

[Chairman: Mr. Schumacher] [8:39 a.m.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I see a quorum, and I think we're ready to begin. I would again like to thank you all for turning out so well this morning.

I'd like to welcome the proponents of the St. Mary's College Bill. I'd like to introduce Jack Mahony, counsel for the petitioners, and Mr. Bill Dickie, Father Mohan, and John McCarthy, who will be giving us information about this petition. The first thing, of course, is to ask Mr. Clegg to give us his report with respect to the proposed Bill.

MR. M. CLEGG: Mr. Chairman, this is my report on Bill Pr. 14, St. Mary's College Act, pursuant to Standing Order 99. The purpose of this Bill is to incorporate the college and provide for its constitution. The college's object is to provide additional education for students who are attending the University of Calgary. This Bill does not contain any powers which I consider to be unusual, and there is no model Bill on this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clegg.

Mr. Mahony, after Mr. Clegg administers the oath to the respective witnesses, I'll ask you to give a brief opening statement to let us know who will be giving evidence in respect to the Bill. You may do that from a seated position if you wish, but if you're more comfortable standing, that's all right too.

MR. MAHONY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Mr. Dickie, Dr. McCarthy, and Father Mohan were sworn in]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clegg.

MR. MAHONY: Mr. Chairman and hon. members of the committee, it's my pleasure to make an application for the incorporation by private Act of St. Mary's College. As you know, this is an application under the Universities Act for the incorporation of this private college. The witnesses, Mr. Dickie, Father Mohan, and Dr. McCarthy, will go into more detail about the application. As the solicitor for the applicants I think I should just confine myself to making this statement as to what the

application is for. Of course, it is for the purpose of creating St. Mary's College, which we propose would be affiliated with the University of Calgary as a private college under the Universities Act. As such, it would be able to give certain courses. These courses will be spoken to in more detail by the witnesses. They principally have to do with Catholic philosophy, theology, and pedagogy.

I think I should limit my remarks to that, Mr. Chairman, unless you'd like further information from me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that will be fine, Mr. Mahony. We'll see how Mr. Dickie et al do. I'm sure they'll do well. I think that's a good background for our opening.

MR. MAHONY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen.

MR. DICKIE: First, I might say to the hon. members that having sat on both sides of the House, I felt a little more comfortable on that side. It's a pleasure to be back on the floor of the Legislature again.

I'm extremely pleased to say that I'm the chairman of a committee that was set up for a college for southern Alberta. We subsequently named it St. Mary's College. We're here under the authority of the Bishop of Calgary, and we have the enthusiastic support of the diocese and of various parishes throughout southern Alberta that are familiar with what we're endeavouring to do.

From the point of view of the support of Catholics, I might say that there are approximately 280,000 Catholics in southern Alberta, which represents 24 percent of the population. What we're saying to you today is that 24 percent of the population of southern Alberta is saying that there is a need for a Catholic college; they desire a Catholic college. We're fortunate to be in a position to say that we can suggest to you that there is a precedent for that. We have St. Joseph's College in Edmonton. It was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature in 1926, and we will be presenting a copy of that Act to you, together with an affiliation agreement they have. We have the benefit and experience of what they've done in Edmonton. We'd like to do the same in the city of Calgary. We will be presenting a

brief to you.

We'll ask Dr. John McCarthy if he'd walk through the brief with you to explain and highlight the various problems we've encountered and the answers and solutions. We think we've covered all the aspects in this brief and would be pleased to answer any questions. We'll also have an opportunity to have Father Mohan give you a background on the Catholic academic approach that we think is essential and necessary for this province.

With that I'll turn it over to John McCarthy to walk you through the brief. I hope you all have copies in front of you. It will take a very short time to do that.

DR. McCARTHY: Thank you very kindly, Bill.

Do all members have a copy of the brief? Mr. Chairman, with your indulgence, I will sit down and just walk the . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may remain seated, Dr. McCarthy.

DR. McCARTHY: Thank you very kindly, Mr. Chairman.

Ladies and gentlemen, members of the committee, this brief has been prepared by our committee for the purpose of trying to explain in a succinct form the problem we are experiencing in southern Alberta and also to present the proposed solution that we are bringing to you this morning.

With that, would you kindly turn to the first page, immediately after the table of contents. It has the heading: What is the Problem? With your indulgence I will read briefly:

Southern Alberta has a rich history of Catholic Elementary and Secondary education. This heritage, brought by the early settlers and missionaries, has contributed to the success of modern Alberta as a province and as a place where the 280,000 Catholics, representing 23.9% of the population of Southern Alberta, could educate their families during their elementary and secondary years of schooling. However, the same Catholic Academic Tradition ends at Grade Twelve.

Mr. Chairman, I would just mention that the demographic figure given here, which Mr. Dickie referred to in his introduction, is taken directly from the Alberta Bureau of Statistics and is based on the 1981 census. This is in

effect a provincial figure that we obtained directly from the Bureau of Statistics.

Turning to page 2, The Problem, there are two aspects to this problem, and throughout the brief we talk about the two aspects. I'll try to highlight both for you. Page 2 deals with the first aspect of the problem:

The Catholic population of Southern Alberta does not have a resident source for post secondary [education].

Our Catholic academic program ends at Grade Twelve. In order to continue their Catholic [studies] at the post secondary level, our students must leave Southern Alberta or the province. This fact is disturbing to families and disconcerting to students who must choose to continue their education at institutions which teach from the Catholic tradition but do not purport to be a continuation of the Alberta Program of Studies.

That's the first part of the problem. It affects the general Catholic population of southern Alberta. For any Catholic who wishes to pursue postsecondary studies in the Catholic tradition, this is not currently available in southern Alberta. Therefore, they must proceed elsewhere.

If you turn to page 3, you have the second aspect of the problem, which specifically refers to education:

Catholic School Boards in Southern Alberta do not have available a resident source of teachers educated and trained in Catholic Theology, Philosophy and Pedagogy. The School Boards of Southern Alberta must hire approximately three hundred teachers each year to staff their schools.

That number, of course, would vary from year to year, but it's approximately an accurate number.

The Provincial Faculties of Education are able to provide a steady [source] of teachers who are properly trained to meet the ordinary, ongoing classroom requirements, but unfortunately lack training in the above noted Catholic disciplines.

Mr. Chairman, I would indicate that certainly the Faculty of Education of the University of Calgary does a fine job in providing the Catholic school boards and of course the other school boards of southern Alberta with teachers

well trained to assume regular classroom responsibilities. We have no problem with that whatsoever. They're well trained in language arts, English, mathematics, sciences, and the social sciences, and we are very pleased to be able to hire them and put them in our classes. But the problem is that they have no formal academic training whatsoever in religious studies, and of course being a separate school board in southern Alberta, the *raison d'être*, the basic mandate of the Catholic school boards of southern Alberta is to provide a quality Catholic education. So that is the lack that we have there.

You turn over to page 4 and say, "What has been done about the problem?" The problem has been here for a long time; it's not a new problem. There have been attempts made consistently over the years to address this problem.

Families whose financial status allowed have for years now sent their children to centres which had a college or university which could offer the advantage of studying Catholic Philosophy, Theology or Pedagogy in conjunction with Liberal Arts or a professional degree.

If you look at the bottom of page 4, we've indicated statistics that we gathered from one university, Gonzaga University, which is located in Spokane in the state of Washington. That's a Catholic university run by the Jesuits, and you see the figures there. If you turn to the top of page 5, St. Francis Xavier is a Catholic university here in Canada located at Antigonish in Nova Scotia, and you can see the figures of students from southern Alberta who are pursuing their studies there. We've also indicated other places -- St. Thomas More, which is a Catholic college in Saskatoon; St. Joseph's College, which of course is in the city of Edmonton; Notre Dame College, in Wilcox, Saskatchewan; Camrose Lutheran, located in Camrose, Alberta; Newman College, located in Edmonton -- that are providing education for southern Albertans who choose or whose course requirements demand a theological component.

Mr. Chairman, beginning the middle of page 5 and continuing on pages 6 and 7, it indicates the efforts that have been made to establish a Catholic college in the past. In other words, as Mr. Dickie mentioned in his presentation, this is not a new thrust; this has been going on for some 25 years now, going back to the mid-60s.

The Catholic population of southern Alberta has been active in their efforts to establish a Catholic college in southern Alberta, and pages 5, 6, 7 indicate the attempts that have been made. Up to now they have not been successful, but I think what it indicates is what Mr. Dickie has said, an ongoing desire on the part of the Catholic population of southern Alberta.

Some of the other attempted solutions. At the bottom of page 7, the recruitment of teachers refers specifically to the second part of the problem, the Catholic school boards. They have recruited teachers from outside Alberta; they've gone to these other institutions. We can go to the Catholic institutions outside of Alberta and hire teachers, but as public school boards in Alberta we don't want to do that. We want to hire Alberta teachers. We want to hire Alberta-trained teachers right here in our own province. We don't want to bring them in from outside; we want to hire our own. But as I mentioned before, to do that we need them trained in Catholic theology and pedagogy.

On page 8 we've indicated we've tried bursaries; that is, we've tried sending them outside. The school boards have attempted that over the years, and we've found it just doesn't work. We talk about the Gonzaga project. We have entered into arrangements in the past with the Catholic university of Gonzaga in Spokane, but again, that's an import solution. We don't want to do that. We're looking for a solution right here in southern Alberta. The Newman Theological College exists here in the city of Edmonton. It's sponsored by the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton. We have made arrangements to bring their teachers to Calgary to train our teachers. We have found this to be most helpful to us. The problem, however, is that it has put a strain upon the resources of the Newman Theological College. They've indicated to us that at the very time we're asking them to expand just because it has been very successful, they're going to have to retrench because they just don't have the resources to do this.

Mr. Chairman, that's the delineation of our problem. If I may turn to page 9, the proposed solution that we bring before you today:

The preferred solution to the foregoing twofold problem which has been considered for the last twenty-five years,

is a private Catholic College located in Calgary and affiliated with the University of Calgary. There are many advantages of a Catholic College, not only for Catholic Schools and their graduates but also for the University of Calgary and its student body, which would have the advantage of Theology courses capable of attracting scholars and the possibility of establishing a Theological program which would allow all students of Southern Alberta to use the services of a local institution.

What we're trying to say here, Mr. Chairman, is that this proposed solution would be advantageous not only to the Catholic population of southern Alberta but also to the University of Calgary. We have been in communication with the University of Calgary. We have met with Dr. Norman Wagner, who is the president of the university. We've met with Dr. Peter Krueger, who is the academic vice president of the university. We are currently in active communication with the registrar of the university, the dean of the Faculty of Education, and the dean of the Faculty of Humanities. We are working with them to discuss the possibility of an affiliation arrangement. So that front is also being pursued actively at this time.

If we turn to page 10, Mr. Chairman, we've tried to delineate some of the advantages of establishing a Catholic college for southern Alberta.

It would enable all students [and the emphasis here is upon all students because we're addressing that first problem, which is general] to continue their education at the college level without the necessity of having to leave Southern Alberta.

The second advantage refers specifically to the second part of the problem, the school boards.

It would provide the Catholic School Boards with a resident supply of teachers trained in Catholic Theology, Philosophy and Pedagogy and would provide graduate courses in those disciplines for [training] teachers. In this regard, such a college would put the Catholic [School] Boards in Southern Alberta on the same footing as every other major Catholic School District in Canada.

Mr. Chairman, I would just indicate that virtually all the major Catholic school boards

across Canada do have available to them the services of a Catholic college to provide this resident source of supply. Right here in Edmonton the Edmonton Catholic school board has available the services of St. Joseph's College. The Catholic school boards in Saskatchewan have available the services of St. Thomas More, attached to the University of Saskatchewan. The Catholic school boards in Ontario have available to them the services of St. Michael's College, affiliated with the University of Toronto. You have St. Mark's College, affiliated with the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and so on. So the Catholic school boards of southern Alberta in this sense are in a deprived situation compared with the other major Catholic school boards in northern Alberta and in the other parts of Canada.

3. It would possess the potential to raise significantly the standards of theological education in Southern Alberta.

4. It would provide courses in Theology and a library of resources for students regardless of denomination.

Of course, a major point we're making here is that the services of the Catholic college would be available to all students. Registration would be open to all students, and we've certainly discussed this with the University of Calgary. In the work we've been doing with our committee, we've also been in contact with the other denominations in southern Alberta. They are very interested in the work we're doing, and they're very supportive.

5. It would provide Southern Alberta with a resident source of scholarship, research and the current developments in Catholic Theology, Philosophy, and Pedagogy.

6. A Catholic College will provide the same advantage for students in Southern Alberta as enjoyed by citizens in Northern Alberta,

with reference to St. Joseph's College here in the city of Edmonton.

Turning to page 13, Mr. Chairman, we have a one-page summary of the entire brief.

The Catholic people of Southern Alberta have a twofold problem and it is now urgent:

1. To obtain an education within the Catholic Academic tradition, undergraduate and graduate students have had to travel to cities outside

Southern Alberta. Catholics have lacked a postsecondary source for their high school graduates to continue their Catholic studies.

2. Catholic school boards have suffered the lack of a resident source of teachers trained in Catholic Theology, Philosophy, and Pedagogy.

Mr. Chairman, there is a succinct statement of the problem. A succinct statement of the proposed solution is on page 14.

For many years, a solution has been seriously and energetically discussed with the university, education and government authorities but never acted upon — that is a private Catholic College affiliated with the University of Calgary. This solution will benefit substantially not only the Catholic students of southern Alberta but also the university and the people of southern Alberta regardless of denomination.

I would conclude my presentation at this point. I would simply indicate that there is also an appendix which talks about capital costs and operational costs. I'd be happy to answer any questions from the members of your committee. Before I do so, with your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, we would call upon Father Mohan to speak about the Catholic philosophy.

FATHER MOHAN: Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen, it is a great privilege for us within Alberta to have the opportunity to come here and tell you of a real need that we have in southern Alberta and receive such a warm welcome and understanding on the part of the Legislature of this province. I'm one of the associate superintendents with the board in Calgary, although I think I speak for the priests and bishop of Calgary in the sense that we are really looking forward very much to this Catholic college. It is something which has been represented to the diocese over the years by many, many people. I think you can see that in the brochure by the number of our young who must leave southern Alberta and go to other places in order to fulfill academic needs which could only be fulfilled by a Catholic college or a Catholic academic tradition. As you can see, the numbers there are substantial; yearly they're substantial. It was spoken very well to me by one of the parents recently: "I wonder

why it is that we put up with these kids all the time. They're really so difficult to bring up. Then just when they get to that enjoyable age, they're going off to college." If we want them to continue and they want to continue with this academic tradition, they must go someplace else. I think we are addressing that need to you.

I'd also like to point out to you -- I think John McCarthy has given you a very good outline of what is really required and why it is required. I would like you to understand that we would not like to replicate our Catholic academic tradition or duplicate things that are already adequately done. We are attempting to do something that is not done, a service that is not there. I'm from the Basilian community, the Basilian Fathers, and we operate these colleges, St. Michael's in Toronto, St. Thomas More in Saskatoon, and St. Mark's in Vancouver. I think we can see that each of these places not only fits very nicely into the university; that Catholic academic tradition is present there; it is part of the dialogue of the university. We feel that we must be at the university and must offer this academic tradition to the students who want to or have a need of continuing within that tradition. We would like very much to be represented in Calgary in that way.

It's difficult to stop and within about two or three minutes give you the essence of what a Catholic academic tradition is. We don't have Catholic geometry; we don't have Catholic physics or anything such as that. We do have people who teach physics, geometry, math, sciences, philosophy, sociology, and history, and they teach it with that extra dimension, if you will. Surely our Catholic philosophy oftentimes comes from a different base than other philosophies would. We would see other opportunities, really, to add to the richness of the knowledge of the people we are teaching and the society we're coming in contact with. This we submit to you is necessary in southern Alberta.

I would ask you as well -- I surely wouldn't mind answering any questions you might have. We are not churchy in that sense. This is something academic. It's something which fits into every major centre in this country and in the world. The Catholic academic tradition is there. This is what we feel is very much needed in southern Alberta. We think the statistics we've presented to you illustrate that very

well. The interest, the need, and certainly the fact that we are here representing the people we do in southern Alberta would indicate the necessity for this academic tradition, this college. Also, we ask and are petitioning the fact that we do have the right to put this on-line in Calgary for our families and for the students who desire and need it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DICKIE: Before questions, I might just draw to the members' attention the Bill that has been presented to you. I particularly would like you to look at clause 4(2)(d), which states that the board of the college would consist of

2 representatives nominated jointly by the Anglican, United, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Baptist Churches in Calgary.

I would suggest to the hon. members that this would give you an ecumenical approach. This has been suggested to the other mainline churches, and we have their support. I'm not sure they've all confirmed in writing, but that's in the process now. I think that's an important difference from the St. Joseph's College Bill that we have presented to you too.

That concludes our presentation to you, Mr. Chairman, and we would be glad to entertain any questions.

MR. YOUNIE: Mr. Chairman, as a former teacher who gained his degree in a university where the University of Calgary was deemed to be up north, I can understand the southern Alberta approach. One aspect that was brought up and certainly is very important is the avoidance of duplication of effort. I think it would be most wasteful to try to build a whole new university in Calgary, so the affiliation idea I think is wise.

In fact, as you point out, a number of students are drawn away from southern Alberta to places outside the province. I'm wondering about the effect your college would have on the University of Lethbridge, in terms of drawing students away from there, especially considering that at the University of Lethbridge by and large the pre-eminent faculty and area of study is education. That's what you would be drawing on most. I would be concerned about the possibility of perhaps offering on-location courses in the Lethbridge area as an outreach of your college.

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, I'd be happy to respond to that. First of all, I would support very much and reiterate very strongly the idea that what we're looking at is something to complement, not duplicate, what is currently in existence. As I've indicated, the Catholic school boards of southern Alberta are most pleased with the graduates we've received from the faculties of education of the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge. They are well trained and they are well prepared to go into the classroom and do a fine job. We see no need to duplicate any of that. There is fine work being done there, and what we're looking for is something to simply compliment what is lacking; that is, the training in Catholic theology, philosophy, and pedagogy.

Specifically with reference to Lethbridge, we do have representation on our committee from the Lethbridge separate school board. Ralph Himsl, my counterpart who is the superintendent of the Lethbridge separate school board, has been very actively involved with our committee. Ralph has come from Lethbridge on several occasions to attend our meetings. He supports what we're doing very strongly. As far as the University of Lethbridge is concerned, we would certainly be interested -- and I have discussed this with Ralph -- in some kind of an outreach program to compliment what the University of Lethbridge is doing. In no way do we want to try to duplicate.

MR. YOUNIE: On a very personal note, I taught for Ralph in Lethbridge. If you could give him my regards, I'd appreciate that.

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, I'd be happy to do that.

MR. MUSGREAVE: Mr. Chairman, I have a quick question on 4(2)(d), I guess it is. I'm curious; I'd like to hear again why you're asking for representatives of the other faiths in the community.

MR. DICKIE: Mr. Chairman, perhaps our answer could be that there is a strong feeling of ecumenicism, and we try to do that by making the representation on the board so they could have input into this Catholic college.

MR. WRIGHT: Just one question, Mr.

Chairman, to anybody. I take it entry to the college is open to men and women alike.

FATHER MOHAN: Surely. This would be men and women. It's a service, and I think that's why I said to you that we're not churchy in that particular sense. We are really attempting to offer an academic tradition to anyone who would like to come.

MS MJOLSNESS: I'm assuming that you would be approaching the Department of Education to receive funding for the college. Is that correct?

DR. McCARTHY: Advanced Education.

MRS. MIROSH: Mr. Chairman, to Dr. McCarthy. Do you currently own that land? Northwest Calgary, I believe, is where you're referring to.

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, there is a parcel of land immediately adjacent to the University of Calgary which is owned by the Catholic diocese of Calgary, and His Excellency Bishop Paul O'Byrne has stated that that land would be available for the building of the college.

MRS. MIROSH: The capital cost would be your responsibility, then, not the government's.

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. What we would see in effect then is a fund-raising campaign among the Catholic population of southern Alberta for this purpose.

MRS. MIROSH: One more question, Mr. Chairman. I was just wondering how many students you would expect to attend this college. When we're talking about the funding, the funding would come from Advanced Education by per student population, I would expect. So the operational cost would then be the government's responsibility.

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, in this regard we have been working very closely with Father Wallace Platt, who is the president of St. Joseph's College in the city of Edmonton, affiliated with the University of Alberta. The statistics that St. Joseph's College have are the ones we have been working on. They currently

have some 1,500 students taking courses in St. Joseph's College. I understand they are not full-time. They are registered with the University of Alberta, but they are coming to St. Joseph's College to take the specific courses to complement. We certainly would see down the road our Catholic college, St. Mary's, growing to those numbers. Initially of course, we would obviously start with smaller numbers, but we foresee that that is the potential growth there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. McCarthy, I guess what Mrs. Mirosch asked was: who pays the teaching staff at St. Mary's?

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, this would be worked out in the affiliation agreement with the University of Calgary. In other words, the students who would attend St. Mary's College -- there would be a charge back to the University of Calgary. A very similar arrangement currently exists between the University of Alberta and both St. Joseph's College, affiliated with the University of Alberta, and St. Stephen's College, which is also affiliated with the University of Alberta. So we would operate on the same basis as they are.

MR. DICKIE: Mr. Chairman, as a supplement to that, perhaps I can be of assistance and say that the budget has caused us some concern. If we took that approach with the capital, that wouldn't be a problem for the government. Then we come to the operational cost. We have based it on Edmonton, which we think is a realistic budget to work from. Then the question is: how is it paid for? Of course, we're all cognizant of the fact that the universities do not wish to cut into their budgets. Then the government would have to make a special budget.

But in some of the discussions we've had along those lines, what we're going to hope for is to follow some of the precedents where there have been conditional grants for a five-year period, see how that works out. Say there is some \$300,000 needed. It would be done on the basis of a three-, four-, or five-year period with the Minister of Advanced Education. So that doesn't affect the University of Calgary's budget in any way and yet would achieve what we are trying to goal on. That's an approach we think could be accepted by the Department of

Advanced Education.

MRS. MIROSH: It would then be an increased cost, though, to the department.

MR. DICKIE: Yes, that's right. But we haven't really finalized that sufficiently. Part of that may come back through the particular student grants, and there will be some portion of that that when the student pays, part would go back to the university, and that would be offset of the \$300,000. After we negotiate the affiliation agreement and have talked to the Department of Advanced Education, we could probably get that figure honed up a little better.

MRS. MIROSH: Just one more question, Mr. Chairman. Looking at your budget, I feel that the total operational cost of \$367,000 doesn't seem like a great deal of money. But I'm wondering how many students you're basing that budget on. Is it per student ratio? How do you come up with the figure of \$367,000, just based on four academic full-time teachers?

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, as I said earlier, we worked very closely with St. Joseph's teachers college on preparing the budget. As I said, Father Platt, who is the president of the college, is a member of our committee. He provided us with the financial statements of St. Joseph's College, so we based all that work on the information we received from St. Joseph's College.

MR. GIBEAULT: Mr. Chairman, I'm looking at the budget section in the proposal, page 2. In terms of income the budget is fairly loose in its proposed income statement. The expenditure side is fairly clearly delineated. We've got \$100 per course, and we don't know how many courses; \$280 per student per course, and we don't know how many students. We don't have a total indicated here. I assume it's going to come close to the operational expenditures. If you have some ideas that could help us flesh that out, that would be helpful.

The other thing I'd appreciate some comment on — and I don't think it particularly relates to the Act itself that's before us — but for the province down the road facing the various economic circumstances that we have, I'm wondering on what basis it might be that a

college offering denominational courses in Catholic theology, philosophy, and so on would have a case to make for public funds. For example, is Newman college, which is offering similar kinds of courses, getting public funds for that or is that the responsibility of the Catholic community?

FATHER MOHAN: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I think the exemplar for this project would be more St. Joseph's College in Edmonton rather than Newman. Although Newman is a private college which offers Catholic theology, St. Mary's would be a Catholic college which would operate in affiliation with the University of Calgary, offering not only theology but also philosophy, those areas of sociology, history, and courses which would really be peculiar to the operation of the public Catholic school system of this province.

First of all, we are talking of needs of a Catholic public school system, which is fully funded by the province, and those other areas which are presently not being looked to in terms of philosophy, theology, morality, and ethics, which could be offered at a public level at the University of Calgary. That's another reason I said it's not churchy in that particular sense, although it comes from an academic tradition. I'd like you to direct your thoughts that way rather than see it as something which is, yes, denominational in that sense insofar as that academic tradition arises from the denomination. But the fact is that it is something which is current within the academic community of the country, and we are attempting to put that into place in southern Alberta.

It serves the public rather than serving just denominational aspects of one faith. For instance, you'll notice that the college in its board of governors is represented by other faiths, because surely within our academic tradition, if we are being true to it, we must be ecumenical. That's part of that academic tradition. You will find that people will come from other faiths, and they would like to use the facilities, the courses that are being offered there, and that's just fine. It's very much to the public, and it serves the public every bit as much as our Catholic schools serve the public.

MR. GIBEAULT: If I could ask a couple of other questions. Perhaps someone else may



then be able to give us some details on the proposed students in the courses that are going to be offered. As I said here, we don't have much information. I don't think Father Mohan really addressed that part of it.

The second thing is: has the college yet made some application to Advanced Education and given its proposed course offerings?

A third question might be: has there been some discussion with the University of Calgary in terms of what impact and adjustment there may be for the university's religious studies programs?

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, I'd be happy to respond. If I could start with the third question first: yes, as I indicated earlier, we are actively meeting with the University of Calgary, and at the present moment the three officers of the university that we are meeting with most directly are the registrar, the dean of the Faculty of Education, and the dean of the Faculty of Humanities. The dean of the Faculty of Humanities is involved because of course the Department of Religious Studies comes under his deanship. The Department of Religious Studies at the University of Calgary is within the Faculty of Humanities. We have been working with them, discussing the idea that we don't want, as I said before, to duplicate, to interfere, to hinder in any way the ongoing current operation of the University of Calgary. We're taking the position that our Catholic college, St. Mary's, would accommodate itself to the ongoing cycle of the University of Calgary. Specifically, with the Department of Religious Studies, we would see the Catholic college complementing but not in any way supplanting the work of the Department of Religious Studies.

Your second question I believe dealt with the approach to Advanced Education. We have not yet made a formal approach to Advanced Education because we felt that the first two steps to go through are, first of all, working on the Bill and, secondly, working on affiliation. As far as approaching Advanced Education, the affiliation agreement will be crucial. We have made Advanced Education aware of what we're doing. That awareness is there. But we see ourselves approaching them formally once we have gone further down the road as far as the affiliation agreement, to have something more concrete. We feel that's the appropriate time

to approach them.

I believe your first question indicated the budget. If I could speak perhaps more specifically to that, on page 2 of the appendix — that is, the second last page of the brief — what we tried to do was not present a detailed budget. The college will of course be developmental; it's not going to come into existence as a full-blown college at one fell swoop. Obviously, it's a question of walking before you run, so we see this in a developmental stage. We feel that academically and educationally that's wise, to get something going that we can work with, can accommodate, and then have it grow and develop into its full sweep. Of course, we're very conscious that St. Joseph's College here in Edmonton has been in existence for some 80 years, so they've got three-quarters of a century on us. We want to move in that direction.

What we have tried to indicate here is the source of income. These of course are approximate figures. The \$100 per course per student fee is an estimate on our part. The board of governors naturally would set the actual fee. The \$280 per student per course is based upon the current grant structure that Advanced Education is supplying to the University of Alberta and to St. Joseph's college. That's where we got those figures. The question was also asked in preparing this budget how many students we looked upon. My recollection is that we saw ourselves beginning with a student population of somewhere in the area of about 250 students. That was the base we started working with. We felt that was a reasonable base to begin operations with.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahony, did I cut you off before?

MR. MAHONY: No, Mr. Chairman. I realized that this question of numbers and estimates had not been dealt with, so I was just going to ask one of the witnesses to deal with it, but Dr. McCarthy anticipated that. Thank you.

MRS. KOPER: Mr. Chairman, my questions have all been asked and answers certainly given to everything but one thing. The original agreement with Mount Royal College was never implemented. I wonder if there was an historical reason for that and if that has any

bearing on what we are talking about today.

MR. MAHONY: Mr. Chairman, I can only speak from hearsay with regard to that. Mr. Dave Sinclair, who is a practitioner in the city of Calgary, is on the committee. Dave was a key part of the Mount Royal College committee that met in, I think, the years 1968 and '69. The Mount Royal College committee consisted of representatives of the Calgary separate, the Calgary public, and the old Mount Royal College. After months and months of meetings with the then Minister of Education — as I recall, Mr. Clark in the Social Credit government — an actual agreement was worked out between all the members of the committee.

This agreement was actually signed in order to provide courses in Catholic education. The brochure, as Mrs. Koper says, simply says that it was never implemented. Mr. Sinclair wasn't sure of the answer to that. There is speculation that at that time the Minister of Education changed, and it may have changed the view of the then government. The reason we put it that way in the brief was simply that we weren't sure of the answer. I suppose that with a lot of investigation the actual factual answer could be determined, but we're just speculating. The fact is that it was a signed agreement and of course was never implemented.

MRS. KOPER: Has there been any discussion with Mount Royal recently about the fact that that agreement exists and has never been consummated?

MR. MAHONY: No, Mrs. Koper. As far as I understand, it's been considered a dead issue. As a matter of fact, since then and in the '80s the thrust has been to concentrate and try to get a private college at the University of Calgary. The brochure also mentions the ecumenical study report, which was a study by a group that consisted of all the mainline churches in the city of Calgary. This group reported in 1984, I think. The study was for the purpose of finding out whether an ecumenical Christian college could basically be supported. I'm not too familiar with that report except that out of that co-operative effort came the support of the churches — I'm talking about the mainline churches, of course — for this application. As one of the witnesses has mentioned, Bishop Paul O'Byrne has the

unqualified — as I understand it — support of all the other churches. In other words, they've basically said, "Go right ahead; we're all for you." That came out of the ecumenical study.

Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would ask for the co-operation of all members of the committee and the witnesses to keep questions short and answers brief but informative, because we do have yet another application to deal with before 10 o'clock this morning. We have to be out of this room at ten, Mr. Mahony.

MR. MAHONY: Sorry if I took too long.

MR. MUSGROVE: Mr. Chairman, most of the questions I was going to ask have already been answered. We are all aware of an increased demand for postsecondary education in all of Alberta, and there is pressure from other parts of southern Alberta for expansion of facilities for secondary education. This facility will be affiliated with the University of Calgary. My question is: at the present time, does it have an overload of student applications? Are they presently turning away students because a lack of facilities for them is making this necessary?

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, if I understand the question, you're asking if the University of Calgary is currently turning away students.

MR. MUSGROVE: Is the application of students to the University of Calgary overloaded at this time?

DR. McCARTHY: Mr. Chairman, the University of Calgary is certainly finding itself strained to accommodate the students, but its policy is to accommodate all students that apply, and it is accepting them within its ranks. It is not turning students away.

MR. SIGURDSON: Very briefly, how many courses do you propose to offer in 1987?

FATHER MOHAN: In 1987 I could see us beginning very modestly with probably three courses in a year.

MR. SIGURDSON: Three courses with 250 students?

FATHER MOHAN: Yes.

MR. DAY: I wonder if we could draw on the knowledge of Mr. Clegg. Could he advise us if in the past, as far as he knows, there have been applications from other religious communities for such an incorporation; for instance, the Jewish community, the Anglican Church, or the growing Muslim community? Have there been similar applications to your knowledge?

MR. M. CLEGG: Mr. Chairman, I can't recall offhand a recent incorporation of a college which would be affiliated with a university such as you describe. It may be that the petitioners are aware of some others. I can't recall any offhand. It's not very often that a college is created and constituted as being affiliated with a university. A number of independent colleges, as the members will know, have been incorporated by this committee, which operate independently from the universities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I guess there haven't been any that we know of.

MR. ADY: My question pertains to section (2)(d), the makeup and constitution of the board. Is that provision presently in place for St. Joseph's College as well, where there are members from the Anglican, United, Lutheran, and Presbyterian churches? Is that in place in St. Joseph's?

MR. MAHONY: No, sir, not to my knowledge. As a matter of fact, this Bill, with the very capable changes by Mr. Clegg, was modelled on the St. Joseph's College Act. The St. Joseph's College Act was passed in 1926, and there was no provision for representation from other churches.

MR. ADY: One other question. There was indication given that this would serve other faiths as well as the Catholic faith. Can you give me some indication as to what kind of enrollment you have from other faiths at St. Joseph's? That's the only guideline we have at this point. Do you have any facts like that? Is it in fact serving that need? Are courses taught there pertaining to their faiths, or are strictly Catholic faith courses taught and they can have the advantage of them if they so choose?

FATHER MOHAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry I can't give you numbers concerning St. Joseph's. The answer to your question would be yes. For instance, in this coming year Terrence Forestell, the scripture scholar, will be there. He will attract to the courses he will teach university people of all faiths studying that type of literature. The fact is he will teach many, many people. You must remember too that here you have other colleges, I understand, that are attached to the university. St. Stephen's and these other places are of a denominational nature as well. St. Joseph's attracts many, many people from various faiths across the university.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, it strikes me that it is perhaps a little unfair to ask the petitioners to peer into their crystal ball and tell us what their funding is going to be, their courses and numbers and so on. The fact is, all they're trying to do is replicate for the University of Calgary the St. Joseph's College that now exists at the University of Alberta and has done for 70 years. It seems to me they've brought a Bill in in proper form and, of course, there's nothing objectionable in the aim. That's got me convinced, anyway.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Wright. I see no further questions. Is there anything you'd like to say?

MR. DICKIE: I'd like to conclude on the last point. For the purposes of this Bill it was questionable whether we really had to get into details on the budget. We felt, however, in submitting the budget that we wanted to be very general to show we had looked at all aspects of it. But I again question, in consideration of your vote for the Bill, whether it's really necessary to go into the question of the budget in detail, because that will depend on and be worked out with an affiliation agreement with the university and then followed up by the Department of Advanced Education.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we've had a pretty thorough hearing, Mr. Mahony. Very briefly, if you'd like to wind up, because we'd best move on.

MR. MAHONY: Mr. Chairman, with respect, I

don't think that I should do any winding up. What I'd like to do is say how delighted we are at your very generous help and response to the application. We really couldn't have expected anything quite as generous. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Mahony. Our procedure is that once the transcript is prepared we will consider the matter in camera and be making a recommendation to the Legislature. The committee will then make a decision after that consideration. It will be a week or two, but I think we can assure you that it will be dealt with before we expire.

MR. MAHONY: Thanks very much, Mr. Chairman and hon. members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Members of the committee, order please. We must press on.

On behalf of Bill Pr. 15, I would like to introduce Mr. Hurlburt and Muriel Stanley-Venne. We welcome you here this morning. We're sorry that we're now operating under a slight time constraint now. You've seen the procedure from before. So we've had the instructions. I will ask Mr. Clegg to give his report and then call on Mr. Hurlburt.

MR. M. CLEGG: Mr. Chairman, this is my report on Bill Pr. 15, pursuant to Standing Order 99.

The purpose of this Bill is to enable the board to transfer the building in which the centre operates to the centre. The Bill does not ask for any powers which are considered to be unusual, and there is no model Bill on this subject. I would just like to add that the Act also provides for the future winding up of the corporation and for a continuing caveat to be placed on the land to protect its future use and to give the court powers to deal with that caveat in the future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clegg.

[Ms Stanley-Venne and Mr. Hurlburt were sworn in]

MR. HURLBURT: Mr. Chairman and hon. members, the clock is running. I believe I can

get through it in time. Ms Stanley-Venne is with me today, as you witness, and has been before this committee before.

I am pleased to present Bill Pr. 15 on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Edmonton Canadian Native Friendship Centre Building. One preliminary point, if I may just quickly convey my thanks to the committee for the extension they granted us on the standing orders for advertising. Events conspired against us, and we ran over with the advertising. It has now been completed and I convey the board's thanks.

I propose just to give a thumbnail sketch of the Bill. In comparison with the last one you heard, Mr. Chairman, our Bill is relatively narrow, and I think I can be correspondingly brief. We are not seeking to establish anything by this Bill. Rather, we're seeking an amendment to an existing Act of the Alberta Legislature basically to give the corporation the power to do something which it lacks the legal capacity to do. I can refer members of the committee to an Act of the Legislature from 1967.

The subject matter today, Mr. Chairman, is the Edmonton Native Friendship Centre Building, which is a facility in the city of Edmonton. Some of the members may be familiar with it. It's in the Oliver district of Edmonton. It carries on a number of worthwhile programs in connection with native affairs, and Ms Stanley-Venne will fill you in as to the extent of the programs and the services it offers to this community. When that building was established, the 1967 Act I've referred to set up a board of trustees to administer that building. The board of trustees is constituted by a number of nominees from various places: for example, Alderman Ron Hayter is the current nominee from the city of Edmonton; members from the Canadian Native Friendship Centre, which is a society involved; and several other nominees. So today, indeed, we have a board of trustees made up of a number of people administering this building and the programs it carries on.

Ms Stanley-Venne is a member of the board of trustees. She is the nominee of the Edmonton Canadian Native Friendship Centre and sits on that board. She is here in two capacities and I think is in a very good position to advise members of the committee as to the need for this Bill.

Basically, we are simply seeking the narrow power -- it is now desired... The board, frankly, has reached a point where it is no longer operating as an effective administrative body for the building. It is proposed that the building be transferred to the Edmonton Canadian Native Friendship Centre which, despite its name, is a registered society. Frankly, it is the body which is really moving things these days; it is its members which are bringing programs forth, and they are the ones who are on the ball in getting future plans going. We basically then have a board which exists, indeed by virtue of this Act, and it is desired to transfer the building to the centre and consequently dissolve the board, if the board so wishes, and that is the board's present intention.

Normally you'd simply make a conveyance to do this, but since the board is a creature of statute, it is necessary to come before this House and petition for a change. In a nutshell, we are seeking and respectfully asking for an amendment which will give them the legal capacity to accomplish what we submit is a laudable and proper goal.

If I can refer members to the preamble of the draft Bill, which I trust members have, it basically sums up what exactly is going on. If you see the preamble, the first clause simply says that the board of trustees was constituted by that 1967 Act of which I have spoken. Secondly, the board is the registered owner of the building and they wish

to convey the lands and certain other assets to the... Centre to further the interests of native peoples.

We also note that the transferee, the centre, who it is proposed will take this over, is a society established for the furtherance of native affairs and that they are in fact required to continue those interests.

Then, unless members have any questions -- and I'm sure they may -- simply on the particulars of the Bill, a lot of it, hon. members, is bumf. I direct your attention to page 2 of the draft Bill. The operative clause basically is under 3. There is a new 4.1(2) that provides that the corporation may upon special resolution and upon any terms and conditions it deems proper, transfer, sell, or otherwise give away the building and other property to the centre.

We have provided some protection. We don't

want to see simply a transfer occur and no control remain. The intent in 1967, as it is today, Mr. Chairman, is to have this building continue providing services and programs to the native community in Edmonton. This will be ensured by the provision which allows the board to place a caveat on the title, and they can, in effect, put restrictions on the use that the building can be put to, to ensure it won't be turned into anything other than a worthwhile facility providing services and programs for the native community here.

I don't think there's anything else remarkable that I would want to draw to the committee's attention other than on page 3 again. If this should take place, then it would be proper for the board to dissolve itself as being a body which has no functions to carry on. There is one small matter in the last clause. There is a small irregularity in the constitution of the board. Certain appointments have not been made. While we are here, if the committee was of a mind to recommend this Bill, we would include this provision which would allow us to regularize the constitution of the committee.

I would like to invite Ms Stanley-Venne to basically describe in as few minutes as she can the functions of the Canadian Native Friendship Centre in the Oliver district and the reasons we are before you today.

MS STANLEY-VENNE: Thank you, Tim. Members of the committee and Mr. Chairman, it's really a pleasure to be here today, because this amendment that we're putting before you is in regard to the turning over of the facilities and assets of the Canadian Native Friendship Centre to the elected board of directors.

It was very laudable that 19 years ago Stan Daniels, George Prudham, and Robert Gray got together and put forward this Act to secure a building for the native people in the city of Edmonton. They got the old Wesley United Church, and it was converted into the friendship centre. A boxing ring was put in the area where the pulpit was, and very unique changes were made. Since then it has matured and is fully capable of running its own affairs and looking after its own assets and facilities.

Actually, we're looking at our 25th anniversary coming up in 1987. I would like to invite you all to our 25th anniversary. We think it's timely. The Act was well meaning at the time and needed to be done in that era. But

now, if you've seen the old Act, it's very paternalistic. It says they have to manage and look after the affairs of the friendship centre which actually, except from the very beginning, they never did. This was a board of trustees set up as a sort of silent overseer. We don't think that's necessary anymore.

We think it's quite commendable, and we've stated on many, many occasions how grateful we were to the original members of the board of trustees for doing the things they did. But it was unanimously passed at an annual meeting a year ago that the board of directors petition the board of trustees -- I wear two of those hats, both sides -- and ask them to turn over the building and assets to them. Since, in the opinion of our lawyers, the Act did not enable us to do so, we have to amend the Act to facilitate that action.

We're really pleased about it, and over the course of all these years I think we've shown that we've bought and paid for the building and done all the things that would normally give you ownership of the building. Now the time is right for this amendment to go through.

MR. HURLBURT: Perhaps it would be proper to turn the matter open to questions, Mr. Chairman, in light of the time growing short.

MR. MUSGROVE: Mr. Chairman, in part 3(3) it says:

The Board may register a caveat against the title of the Building setting out the terms and conditions . . .

et cetera. If this board ceased to exist, how would they handle any part of that caveat?

MR. HURLBURT: I can answer the question, if I may. The caveat would remain on title, Mr. Chairman. Over the page, provision is made for the enforcement of that caveat by any interested party. So notwithstanding that the board is dissolved, all the other players are still on the scene, and they can go to court and enforce anything, should anything go awry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Is that all right, Mr. Musgrove? You're satisfied? Okay.

MRS. HEWES: Mr. Chairman, just to clarify in my own mind. Ms Stanley-Venne or Mr. Hurlburt, you represent the board of trustees at this hearing. Ms Stanley-Venne, you also are on

the board of the society. Is that correct?

In this petition both parties agree to this being done; that is, the board of the society and the board of trustees are in total agreement.

MS STANLEY-VENNE: That is correct.

MRS. HEWES: They are at present two separate groups. Mr. Hurlburt, you've indicated to us that subsequent to all of this occurring, and assuming that it does, the board of trustees may in fact be dysfunctional and cease to operate. Is that correct?

MR. HURLBURT: Yes, indeed. It would have no reason to live in effect.

MRS. HEWES: In which case would it be the intention to have this Act repealed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Hewes, I understand from Mr. Clegg that if that happened and it became spent, it would be placed on a list of many other such Acts and would be dealt with in an omnibus repealing Act to clean up these things.

MR. HURLBURT: It may fall by the wayside in accordance with the usual . . .

MRS. HEWES: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. But it would cease to have any effect on the building itself or the operation of the programs of the building.

MS STANLEY-VENNE: If I could just explain a little further. In effect, all the board of trustees has been doing is be there. From time to time it has met, looked at some repairs on the building, and so on. But with the climate in Canada being the way it is toward native people handling their own affairs -- as you note, five members are appointed by various people, one being the city of Edmonton, another being the minister of Indian affairs. When a letter was written to him as to whether he wanted to make a reappointment to the board, he said no. The time has passed when the minister of Indian affairs has any say on the running of a friendship centre which has a board of directors who are all native and fully capable of running it. It's just appropriate I think.

MRS. HEWES: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. I don't

disagree with that at all. I think the principle is exactly right. It's hard to think now as to how it happened in this way at the time, but I suppose there may have been some reasons for it.

Mr. Chairman, just a couple more questions. There were presumably some other actors at the time the board of trustees was constituted and the building was acquired. Do they all agree, or is there any reason to go back to them; that is, the people who now have representation on the board, the city and various others?

MS STANLEY-VENNE: They constitute the members of the board of trustees. They agreed with this Act, and the board of directors of the friendship centre and the membership have passed unanimously that they wanted this to happen. There is total agreement on this matter.

MR. HURLBURT: There are no dissenting voices that we know of.

MRS. HEWES: Between those parties involved.

Mr. Chairman, just one last question. Once this occurs and assuming it does, would the board of the friendship centre be in a position to sell the property?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're talking about the society which would be getting it. They have powers to sell, I suppose, under the Societies Act and their bylaws?

MS STANLEY-VENNE: Yes, they would.

MRS. HEWES: Thanks very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any further questions? I guess that winds it up. We're not going to ask for a closing statement. I think it's fairly clear. You heard what was said to the previous petitioners. We'll be dealing with it. We want to thank you.

MR. HURLBURT: Thank you for your attention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members of the committee, we haven't had an opportunity to do any discussing of the matters that we've heard evidence on. I was wondering if there was any

disposition -- I know there's some overlap with Public Accounts and our committee -- for us to continue in room 312, which is available, some of the other work that is still on our platter. We have quite a bit accumulated.

MR. WRIGHT: We do seem to be running behind, Mr. Chairman. There was also some in-camera stuff that we were planning to do. Yet it can all be dealt with fairly quickly, it seems to me. If we could find an extra 20 minutes to do that . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would there be general agreement that we move to room 312 for our in-camera?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. BRASSARD: A number of us do have another meeting. If we could move along, if it were a productive half hour, I would be fine. Otherwise, I would just as soon stay at the other meeting, to be very honest.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It should take about 15 or 20 minutes. We will adjourn to room 312.

[The committee adjourned at 10:01 a.m.]

