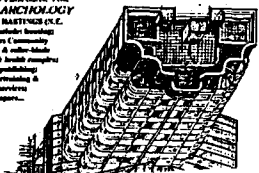




...ten years. Ancient history is when the Carnegie Newsletter first started. In the basement, before the renovations changed that whole floor into community space, and there was an old storage room in the space under the new spiral stairs.



A MINIST PROPOSAL FOR A MINI-ARCHITECTURE IN A MIND & BASTION D.C. inspired by modern housing. First Citizens Community Services by the author. Introduction & South Community resources provided. Introduction, overview & concluding services. Community space.

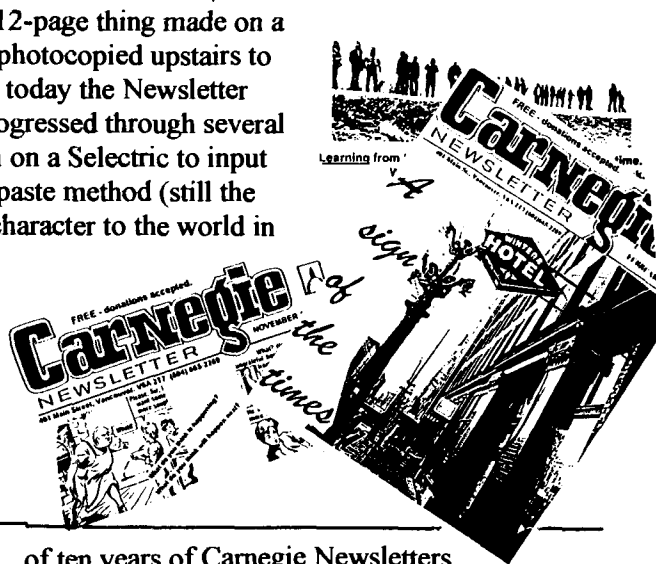


...ten years to go from a 12-page thing made on a shitbox Atari system and photocopied upstairs to make 60 copies per issue; today the Newsletter averages 28 pages, has progressed through several years of being typewritten on a Selectric to input on a 486 and the cut-and-paste method (still the best) to give Carnegie's character to the world in 800 copies per issue.

...ten years of volunteers' time and energy and deep commitment to life - past, present & future - and the incredible reality of having a voice and the perhaps unused potentiality of saying what you think and feel and sharing it with others.  
 ...ten years of saying "ten years"? Nah.



They made us many promises more than I can remember, but they only did but one, they promised to take our lead, and they took it.



About a year and a half ago, Sandy Cameron made a unique suggestion. He was starting his story of the History of Carnegie, which ran for 26 issues, and said that I should write a book on the *Best of the Carnegie Newsletter*. Yeah!

There was a slight gap between the idea and the reality of the end product. It was assumed that it would only take a few weeks to go through the old issues, make a plan for the format, the really good stuff would just jump off the pages, retyping it would only take a few days, writing the connecting script another few days, everybody would praise the first draft and it would get magically printed in a few thousand copies and be available for the 15th of August in 1996.

This illusion continued up through May of this year, then into part of June with an ideal schedule of 'weeks for this', 'weeks for that' and the final draft by August 1...

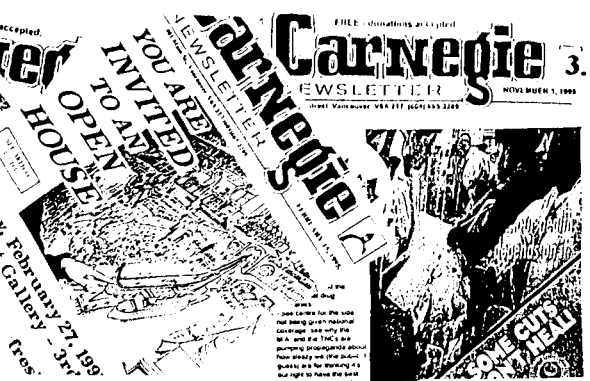
This book is coming, but a more realistic launch date is October. Sandy had spent the better part of six months just researching local archives and histories, then sifting through the massive amount of material for what he wanted. This is the reality

of ten years of Carnegie Newsletters.

There is so much content, so many issues, so many behind-the-scenes, in-your-face experiences that any book will be a synopsis and miss a lot. The ideal is to get a page or two that at least names the stories, articles and poetic expressions in a short synopsis of each year, then the rest of that chapter will have what a few long-time allies agree are good pieces...the "best".

The Newsletter hasn't so much caused events as been an active part of the ever-changing flow. It has served to unite many people, to tie us all into a view or even a vision of the Downtown Eastside that sticks in the craw of right-wing neanderthals, greedy developers, experts of sexploitation/drug supply & demand/thievery/poor-bashing/alcohol/blaming the victim/gambling and planners who worship at the altar of gentrification.

The worst part of doing the Newsletter is to hear or learn of the tip of some story, either as it happens or just after, and to have that tip be the only bit that is available. This has happened several times and will likely continue, as the only way to get the whole story is to have dedicated



reporters (that's plural!) with the additional time and energy to talk to everyone involved.

During these ten years, the Carnegie Newsletter has spawned **Help in the Downtown Eastside** (also known as *Ayuda en el Downtown Eastside* (Spanish) and *Le Petit Botin: Guide des Services du Downtown Eastside* (French)), which, since 1990, has continued to grow and be invaluable as the resource book for a multitude of services in our neighbourhood. It started at 12 pages in 1000 copies (English only) and edition #16, released in June 1996, was a packed 16 pages with 6000 copies in English and 1600 each in Spanish and French.

The Newsletter has been attacked on a regular basis, starting with that running sore on City Council, Ralph Caravetta, and nursed along by his soul-mates on Carnegie's board who tried to kill it in its infancy. Various politicians have gotten their noses out of joint, like Clod Richmond when he was the Minister of Human Resources, Gord Campbell when he was acting as the Mayor of Vancouver and playing at being the Liberal head, and of course Phil Owen, currently acting as the mayor - he thinks all hotels and rooming houses are social housing, that we are the scummy part of town, that it's nothing to come down here (during an election year) and just wander up and down the 100-block of East Hastings and take some pictures (for the grandkids?) of the street scene. He saw a bunch of heroin dealers across the street and, upon being told what they were doing, querulously responded, "In broad daylight?!!!?" One short piece in the past year remarked on his radio show and him being at his "cretinous best" - his executive secretary, Janet Fraser, wrote a very nasty letter accusing the author of being biased and misinformed.. and included the mayor's piece about all the 'social housing' (including all hotel

rooms) that he (and Vancouver) were so proud of.

Another enemy is Michael McCarthy, the slick publisher of *Spare Change*. According to him the Carnegie Newsletter is grossly one-sided and isn't fair to the establishment. He gets people on welfare and those who may be homeless to buy his rag for half-a-buck each and flog them on the streets. He makes a pretty good living while his 'employees' may make a buck an hour. The *Gastown Tribune* rag isn't worth commenting on.

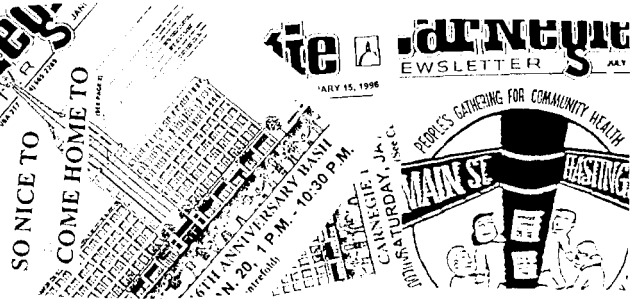
Before carrying on, just a word on contrast: The DERA Newsletter has been improving and is a welcome publication; the 'Friends of Dera/POW' thing is a rant filled with misinformation, half-truths, libel and lies. It was unfortunate that it got so much hype, but as those responsible for it know - if you want people to believe something, just keep repeating it as sincerely as possible and look confident - do that long enough and black becomes white, water runs uphill, lies become true

### In the year just passed:

Speaking in Chalks, the passing of Tom Louis, gentrification and the growing menace of Bad Homes/Brad Holme, alcohol & junk~alcoholics & junkies, Sandy Cameron's fascinating history of Carnegie, the Shuswap People at Gustafsen Lake, Literacy Day 1995, the Learning Centre controversy grows and culminates in the Vancouver School Board relocating the structured part to First United Church while Carnegie develops its own services again, the humour of Mr. McBinner and Trashhopper, a workshop series on HIV/AIDS, and the *shit hit the fan* over the 'miscommunication' from the City and subsequent intervention by



DERA at the Columbia Hotel, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, hate literature in the *Globe & Mail*, the *Financial Post*, on BCTV and UTV, United We Can and recycling and alley cleaning, Medicare & Poverty, Dan's shorts (stories, that is), the Native Liaison Storefront, racism in Port Alberni and conflicts in the United Church of Canada and allegations of abuse at residential schools, the division of the Downtown Eastside into questionable neighbourhoods like 'Victory Square' and 'CityGate', city planners are castigated over their concept of community, the Neighbourhood Safety Office opens and Neighbourhood Helpers continues working with seniors and shut-ins, Security at Carnegie is covered, "The Heretic" writes and Smallwood is written about and Catriona is interviewed, the Women's Memorial March to remember the 118 women killed or dying from drug overdoses - Their Spirits Live Within Us, the formation of the Committee to Save Woodward's (building on the window-painting and behind-the-scenes efforts), the opening of The Gathering Place, the Community Action Project (CAP) at Carnegie publishes its first newsletter, the Fraser Institute is infiltrated as Gordon Campbell squawks (that's a cross between a quack and a squawk) and a second time when the head of welfare in California came up to "tell it like it is", Headlines Theatre Christmas and Tora in a now-rare addition to our artwork, changes in welfare, poor-bashing running rampant, Carnegie is Sweet 16 and Sandy Cameron's book (**Fighting For Community**) is launched, coverage of DERA and ongoing references for DEYAS, obscene bank profits while people go hungry, War Against the Poor and A Betrayal of Everything Canada Stands For, a local volunteer degrades the DE in "Skid Road" (read on CBC's *Morningside*) and an initial response is



faxed off, the Welfare War and the Alternative Federal Budget, fasting in solidarity across Canada, a patchwork of social programs, the Community Health Committee, 10 years after Expo (*and what do we have to show for it?*), the Fraser Institute gets lambasted by ELP as the head capitalist tries to disrupt ELP's rally, "egg crate" rooms for us and luxury condos for the wealthy, deaths and troubles leads to 'To Speak Our Pain', the provincial election is called and Campbell is shown without his spin doctors getting in the way, Larry Beasley (City Planner) is quoted as saying that the voters of Vancouver could live with 20 to 25,000 homeless people and not even notice it, Bad Homes latest condo scam is exposed and stopped, Eleanor tells us of the trials and hopes of our incredible Reading Room, a 3rd-Grader says that a Grandfather is a "man-Grandmother", Covert Action Quarterly - responsible for exposing some of the CIA's nastier activities - reports that the top 358 billionaires in the world are worth the combined wealth of 45% of the planet's population (the 2.5 billion people on the bottom), the Four Corners Community Savings opens, Carnegie elects its 16th or 17th Board of Directors as the Newsletter publishes an expanded list of places for free food, the Alternative AIDS Conference happens here as the one downtown costs from \$800 to \$1100 per person (so if you aren't an upwardly mobile yup.. but are an ordinary person on the street or in the sex trade and HIV+... too bad), the Portland is moving and Bridge Housing is on line and the Gasbags on the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee are trying to pressure the United Church to shut down the Dugout because it is now a "blight" on 'their' street, BC Benefits is roasted while a few students

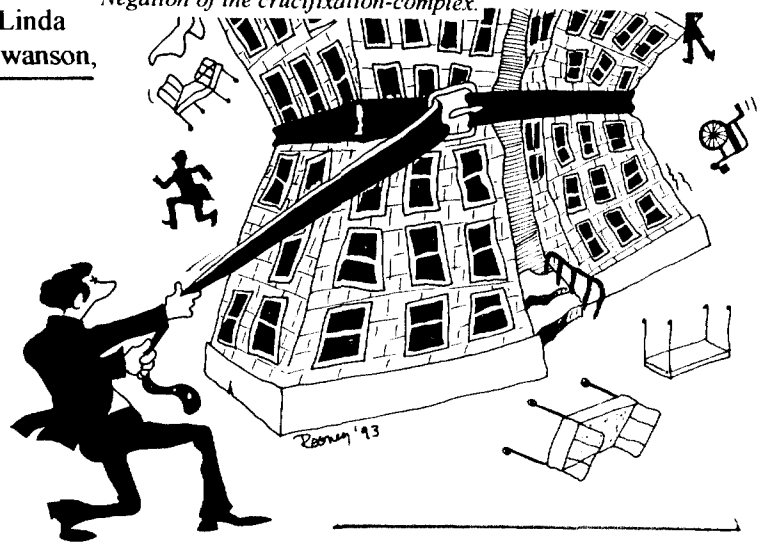
get a look at the real Downtown Eastside, A Prayer for Children, the community comes up with a good design for acceptable housing while Garry Gust's cartoon shows what may really have been the big bang, the skeleton of Tantric practice and the Yoga of Social Change, the arguments of the Gastown Land Use Task Force (one of several monikers for the same whiners) are ridiculed as twisted verbiage, we lose a zoning protest at city hall, DERA comes out with a pretty fair **Who We**

Garry Gust, Leigh Donohue, Dean Ko and, throughout the year, POETRY by Bud Osborn, Dan Feeney, John Douglas and many, many others.

Doubtless there are many names and events not included here, but the talent and imagination and cosmic creativity of contributors often leaves me just sitting here and giving thanks to whatever gods there may be. Moral courage.\*

**Are....** and writings by Alison Cameron, Leith Harris, Anita Stevens, Margaret Prevost, Linda Adams, Lore Krill, Irene Schmidt, Jean Swanson,

*\*Personal integrity and adherence to the principle of discriminatory truth.* :PAULR TAYLOR  
*Negation of the crucifixion-complex.*



**Dear Mr. Taylor:**

I am sorry that it has taken so long to respond to your letter of June 21 in support of the Dugout. I have been away from the city on assignment, and then on vacation.

Before I thank you for your letter I need to make what I think is an important correction. While it is true that the Dugout began 29 years ago as an initiative of First United Church and while it is also true that we continue to support it both financially and with volunteered time, it is not correct to describe it any longer as a United Church project. The fact is that larger sums of money are contributed both by Central City Mission and St.James Anglican Church, with the largest amount of support coming from the City [of Vancouver] itself in the form of grants for over

half our budget.

Now that I have that out of the way let me say that all of us who are associated with the Dugout are grateful for your vigorous defence. The threat is, we believe, one that needs to be taken seriously. We are committed to meet with those who have grievances, and to address appropriately their legitimate concerns. At the same time we are insistent on the right of the Dugout to continue to exist in its present form and place -- unless there is a better form and place -- better, that is, from the standpoint of those people whom the Dugout exists to serve.

By your action you have given us encouragement in our task.

With my thanks, I remain, sincerely,

The Very Reverend Robert F. Smith



## Reading Room Roundup Thanks to All !!

Lately the library has received some great donations and we want to thank you for your generosity. Without these gifts, our shelves would empty, especially as we are now in the second half of the budget year and there's not a lot left in the pot.

My last article in the Newsletter about the big silver dictionary did not go unheeded. We received an Oxford Reference as a replacement, in memory of Frank Hogg.

One of our most loyal and helpful patrons, Carl MacDonald, has given us a Cambridge Factfinder, a very useful item. Also, an anonymous donor brought in the 3 volumes of the proceedings of the

recent AIDS conference in Vancouver. This was an answer to a prayer, as I had been wondering how I could obtain this cheaply.

Another long-time patron donated the 2 beautiful plants, in lava rock containers, now in our south room. Come and have a look... they are really special. This particular kindness made my day/week/year.

We have just purchased some more older First Nation's stuff from MacLeod's and have acquired a directory of Aboriginal artists, dealers and galleries in BC.

**MONDAY, SEPT.30 at 4 PM**, in the Association Office, is the date for a meeting the Library Committee has set up for members of the community to bring ideas about dealing with theft and security in the Reading Room. Keep this date open ... more news later.

Eleanor

What kind of person would deprive the rest of us patrons of the pleasure of reading books like True Crime, all missing from the library?

Please return them. Thank you.

Carl MacDonald

If you see this Matt.

We LOVE YOU, + Miss you alot. please contact us.



**MATTHEW HARDY**

18 YRS

5' 6 1/2" 125lbs

Brown hair + eyes

Missing from Saskatoon, Sask. Can  
since Apr. 93

Any info please call family

1-306-978-0093 collect

Editor,

What a strange people these Gastown Merchants are. First they hire rent-a-cops to keep away the "undesirable element", then they allow the Hemp-In to disrupt the peace of senior residents and the ability of disabled people to get to their doctor (or wherever they had to be) by allowing them to shut down the street at Powell and Carrall and terminate the bus service for hours.

These people tied up a lot of police services that helpless people could have needed.

Please do not get me wrong; Trashhopper and Mr. McBinner would like to have grass legal but this Hemp-In is not the way. One has to get Federal attention. Where were any of you, Georgia Straight?

Where were any of you during the Gastown riot? I was living here. The shit started at the Cambie Hotel at Cordova & Cambie and ended at 312 Main (Police headquarters), not at Gassy Jack's statue in Maple Leaf Square. Someone got nailed for some weed and the Grasstown Merchants at the time didn't dig the man doing it so they fought. During this disagreement a policeman was pushed and his gun taken.

When the riot was over the instigator got 3 years (71-72?) I was in the cell next to him. In those days you went to court above 312 Main and the Judge read this guy the Riot Act and sent him to the BC Pen. I was in for panhandling an undercover cop and I got probation. The point being - Grasstown was and will always think they are better than the rest of Vancouver.

We should all get together and have a Downtown Eastside Parade of the Poor and challenge this discrimination.

My prayers go to Carl MacDonald and all the other friends and loved ones of the late Wally (James) Countryman, who will be missed. I would also like to ask for the safe return of all the *True Crime* books that were taken from the Carnegie Library.

Trashhopper

DO YOU

**SING? STRUM?**

**WAX POETIC?**

THEN COME DOWN TO THE  
LIVINGROOM/DROP-IN CENTRES'

**COFFEE HOUSE**

AND PLAY WITH THE BAND,  
RECITE YOUR LATEST SONNET,  
OR JUST TAKE IN THE VIBES.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15/96  
7-9PM  
528 POWELL ST.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE  
PLEASE CONTACT BILL BRISCALL AT  
255-7026



then...

When I was a kid I used to play soccer with my  
friends; also I used to climb the trees.  
I was a very happy kid and life was fun.

I wish  
Hoshor



Dear Zaranona X15<sup>22</sup>R,

July 22, 1996-2089

Thanks for sending the photo stills of your planet. Your home city looks quite beautiful with its blue towers, and the crystal bubble that covers your region also looks wonderful with those prism beams streaking out to the sky.

I'm enclosing pictures of my own province with this transmission, I hope you enjoy them. Let me also tell you a little bit about my home land.

I live in an area called British Columbia. It's a Cordilleran region of high mountains with vast basins of sedimentation where sea and fresh water existed in the late Precambrian era, and then covered with lava flows during the Tertairy period.

The mountains were then carved out by winds and streams that eroded deep valleys into the uplifted rock mass.

Just below the surface, the rock bodies are rich with metal-bearing mineral deposits that have great economic value to some of my kind.

But to most, the lush green forests that live on our mountains, in our valleys and islands are the source of a greater spiritual richness hard to describe in words.

If you could walk among the giant trees of the forest on a hot summer day and breathe in the thick cool scent of evergreens as they create oxygen, your heart would melt with joy.

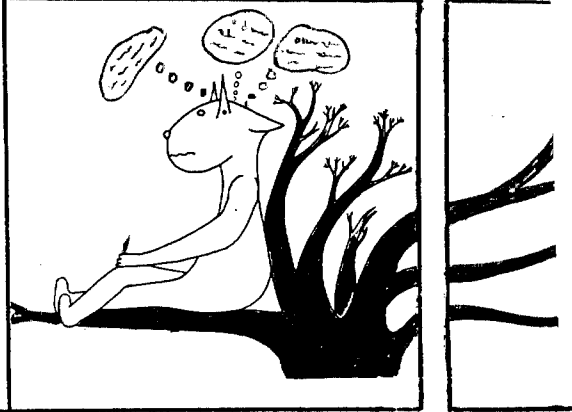
The towering canopy of branches allow only small streaks of sunlight to enter, like midday stars on the forest floor, below which live tens of thousands of animal and plant species that both contribute to and depend on the forest being.

Even if a very old tree dies and falls to earth, it still continues to give sustenance to the forest creatures who mine its majestic body for decades. If it happens to fall across a stream, you can actually see salmon fish settling in the coolness of its shadow to spawn their eggs.

The forest, Dear Zaranona, is a life force second only to the sun for us; although to a few it is looked upon as only an economic cash crop, and treated like the mineral metals in the rocks. But

WHO DO YOU TELL?

G.Gust



## HAPPY 10<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

Twice a month the volunteer writers of the Carnegie Newsletter have a golden opportunity to share their thoughts with up to 800 individuals.

The Newsletter is a great forum for free expression open to anyone who wishes to submit their writings. **Three cheers** for Editor Paulr Taylor and the volunteers who physically put the Newsletter together.

*Scribe Liber Conservo*

that's another story I won't trouble you with at this time.

I'm looking forward to your next transmission, and I'll be thinking of you every time my moon passes between Earth and your planet.

With deepest regards,  
Garry Gust

p.s. Have a good  
holiday in the  
Adromedas. G.G.



On August 1, 1996, a public hearing was held at City Hall to discuss the proposed developments that would begin to put residential housing on the last heavy industrial lands in Vancouver. This land has a zoning number of M2 so to create residential land in this area, a zoning change was necessary. After I read the applications to do this, I was immediately struck by the argument that making this change would not in any way set a precedent for the City of Vancouver.

What follows is my personal and very sarcastic reaction to this change with specific attention paid to the notion of "no precedent".



### It's not enough... not near enough

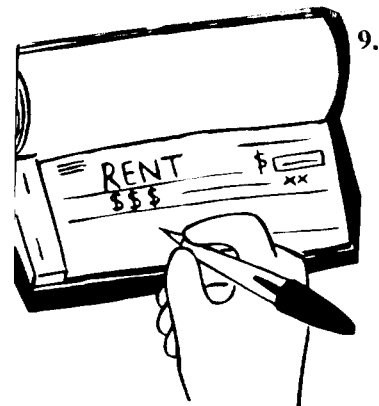
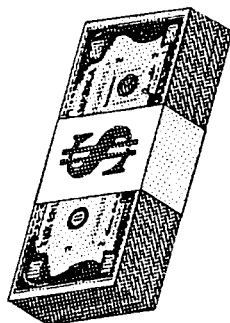
Recently I have overheard and read so many cynical statements about the working class poor, the addicts, the homeless, the downtrodden. There seems to be no precedent there.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised that I'm standing up here trying to get you to listen again, listen to the disparate voices that are so tired and afraid that yet again they will be referred to as useless, pointless, unproductive low-lives who deserve nothing but scorn.. no voice.. no comment.

Today people are being told that a few artists are worth more than everyone in the area who needs a decent home. Artists are being used again to justify gentrification. But our City Planning Dept. has recommended legal gag orders this time; gag orders that will censor any complaints about the sound, the smell, or the environmental impacts that exist on industrial land.

Hey, that's no precedent.

Twenty-two units of so-called Artist's live/work



studios, not like the ones Brad Holme so generously donated to Mount Pleasant, but exclusive live/work spaces for musicians and collectors.

That's no precedent.

From now on buskers and bidders can start calling themselves artists.

Now that would be a precedent and we don't want any of them, do we.

Thinking about the possibility of any new rental housing in our community has blinded us and we have closed our eyes a little. Do we need to be reminded of our solidarity and success rate?

That's not a precedent!

Developers come forward with their plans for our community and they will continue to do so.

That's not a precedent.

I think the City has already seen the impact of compromise discussions between the Province, the developer and the community at large. We are going to see a lot more of these discussions in the coming months and years. Let's not give away the farm for a few exclusive rental suites.

Don't support these projects and let our neighbourhood be pushed back into the alleys again. Everyone here knows they deserve a lot more from everyone here.

Let me ask all of you these questions:

- Do we want to accept illegal gag orders with all they imply carte blanche?

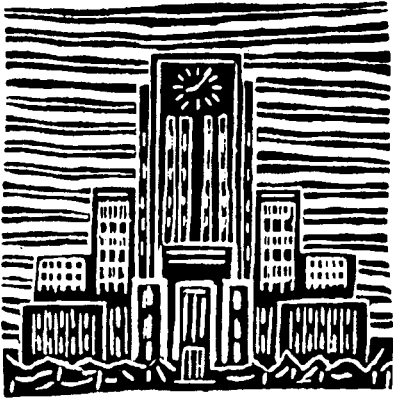
Is this a precedent?

- Do we really believe that there are no other immediate housing needs for our neighbourhood and that this exclusive rental

space is all we are deserving of? Are we giving up so easily?

Is this a precedent?

- Are we going to accept the police report that tells us a diversity of housing in this area will curtail crime because that housing will create an active living environment that will continue 24 hours a day? Don't the 100, 200 and 300



blocks of East Hastings already have 24 hour-a-day activity?

Is this a precedent?

- The Port of Vancouver calls this area a buffer zone, the developer calls it a gap and the people living and working there call it a neighbourhood and their home.

Is this a precedent?

- What happened to our proposed housing survey and developmental moratorium?

Was that a precedent?

Relaxing or changing this FSR (floor space ratio) is a clear precedent. There are some very complex issues surrounding this rezoning proposal and I don't believe any of them will be even remotely solved by adding a few more fsr's and putting residential housing on industrial land.

- I would challenge anyone in this room to prove that there are no artists living on welfare. Why are we talking about affordable housing this time instead of the welfare rates we talked about during the micro-suite debate?

Is this a precedent?

It is ironic that, in a society that is unable to define art, we suddenly have a city council that is

able to define what is affordable to artists.

Is this a precedent?

In summing up let me point out to you that the proposed gag order does not stop anyone from complaining about the people who actually live and use all the services that this community has fought for time and time again. Let's not forget what happened to the Detox Centre off Main when the other so-called artists' lofts were built.

It was a precedent!

Every week I teach a collage workshop in Oppenheimer Park and every week there are works of art made by people whom most of you would never recognize if you passed them on the street. None of these people will ever be allowed to move into these so-called artists' lofts. None of these people believe that anyone really cares about them. They are damaged and full of physical and emotional pain that some of the creeps in this room sneer at.

They never ask to come into your neighbourhoods; why are you trying so hard to destroy them and theirs?

That's sure as hell no precedent.

By LEIGH DONOHUE





# Newsletter of the Carnegie

## Community Action Project

August 15, 1996

**Want to get involved ? Call 689-0397 or come see us at Carnegie (2nd floor)**

### ***“yes you can boil'em, but you can't cook'em”***

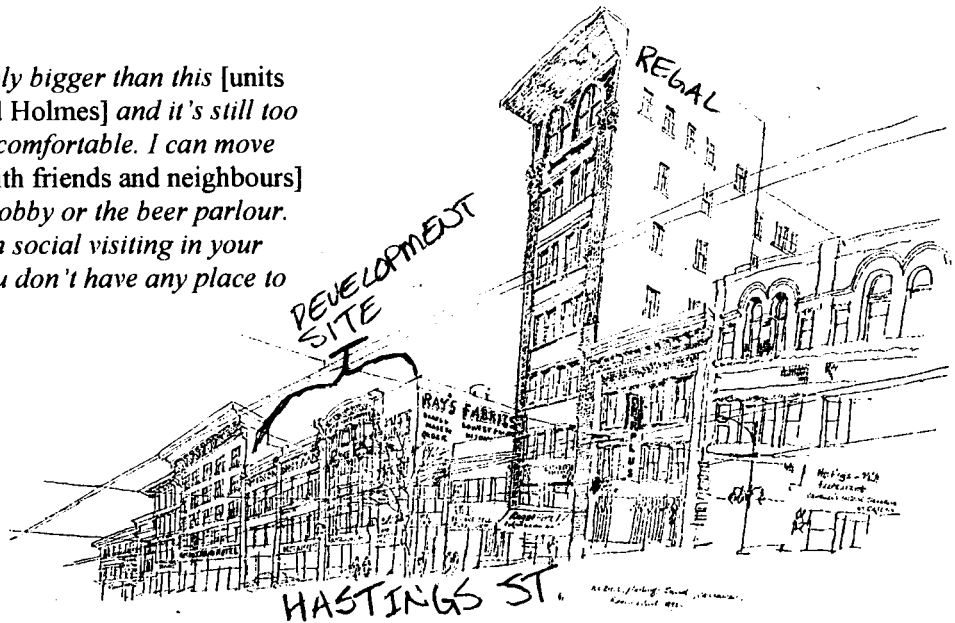
**Speech by Sonny Kenick  
Hearing for the Development Application  
of 132 W. Hastings St.  
Vancouver City Hall, May 21, 1996**

*I've lived down on the Eastside for twelve years  
in the Dodson Hotel.*

*My room is considerably bigger than this [units  
sizes proposed by Brad Holmes] and it's still too  
small. I'm reasonably comfortable. I can move  
around. I associate [with friends and neighbours]  
by either going to the lobby or the beer parlour.  
You don't get too much social visiting in your  
own room, because you don't have any place to  
put the people.*

*We were looking at the proposed 120 sq./ft units  
without any floor plans available to us, not  
knowing where furniture or amenities were to be  
placed. In the Brad Holmes units there is no talk  
of any fridges or stoves. There is talk of a  
microwave oven. I don't know how you people  
[city councilors] can get along with just a  
microwave oven. You need a hot plate of some  
kind. Even if you can only afford baloney you  
can't cook it in a microwave oven. Or if you want  
hot dogs, yes you can boil'em, but you can't  
cook'em.*

*(continued)*



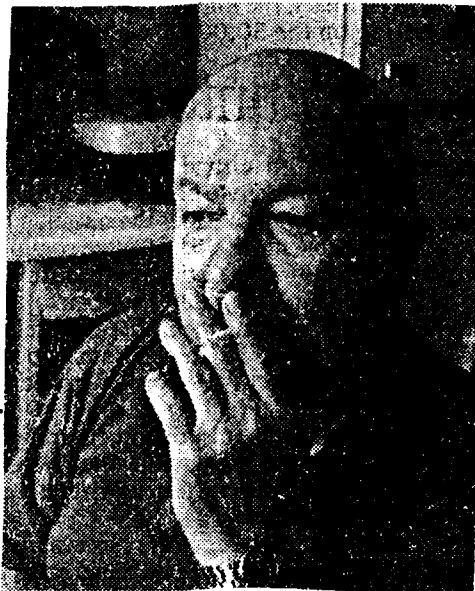
(continued from front page)

At the 120 sq./ft., I included a single bed, a closet for clothes, a table, two chairs, and a combination fridge-stove-sink. A counter top, so you can prepare some food. You need some place to cut, or your going to cut on the bed. Also, a dresser, so you can put your clothes away. I don't even have a broom closet, but I still have to have a broom and a mop because I do my own cleaning. You have to put the cleaning supplies away some place, they can't be left out in the open. Leaving them out in the open would take up floor space. There are many things that you got to go ahead and put away that either take up floor space or they got to be put on the wall.

We have a bathroom here [size proposed by Brad Holmes]. It's probably half way between this size and a eight-by-fourteen house trailer. Where you must back in and there's a shower in there also. You sit on the toilet and you have a shower. When you're finished showering you get out of the bathroom and you dry yourself in the hall. I'm sure that Mr. Holmes' bathroom is pretty well as large as this entire floor plan that he's got for an SRO. And they're no low-cost, by any means. I'm paying less money for 218 sq./ft then what he wants to collect for 120 sq./ft.

How you can put the material in here and do 120 sq./ft unless the furniture goes up into the ceiling or the bed folds up or they're card board boxes. And I've never seen a plan. I don't know if you people [city councilors] have seen one. I haven't seen one. And before he applies for any type of permit, I don't think you should approve anything until you find out what he's putting into these units and how he's putting them in.

Sonny Kenick



SONNY

## **WHITE LUNCH: TAKE TWO !**

Just when you thought that the message was clear to the city and developers that micro-suites of 110 to 150 sq/ft sandwiched under the weight of much larger loft style condos was not acceptable to this community, Providence Shelter Corporation wanted to do the same thing. At a meeting, on July 18, organized by the city, Providence proposed to built on the old White Lunch site, 134 W. Hastings (see picture), approximately 170 rental units at about 150 sq/ft and about 46 condos.

After just having told Brad Holmes that 110 sq/ft self-contained micro-suits were too micro to be livable, community members at the meeting were a bit frustrated (to put it lightly) that the Providence proposal was even being suggested. It's back to the drawing board for Providence.

By the way, Providence is same housing developer that is responsible for the two equity co-ops in Vancouver, one on Broadway, the other is currently under construction on Commercial Dr.

## Creeping Gastown

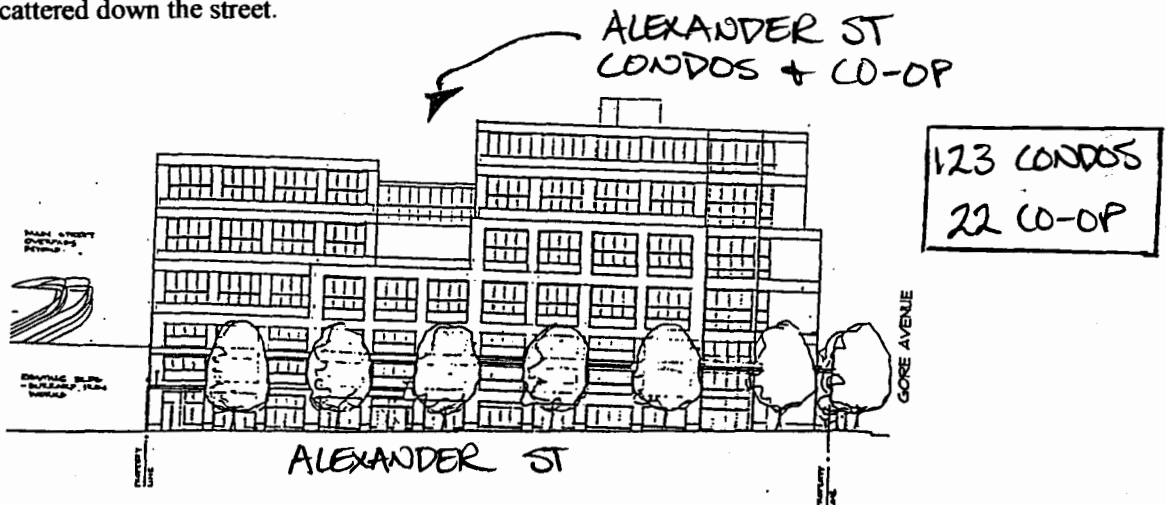
Condominium development in Gastown couldn't contain itself within the boundaries of its Victorian lit streets. The Downtown Eastside can now expect to see condos east of Main St. With this movement east, we can also expect to experience the same kind of problems associated with condo development in Gastown proper.

At a public hearing at city hall two weeks ago, Pemcor Development Corporation got the approval of council to construct at least 123 condominium units on Alexander St, just east of Main St. Pemcor needed council's approval due to the site being on land intended for industrial uses. As an industrial site it would be impossible for Pemcor to build this many condo units.

At the public hearing, the NPA council was unwilling to seriously accept the concerns raised by Eastsiders and representatives of Carnegie's Community Action Project (CAP) and DERA about this project as an agent of gentrification. Just down the street from this development is the Evelyne Saller Centre, where close to 1,200 Eastsiders a day come for meals, and Lookout Emergency Shelter, where many Eastsiders with mental health issues find support and temporary shelter. As well, there are a number of rooming houses scattered down the street.

To the amazement of members of this community, the staff report prepared for council regarding this development mentioned nothing about the existing social conditions of Alexander St. Nor did it in anyway explain how this new condo project related to the City's own Downtown Eastside housing plan or the development impacts study currently in progress. It was as if the Alexander project was being built on uncharted land, just waiting to be settled by courageous Gastown pioneers. The only comment about Alexander St. as it exists today was in terms of some silly urban design problem and how this new condo project will help "mend" Alexander St. Well, thanks, but no thanks.

The condo project was made acceptable to council mostly due to the developer offering to built and donate at no cost 22 artist live/work studios. These studios will be run as a co-op with rents set close to the GAIN rate for shelter. While it is very nice to have these affordable units, CAP felt that the inclusion of 123 condo was too big a price to pay for so few affordable units. 22 co-op units will not be able to hold the balance of power with so many condo units. This is not a mix-income project. Are we to accept further gentrification (which eventually leads to displacement of poor people) for so few affordable units ?



# A wall down the middle of Alexander St. !

## Downtown Eastside resident, Jim Ford, speak to council about the Alexander St. and Railway St. housing developments

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council

My name is Jim Ford and I am a volunteer at Carnegie and with Neighbourhood Helpers Project. For two years I have been living at Veterans Manor, which is above the Evelyn Saller Centre on Alexander St., almost directly across the street from the proposed condominium project.

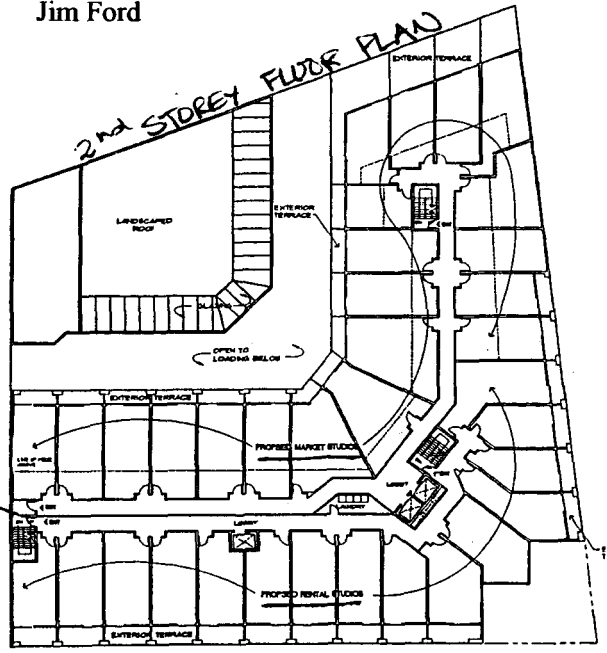
As a resident in this area I am quite aware of what goes on on Alexander St. I have a fairly good idea of the future of Alexander St. if such a development were to take place. This kind of change would be of no benefit to the existing residents or the Eastsiders who use the services in this area

I fear conflict would definitely arise between the existing residents and services found along Alexander St. and the expectations of property owners with investments to protect. A major portion of this area's population suffer from mental challenges and require facilities located less than a block away from the proposed project. Another large segment of the neighbourhood are addicted to drugs and alcohol. Existing businesses coordinate and tolerate these lifestyles and handicaps.

The proposed plans also seem to agree with differences as on page 2 of Appendix E the second storey floor plan details a wall to be built down the middle of a hallway separating the co-op suites from the condo ones (see diagram). If integration issues are dealt with in such a manner a wall would next have to be built down the middle of Alexander St. to separate the condo project from the Evelyn Saller Centre, Veteran's Manor, Lookout and the many rooming houses currently along Alexander St. Or will we be forced to move on ?

Jim Ford

WALL SEPARATING CONDOS FROM CO-OP SUITES



WALL DOWN ALEXANDER ST!

## CAP Video: The Community Responds

We now have a video of CAP members at city hall responding to the Brad Holmes development application for micro-suites on Hastings St. See how we were able to get his unlivable suites rejected.

The video was produced and directed by Nathaniel Geary. Copies of the 45 min. video are available at the CAP office (2nd floor Carnegie).

**Downtown Eastside**

# Community Breakfast

**In celebration of VanCity Place for Youth**

**Sunday, August 25**  
**9 am to noon**  
**Oppenheimer Park**



- Free hot food
- Pancakes and more
- Great morning tunes:  
Joe Keithley (DOA)  
Wayne Lavalley  
Public Dreams
- Come rain or shine!

A co-operative breakfast sponsored by  
VanCity in partnership with Downtown  
Eastside community organizations.

For more information call

VanCity at 877-7680.



## amazingly alive: a rap poem

to william worthy and milton merle

here I am  
amazingly alive  
tried to kill myself twice  
by the time I was five  
sometimes it's hard  
to take one more breath  
inside this north american  
culture of death

but here we are  
amazingly alive  
against long odds  
and left for dead  
holes  
busted  
all over my head  
can't hardly believe it  
but I been  
I been  
re-sur-rec-ted

big big trouble  
from the time I was born  
lots of people get stripped  
right to the bone  
say nobody's gonna  
touch me anymore  
if I'm gonna live  
gonna be a cutthroat whore

can't touch my heart  
can't touch my soul  
yeah I know all about  
this north american  
culture of horror

but here we are  
amazingly alive  
against long odds  
left for dead  
lazarus couldn't have been  
more shocked than me  
to have been brought back  
from the dead

a judge told me  
I was of no use  
no use at all  
to so-ci-e-ty

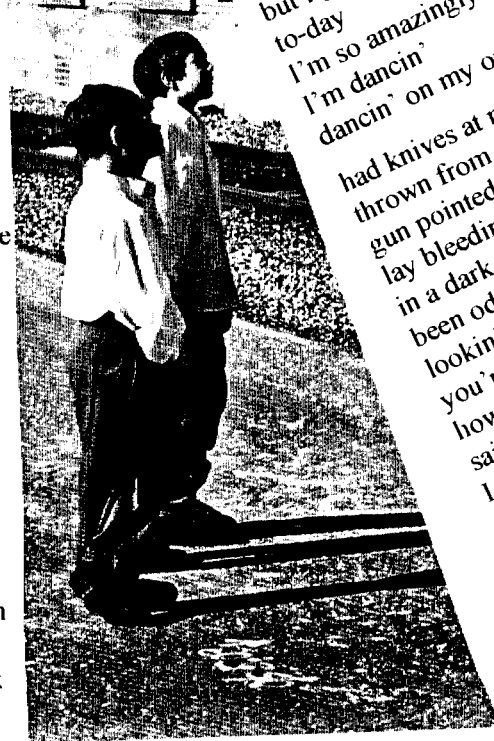
but I got news  
news for him  
a society of bullshit  
bullshit and greed  
ain't no damn use  
ain't no use to me

this hotshot head shrink  
at a locked-up nuthouse  
told me I was so  
totally hopeless

so far out  
so fucked up  
nothing could ever  
wake my life up  
but I got news for him  
to-day  
I'm so amazingly alive

I'm dancin'  
dancin' on my own grave  
had knives at my throat  
thrown from a car had my back broke  
gun pointed at my heart  
lay bleedin' to death  
in a dark city park  
been od'd so bad made a doctor mad  
you're still alive  
lookin' at me said  
how can that be?

I don't want to be  
said I don't know why I'm alive except  
but I got news  
for that doctor too  
right now I'm so alive  
feelin' so free  
doctor your science ain't nothin'  
behind this  
mys-te-ry







so here we are  
amazingly alive  
against long odds  
and left for dead  
inside a culture teachin'  
ten thousand ways  
ways to die  
before we're dead  
but here we are  
amazingly alive

I used to hate it  
hate  
hate wakin' up  
say not another damn day shit  
make it all go away

woke up one day  
wearin' a straitjacket  
locked in a padded cell  
thought I was dead and buried  
deep in hell  
but today I woke up  
sayin' got me one more  
one more day never thought  
I'd have before

so I'm dancin'  
first thing  
this brand-new morning  
dancin' first thing  
to otis redding  
dancin' with a woman  
in my arms  
naked in the sunshine  
naked in the breeze  
these arms of mine  
wrapped around her  
lord have mercy  
her arms around me

I used to wake up  
so low and mean  
so down and out  
wake up most days now  
I say shout  
shout with my heart  
and shout with my eyes  
shout with my balls



and shout with my feet  
shout with my fingers  
and shout with my soul  
shout for life  
more a-bun-dant-ly  
shout for all hard-pressed  
messed-with human beings  
shout my last breath  
shout fuck this north american  
culture of death

had to stop runnin'  
face my pain  
stop killin' myself  
face my pain  
my pain was lightning  
comin' down like rain  
but facin' me  
only way I found  
to start gettin' free  
gettin' free of north america  
inside of me  
gettin' free of this death culture  
drivin' me

now I just wanna be rid  
of north american death wish  
rid of it in you  
rid of it in me  
rid of it from everybody  
in this society  
and say up front  
to this culture of death  
can't nothin' you do  
make me give up my breath

so here I am  
here we are  
amazingly alive  
against long odds  
left for dead  
north america tellin' lies

in our head  
make you feel like shit  
better off dead

so most days now  
I say shout  
shout with joy  
shout with love  
shout for you  
shout for me  
shout down this system  
puts our souls in prison

say shout for life  
shout with our last breath  
shout fuck this north american  
culture of death  
shout love each other  
we been beat to shit

shout here we are  
amazingly alive  
amazingly alive  
against long odds  
left for dead  
we're shoutin' this death culture  
dancin' this death culture  
out of our heads  
amazingly alive

*Bud Osborn*



## **In The Dumpster**



In the last issue, I wrote about some of the 2nd-Hand stores in the DE. The key word was "some"; some pawnshops and 2nd-hand stores are buying hot goods and not putting any police reports in, which is the law.

One day I was in one of my favourite stores when the 2nd-hand Police came in. This particular store records every transaction in their books. I know this, as I deal with them sometimes. There are times I come across TVs, radios and tools that people have left behind.. maybe because they've

moved or bought newer stuff. I know they aren't hot items, but maybe they don't have serial numbers. If not, the police don't want merchants to buy them; in case something is stolen, the computer can't trace it and it's too bad for everyone.

I therefore apologise to Jamie from Rainbow's End, an excellent store.

The downtown area is getting worse, as I stated. City Hall passed new bylaws regarding I.D. being used to sell 2nd-hand goods, yet they give permits to merchants to open sleazy stores. As I reiterate, not all of them are like that and some of the older ones are very honest.

May the bins be with you.

By MR. McBINNER

Thank you all for your help and consideration for our dear departed brother, Wally Countryman.

May he rest in peace.

Carl MacDonald

# EMPLOYERS !

## ARE YOU TIRED OF UPPITY WORKERS ?

### GET YOUR VERY OWN

# RENT

# - A -

# SLAVE

NO Welfare  
if they  
quit !

All slaves  
aged  
19-24 !

No more  
sniveling about  
employment  
standards

NO Welfare  
if they  
are fired !

Detach and Mail Today !



Yes ! I'd like my very own Rent-a-Slave !

NOTE:  
This is  
NOT  
Workfare

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

Glen Clark's  
Youth Works  
Parliament Bldgs  
Victoria B.C.

B.C. YOUTH WORKS

SELECT SLAVE TYPE—

- Large brawny male
- Large brawny female
- Female; B.A. in English
- Nubile female
- Sensitive male
- Male with tool belt
- OTHER



## LET'S TAKE BACK OUR NAME!!

### **MACMILLAN BLOEDEL'S BARGES - The *Haida Brave* and the *Haida Monarch* - are SHAMING OUR NAME & STEALING OUR FOREST, OUR CULTURE & OUR FUTURE**

The *Haida Brave* and the *Haida Monarch* are the largest self-loading log barges in the world. They hold about 12,000 cubic metres of logs - 400 full logging trucks! MacBlo logs more Haida forest than anyone else.

In 1994 the total value of the province's shipments of pulp and paper products was \$5.2 BILLION Dollars!

- ◆ The barges load up 2 or 3 times a week.
- ◆ In one year the barges take away a total of \$200,000,000 (two hundred million dollars) worth of felled cedar, spruce and hemlock.
- ◆ Logging our islands provides only 427 jobs and Haidas have very few of these jobs.
- ◆ None of the large logging companies, MacBlo, Husby, TimberWest or Western Forests Products, that are clearcutting our forests, operate mills here.

## LET'S TAKE BACK OUR FORESTS.

### **COMMUNITY PROTEST STOPS LOG EXPORTS**

*Thursday, August 1, Masset, Haida Gwaii*

Today, in a community-based action, the Haida placed themselves in front of the largest log barge in the world, which is owned by MacMillan Bloedel. Eight Haidas paddled in a cedar canoe out into the inlet in front of the Haida village of Old Masset. Some villagers accompanied the canoe in small boats; others stood along the shore, drumming the 'Paddle' song. The *Haida Brave* was brought to a standstill in the inlet and the plunder of Haida land was stopped, if only temporarily.

The Haida people have endured poverty for generations while millions of dollars worth of the Haida's timber has been stolen by large forest companies such as MacMillan Bloedel. As it is there are only 5 to 10 years left of old growth forests.

The only contribution MacMillan Bloedel has made to the people of Old Masset was a \$15.00 donation toward the building of their community centre.

The Haida people responded to watching barges of their resources continually going out the inlet with a physical blockage today. The belief motivating the community action is that the land question must be addressed and interim measures must be put in place to stop the wholesale logging of the Haida's salmon-bearing river valleys and the last of the old growth cedar vital to the continuation of Haida survival.

In the face of the Haida people's protest, the MacMillan Bloedel barge has dropped anchor. The Haida ceremonial canoe is now moving up the inlet toward the MacBlo barge.

For more information, contact Sharleen White Davidson...604-626-3985

## Distorting Teenage Pregnancy

In his 1994 State of the Union speech, President Clinton painted the unwed teenage mother as a welfare leech, and demanded that her errant ways be punished by welfare cut-off and forced return to so-called loving Mom and Dad.

Yet Clifton would have been aware of the research showing that the majority of teen mothers suffered violent sexual and physical abuses at home, that most sexually active girls under fifteen were initiated into sex by rape by older males, and that higher welfare rates are correlated with lower, not higher, rates of teen births.

Two-thirds of the pregnant and parenting teens in a mostly white Washington State research project had been sexually abused or raped. Victims average ten years old at the time of abuse. Abusers averaged twenty-seven years old, and most were adult male family members. A University of Chicago study found that childhood sexual abuse was the single biggest predictor of teenage pregnancy.

Equating rape with having sex, blaming sexual violence on the victim's behavior, and ignoring the power issues in sex between adults and thirteen year-olds, are classic rape myths.

In a few sentences buried in an August 1995 anti-smoking speech, President Clinton managed to admit that adult men were the issue in a majority of teen pregnancies. "It's child abuse," the president said, "and it's not right."

Still, politicians and the media do not discuss the reality behind most teenage pregnancy - poverty, sexual abuse, beatings, rape by older males,



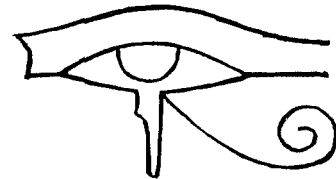
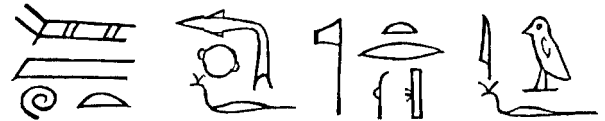
unemployment, and the abandonment by adult fathers with little child support.

The next time you hear politicians blame teenage mothers, or youth in general, for the problems that have been created by the failed economic policies of the past twenty years, give them a piece of your mind.

By SANDY CAMERON

(Information from "The Scapegoat Generation - America's War on Adolescents", by Mike Maler.)

## Egyptian Art



3rd Floor/Carnegie  
Aug. 21 to end of Sept.

TORA / R. POOLEY 153 POWELL #110



**People with lots of friends are the loneliest folks in the world.**

**Joe Paul**



# Downtown Eastside Residents Assoc

Dear Friends and Neighbours:

August 8, 1996

A meeting has been structured for August 10 in the Carnegie Centre theatre by a disparate group of individuals whose aim it is to destroy DERA as it currently functions and re-assemble it to suit their own individual purposes.

The following board members, whose integrity has been callously maligned by these people, disavows any association with all activities scheduled for this meeting: Deirdre Keohane, Margaret Prevost, Ian MacRae Barry Morris, Fred Oliveira, Rena Purjue, Carl Reinboth, Paul Taylor, YF.Tin

Further, DERA has been instructed by its lawyer that agenda items at this meeting which involve replacing the current elected Board of Directors, and which call for another election in 1996 have no legal foundation under either the DERA Constitution of The Society's Act of BC, and no such issues have been approved by the current DERA Board for public discussion.

The above mentioned Board members work long hard volunteer hours to fight for the rights of Downtown Eastside residents; any agenda such as this which is designed to divide and conquer, to turn DERA members against each other, will be strenuously resisted by them at every turn. We hope that we can count on your support to turn back this ugly wave of petty vilification and malice.

Sincerely,

Ian MacRae, President, Downtown Eastside Residents' Association, on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Editor,

Carnegie Newsletter

12 August 1996

Re: POW and the "Friends of DERA"

Dear Editor and readers,





My personal apologies to you, Doug. If the concept of moral courage becomes a shared principle before the next issue, your letter to the editor will appear in the Sept. 1st edition.

PRT

**DOWNTOWN  
EASTSIDE  
YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES  
SOCIETY**

**STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday - Friday, 10a.m. - 6p.m.  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 9a.m. - 8p.m. everyday  
Needle Exchange Van - on the street every night, 6p.m. -  
2p.m. (except Mondays, 6p.m. - midnight)**

1996 DONATIONS:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Paula R. - \$10    | Census            |
| Wm/ B/ - \$20      | Employees - \$200 |
| Lillian H. - \$25  | Neil N. - \$13    |
| Sonya S. - \$100   | Diane M. - \$15   |
| Kettle F.S. - \$16 | Lorne T. - \$20   |
| Hazel M. \$10      | Mel L. - \$17     |
| Joy T. - \$10      | Sara D. - \$20    |
| Bea F. - \$30      | CEEDS - \$20      |
| Frances - \$50     | Susan S. - \$30   |
| Charley - \$25     | DEYAS - \$100     |
| Libby D. - \$40    | Brigid R. - \$30  |
| Guy M. - \$20      | Amy E. - \$20     |
| Tom D. - \$17      | Rene F. - \$50    |
|                    | Kay F. - \$15     |
|                    | Anonymous \$67    |
|                    | Sam R. - \$35     |

# Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE  
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

Articles represent the views of individual  
contributors and not of the Association.

**Submission Deadline  
for the next issue:**

**27 August  
Tuesday**

## NEED HELP?

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association  
can help you with:

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

Come into the Dera office at 425 Carrall St. or  
phone us at 682-0931.

**DERA HAS BEEN SERVING  
THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE  
FOR 23 YEARS.**

