorse this motion in your local/provincial/national unions.

Send letters and telegrams to the government.

Contribute to the defense fund.

The following two motions seem to be a logical step for AUCE 2 to take:

MOVED that AUCE 2 sponsor the video tape project on the SFU 18 and the defense of the right to strike.

MOVED that AUCE 2 fund the the video tape project on the SFU 18 and the defense of the right to strike with a budget of \$250.

In a general motivating sort of statement, all I will say here is that these two motions can be a further contribution to the defense of the people who were arrested on our picket line specifically and a defense of the right to strike by AUCE 2.

Joan Meister
AUCE 2 Rep on the
SFU 18 Defense Cttee.