

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO CITIZEN ARTICLE, OCTOBER 28, 1970

Any use of drugs by students in the halls of Capilano College would be considered a tragedy for the College. Faculty, students and administration disclaim the kind of public statement recently made in a North Shore paper.

The College as an institution does not condone this kind of use of drugs. The College refutes the unfounded and unjustified reference to Capilano College.

The College is as anti-drug conscious as the citizenry of the Community. The College principal has no knowledge of such activity, nor does the police or West Vancouver School Board. If the person who is a member of the Parents Anonymous knows what she is talking about, I am sure she will make the appropriate justification of her statements known to the College Principal.

The college would be concerned about any drug problem at their own doorstep. The Police, too, would be concerned if they had reason to be.

Reporting without evidence of proof and a poorly selected headline can deliver all together too damaging a blow to a community college. The college is very successful. The faculty are enthusiastically involved in their instructional role and the students seem to be benefitting. There appears to be no need to involve an institution in damaging remarks which cause wrong inferences to be drawn.

No one at the College appreciates a headline based on such a ridiculous statement as quoted in the Citizen.

The recent editorial stating there was a serious charge to be answered by Capilano College in the matter of drug users in the building is a surprise.

Serious is the correct word. However, "error" might well be the second word of the editorial heading.

No public institution such as Capilano condones the alleged use of marijuana in its buildings.

An accusation has to be founded on fact to be creditable and valid. Why spend taxpayers' money on statements made without taking the trouble and courtesy to meet with the College authorities or without considering the damage to be done by unsubstantiated rumour.

Even the editorial suggests that the college "will be found clean". The same front page space should be given to the headline "College Tremendous Success." What "responsible citizen" or reporter would damage the community's own institution on the basis of a remark that was unrelated to the facts.

Capilano College has already made a stand on the illegal use of non-medicinal drugs, and the police of West Vancouver are fully aware of the cooperation which the College has given on every matter of civil concern.