

## NEWSLETTER

[^0]The overwhelming success of Carnegie comes from the contributions of its volunteers. The volunteer program is the foundation, the very heart, of the Carnegie Centre. This year we honour all our volunteers and we pay special tribute to those of long term standing.
Thank you, Carnegie Volunteers!
Diane MacKenzie Director

Muggs Sigurgeirson
President, C.C.C.A

People volunteer time/energy/ideas every day of the year here. Amazement is the reaction whenever visitors on agencies see Carnegie - both by touring the building $\&$ reading numbers.

When questions are asked about how it's possible, it's kind of fun to rhyme off some of the following stats:

- Number of Volunteers----------350
- Annual Volunteer hours------ 49,591
*Kitchen labour hours
17246.5
*Vol. Reception Services
*Renovations hours
4125.5
*Learning Centre
(4831.0)
*Pool Room 8459.0
*Newsletter 4279.0
*Patron Reception 3028.0
*Artwork/Graphics 2073.0
*Cabaret/Jams
1285.0
*Videos 874.5
*Library
*Bingo
*Native Cultural
574.5
*Weightroom
514.5
*Pottery
*Ba11room Dance
*Plant Care 473.5
*Hair Cuts 387.5
*TV Repair
*Special Events/Misc. 370.5 286.0 181.0 160.5 131.0

This was in 1991. The 'renovations hours' are what would have been done if various parts of the building hadn't been closed off. Not bad!

Recognition Week Events
Sunday, Apr. 19 VOLUNTEERS PARTY $2-4 \mathrm{pm}$ on 2 nd floor.

Monday, Apr. 20 CAKE \& COFFEE 3 pm on 2nd floor
( 7 pm Theatre) SPECIAL HONOURING OF VOLUNTEERS AT CULTURAL SHARING NIGHT

Tues., Apr. 21 RECOGNITION BURGERS Free for Volunteers 5 pm , Cafeteria SPECIAL FEATURE CABARET

7 pm Theatre
Wed., Apr. 22 ANNUAL REC. BANQUET 4 pm Theatre
Thrus. Apr. 23 VOLUNTEERS PITCH 'n PUTT
Friday, Apr. 24 KERIOKA EVENING Sponsored by Seniors 6:30 pm Theatre
Sat., Apr. 25 VOLUNTEERS ONLY -Free Pool Tournament - Bowling -Free Pizza (5pm-Caf.)

Introducing Carnegie's 1992 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR


DORIS RATHKE

When Doris Rathke moved from Toronto to Vancouver eight years ago, she was "looking for a better life."

She's found that bettor life - and at the same time has helped improve things for a lot of other people around here too.

Doris is Carnegie's 1992 Volunteer of the Year, the dedicated, hard-working Down town Eastsider who gives free haircuts twice a week on the 3rd floor.
"How many haircuts have I done?" says Doris. "All I know is it's quite a few. You can tell by the calluses on my fingers where I hold the scissors."

Doris, who trained as a hairdresser at Simpson-Sears in Toronto, says "haircuts are an art."
"I do haircuts at Carnegie to help society and people when they can't afford to go to other places and pay to get their hair cut," she adds.

Carnegie volunteer co-ordinator Atiba Saunders estimates Doris has done 2,000 haircuts in the past four years.
"Doris is a wonderful example of the volunteer spirit of Carnegie," says Atiba.
"She performs a real community service. She shows up rain or shine and she's always smiling."

As everyone knows, says Atiba, Carnegie couldn't funct,ion without its 300 volunteers.

As this year's winner, Doris will repre: ent Carnegie at a gala banquet April 22 at the Hotel Vancouver, sponsored by the Volunteer Bureau.

Doris is proud of the award because it shows she made the right choice in moving to Vancouver.
"It lets otiner people realize ii's noi irresponsible to try to change your life and make it better," she says.

Doris grew up in Toronto and won several certificates at Humber Collegiate, including ones for athletics, art \& attendence.

Besides Simpson丹Sears, she also worked there in a car parts factory as an upholsterer and in a cafeteria wrapping donuts and making coffee.

She left Toronto because her financial situation was getting unfavourable. Since arriving in Vancouver, she has been an active volunteer with the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, the old 44, the Strathcona Community Mental Health Team and St.James Social Services.

Last year, she also made sandwiches in
the Carnegie kitchen. 3.

She and her long-time companion Bob Leslie are planning on getting married soon.

If you want a free haircut, just drop by the third floor on any Thursday or Sunday from 1 - 3 p.m.

Doris has lots of satisfied customers.
'She's quite good, she's pleasant and cheerful and the price is right," says Dennis, who was getting a haircut so he could


Editor,
It was very interesting to read Mike Harcourt's open letter $\xi$ Tora's article 'What To Do?" $\&$ the 'Nation's.Business" in the same Newsletter issue of 1 April 1992. I hope that the Premier $\xi$ Tora will mutually read each other's articles.
Mr. Harcourt promises to do better in B.C. in the months $\xi$ years ahead. To do it so, he must seriously consider the ideas expressed in Tora's articles like: "The NDP government should go to the elders of Native communities $q$ ask them how to manage resources."
We should acknowledge the Premier's perfect political strategy in saying that the gov't can't solve all of our problems overnight. Of course the mess is too deep; it can be cleaned out only gradually.
However one thing could $\&$ should be done right now: The government should help to promote as much as possible Tora's writings $\xi$ consider him as an outstanding philosopher of modern time.
The younger generation should endorse the lifestyle \& philosophy of poverty in order to survive in our fundamentally changing world.

Etienne Szekely
Box 1198
Rossland BC V0G1Y0


Photo of Mayor Gerald Gratton "Jerimiah Jesus" McGeer reading "Riot Act" to the striking relief camp workers, on strike from the $20 \phi /$ day slaye camps run by the Federal gov't, Dept. of National Defence.

Please note 3 forces: the RCMP (with backs to province building on Cambie St) the Provincial Police (to the left of the RCMP at the intersection of Hastings $\&_{i}$ Cambie) $\xi_{\mathcal{E}}$ the City Police (further left $\xi$ out of view). Assembled in $\xi$ out of view are approx. 4000 to 5000 citizens; the location is, of course, the cenotaph at Victory Square on Hastings in Van.

The camp workers had been on a routine march that included the Hudson Bay store, where, in a scuffle with police, a window had been smashed. Camp workers had been vocalizing the slogan "Work \& Wages", 'Work \& Wages" \& "When Do We Eat?" "When Do We Eat?". After "Riot Act" McGeer read the riot act we camp workers held a meeting of short duration, then marched off in our usual organized divisions in a disciplined manner, still hungry.

It should be noted that several weeks prior to this, the 23 rd of April, 1935,
"Riot Act" McGeer banquetted, at taxpayer expense, the officers of the $10,000-$ ton Nazi battleship Karlshrue, visiting Vancouver on a week's "goodwill" tour. (It's now resting at the bottom of the North Sea, off:Norway, courtesy of the Royal Navy.) Some time later approx. 350 Relief Camp workers $\mathcal{G}$ 'On To Ottawa' trekkers volunteered to fight for the legal $\mathbb{G}$ democratically elected gov't of Spain, with the MacKenzie-Papineau battalion of the international brigades, half of whom lay somewhere in Spain. Most of the rest of the camp workers served Canada $\&$ the cause of democracy most effectively and with great honour during WWI. The remainder worked in industry $\&$ helped transform the economy from an agricultural to an industrial base.
"Riot Act" McGeer is remembered by history as the power behind the throne in the building of the still-existing water foun tain in Lost Lagoon \& reading the riot act to hungry $20 \$ /$ day relief camp workers who built $\&$ fought for Canada.

Yours in solidarity,
WILLIS SHAPARLA

## STAR II BINGO ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE WE'RE MOVING TO THE PNE!

 WATCH FOR THE ALL NEW "GARDEN BINGO"
## GRAND OPENING APR. 17 GOOD FRIDAY

## THE STAR II BINGO ASSOCIATION \& THE BINGO HALL THANK ALL OUR PATRONS. FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS!

Under the B, it's...a new Bingo Hall!
By Muggs Sigurgeirson CCCA President

Starting Friday, April 17, we are going to have another reason to go out to the PNE grounds.

That's the day the new Garden Bingo opens.
Bingo fans will be pleased to know that the Garden Bingo will offer the most up-todaie siyle of game, seven days a week.

The new hall will have afternoon drop-ins and regular games in the evening, a giant TV screen, on-floor concession, free parking, non-smoking area...\& a brand-new hardwood floor that is so gorgeóus you could hold a fancy-dress ball on it.

The bingo is located in the Garden Auditorium, which is near the main entrance at Hastings \& Renfrew. Hours are Monday to Fri day, 3pm to midnight; Saturday \& Sunday noon to midnight.

The \#14 Hastings or \#16 Renfrew (29 Ave. Station) buses will leave you off right at the corner of Hastings \& Renfrew.

Anybody who is interested in being a vol-
unteer at the bingo, please talk to me or leave me a message at Carnegie's info desk.

The reason that I mention all this is that proceeds from bingo is one of the main ways we have of raising money for the Carnegie Community Centre Association.

That money goes for everything from new equipment for the Pool Room and Learning Centre to outings for the volunteers to free turkey dinners on Boxing Day.

For the past five years, we have been operating a bingo at the Star II hall on East Hastings. That hall is now closed.

The chance to move to the PNE was too good to miss, because it means we will be able to raise more money and offer even more programs at Carnegie.

Twenty-three other community groups will be moving with us, including many from the East Side süch as Ray-Cam \& Strathcona Community Centres, DEYAS, DERA, Eastside Family Place, Chinese Community Library, MOSAIC Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, Firehall Theatre, Vancouver East Cultural Centre \& the Christmas Bureau.

So, it's a good cause, it's fun and, who knows..you could come out a winner!

While I'm on the subject of fund-raising for Carnegie, we will be holding a CASINO on Friday \& Saturday, April $24 \& 25$, from 6pm to $2 a m$ at the Mandarin Centre, 611 Main (at Keefer).

The purpose of the Casino is to raise
money so we can get a van to transport people to events and outings this summer.

So if you're thinking of trying your luck at a casino one of these days, the one Apr. $24 \& 25$ is a good bet: No matter who wins, Carnegie people will benefit.

## COME TO THE MANDARIN CASINO

 611 MAIN ST. SATURDAY APRIL 246 P.M. 2 A.M. SUNDAY APRIL 256 P.M. - 2 A.M.

## PROCEEDS GO TO THE CARNEGIE CENTRE ASSOCIATION

## SEE YOU THERE!

To Carnegie patrons, volunteers and staff

I would like to apologize for my behaviour on March $12 / 92$. The incident that occurred was not acceptable. I have accepted my responsibility for the incident and have confidence this sort of thing will not happen in the future.

Signed by Bob Morrison

To the People of Carnegie's Community
This is my apology to the public and patrons of the Carnegie Community Centre. The incident occurred on the 12 th of March, 1992. I was upsetting the patrons and what I did was unprofessional. I was scuffling with another staff behind the Information Desk!

Also, this was brought to my supervisor's attention for the fairness of the public and myself. I was suspended for 3 days without pay.

I'm sorry that I upset anyone. Any kind of scuffling or bad behaviour is not acceptable in the Centre $\mathcal{G}$ I did it.

I promise that this will never happen agaiń. Once again, I am sorry.

I am looking forward to serving you all in my best behaviour and to my best knowledge.

Special thanks to Paul White. Thank you.

TED CHIANG


A recently-found note in CRAB files indicates what the federal Port Corp. wants to do with our waterfront greenspace. It said: "It was July 13 th at a rare meeting with Eric Tofsrud (Port Manager) that he said the park would be !ltourist-oriented!"... Oct. 21 CRAB Society replied by planting a 35 foot spruce tree fir a simple, natural, non-commcreial 3-block central park."

Proceeding on its hidden agenda to use CRAB Park as part of a world-class tourist destination, the rich Port Corporation is spending $\$ 300$ miliion over the next 3 years to upgrade cargo terminals. They are broke however when it comes to paying for even half of a $\$ 1.5$ million cost for disabled access at Columbia. Our community has been advocating for almost 5 years $\&$ gotten empty promises.

Lately the Port has its "Port 2010 Plan" including terminals for 2 cruiseships going right beside this waterfront park. From 2 to 3 thousand tourists will be getting off each ship $\&$ cameraclicking rich people will obviously come the short distance to the nearest green.
'The safety of existing low-income kids' summer programs would be in doubt..prostitution $\&$ drug selling would become an every-other-day event all summer long if the Port is given the right to park its mamoth boats beside our fragile green.

The 25-specie waterfowl area would be destroyed. The cruiseship pier would alter water currents, likely turning that part of the Inlet into a stagnant cesspool.

TOP 工ECRET WORLD CLASS
TOUKIST DESTINATION (CRAB PARK)???


Ships this size use 10 -grade diesel fuel $\xi$ would spout fumes for at least an hour before leaving their berths. CRAB Park'd smell like a barbeque.

There is no real community say in plans being worked out behind closed doors by the Port of Vancouver \& the City. Is the park our community worked for for 5 years to become a "tourist-oriented (touristonly) park"...

Don Larson

"We make orbreakhuman life, every day of the year as probably no other force on earth has ever done in the past or will ever do again."
Statement by Davison Budhoo, an economist, in an open resignation letter to the I.M.F.
"They are still killing our children, not with bullets but with policies that raise infant mortality and cause hunger."

Carlos Cortes, Nicaragua Public Employce
"FREE" - when you see this in print, do you wonder? The "Free" Trade Agreement is a classic example of wondering what the hell is going on, when everyone expected all kinds of good things (those who supported it) $\mathcal{E}$ all kinds of bad things (those who wanted fair trade), $\&$ all the predictions of the latter people have come true on every point.

Mulroney has earned the nickname "Lyin' Brian" honestly..honestly! The (low) estimate of $\$ 54$ million from the petty cash of his transnational corporate backers bankrolled one of the most massive propaganda campaigns in history, putting out as little truth $\&$ as as much bullshit as possible to win the 188 election. Who can forget "Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!" or "We'll get secure access to the American market" or the classic answers to the 'What abouts?" - "Social programs..water..culture....are not on the table!"

Integrity is not at issue here, since you'd have to have some to begin with before anyone could ask where it went.

Okay, now to what's happening next. For a while, maybe 2 years officially but 11 years behind closed doors, transnational conglomerates have been working on their vision of "free" trade - free from any government interference that would put national, state or provincial, or even local priorities ahead of profit. The 2 year period has seen the ongoing meetings to finalise a North American "Free" Trade Agreement between Canada, the United States $\&$ Mexico.. while almost all countries further south all the way to Argentina are hastily setting up mini-"'free" trade pacts. The subject of this article is
the NAFTA, so what have we been told? ...precious little.
Each meeting between negotiators from each of the 3 nations has been held in secret, with nothing made public except "progress reports." Lo \& behold the innfamous Someone leaked or filched secret text $G$ the secret is out: Lyin' Brian is honestly working to keep his nickname.

Some examples:

1. Agriculture: Supply Management Gone

Trade Minister Michael Wilson claims he's fighting hard at talks in Europe to preserve marketing boards for dairy, poultry $\in$ eggs. Draft language that Mulroney ${ }_{G}$ cohorts want put into the NAFTA clearly indicates that, contrary to explicit promises made to Canadian farmers, the Tory gov't has no intention of protecting supply management either in GATT (General Ag reement on Tariffs \& Trade) or in NAFTA. ivo oniy is the gov't not fighting to protect it but it has proposed specific language outlining how it is to be killed. 2. Investment: Surrender of Policy Tools

Canada didn't give up certain performance requirements that might be applied to foreign investors in the FTA. Now both Mexico $\&$ the US want anything to do with local (national) content scrapped. Right now if you want to sell certain products here they have to be made here. The NAFTA will eliminate almost all requirements, rules or regulations for foreign investors to foster national development.
3. No Attempt to Preserve Generic Drugs

In Canada there is an industry that makes drugs - No Name - that are the same as but cheaper than the name brands. This
pisses off the transnational drug corporations. They want intellectual property to be sacred..i.e. not to be of the most service but to make the most money. Through the US gov't they want strict controls that only allow these drugs to be made "to remedy an adjudicated violation of competition laws" $\xi_{G}$ "to address, only during its existence, a declared national emergency."
4. A Hasty Entry

A NAFTA will screw working people in both Canada $\mathbb{G}^{\circ}$ the US $\&$ increase the already abysmal conditions in Mexico. In the States there js an election in Nov.'92, so it will not be made public before then. As soon as the ballots are counted, it'll go to the US Congress for "fast-track" ratification $\mathcal{G}$ signea by Mulroney before Canadian election (1993). This schedule is essential: Bush wants to get re-elected, Mulroney doesn't give a shit, and the transnational corporate owners want their pillage legalised with as little Public Participation as possible.
5. Eroding Provincial Jurisdiction

While Ottawa \& the Provinces negotiate a broader division of powers, the NAFTA makes significant intrusion into areas of provincial jurisdiction such as insurance, trucking, health standards, etc.



## [HOW CAN YOU RESIETR

An organisation called the Christian Task Force on Central America held a 2-day conference at the end of March. The corporate agenda, with the help of the "Free" Trade Agreement $G$ the current NAFTA negotiations, works through the International Monetary Fund $\xi$ the World Bank in Central ( $\mathcal{G}$ South) America..Africa..the Phillipines......

The medium for tightening the noose on the people here is the Structural Adjustment Program (SAP). A nation borrows money from northern banks - to build roads, factories, bridges, sewage treatment, to rebuild or better hospitals, education, etc. The banks \& their transnational customers control commodity prices. Prices are made to fall, indebted nations don't make the hard currency to pay or even service debt, $G$ the only way they can get money to pay on the debt is to start a SAP. Land used to grow food has to grow export crops (carnations, coffee, etc.), local currency is devalued so people earn less in iterms of purchasing power, spending on social programs is cut, more foreign investment is allowed $\xi_{G}$ more national enterprises are privatised.

The SAP results in massive amounts of wealth leaving already impoverished people for pockets in northern corporations.

The conference dealt with this through a focus - "How Can You Resist?"

Jean Swanson, with End Legislated Poverty G Action Canada (BC) drew connections be-

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tween Canada's fate under "free" trade and how our deficit/debt is quietly being dealt with exactly like Guatemala et al - a SAP. Joe Gunn, working on human rights \& policy alternatives in C.A., spoke of the oppressive realities of peoples $\&$ nations being systematically drained through SAPs.

Workshops were enlightening: Environmental degradation/disaster..the need for enforcable pollution laws; Women to Women Global Connections..the low place \& exploitation of women as virtual slaves; Refugees G Displaced Persons..flight because of war G current repatriation trends.

Throughout all these areas is woven the net of corporate control vs. the banding together of people resisting..fighting to regain/retain control over their own lives. In each area, the "How Can You Resist?" question was answered with getting together with other people, forming coalitions, educating $\&$ challenging this 500 year-old scheme. Precious victories are increasing but the struggle is not over.

Following is part of a hand-out used in a workshop entitled "De-mystifying SAPs"

> Debt Cannot be Paid
"To insist on such a massive transfer of resources from the poor to the rich countries is simply to create a hostage situat ion where the poor will always have to respond to conditions as determined \& deman ded by the rich...To insist on the repayment of the debt...is a prescription for destroying the very livelihood of our people."
"Today both the rich \& the poor countries know that the debt cannot be repaid. But for the North, the crisis has now become a political tool for shaping the kind of world economic system that would be convenient to exploit. Our stand is that the debt is no longer a technical issue... it is now a matter of life $\&$ death for a great number of people on earth. Our people are not guilty. If anybody needs to be forgiven, it is certainly not the poor in the villages $\&$ urban areas who do not know what happened to the money."


A conversation among Canadians" \& Latinos
C: I didn't know Mexico had a SAP.
M: We've had structural adjustment since 1982. Bankers call Mexico a "showcase for programs supported by the IMF."
C: What has it meant for Mexican people?
M: A lot of hardship. Our wages only buy half as much as they did in 1982. Families of 4 headed by minimum wage earners can only afford $28 \%$ of their basic needs. More than half the people earn less than the minimum. Unemployment has soared.
C: But I heard thousands of jobs were being created in the maquiladora export processing zones producing car parts, garments \& electronic goods.
iv: it's true that employment in the macuiviladoras tripled beyween 1982 \& 1988. The chief reason was the devaluation of our peso. The cost of employing a young woman in a maquiladora fell from $\$ 1.53$ US an hour in ' 82 to just 51 cents in Jan.' 88. While employment in the maquiladoras grew by 262,000 , twice as many jobs were lost elsewhere in Mexico, thanks to free trade.

C: What do you mean "thanks to free trade"
I thought a North American free trade deal still had to be negotiated. I'm very skeptical about free trade among Canada, the US \& Mexico, especially when I think about the 280,000 jobs lost in Canada.
M: As part of Mexico's structural adjustment, our government unilaterally low-
ered tariffs $q$ quotas before it even admitted it wanted a free trade pact with the US. They gave away most of their bargaining chips before going to talks.
C: But why would Mexico give away so much?
$M$ : The government wanted to qualify for debt relief under the Brady Plan.

C: What's the Brady Plan?


H3HOFLRGS

M: It's the successor to the Baker Plan. As Reagan's Secretary to the Treasury, James Baker said if debtor countries under went SAP's, they'd get new bank loans and grow fast enough to be able to pay their debts. It didn't work out that way. Uncollectable debts continued to grow. So his successor as Treasury Secretary, Nicholas Brady, proposed that private banks offer some debt reduction to countries adhering to SAPs.

C: Didn't Pres. Bush offer something new?

M: Bush's "Enterprise for the Americas Initiative" was an extension of the same plan. He offered to cancel some debts owed to the US gov't $\&$ open trade talks, but only if debtors strictly adhere to SAPs.

C: I'm beginning to see a pattern. Firsti,it: was new loans, then reduction of some bank debt, $\&$ then an offer to cancel some gov't debt, but always tied to SAPs.
M: You've got it. The offers of new loans or debt reduction have not given substantial relief. Meanwhile the SAPs continue to hurt.

C: You say the debt relief wasn't substantial. I saw a headline that said Mexico had won a $35 \%$ discount on its debt.
M. weil, inere aiways more to a story than a headline. It's true that a few banks agreed to exchange some of our govt's debt for new bonds at a $35 \%$ discount. But we had to take out other loans to buy collateral to back up those new bonds. The deal was complex. In the end it turns out that while Mexico's debt to private banks went down, our debt to the IMF \& the World Bank went up. Total foreign debt increased.
C : And if Mexico owes more to the IMF and the World Bank, they can demand more structural adjustment!

M: Right. We're actually in a weaker bargaining position than before. Because the banks now have collateral, suspending debt payments is no longer a threat. Now we've become the largest borrower from the World Bank.

C: What will ongoing structural adjustment mean for Mexico?

M: It means that our workers \& peasants will continue to toil to produce export to earn dollars to make debt payments. Despite the bit of debt relief we got under the Brady Plan, there will still be substantial net outflows of wealth from Mexico.
C: No wonder Canadian banks call for free trade with Mexico. They want Mexico to export more so they'll keep making interest payments on the remaining debts.
M : Not only that. They're counting on the recapture clause built into the Brady
agreement.
C : Recapture clause?
M: That's what they call it. If the world price of oil is over $\$ 14$ a barrel (adjusted for inflation) after 1996, we, have to pay the banks some of what we were supposed to save under the Brady Plan.

C: Sounds like the payments may never end. (Enter another Latin; joins conversation'):

L: The payment never ends despite the fact our debts have already been paid.
C: What do you mean "the debts have already been paid'l?

L: From 1977 to 1986, the net transfer of wealth out of Latin America was US $\$ 133$ billion. During each of the first 4 years, we had net inflows of $\$ 26.1$ billion. In each of the next 6 years, we had net outflows totalling $\$ 159$ billion.

## Latin America: Resource Flows Billions of US Dollars



C: How could that happen?
L: The chief reason is the high interest rates charged on our debts. When our gov't took out loans in the mid 70 s rates were about $6.5 \%$ a year. During the 80 's international rates averaged over $11.5 \%$.

C: Why did interest rates rise so high?
L: Western countries, especially the US, deliberately jacked up rates. They adopted "montarist" policies that drove interest rates through the ceiling.

Commodity Price Index and
total Third World Debt, 1970-1987.


C: I remember the early 80 's. We had very high rates in Canada. A lot of farmers lost their farms $\mathcal{G}$ unemployment soared.

L: We suffered the same things. Prices of our exports also fell dramatically due
to the Great Recession in the North.
C: So you had less money to pay back loans.
L: Precisely. It was the combined effect of the high interest rates $\&$ low commodity prices that really killed us. Our govt's had to sign agreements with the IMF $\xi$ the World Bank before they could borrow more money to make payments on past debts.

G: bow much did these high interest rates § low commodity prices cost Latin Am.?
L: Well over US\$100 billion. One economist reckons that excessive interest rates alone cost us between $\$ 105$ \& $\$ 110$ billion between 1976 \& '85. He estimates lost trade earnings at $\$ 25$ to $\$ 30$ billion for '81-'85. Others have calculated that if interest rates $\&$ prices had remained at their historical levels, our debt payments would've been $\$ 103$ billion less ('78-'85).

C: So when you say "the debt has already been paid" you're referring to the excess debt payments made throughout the 1980s due to high rates $\&$ low prices.
L: Yes, but not only that. Enormous wealth was also transferred out of our count-
ries through capital flight.
C: What's capital flight?
L: Rich Latin Americans often deposit money in Northern banks, instead of investing at home. Sometimes SAPs speed up capital flight when they dismantle exchange controls \& currency devaluation prompts the wealthy to open $\$$ accounts abroad.
C: How serious is capital flight?
L: It's disastrous. In 1985 the value of all the money stashed by Latin American € Carribean citizens in the USA was estimated at $\$ 200$ billion. This was only slightly less than the $\$ 208$ billion US banks had lent to the same countries.
r. So the capital flight is ancther huge drain of wealth. Is capital flight counted in the numbers you cited earlier?

L: Yes. The US $\$ 133.5$ billion net outflow of wealth from Latin America takes all the financial factors into account - high interest rates, capital flight \& profits extracted by corporate investors. We say the debt has already been paid because for every dollar Latin America received from 1977 to 1980, at least $\$ 6$ flowed out over 1981-1986.
"Over the last four years, our peoples have suffered what can no longer be described as a mere deterioration in their environment \& their lives, but a systematic $\xi$ planned destruction of their health, nutrition, housing, employment, education $\&$ social welfare: a destruction which in almost every country in our region is cloaked by demands for so-called "structural adjustment", desigred $\&$ imposed by the International Monetary Fund $\xi_{G}$ the World Bank. We reject those policies $\&$ organizations.
"Debt repayment is morally condemnable because it blindly $q$ brutally undermines the future of humanity itself by fomenting $\xi$ provoking a catastrophe that destroys human beings \& the natural environment...
"Third World debt is today the main lever § mechanism of domination used to maintain the existing... unjust order that sustains current imperial domination...
"The unpayable debt symbolizes total dependence and enslavement...
'We reject the domination being exercised in our countries by the introduction of the free market system, since it is a representation of the law of the mighty over the weak, quwe declare the theed to create an alternative international economic order, which has as its priority the satisfaction of all the basic needs of every


Editor's note: Hopefully while reading this article on the corporate agenda for the Americas, thoughts of what's happened in Canada have come to mind. "Structural Adjustment" is going on here in everything but name, but Michael, when Minister of Finance, spoke openly of "adjustments" needed. The decades of experience of people throughout the world with SAPs gives us a chilling message.

Transnational corporations have made the ruiès, have formed the IMF \& World Bank \& Are behind GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs \& Trade), the "Free" Trade Agreement and the North American FTA. It's not hopeless..far from it...but cosmetic reforms or 'renegotiation' would be like giving someone with AIDS an aspirin in hope of a cure.

There are hard times ahead \& spiritual practice is essential. I don't mean praying...learn by doing. Knowing something can or should be done is armchair revolution..doing those things is involvement \& committment. Being sentient is our birth right.

# PROPOSAL FOR COLLECTING THE EUROPEAN DEBT 

M$y$ name is Cuauhtémoc. I am a descendent of the indigenous people who populated the Americas 4,000 years ago, and I have come to meet the people who are celebrating the "Encounter of Two Cultures." I have a modest proposal to present to the descendants of those who came here 500 years ago, a proposal about collecting the European debt.

The European banks ask me to pay a debt contracted by Judas who was never authorized by me to sell my riches. The lawyer explains to me that every debt must be paid with interest, even if it means selling human beings or entire countries intoslavery. Now I'm discovering who these "Chinisưañ" anc wio "discovered" me.

I, too, can demand payment for a debt. 1, too, can demand interest. In the Archives of the Indies every page, every receipt, every signature shows that between 1503 and 1660, 185,000 metric tons of gold and $16,000,000$ metric tons of silver arrived at the port of San Lucas de Barrameda in ships from America.

Was that plunder? I wouldn't like to think so... That would only give credence to detractors like Bartolomé de las Casas who
characterize this "Encounter" as "the destruction of the Indies," or other critics who believe that the beginning of capitalism in Europe was based on the extraction of precious metals from the Americas.

No, these 185,000 metric tons of gold and $16,000,000$ metric tons of silver should be considered as the first of several friendly
loans from the Americas for the de velopment of Europe. To think otherwise would be to presupposé that war crimes took place, and that would mean the right not only to demand the immediate return of these metals, but also indemnization for all damages incurred.

have sogenerously overlooked all these centuries.

Based on this estimate, and using the European formula of compound interest, we want to inform the "Discoverers of Our Continent" that they only owe us, as a first payment on the debl, 185,000 metric tons of gold and $16,000,000$ metric tons of silver, with interest compounded at $10 \%$ for the last 300 years. Such a mass of gold and silver is very heavy. It would easily surpass the weight of the earth. But how much more costly would it be if it were measured in blood?

To conclude that Europe has been unable to generate sufficient wealth in 500 years to pay this modest interest would be to admit the absolute financial failure and the demented irrationality of the precepts of capitalism. Such metaphysical questions do not concern us Indo-Americans. We simply demand that the Europeans fulfill their obligations through a program of rapid "Privatization" and "Reconversion" of Europe so that they are able to deliver to us the first payment on their historic debL

The pessimists of the Old World say that their civilization is bankrupt, preventing them from fulfilling their financial and moral commitments. What do you say?

This satire is attributed to Cuauhtémoc, the son of the Aztec king Montezuma, who rebelled against the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth century in Mexico. It appeared in the Panamanian journal, Temas de Nuestra América, July 1991.

DOWNTOWN STD C1inic - Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm. EASTSIDE FREE MEDICAL CLINIC - Mon, Wed, Friday: 5:30-7:30pm YOUTH NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; every day $9 \mathrm{am}-5 \mathrm{pm}$ ACTIVITIES Needle Exchange van - on the street Mon-Sat evenings. SOCIETY N.A. meets every Monday night at 223 Main Street. Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets daily at 451 E.Hastings, 10-2:30.

1992 DONATIONS:
Keith C. $\$ 20$
Nancy W. $-\$ 100$
Luba P. - $\$ 10$
Robert - $\$ 10$
Four Sisters Co-op - $\$ 500$
DERA - $\$ 500$
Legal Services - $\$ 200$
Etieñe $5 .-\$ 40$
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Cecile R. $-\$ 20$
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the newsletter is a publication of the CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION.
Articles represent the views of individual contributors and not of the Association.

City Info staft can't accept donations for this newsletter, so if you can help, find Paul Taylur and he' 11 give you a receipt.

## Thanks everyone!

## NEED ILELD?

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association can help you with:

* any welfare problems
* information on legal rights
* disputes with landlords
* unsafe living conditions
* income tax
* UIC problems
$\therefore$ finding housing
* opening a bank account

Come into the DERA office at 9 East Hastings St. or phone us at, 682-0931

## DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE FOR 19 YEARS.

KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT
The new NDP government of Michael Harcourt has lied to the public \& deceived the poor. The increase in welfare that was announced in the media is a fraud \& a deliberate slap in the face to recipients.

The NDP has given the announced increase not to welfare recipients but to their landlords, who are comparatively wealthy \& do not need more money given to them by government.

The increase was deliberately added to the shelter allowance, thus ensuring that it would go directly into the landlord's pocket. The media announcement of the increase was designed to give the impression that welfare recipients would receive more money - that's what the general public was ked to believe from TV \& newspapers.

The money was then diverted to landlords exactly the way social credit did it in previous years. Harcourt has deliberately defrauded the poor \& should be considered a liar \& a cheat by the electorate.

Anyone on welfare, and poverty advocate or citizen who expects honest government and votes NDP from now on is nothing but a fool.

## TORA

## bring back socred ?? <br> STONED TO DEATH

## IN STRATHCONA

Driving the sex trade $\mathcal{E}$ needle-users out of Strathcona would seem $t$ contradict the support for hookers $\&$ free needle exchange policys that display political correctness.

The fear of parents that their children might catch AIDS from discarded needles $\mathcal{G}$ condoms is understandable. No one wants to see innocent kids accidentally infected with a life-threatening disease.

In Strathcona, a potentially dangerous litter problem has been identified; why not initiate some well-paid unskilled local employment by creating a team of needle $\&$ condom 'picker-uppers' - we'd
call them "Sanitary Engineers". It'd look good on their resumes $\&$ would save us from the indignity of a mothers' crusade against johns \& addicts.

Why not just deal with it as a serious litter problem $\&$ an opportunity to encourage useful paid employment?

I guess it's the high drama $\&$ adventure, the heroism \& risk-taking that's got us suckered into self-contradiction. The simplest, easiest, most boring work of just picking up needles \& condoms is what we want to avoid - but hey, there's lots of people who woulidn't mind making some extra money cleaning up the streets $\&$ saving kids from potential infection.

The problem of violence against hookers, according to a friend of mine who put in her time on the street, is not as bad as the problem of violence against women $\varepsilon$ children in their own homes, since domestic violence is statistically much higher than violence in the sex trade. Blaming all our problems on men only is too one-sided. Familys get involved in internal psychological power struggles that everyone trys to blame on the other person. Why not try the straightforward honest approach of selfexamination? If things have got to the point where we are physically * psychologically abusive to our friends $\&$ neighbours it's time for the isolation tank, the little hotel room, the solitary self-search in the all-nite joint.

This is what real heroism is about Real heroism is not taking part in politically correct crusades - it's facing the aloneness necessary to work on one's self, $\in$ possible to achieve the realization that there's so much more to life than familys, cars, hookers $\&$ needles. There's so much more to us than just politics $\&$ cop shows $\mathcal{G}$ violence $\&$ the fear of death.

You don't know what hands-on work is until you've tried to grasp \& understand the snakepit of your own mind. How many endgame people have worked through their own childhood traumas $\&$ transcended the need to mess up other people's lives?

How many comfortable middle class workaholics haven't even made it to endgame yet? Who's ready for heartbreak hotel?
"Mr. Jack Jones, British trade union leader, advises shop stewards to be courteous when dealing with management." - news item
Speak gently to your kindly boss, avoiding sudden rages;
It doesn't do to make him cross When seeking higher wages.

He may appear to be perverse, If not downright unstable,
But you will only make him worse By thumping on the table.
Try emulating Mr. Jones, However it upsets you; Negotiate in sweetest tones And then see where it gets you.

Present your case with care and skill, Bow low when he refuses, And show you bear him no ill-will, Especially if he loses.
He may be suffering from piles, His wife may be a warlock;
So win him 'round with teeth 'n smiles, While tugging at your forelock.
Show him how well you understand, Regard him as your neighbour, And shake him warmly by the hand When you withdraw your labour.


Premier Pussyfoot
tip toeing
through cow patty minefields
One foot in,
One foot our.
No more neighbourhood strolls
Now the referee
of lies $\&$ deceit,
Ministers of doom $\&$ gloom
The people advocates
Stand with one hand out Holding their breaths
Waiting for their rewards \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Silence is golden
Until the goose
Shits in their hands...
Brian Wagget

Roger Woddis

## trolls




## RACISM

Racism is the sickness of the mind that makes people blame someone else for their own fears..blame them for being different by skin tone, horoscope, the way they dress or think or believe.

This sickness has a big variety of branchings in the human mind, its root buried in human judgement. It makes one project on others every defect that we won't accept as ours..practicing as if the 'other' has to be got rid of.

The truth is that what we hate the most in others is what we have buried in our own minds - it hurts too much to deal with now..forget about it..hate others because they constantly remind us of it.

We have to forgive ourselves to find the cause of each of our fears. Without this forgiveness for ourselves $\&$ for others we keep hating them $\&$ ourselves.

The more we hate, the more we hurt. Everyone should look at what we hate in some one $\&$ ask ourselves why we hate it. Is it because what theyr do will hurt us or someone close to us, or is it because they take liberties that we wouldn't dare take ourselves...dressing, talking, thinking, believing. If it's the second one just live and let live.


From A Hundred Love Sonnets for Matilde Urrutia by Pablo Neruda Twenty-nine
You came from the poverty of the houses of the South, from the country hardened by earthquake and cold, where, as those spirits died, falling away into facts, we learned the hard teaching of scratching a living from clay. You are a small, black earthenware horse, a kiss tasting of darkness and earth, a clay poppy, loved one; dove of the nightfall who flew the course of the roads, a coffer to hold the tears of a childhood of need.

Child-woman who always kept faith with your heart's destitution, you whose poor feet had the habit of stones, whose tongue didn't always taste candy, or bread:
you come from the South that nourished my soul. In Heaven, your mother is still washing clothes with my mother. So I have chosen to travel with you, companera

## Seventy-eight

I do not hold with never. I do not hold with always. The roads of the conquistadors are buried in the sand. I am a poor man who wants to love his brother. Stranger, I am your friend. I will not give you thorns or sell them to you..

Maybe I'11 be remembered: that I fashioned
 no wounding crowns; that i stoud against travesty; that truth rose like a tide in my heart. When you gave me viciousness, I answered them with doves.

I do not hold with never, I never have, and I never will. And in the name of the flowing colours of love, I stand for what is honourable Death is only the stone of forgetfulness. Sister, I love you. The taste of happiness is on your lips. Let's find wood. Let's build a fire on the mountain.
(English versions by'Andy Alexander)


A welfare case worker and an alleged accomplice have been charged in Vancouver with fraud and then involving $\$ 60,000$.
Search warrant documents say the case worker had stolen 69 welfare cheques worth $\$ 41,000$ from his own clients. An additional $\$ 20,000$ in cash was also stolen.
Roberto Luis Varona is charged with thefl, fraud and breach of trust while eíren Ernẵí Serion la charged with thef and fraud.
in the
Province -

## Welfare fraud charged

B.C. government welfare worker Robert Louis Verona, 41, has been charged with fraud and theft after more than 100 welfare cheques were written on behalf of recipients who'd either left B.C. or been removed from welfare rolls. Also charged with fraud and theft in connection with the cheques was Vancouver businessman Efron Serion, 44.

There were a bunch of liars a'sitting in their lair, even beating Munchhausen, the greatest of them all.

a haiku for anita

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { a haiku for agests - merely } \\
& \text { down of eage nest peace floats of pearts. } \\
& \text { soft gift air, hands, he }
\end{aligned}
$$

down of eagle nests floats -
soft gift of pace $\begin{aligned} & \text { hands, hearts. } \\ & \text { touching air, }\end{aligned}$. touching air,
1eslie

I take great exception to the headline $\mathcal{G}$ story in the April 3 Province which made it appear that everyone on social assistance is a fraud.

Despite what the con artist says, social assistance is not easy to obtain. I am a frontline advocacy worker on a daily basis $\&$ know that most of the story is distorted.

Why aren't there more stories about members of big corporations $\mathcal{G}$ lawyers who steal? Low income citizens are al ways the scapegoats when the economy is bad. This poor bashing must stop immediately.

I notice the welfare recipient's story was on the front page: the one about the social worker who stole cheques was hidden. Let's give everyone equal $\mathcal{G}$ fair treatment!

## Irene Schmidt

## WRONG-HEADED ABOUT BREASTS:

Eric Ericksen has accused me of being "wrong-headed" about women's breasts, so I think I should reply, even though there are other more important things to discuss...Anyway, someone's sure to get a laugh off two old guys debating whether women should show their breasts or not.

I recall it wasn't too long ago that the Calgary City Council debated whether or not to make "suggestive staring" illegal. When I wrote about the judge in women's underwear $\xi$ the women's movement to expose thier breasts in a previous issue, I was trying to show the humour in the situation..but Eric isn't laughing - he feels that I'm "wrong-headed" to suggest that exposed breasts might result in more touchy-feely types of "sexual harassment"

A few months ago in Carnegie I was accused by a woman I thought was a friend of touching her breasts even though I didn't. She $\&$ her sisters hadn't yet achieved the right to expose their breasts in public, so that wasn;t a factor. Her breasts were well-concealed at the time, $\mathcal{G}$ even if
they hadn't been, I wouldn't have touched them.

My theory about her accusation is that she was mad at me about something else, but thought that screaming out loud on the second floor that I had touched her breasts would get me in trouble real fast. It almost did. The next day she was outside my place shouting up at the window that she was going to lay a charge of "sexual harassment" against me for this touching of breasts that never happened. ...so, Eric, I know what it's like to be a victim, but you say because I think exposed nreasts might cause men to try to touch them, I would be anticipating a crime with the intention of blaming the victim (the woman?). It would seem that I'm psychologically twisted to think women's breasts are in any way sexual. The wholesome attitude of course would be to consider them simply functional feeding tubes for children.

According to the authors of "The Naked Ape", a book in which they compiled a lot of information on human evolution, the fact that breast tissue is not necessary to nurse children makes it likely that female breasts developed as an inducement to face to face copulation, which, in i., turn, added a whole new dimension of equality $\&$ sensitivity to the sexual experience. According to the authors of this book, female breasts were specifically designed by nature to turn men on.

Of cuurse ii's iusi a theory, but it's a theory many anthropologists take seriously, since it's an observable fact that nature produces shapes, colours \& chemicals in all forms of life that induce plant G animal to have sexual contact. I can hear the feminists protesting that scientific theorys about sex are just another product of a patriarchal society. But I think men as well as women should not have a tyranny of political correctness telling them what to think.

Then, of course, the news today is full of sad storys about unfortunate attempts by women to enlarge their breasts with silicone implants, but these women are not considered stupidor vain by their sisters. They place the blame for this
tragedy on men, saying it's because men like womens' breasts so much that these poor women were forced out of desperation to try implants.

As far as I'm concerned women have the right to appear in public naked if they want to: I wouldn't protest \& I certainly wouldn't touch them...of course, I might be accused of "suggestive staring". It's a good thing I don't live in Calgary. Here on the west coast we have a more enlightened attitude. Wreck Beach is the place for it.


A local production company - Gold Star Productions - is now developing production of a major motion picture, entitled DREAMVIEW. They are not accepting written submissions.

If you have had any bizarre dreams, fantasies or trips, please write them down in the order of 'events' \& send them in for review. Also, please keep submissions to no more than 5 written pages. All submissions will be reviewed carefully for possible scene development q publishing.

Your name \& phone number (or a way you can be reached) is needed in the event your submission is selected for use in the production.

Submissions are unlimited. They can be mailed or taken to Gold Star Productions at 311 W.Hastings; they can also be left at the Newsletter office up to May 15.

## If you see BOOKS

## Like the one below



In the Downtown Eastside Hotel Rooms Bars Restaurants

My strawberry incense smells like urine. So I take ar walk up Powell Street for some comic relief, and find the winds of March are blowing in April!
It's 6:20 Empress Evening Time, and the three Magi are sitting four tables away, so I play the jukebox to drown out their wisdom, mirth, and beauty.
"Hark, is that a cannon I hear" -
The waitress flips out when I ask her to change a five dollar bill for more quarters to play the jukebox. I get angry and leave what I came to escape.
jown back Powell Street,
I head for the Paprika Cottage Out-Of-TheWay Cafe, where they know about hospitality! I order a light beer, and light my pipe.
Tony, the proprietor, sits down and we fall into a conversation about his homeland, Hong Kong.
Tony, his wife and son, came to Vancouver four years ago, and for over a year they've run the Paprika Cottage Out-Of-The-Way Cafe, in Gaoler's Mews, with an affinity that is strikingly similar to the Carnegie staff's ritual of doing the Volunteer Dinners.
Anyway, two hours later, I'm back at my digs, and the stereo is playing "Tuesday Afternoon" by the Moody Blues.
So I yawn and say goodnight to these scriblings, Smoke up, and wait for Wednesday.

Garry Gust

# PLEASE Return to the Carnegie Reading Room 401 Main Street 

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

## Dear Neighbour,

Does it seem that traffic is increasing on your street? That kids have to be more careful about cars when they're outside playing? That it's getting noisier in your neighborhood and the air isn't'as clean as it used to be?

It's not just your imagination. Unless something is done about it , the East Side of Vancouver is facing a massive buildup of commuter traffic through our neighborhoods at a rate twice that of other parts of the city. Some local streets will double in traffic in the next ten years - less time than it takes a child to complete school.

City officials' response is to propose and build new high-speed highways bisecting our communities and to expand the local streets to allow ever-more traffic. Local street "improvements" look pretty on paper but invariably mean widenings and more cars.

If you build a road, the traffic will increase to fill it, and you will need to build still more roads. That's been the experience of every large city that has tried to solve its problems by road-building.

It's already happening with the Cassiar Connector Freeway. The Cassiar is larger and more intrusive than residents ever imagined. But even before it opened, the engineers were saying that all the connecting highways will have to be widened to nyoid a "botleneck." The lecal streets around it, like McGill, Adanac, Wall and Dundas, can expect lots more traffic, too.

To feed the Cassiar, the engineers also want to widen the curve at Nanaimo and McGill to specd up and increase the commuter traffic, and they are planning a road for commuters right through the spot reserved for trees when part of the PNE site is redeveloped as park.

Next they want to build an east-west highway to feed freeway traffic downtown through Grandview-Woodlands, Strathcona, Mount Pleasant and the Downtown Eastside. The map shows the proposed route: the Grandview IIighway, the Grandview Railway Cut and the Malkin Bypass on one side; the Cassiar Connector and the Port Roadway on the other.

This highway would destroy the Grandview Cut, a precious and unique greenbelt, and cut into neighborhoods with highway interchanges and feeder roads, duniping still more traffic on local streets.

There is a vast underused transportation resource in East Vancouver - the waterfront rail lines. They could be used for moving people and goods - not cars. Yet there is little effort being made to utilize them. That's the priority. Not more and bigger roads.

East Side neighborhoods don't want to be played off against each other any more. It's time to start working together.


# How мисен тRAFFIC CAN YOUR STREET TAME? 



Come to the
NEIGHBOURHOOD SURVIVAL CONFERENCE (free) SAT. MAY 2, 1992 9:30am-1:30pm
Britannia Secondary School Cafeteria 1661 Napier at Commercial Free lunch \& childcare provided

A strategy session for East-end residents to meet the threat of growing traffic through our neighbourhoods.

GUEST SPEAKERS WH. include
heritage activist Michael Kluckner, author of 'Paving Paradise'; Moura Quayle, head of the city's Urban Landscape Task Force and a crusader for greenways and Ann Hillyer, West Coast Environmental Law Association, on air quality.

## BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Hastings Community Association
Grandview Woodlands Area Council
Strathcona Local Area Planning Committee
Carnegie Community Centre Association
Downtown Eastside Residents Association
For more information - Shirley McGrew 255-2546 or Oliver Kellhammer 253-2459


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