

HOMELESSNESS -

VANCOUVER'S NEW REALITY?

By PAULR TAYLOR

FALSE PROMISES have done little for thousands of people in our city. "To have a home is to have security of tenure," said Stephen Learey at Carnegie Association's Town Hall Forum on Sunday, Feb.11. "When landlords evict at a moment's notice in a lot of hotels, your security is pretty shaky."

Karen O'Shannacery spoke of a continuous crisis at the Lookout on Alexander Street, a 42-bed emergency shelter whose clients

are mostly deinstitutionalized. "Five years ago we'd provide short-term shelter, mostly for people in the downtown eastside, but now people stay twice as long, 55% are from outside the area and come here because there's no where else to go."

John Turvey echoed Karen's last comment from the stark reality faced by youth living on the streets. "Many go from restaurants that stay open late to ones that open early, staying up all night and finding places to 'crash' during the day." Consequences of the basic shelterless state include a growing night-active population with crime, drug use and street gangs increasing...



Homelessness is aided by landlords who actively discriminate against

Natives, families with children, the

disabled and even the elderly. Jeff Sommers related the growing unrest in a local park, where people are fighting over sleeping spots on a

roofed-over area with a concrete floor. He said, "During the summer the park is used by everyone with

sports, games and programs with food and coffee. As more people have no shelter they start using the park at all hours to drink, fight and steal from each other. It's like night &

day, the difference; we need to have year-round staff and community services here for our people, including a community kitchen with coffee and

food ." Agreement was unanimous. On a larger scale, Stephen Learey spoke of the present governments (municipal, provincial & federal) and how they're consciously making the situation worse. "The feds have ended the National Co-op Program, the province will fund only 3,800 social housing units a year and the city is backing developers who will only

build market housing. This last is clear - developers will charge \$800-\$1,000 a month for a One-bedroom to make a profit and try to placate the people by promising to try and get it down to \$600 a month. The people who are homeless would have to spend over their heads." Learey proposed 3 necessities:

1. Developers must replace any affordable units demolished with compar-

able affordable units in the same neighbourhoods, (Permits should have

this as a contractual necessity.) 2. Rent controls and rent review must

b bejestablished at the same time. 3. Governments must commit massive

amounts of money to social housing. A recommendation from the floor for

a renovations freeze was defeated. naturally; such a thing would allow a landlord to call heat & water "renos".

The following five recommendations were passed by the meeting: 1. A moratorium on demolitions unless such would include a requirement to replace all affordable units.

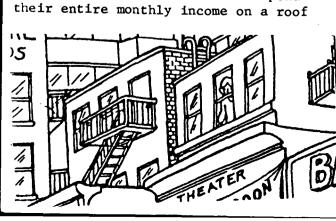
2. The establishment of rent controls and a rent review process. 3. Social housing units should go to

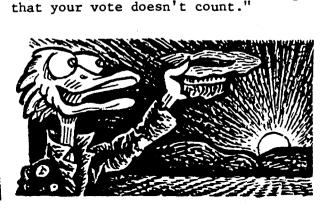
the most needy first, "most needy" being determined by our community. 4. Housing for special needs - Native,

disabled, single parent families, street people and AIDS victims. 5. Immediate establishment of more

emergency housing for transients & people in crisis. Speakers saw our struggle reflected

elsewhere in the world. "We have to make our voice heard and stop governments and corporations from ignoring the problems they're creating." "Don't be brainwashed into thinking





HOTC

TO: ELP MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FROM: JEAN SWANSON

RE: VOTER ENUMERATION

At a meeting of the Urban Rural Mission of the World Council of Churches I met a woman from the U.S. who heads up the U.S. 100% Vote Campaign. Their objective is to get more people in the U.S. registered to vote.

Voter statistics in the U.S. are appalling. Only half of the people who can legally vote do vote. This is lower than any other inustrial democracy in the world!

70 million people, mostly the poor, minorities and the young are not registered to vote in the U.S. because it is hard to find out how to do this and the registration procedure is quite complicated. They don't have door-to-door enumeration like we do in Canada.

The people in the 100% Vote Campaign are convinced that if they could get 70 million mostly poor, minority and young voters to register the U.S. would be more likely to elect politicians who would bring in a decent health care policy, affordable housing, peace, childcare, and other things that benefit ordinary people. IMPLICATIONS FOR US: Remember last year in the Vancouver civic election? The NPA council refused to do a door to door enumeration and 100,000 people were left off the list. These were mostly tenants, low income earners, and people from minority groups. The NPA, representing developer

forces, was elected.

I think this means that we have to be very vigilant that more municipalities, provinces and even the federal government don't start eroding enumeration procedures, or ending them altogether. I hope that right-wing politicians don't discover this as another way of leveling the Canadian playing field down to the U.S. level. What do you think?

THAT'S THE WAY THE COOKIE GRUMBLES

You work you sweat you hope you pray Deductions eat up 1/2 your pay 1/2 of that goes mortgage-wise So little's left - you realize

You can't afford anything new Both ends won't meet for you You're on the short end of the stick What in hell makes this system tick

The poor get poorer every year Perpetual poverty is here We're told our country is so rich Yet all my clothes are sew 'n stitch

The harder workers sweat their brow The tax grabs simply won't allow The working men to get ahead And have family properly fed It's U.I.C. and welfare too
For each and every one of you
Who's out of work - down on your luck
It's always the poor who are stuck

There'll come a day - it could be near Poor people will not live in fear Will rise up and demand the right To honest work - a better plight Woe be to those with greed intent Who dare deny workers hell bent To restore their lost dignity

Down With Welfare Ignominy.

НооНоо

"Dear Folks.

Following are some articles and letters that were printed in the East Ender's February 1st issue. It isn't necessary to take Campbell's statements point-by-point..Libby Davies does that quite well. Campbell is campaigning; "I believe, I believe, I believe!" "Do you believe?...I think the editors took out a line in his letter, something along the line of "If you believe touch my picture and be saved!"

It's smoke & mirrors again. Campvell says, "We cannot let greed leave tenants victims," and everyone agrees. By saying this Campbell actually hopes to convince us that he believes it too, even though the housing crisis - being caused and perpetuated by the greed of his developer and landlord supporters - is worsening daily.

A slight change has been made: the headline above Campbell's letter was on the front page of the West Ender. We're correcting a mistake in production..this headline is a true reflection of the NPA and Campbell's philosophy.

PAULR TAYLOR

"If you can't hack it, get out"

by Mayor Gordon Campbell

Open letter to the citizens of Vancouver

Do you believe that all tenants deserve protection under The Residential Tenancy Act?

Do you believe that all Vancouver housing should meet minimum health and safety standards?

Do you believe that all citizens should pay their fair share of taxes for City services?

If your answers to these questions are "Yes," then you agree with the housing approach that has been taken by the NPA. You agree with VanCity Credit Union which recently announced a special suite improvement loan at prime less ½ percent to help owners upgrade existing suites or create new ones in neighbourhoods that want them.

If your answer to these questions is "Yes," then you disagree with the housing approach that has been taken by COPE. On this issue COPE voted to let people break the law. COPE voted to reject tenant protection. COPE voted to let developers barge in and build duplexes and triplexes with impunity. In short, COPE voted against asking residents

whether or not they wanted to legalize suites in their neighbourhoods.

Instead of trying to understand the complexities of our housing situation, COPE went



Mayor Gordon Campbell.

for the cheap headline solution. Rent control! No demolitions! If these two programs actually worked or actually helped, wouldn't every politician jump on the bandwagon? Regretfully, neither of those programs work. In fact, they injure the people who are most vulnerable, i.e. our seniors, single parents, the disabled, those on fixed incomes, families. There isn't an economist in this country who would

support rent controls. The NPA has called for rent review and the re-establishment of the Rentalsman. Make no mistake, the City can no more legally order a landlord to roll back a rent increase than it can tell you that this year you can drive without insurance. As for demolition controls, they don't work. They leave an owner with two choices: let the property run down and take the neighbourhood down with it; or upgrade the property and increase the rents.

I believe, as do my NPA colleagues, that tenants deserve protection of the law. We cannot let greed leave tenants victims of unsafe, unhealthy accommodations. Last year there were 44 fires in secondary suites in Vancouver. Those tenants deserved the protection that the suite review program would provide.

I believe, as do my NPA colleagues, that we must enlist the broad base of the community to solve this housing problem just as we've done with VLC Properties Ltd. and VanCity. I believe that we must not fall prey to failed panaceas for political convenience and expedience.

I believe the City must create cont. on p. 8

new tools to create affordable accommodation; must protect neighbourhood quality of life; must listen to neighbourhood residents; must act to maintain the integrity of the zoning bylaw; and must treat individuals equally under the law. I intend to continue pursuing these goals and I expect COPE to oppose them each and every step of the way.

Plight of people academic

Editor.

Mayor Campbell and the NPA display incredibly convoluted logic. In his front-page statement of your February 1 issue, the mayor tries every trick.

I have a character flaw, I guess. I can't avoid seeing what is going on right now. I can't pretend that geometrically-increasing numbers of Vancouver's citizens aren't being changed into beggars, pleading, frightened and being driven from their homes. Campbell chose not to hear what we said to him and his cohorts on

"Look around you, Mayor Campbell"

by Aldermen Libby Davies, Bruce Eriksen and Harry Rankin

Our Mayor seems to be losing his balance.

Mayor Campbell has written an article for the community press in Vancouver in which he sets out to explain the NPA's housing policy. But most of the article turns out to be about COPE's call for rent review, demolition control and an end to the closure of secondary suites. It seems that the Mayor is reacting to the heat that he and the city council have been receiving from tenants and community groups over the city's housing crisis by attacking the opposition.

C'mon Mayor Campbell. By all means, let's discuss the serious housing crisis facing Vancouver. But don't avoid the issue or ignore the demands of residents who are crying out for help to save their neighbourhoods and homes from bulldozers and crushing rent increases.

Every day we receive phone calls and letters from desperate people facing eviction, demoli-

tion, or huge rent increases. People express increasing concern over the destructive changes taking place in their local community.

In the Mayor's article he says "We must listen to neighbour-hood residents." That would be a great place to begin, but the Mayor and the NPA have in fact done no such thing. On the con-



Alderman Libby Davies.

trary, they have deliberately ignored the pleas from West Point Grey, Kitsilano, Kerrisdale, the West End, Riley Park, Grandview Woodlands and the Downtown Eastside.

It is precisely this attitude which 300 tenants and homeowners from across the city were angry about when they attended the last city council meeting of 1989. In their joint brief, they told city council, "... We are here today because we are angry at the indifference and lack of political will demonstrated by our city council. Such indifference has allowed the housing crisis to continue to worsen."

One of the best examples of the NPA's attitude towards neighbourhoods in the so-called "suite review program." The suite review program initiated in 1987 by the NPA has become an unmitigated disaster that has polarized neighbourhoods while ingnoring the housing problems that each community faces. The NPA is continuing to implement when this program neighbourhoods have clearly stated that they don't want it.

If the huge amount of money and resources wasted on this unpopular program had been directed towards developing a comprehensive housing plan, the Mayor might have been able to write an article about the city's accomplishments in dealing with

cont. on p. 8

the housing crisis.

We are not so naive to think that city government will singlehandedly solve the housing crisis. But we do believe that the city can give leadership to show the way forward.

Time and again, COPE, with the support of local community organizations, has called on the city to act in two essential areas: first, to implement immediate measures to preserve and protect what precious affordable housing we have left; second, to develop a longer term affordable housing plan in conjunction with neighbourhood developed housing plans.

In his article, Mayor Campbell has once again rejected out of hand any of COPE's proposals, or those of the B.C. Housing Coalition, the tenants movement, the Kerrisdale residents and many others.

Instead, the Mayor and the NPA have chosen to continue to force their suite review program on the city, and to pass the ball to developer Jack Poole and the VCL Company as their answer to the provision of affordable housing. The VLC, as we know, intends to build only market housing with rents affordable only to upper middle income earners.

Look around you, Mayor Campbell, and face up to your responsibilities. Attacking COPE to divert attention from your own failures just won't any more

December 19 at City Hall. He thought he was in some debating society exercise where all he has to do is say "I don't agree" When the plight of thousands of people is only academic (I doubt he is facing eviction or being gouged for rent increases of 40 to 75 percent or that he'll wake up one morning and see that huge iron ball waiting to crash through his front window) you give your argument, debate is closed, the teacher tells you your grade and gives criticism on your style... then all debaters go for a nice cup of

The only thing that seems to matter to Campbell and others of his ilk is to win some kind of contest. It is totally irrelevant that people are sleeping in parks, that families with kids are temporari-

ly crammed into single rooms until they too are on the street with everything they own either in bags or sold off.

So far the NPA has made it much more difficult for thousands of voters to get enumerated. That was the first step. Now that his developer friends and partners are ready to make a financial killing on housing, putting any kind of brakes on this chaos would be economically 'inadvisable'words surely uttered by "any economist in the country" perhaps? All of his highsounding plans are things that may or may not work, but that's academic also. By the time any kind of meaningful evaluation could be made, most of those politically opposed to this insanity will have had to leave their

home and city in search of nonexistent housing elsewhere. In my opinion, Campbell and

the NPA are running scared. The NPA has succeeded in one thing anyway: their tactic of democracy by exhaustion (public hearings to 3 and 4 in the morning) has reached a new level. They plan to exhaust the will of the citizenry to continue trying to exist in Vancouver. Affordable housing, to Gordon the NPA and Campbell-must mean whatever you choose to spend a disposable income of at least \$2,000 a month on...if you're single, that is.

Paul R. Taylor

Community

Editor:

An article appeared in a co-op newspaper, by Noreen Shanahan, entitled "Women and Children Suffer".

A contributor to the article, Kim Nightingale, coordinator of the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, states, "women are moving into the impoverished area east of downtown at a disturbing rate". This is later followed by "And these single mothers aren't stupid; they know this is a lousy area to raise kids, and they wouldn't do it if they had any other choice."

Firstly, I found this generalization regarding the downtown eastside disturbing. The Four Sisters Housing Co-operative, built by DERA Housing Society in 1986, is a three building one hundred and fifty three unit co-op located in Vancouver's downtown eastside. Our very purposeful philosophy encourages a diverse member population both economically and ethnically, and we provide much needed family housing in an area where women and children have always lived. Our resident children are raised in a multi-ethnic, caring environment.

We provide an on-site daycare facility of high quality, a common room for the use of our nine to fourteen year-olds, and varied children's events such as Christmas parties, Hallowe'en fireworks and "fun" weekend sleepovers, all organized by members. We have a large, enclosed play and garden area, providing sandboxes, gross motor equipment and appropriate bike-riding and sports activities. The children also enjoy a very successful summer daycamp program. Crab Park, a lovely community park, is a brief walk away and Crabtree Corner provides more daycare for all children resident in the area. As is customary in every neighbourhood, parents walk or drive children to school.

The President of the Four Sisters Board of Directors has four daughters, works in the area, and is clearly here by choice. To imply that our single parents, or any other family here, would not be here given almost any other choice, is simply wrong. Many families have been here since the co-op's opening, and many more are actually seeking homes at Four Sisters. This article, and our waitlist from all parts of the city, only points out the need for more Four Sisters' style developments in our community.

To suggest (no matter how obliquely) that it is inappropriate to actively seek to house women, children and families in this area of Vancouver is to do the area a disservice. Portraying the entire area negatively due to some rooming houses and a two block strip of Hastings St. reinforces the negative perception that prevents more affordable family housing like Four Sisters from being built. Well designed, well-run family housing does a lot to ameliorate the negative effects that Kim Nightingale complains about.

By lumping the whole area together as impoverished, lousy and bottom of the barrel, you prevent positive change happening as quickly as possible in our area. Our views, as a successful family co-op in the downtown eastside, are in disagreement with those views expressed by Kim.

Jane Carter
DERA Housing Society
Co-ordinator,
Four Sisters Co-op.

It's a cold, wet snow falling down on the owrkmen out at Crab Park at the foot of Main Street.

They are pile-driving very long logs (they must be about a hundred feet) to make an observation pier for our waterfront park.

This is part of the achievement of the Crab Society and others in originally getting the 7 acre local park.

Westshore company is doing the hard, cold work and they are making a solid pier. Its dimensions are 85 feet long by 26 feet wide and it will have navigation lights and regular lighting too.

The construction cost is \$125,000 and should be ready sometime in the Spring...when people will start using the park again.

There has been much stalling on getting safe access to Crab Park for our disabled, elderly and children. Lately, the Marathon Realty CPR corporation has got into the act of stalling. They insist that the taxpayer pay them for a dinky piece of land at the foot of Columbia where direct access will finally be "permitted". The land is useless to them as it is at a street-end and building construction would not be permitted because it would block street end views.

Right now, CPR Marathon is insisting that the City of Vancouver's council give new zoning to their railyards in Coal Harbour near Stanley Park. This rezoning will put hundreds of millions of dollars in CPR's private pockets.

Why isn't Council insisting that the CPR richie's give this land for disabled access as a "generous" gift?

By DON LARSON

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ann Rayval..wherever you are, whatever window you are looking out of, please tell us more of what you see.

How I wished that Ms. Rayval's piece in the February 1 issue of the CARNEGIE NEWSLETTER was just the beginning of a 500-page book. What a wonderful short piece it is!

I have been away from the area for a while and the other night I took home four or five back issues of the Newsletter. I found Joe Boucher's article called Freedom for Zita, the article by T.L. in the same issue on the struggle to find a place to live, Steve Rose's essay on the experience's of a Carnegie doorperson. And then, in a separate issue, Rose's 'Nightmare on Dunlevy Street'. What do you know?..a piece of real journalism. You could walk up to your neck in the crud of pacific press without finding any of that!

...Charlie's plea for prisoners, the 'Young Mom's' appeal on behalf of children. David Bouvier's stuff.

And Tora's great art, of course. Once way up North I ran into a young artist, a very talented man. 'You know Tora?' he said to me with a sort of fervent reverence. "Tora's my idol." What a creative treasure the Newsletter's main artist is. Ouite simply the best, in my book.

But how proud all the contributors to the Newsletter should be. And the current Editor and all his volunteers should be thanked for their steadfastness in continuing to produce this important vehicle for news and views in this area.

And Ann Rayval, if you still sit in that hotel window looking out at that stinking parking lot..do you have a pencil?

Al Mettrick

The other side of the world

I rambled around up near the Thai-Burma border for quite a while. In hill tribe villages where the women scoop up their kids and run at the sight of a white man. Where five dollars buys a bag of dope the size of a day pack. This is where the opium poppies grow, beautiful when they are in flower.

It is haunted country, not only by the legacy and legend of the poppy. but by the jungle, the stillness, the archaic lifestyle of the tribes. Once, on one of the clay-brown footpaths a companion and I heard, in the middle of nowhere, the most enchanting music. It was tumblinbtrembling music, some secret music of Buddhist monks. The sound seemed to follow us down the path until we had to investigate. In the dense bush we found a herd of browsing cattle with bells around their necks. Such deceptions abound. I hiked out of this so-called Golden Triangle area with a young Thai guy, in full hill-tribe costume, with a machete dangling at his hip. He was feeding a parrot rice out of a half coconut he carried in one hand. On either side the most breathtaking hills and valleys overlap into the far distance. You might see the odd party of men with laden mules up here. A peaceful, pastoral illusion..

In a tiny village I went to a carnival to raise money for the local school. Looking over this innocent spectacle were guerilla types carrying automatic rifles, with scarves hiding their faces. I think it was the CIA once said the Thais are the most efficient killers in the world. Anyway my companion with the parrot this day was the epitome of innocence. A simpleton I thought. He had never in his life talked to a white man.



He repeated everything I said during the all-day hike. If I hummed out of boredom he hummed too - in identical cadence and pitch. They were unnerving hours but at the end of them my simpleton could speak serviceable English. He was a linguistic genius!

We rode the back of a pickup truck for two hundred miles with about a dozen other men and assorted sacks and piles of produce. We finally arrived in a sunburned town time forgot called Machongson. The white spires on twin Buddhist temples overlook the town from a mountaintop. There is a lake as graceful as a Japanese painting. In the morning the monks walk through the town with their bowls and people stop them. putting food into the bowls then kneeling in silent prayer while the monks stand in the street for a moment.

They cover the bowls with the front of their robes so that they look like pregnant women. Over all this peaceful beauty a helicopter clattered until sunset. Mercedes and rented equipment trucks cruised roads more accustomed to oxen and carts. Hollywood had discovered Maehongson. There were seven hundred movie people in town. The movie was about drugs, of course.

Back in Bangkok the most remarkable sight on Patpong Road, the incredible neon strip of bars and bar girls. It was the King of Thailand's birthday. The monarch is revered. After darkness fell all the lights went off on the Patpong strip and bar by bar, from the top, the working girls, beautiful, sassy, half-naked, stepped out onto the sidewalk, each with a candle. They hauled out with them the customers, some sheepish, some drunk, and as far as you could see were hookers, six deep holding up those candles and chanting, in bewitching Thai, Happy Birthday to You.

On repeated trips to Bangkok I paid 50 baht a night for a bed in a guesthouse right downtown by the river. Just over two dollars. And you can find places cheaper than that. Bangkok is an incredible place. The trouble is it's filthy. Here in the pages of a recent Newsletter I saw where Cowboy Ellis was complaining about the pollution form traffic exhaust fumes. He's right of course, as he was when I was last here and he was complaining about knives. To realize just how prophetic his doomsaying might be you need, however, to visit Bangkok. Everybody wears those rubber flipflop sandals, because of the heat. And by the end of a day your feet are black. Lungs too. Many tourists, in fact, develop almost instantaneous respiratory problems and have

to leave the city. There is such an overwhelming deluge of traffic that it is almost impossible to cross the road, even at a green light. I could take it for about five days maximum at a stretch. Then I got a train. third-class, dirt cheap, or a bus, and a boat, to one of the postcard islands. Ko Samui. Ko Pagan..oh the bungalow I had on Pagan. The sunsets, the dry lightning bursting like a bomb behind otherworldly fantastic clouds. The restaurant on top of a mountain, perched right on the edge where I spent hours with a buddy, a famous German studio musician who cut his leg on poisonous beach coral and watched it swell and fester rather than leave. He probably died there, on the grounds that he was already in heaven.

I paid thirty-five baht a night for my bungalow there, right on the ocean, among the coconut trees. Less than a buck and a half. A really good meal was a dollar. Or free if you took the fruit from the trees. Same on the island of Tioman. This place three hours off the east coast of Malayasia in the South China Sea is fast becoming a sort of in-spot, with a couple of big resorts, a landing strip and so on. But if you take a narrow jungle path where monkeys cavort in the trees overhead and you have to watch for really big snakes..you can emerge on Juara, a stunning beach, almost undiscovered. The village is Muslim and there is no alcohol here. No bikinis in restaurants. No nude bathing. Just sand, sun, bamboo, fruit trees.

There are many other more boisterous beaches. Phuket on the West Coast of Thailand is surrounded by beaches in various stages of tourist development. And further down

the coast in Malayasia is Penang with its capital Georgetown, a non-stop hubbub of money-changers, travellers from all over the world, Chinese and Indian traders, pros-

titution, paupery...

And the cities. Hong Kong, still surprisingly cheap - apart from accommodation. The quieter, cleaner Singapore, the remarkably modern city of Kuala Lumpur. Everywhere are travellers (not to be confused

are travellers (not to be confused with tourists), men and women who constantly move between these cities and islands and others even more far-flung. They have little money and make more by heading for Australia, where it is easier for foreigners to work. Then there are those who run out of cash completely. I met a Brit stranded in Bangkok. He had only his passport left

went around there and they said:
"You'll have to leave your passport
while we investigate, see what we
can do.."

telling them of his plight. Them he

and phoned the British embassy,

When he came back a couple of days later the guard on the gate wouldn't let him in because he had no identification. Monty Python would have loved it. I supported the guy for awhile, then staked him for a visit to a gambling den where I was the only white customer and had been losing steadily. He lost

too, of course.

Coast.

But gambling and carelessness aside you can live and travel very cheaply. Getting to the other side of the world is often the largest expense. In a future issue I'll tell you how I cut down expenses and saved by building a cabin and squatting on a fascinating stretch of Vancouver Island's West



Radio Project Update

The Radio Access Project at Co-op Radio has started, with people doing workshops on recording and editing interviews. Some broadcasts are already being planned, one for March as part of The Rational (a Co-op Radio program) and one for April 6 during the Co-op Radio fundraising Marathon.

The program to be aired on April 6 (Friday at noon) will be a live, one hour spot. Needed are poets, musicians, writers and talkative people who would like to share their stuff. If you're interested, contact Helene or Brenda at 684-8494 (Co-op) or Kevin at Carnegie's Learning Centre.

If you want to find out more or get involved, come to the big monthly meeting on Monday, February 19th at 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm in the Carnegie Theatre or call Helene or Brenda.

Co-op Radio Listener's Guides are available at the front desk at Carnegie or at Co-op Radio at 337 Carrall Street - behind Pigeon Park.

A.M.

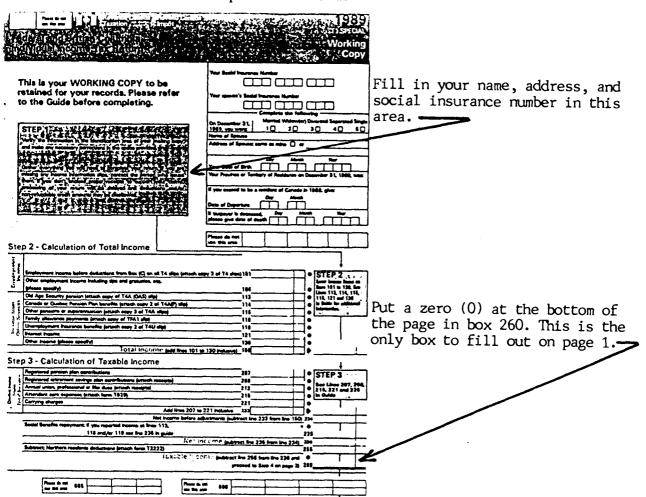
1989 INCOME TAX FORM - HOW TO FILL IT OUT

If your income was less than \$16,000 last year, you qualify for a \$100.00 SALES TAX REBATE from the tax department (Revenue Canada). In order to get this money you need to fill out the 1989 Income Tax Form.

There are 2 income tax forms: the general one, and the special form. The special tax form is a shorter form that most GAIN recepients got in the mail from Revenue Canada. The Post Office has the general form.

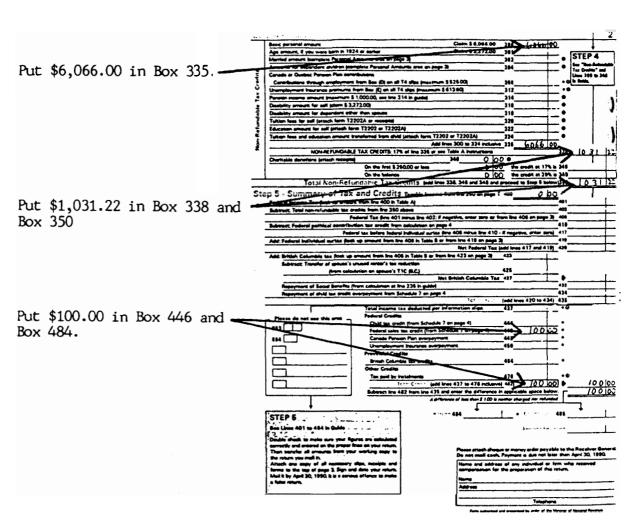
The following is a page by page guide to the 1989 special Income Tax Form for a single person on welfare. If you have any other source of income (like wages) or any kids, your income tax form will have additional information that will need to be filled out.

For a single person on welfare there are about 10 boxes that need to be filled out on the income tax form. There is one calculation that needs to be made in order to complete the form.



A single person on welfare needs to fill out only three boxes on page 2 of the income tax form.

A single person on welfare does not need to fill out anything on page 3 of the income tax form.



.....

The only calculation that you need to make, is on page 4 of the income tax form.

Multiply your monthly income (support and shelter portion both) by 12. This is your income. Put this figure in both Box 549 and Box 582 (22). Underline the words social assistance payments beside Box 549.

Put \$100.00 in Box 579 (18) and Box 579 (21)

Remember to put your total income from Box 549 in Box 582 (22) as well.

Mail the form to: Surrey Taxation Centre 9755 King George Highway Surrey, B.C. V3T 5E9

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Calculation of Federal Political Contribution Tax Credit.

Vanc sun Feb 1 1990

J U D Y



LINDSAY

T WOULD BE hard to think of a less-deserving recipient of government assistance than the wildly profitable Canfor Corp.

Despite a bottom line sporting record profits for the latest three quarters of operation, Canfor has received a no-interest loan of \$4.3 million from Ottawa and Victoria.

B.C. Economic Development Minister Stan Hagen told me the research-and-development component of this project made it a worthwhile recipient. But the \$4.3 million is being applied to plant construction, inventory build-up and marketing.

These are not R&D expenditures, they're matters of cash flow.

Another local company pocketing a cheque this week is CAE Machinery, which gets a no-interest loan of \$750,000 from the two governments. It has annual revenues of \$30 million to \$40 million and is profitable, but as a private company it does not reveal profit figures.

Both Canfor and CAE have excellent plans for the money, and both will spend considerably more of their own money on the projects than the amount of the government loans.

In fact, the governments should do all they can to encourage new ventures such as Canfor proposes, and CAE's modernization — everything short of actually subsidizing them.

THE SUBSIDIES weren't "needed" in the sense that either company was going to shut down and throw people out of work if it didn't get the money.

Both companies are using the loans to undertake projects sooner than they would have. In time, the work would have gone ahead, financed by the companies themselves.

The largesse distributed this week is nothing unusual, of course. Ottawa keeps the trough full and companies are constantly lined up for their share.

So why zero in on these two loans? Because the Canadian Chamber of Commerce only last week told Finance Minister Michael Wilson he must cut spending by \$20 billion over the next three years to avoid an economic catastrophe.

Start by cutting out the \$5 billion in grants and subsidies given to industry every year, the chamber ordered Wilson.

Chamber president Tim Reid told me "business is willing to be first" to push itself away from the table.

Reid doesn't mean quite what he says, however. As long as government aid programs exist, companies will line up for the money because they can't afford to stand by while their competitors take advantage of it.

(Some of the money doled out to Canfor and CAE comes from the Western Economic Diversification Fund, whose minister, Charlie Mayer, says the fund assists only unique projects. So that argument about competitors doesn't stand up to inspection here.)

REID AND the presidents of Canfor and CAE put the onus on government to make the first move. What Reid is really demanding of Wilson is that he put the candy out of industry's reach.

Cantor president Roy Bickell says: "There's a set of rules out there. If there were a change in the rules, I believe we'd vote in favor."

Wilson might hear that statement if it were made with a little more fervor.

Big business is not showing genuine leadership. Their defence, that competitive pressures force them to join the stampede, is pathetic in the face of this country's massive debt load.

There was a politician who came up with the right words to describe what is going on here. His name was David Lewis and his words were "corporate welfare bums."



WHAT HAPPENED?

Whatever happened to simplicity? The old-fashioned, small-town, friendly neighbourliness so characteristically personalized in old-timer pioneers of Canada's West?... The pride and deeply felt satisfaction that result from individual success over all odds through persistence and conviction..yet simply done?

The giving of oneself in lending of a much needed helping hand, without expectation of financial compensation?

There is greatness in simplicity which lets one give the feeling of importance and worth - when addressing another..to that other - without losing one's self-worth. Now think on that if you will and become a wiser and better person for it. The castigation of another is never conducive to one's betterment.

Ah, pray tell me, whatever happened to plain old down-to-earth simplicity?

Down in English Bay - the sun was shining, the rain was pouring and lightning flashed..thunder roared - a lady in her 30's came to the Apartment door where I was cleaning windows and said, "Look, there's a pigeon who can't fly but is trying awfully hard. Please help it, the poor thing."

I called my wife and she called her son. He always has a way with wild life things. He came and said, "Dad, that's one of the pigeons I let have little ones on my balcony."

The pigeon let him hold it. He kissed it and told it that it would be okay..it 'kissed' him back and cooed. We took it to the SPCA and they said they would look after it.

So it just goes to show you..if everyone took time out to help something or someone instead of hurting them what a great world it would be. To the lady who came to the door if you read this - thanks for caring.

By GEORGE HARRISON



Highway SAFETY or Highway ROBBERY???

Are you aware of the <u>severity</u> of the new Private Vehicle Inspection Program regulations?

This program will have a major negative effect on low-income people.

The regulations state "Reject IF": Torn seat covers: unlubricated universal joints: loose wiring: corroded battery posts; worn or torn floor mats; patched exhaust; damaged seatbelt retractors; sharp edges on vent or rool-up windows; loose moulding; leaking power steering oil seals; loose or torn weatherstripping: rust holes; odometer or speedometer nonfunctional; water leaking in under floor mat; horn plays a musical tune; weak shocks; seat belts dirty; insecurely mounted battery; any dashlight non-functional; any vehicle systems switch non-functional or damaged; and on and on and on for 60 pages.

The result will be that most vehicles older than 10 yrs. will become financially unviable. Some will find that personal automotive transportation is unaffordable. Many more will be forced to borrow from Peter to pay this Paul called "Safety". Those who will be able to afford vehicles will find a marked increase in their cost.

If we estimate that the 1.7 vehicles that will be tested annually under this program incur testing cost, repair cost, increased vehicle purchase cost, finance cost and collision insurance cost (presently 43% of this group do not carry collision insurance), we arrive at what we consider a conservative estimate of \$300 per vehicle on average per year. Given this figure, it then becomes simple arithmetic to total up a \$\frac{1}{2}\$ billion figure for an annual cost to the public of BC for this so-called "safety Program".

For what—a supposed attempt to correct a 1.3% accident factor identified as being attributable to mechanical failure and an apparent attempt to raise the aesthetic standards of our vehicles to a level acceptable in Oak Bay.

Where's the \$\$ going. so much for so little.

We have attempted to obtain facts and statistics which could possibly justify this massive expenditure but haven't received even so much as an acknowledgement of our inquiries.

It amkes perfect sense to us that, if this program is expected to be so effective, it should be able to be demonstrated by reduced accidents resulting from the existing 3-year-old Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program..also the old Vancouver and South Island Inspection Program.

The only response obtained to date has been in the form of various attempts by the police to convince the public that they are not going to enforce some of the more hairbrained criteria. The problem with this is:

a) for how long; and b) the actual vehicle testing is done by inspection stations to the standards that the Regulations state. This is not something that each individual police jurisdiction can negotiate for the public in their area.

This program, while no doubt it will be of enormous benefit to some commercial sectors of our province, will quite probably be a waste of hard earned money that will see little improvement in accident statistics in B.C.

We feel this whole area of vehicle movement safety should:

- Have the problems identified statistically, thoroughly and comprehensively;
- Be managed in a manner that will give us the best for our Safety Dollar.

If you feel as we do and want to help us fight this gross mismanagement of our road safety problem, please contact us:

ASSOCIATION for VEHICLE MOVEMENT SAFETY.

P.O. Box 1613, Vernon, BC V1T 8C2 Phone: 546-3425 or 876-4941

Membership: \$5.00

Stats & Testing Reg. Bklt. - \$5.00

By STUART MEADE (542-8396)



A LITTLE HAY SEED

Back in the year 1896 a greatgreat Aunt of mine wrote the words to a song and a man named John Martin wrote the music.

It was copyrighted and on what we now call the Hit Parade (back then it was actually called 'The High School Band Radio Station'. I have the original copy so here are the words - I also have the music if anyone wants to see it. Here goes:

I'm a little hay seed
I live on a farm
I'm a dear little sonnie
Never did any harm
All the City Boys I know
All such tough chaps
They swipe our watermelons
And get caught in Father's traps.
CHORUS

Gobble, gobble, gobble, Moo-Moo Cluck, cluck, Hee-Haw Cocka-doodle-doo

Just when all is quiet
The sun is going down
ong come the City Chaps
Straying out from town
He spies the watermelon
The golden corn
The big ripe pumpkins
We will choose from before noon.
CHORUS

Just when his heart is happy
He's loading up with glee
He steps right into Father's trap
He's our prisoner (See!)
The City Chap is busy
Many sights he can see
But I'd rather be
A Good Hayseed like me.

And they say our songs of today are strange.

Lillian Harrison

I AM TOO OLD TO BE AN ORPHAN

I am too old to be an orphan.
This is too sudden.
Always across the continent and ocean
There were, however distant, parents.

I was a funny kid.

We never understood each other much.

But when - years later
I saw you again after my mother died,

Your words offered the ultimate

reconciliation:

"I have come to the conclusion That people should do What they want to do."

You did not want to linger
Into age and infirmity
You were brave and strong
And that is how we shall remember you.
But oh, I am too old to be an orphan.

(Written after hearing of my father's sudden passing.)

David Bouvier

SOCIAL WORK 200B INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WELFARE IN CANADA.

I was asked to lecture a class at the University of Victoria reagrding my book No Way To Live - Poor Women Speak Out. The students were going into social work, childcare, etc. and I wanted to get them to look at their own ideas, at what they had been socially conditioned to think about poverty. I asked them to list the labels they had heard applied to poor people and we agreed to call this first list "Welfare Stereotypes":

Welfare Bums Drunks Lazv Stupid Freeloader Students Bag Lady Down and Out Paupers Systems People Half Breed Single Parent Lazy SOB Able Rodied Disgusting Unmotivated Hustlers Losers Uneducated Leeches Dumb Slut Poor Bum Indians Scammers Liars Vultures Bad Parents Drugee Underpriviledged Scum Latch Kev Kids Low Life Irresponsible Couch Potato Parasites Low Self-Esteem "Mixed" Race Boat People Loafer Mental Mooch Lazy Whore Pathetic Dirty Rip Off Artists Bad Tenants Street People

With this in front of us, I asked them about the realities of poverty, facts and factors:

50-70% Income Goes to Housing Inadequate Student Loans and Debts Alcoholism as a Sickness 20% of people have 4% of Income Part Time Low Paying Jobs Food Banks 3 of 5 Single Moms are poor 63.4% of poor work 35.55% of men over 65 are poor Van der Slam 1 in 3 single parent families rely on welfare for income. l in 6 kids lives in poverty Stigma against kids Learning Disabilities Segregated Housing Trapped...Forced Poverty Lost livelihood - both Rural & Urban Inadequate Davcare Capitalism. Restrictive Policies Labelling & Hungry Kids in Schools

The outcome of comparing the first list of 'labels' to some of the real factors of poverty was very positive. To complete this discussion, we looked at the responsibilities:

make problems political instead of personal

know policies of those voted forchallenge discrimination and

stereotypes
- educate children not to discrimnate or label

- value the contribution of women and children

- Organize: Select one goal, like Rent Control & Subsidies

- use media to educate the public

as a social worker, advocateknow own values and limitations

- stop classism and competition amongst women

- no change without risk takers
In the short time left at the end.

we jotted down other ideas and targets for change.

1. Smaller caseloads for social workers

 Smaller caseloads for social workers
 Interview senior policy makers for attitudes

3. Adequate minimum incomes

3. Adequate minimum incomes

4. Ethics training

5, Community education 6. School lunches

7. Day Care at workplace

8. Smaller classes

9. Volunteer Sector

Much of our thinking is conditioned into us unconsciously. We have to fight the labels given to the poor.

By SHEILA BAXTER



IT'S GROWING, SPREADING OUT & GAINing momentum. A march and rally in
the West End happened on Saturday,
Feb.10, with over 200 angry tenants
walking en masse from the West End
Community Centre to Robson Square to
protest the rent-gouging and demolitions. Sound familiar? Dec. 19
was the first demonstration day at
City Hall where representatives from
every neighbourhood in Vancouver
told Campbell and the NPA to stop
avoiding their responsibility.

John Shayler of Tenants Rights Coalition spoke simply: "I'm a tenant and I'm angry. It's community planning we want and we want it now! We're fighting for our homes."

GARBAGES

Campbell was forced to hold another public meeting on garbage, this time at Strathcona Community Centre on Feb. 7, It was clear that the engineers were under orders to just finish the speaker's list from the 1st meeting and wrap it up. No Way!!!

Every speaker condemned the plan

to force a "Resource Recovery" plant and gave so many alternatives to this dinosaur that, by 9:15 or so, one member of the Chinese community went to the mike and said, "We're 100% opposed to this stupid idea. You go and tell City Hall. This meeting is

over!" Pam Cooley made it simple:
"I move that another meeting be set
up in the West End within two weeks."
(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.)

"I move that this meeting be adjourned." (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.)

Everybody got up and left, leaving the engineers on the stage with kind of a sheepish look on their faces. The chairperson was heard to mutter, "I guess this meeting is over." DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY

Free Doctors on site 223 Main St.

685-4488

(Confidential)

Wed. evening: 5 to 8:30 Dr. AL VENNEMA

Thur. evening: 5 to 8:30 Dr. COLIN HORRICKS

STD nurses are on site through the weekdays.

Drop in or call for an appoint-



THE HIVSLITTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE CAMPECLE COMMITTY CENTRE ASSOCIATION.

Articles represent the views of individual contributors and mot of the Association,

FREE - donations accepted.

City info staff can't accept donations for this Newsletter, so if you can help, find Paul Taylor and he'll give you a receipt.

Thanks everybody.

DONATIONS: Yanum Spath-\$200 Nancy W.-\$300 Willis S.-\$110 George B.-\$15 Rich P .- \$41 Robert S.-\$60 Jancis A.-\$45 Luis P.-\$20 Tom - \$4.02Marg S.-\$20 L.B.T.-\$100 Ted B.-\$5 Sheila B.-\$2 Lillian H.-\$20 James M.-\$50 I.MacLeod-\$150 Kelly - \$3 J. East -\$1 Nancy J.-\$50 Sue H.-\$20 Steve R.-\$5 Neil M.-\$2 B.& B.-\$8 Peter E.-\$3.32 Ian L.-\$5 C.E.E.D.S. -\$10 Keith C.-\$10 Linda F.-\$50 Etienne S.-\$20 Terry the Terrible -\$200 Anonymous - \$43.23

NEED HELP?

DERA can help you with:

- * any welfare problems
- * UIC problems
- * getting legal assistance
- * unsafe living conditions in hotels or apartments
- * disputes with landlords
- * income tax

DERA is located at 9 East Hastings or phone 682-0931.

DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE FOR 16 YEARS



MIDNIGHT SERENADE

What are Mem'ries for?
Haunting every tomorrow,
That's what mem'ries do;
They only make you remember.

What are mem'ries for?
Hiding 'til I get lonely,
Then they jump out like
Ghosts in the dark;
That's what mem'ries do,
But I fight them off with the
Cutting remark: "What a bore."
What are mem'ries for.

Garry Gust





So there I was, Four in the morning, Walking around muttering: "Everything is so meaningless."

I watched the black waves Cruise in on Crab Beach, And I was spellbound by the beauty And at the same time... Devastated by how intangible Beauty really is.

Garry Gust

RUNNING BEFORE THE WIND

The spinnaker filled with a lusty rush, The doldrums cast us out of its door; Now lost in a timeless state of grace Between the stars and the ocean floor.

The trade winds pumped our sleepy hearts And moonlight, like a giant candle glow, Made loving smiles upon our faces And all our senses overflow.

For hours we ran before the wind, Aching with ecstacy until we found Utopia possessed our immortal souls As we began reefing with barely a sound.



Garry Gust

The Honorable Doug Lewis Minister of Justice House of Commons Ottawa Ontario K1A-OA6

#4 - 9 EATH TOTAL TO A SERVICE OF THE ASSETS

Date:_____

Dear Mr. Lewis,

Sincerely,

Name	
Address	

Vancouver, B.C.

(Note: Above is a copy of a postcard. Any number can be picked up at DERA at #9 E.Hastings. No postage is needed.)

DOWN TOWN EAST SIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES SOCIETY

"NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM"

Ingrid Hanson Mike Haycock (604) 685-6561

221-A MAIN STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6A 2S7

233 Main Street
685-448
Street Youth Services
1237 Richards Street
662-882
Sex. Transmitted Diseases
(Nurse) (Tests etc.)
223 Main Street
660-893
Sex. Transmitted Diseases
(Nurse) (Tests etc.)
1237 Richard Street
660-6776
Aids Van.
1033 Davie Street, #504
687-2437
D.E. Health Clinic
412 E. Cordova Street
255-3153
Health Clinic
575 Drake Street
660-5223

Needle Policy Card

- The goal of the Needle Exchange Program is (first) to prevent the spread of disease (aids etc.).
- Also to recover as many used syringes as possible.
- All client information is totally held in confidence & is given to no one i.e.: police, S.W's, employers etc..
- To register you contact one of the needle exchange workers at their office or on the street.
- You will be asked to give information that will identify you to the workers i.e.: a initial, birthdate etc: "Not Your Name or Address"
- You then figure out what your needs will be, i.e.: how may syringes, and when you will pick them up, also you will be given Aids related health information,

"Thats It!"

Song for Willis

c 1990 Phil Vernon

Last night as I sat by my window, alone at the end of my day I looked up and saw Willis Shaparla: he winked and to me he did say: "Have you gotten in trouble, Phil, lately? or written me any new songs?" When I asked, "Where ya been?" he said, "Heaven.
"But I don't think I'll stay very long;

"I've been in Relief Camps from Boston Bar to Squamish, in 1932 to '35 But they weren't as bad as being in Heaven: It could kill a man, if he were still alive.

Now Heaven's got this high wall around it That old guy Peter checks you at the gate You work a twelve-hour shift singing in the choir Another twelve polishing gold plate.

Those streets of gold need lots of polishing Lots of angel sweat gets spent
I asked another angel, "What's the wages?"
'Come Eternity,' he said, 'it's 20 cents!'

CHORUS: Heaven knows there's gotta be some changes

These angels sure could use a brand-new song

I'll teach them 'Hold the Fort, cuz we're a-coming now!'

We're gonna turn this old Heaven upside down!

It wasn't long, we'd formed a committee There was Slim and Ginger, Johnny also come We made up copies of an underground leaflet And organized a trek to Kingdom Come

Then we laid down our harps and marched off singing We occupied Cloud Nine and took our stand When God sent Gabriel to see what was happening We handed him a list of our demands:

We wanted better food, and time off for sleeping Elected archangels, for what it's worth We chanted, 'We want real work and wages!' Lord knows they need some angels down on Earth!

CHORUS: Heaven knows there's gotta be some changes
We'll give old Gabriel a brand-new song
We'll teach him 'Hold the Fort, cuz we're a-coming now!'
We're gonna turn this old Heaven upside down!"

"Willis," says I, "sounds like you've been busy
"What brings your spirit back here to East Van?"
Says Willis to me, his eyes all a-twinkling,
"I never left--I don't believe I can."

Says Willis Shaparla, "I'm an agitator In good causes— History will tell. When I get finished organizing Heaven I'll be back to raise a little Hell."

CHORUS: Heaven knows there's gotta be some changes
Old Gabriel he's got a brand-new song
He's singing, "Hold the Fort, cuz we're a-coming now!"
We're gonna turn this old world upside down!

