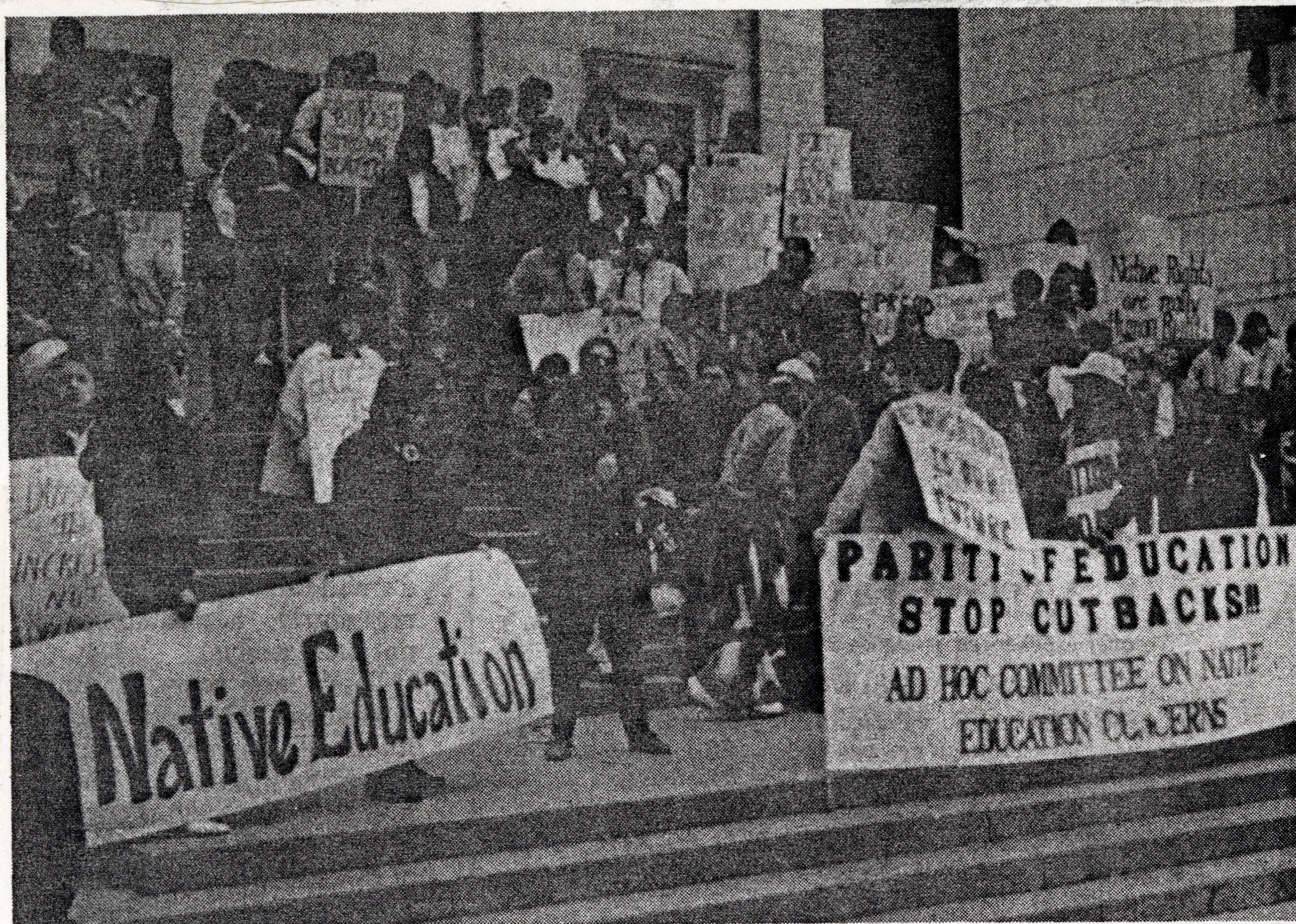


cuts



Beverly Scow addressing rally

PHOTO BY KERRY BOULTBEE

sultation. We want our studies to be implemented," she said.

"The Assembly of First Nations has done a national review of Indian education. This was only given to the minister two, three weeks ago. Those recommendations are not implemented in this policy," said Scow.

"The government is moving fast on policies, policies of oppression that are limiting us in our growth, that are keeping us in the depressed state that we are in right now. And it is through education that we will be able to change this," she said.

"We're getting more and more students graduating who are able to articulate the needs and concerns of our community. They are the people who

will lead our communities to self-government.

"What is happening is a very positive thing for Canadian society but it is threatening to the bureaucrats in the federal government who have built a whole empire on controlling Native people in a paternalistic fashion. We are acquiring the skills to deal with the community's concerns with the involvement of the entire community itself - from the bottom up, not the top down.

"This is what self-government is and this is why the cutbacks are taking place at this time. It's not a matter of budget restraints as the minister would have us believe," Scow said.

"In 1987 they capped E-12 expenditures and 1000 students were refused assistance.

Others were discouraged from even applying. These latest cuts will accelerate this process," she said.

Speaking both as a grandmother who is concerned for the future of her grandchildren and as a chief of the Squamish Band, Lois Guss, encouraged the students to continue their struggle.

"They didn't beat us in my generation by putting us in residential schools and they're not going to beat us now," she said.

Further demonstrations are planned on a national scale. For information on upcoming events contact Debra Moore, Native Students' Liaison Coordinator at Langara or Beverly Scow, Co-ordinator of the Inter-Campus Native Student Network at 224-4005.