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# Carnegie

## NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 1, 1997.

401 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 2T7, (604) 665-2220

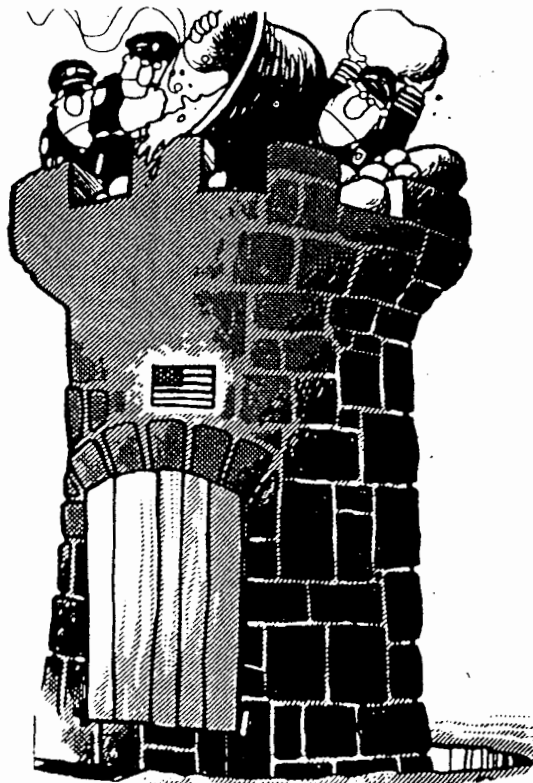
### ***Life on the Inside:***

Your recent article about security guards who know nothing on the "outside" (Security? Guards by Todd Keller, *CN 15 9*), which I found most amusing, prompted me to try and let the public know how ridiculous guards on the "Inside" can be also. I presently am incarcerated and am surrounded by guards who know practically nothing at all.

These people are trained by the Justice Institute and some are twenty-odd years old, which is half my age, and really have "no life skills."

How unprofessional these people are too. They are not professional observers, as they are not trained for this specifically. They are indeed trained to observe but beyond the most elementary precautions for safety they have no clue - what are they observing? Human beings who are incarcerated, who are trying to function in "unnatural settings," ..how does one "observe" that? The psychologist here told me that the guards don't really know what they're observing, and when you read your own file (this is what the Parole Board goes by!) you can really tell, as so much nonsense is written about you. These guards often make our situation worse and some of us will be incarcerated for a very long period of time.

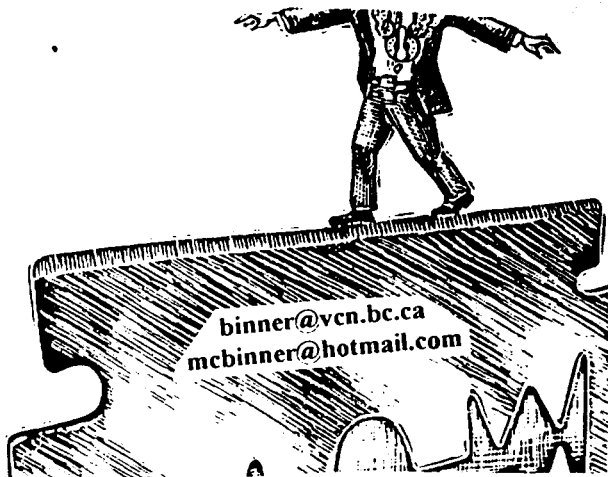
Why does the government hire such young people with little or no life-skills in the first place? And



pay them \$20 per hour plus to do practically nothing?? The government (taxpayers) spend a lot of money paying these idiots to do a very intrusive, ridiculous job.

I think their training needs to be reviewed quite often, upgraded, and that they be taught how to relate to the inmate on much better terms. That is a personal observation of mine and of my fellow inmates as well.

**Kathy Grimmson, an inmate.**



## In The Dumpster

Greetings fellow binner and binnerettes.

We have a new television station in Vancouver called (gasp!) Vancouver Television or VTV. Welcome to Vancouver's airwaves. Also welcome to Optwell Photos at 128 E. Cordova, new to our community. Other than that there is not much news except that VTV sent or got a story from a young reporter who heard about the HIV+ epidemic here: she came to the local streets and was almost immediately sitting on the pavement in an alley talking to a woman addicted to heroin. By not trying to set herself apart (or higher, as almost all such people do) this reporter got an incredible story from the addicted woman and it played as a feature on VTV. Other networks tried to jump on the bandwagon but they were just outclassed by this one honest lady.

May The Bins Be With You. ... and Hey! let's be careful out there.

By MR. McBINNER



Dear Gary Groove, ([southpaw@vcn.bc.ca](mailto:southpaw@vcn.bc.ca))

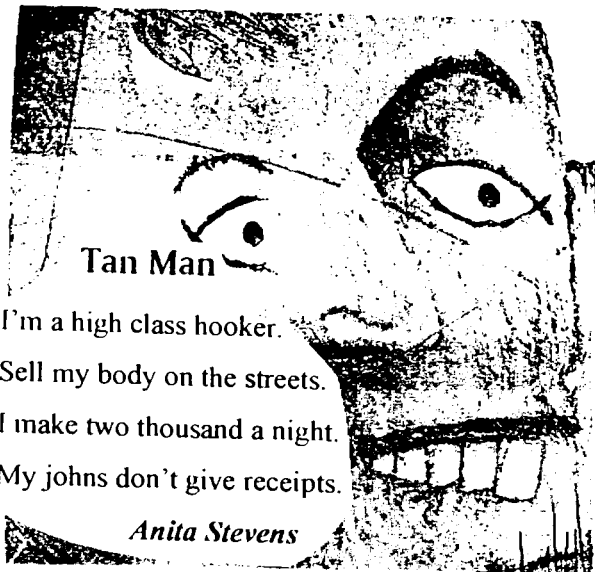
Why did the Premier hold a \$125-a-plate dinner in the poorest area in Vancouver to raise funds for his party when there is no money for people to eat proper?

Disgusted

Dear Disgusted,

Maybe he has no class or, like Mayor Owen, just doesn't give a shit.

G.G.



Tan Man

I'm a high class hooker.

Sell my body on the streets.

I make two thousand a night.

My johns don't give receipts.

Anita Stevens

## Canadian Politics

A visitor to Canada struck up an acquaintance with one of the locals. Everything went fine until the visitor asked the Canadian to explain Canadian politics. The Canadian laughed, drew a revolver and shot the visitor in the left foot, then said, "That'll be a thousand bucks."

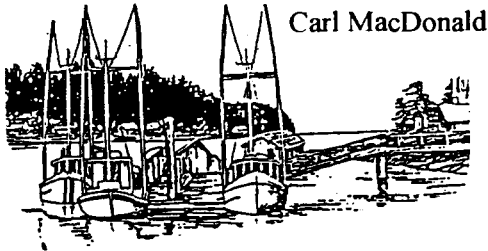
"What's the meaning of this?!" cried the visitor. The Canadian then shot him in the right foot and said, "That's five thousand bucks. Now pay up or I'll aim higher."

Submitted by George Sheffield.

There is a room in the corner of the poorest area of Vancouver where some of the most colourful people in North America gather to learn about such subjects as math, ABC's, computers and other interests. I, for one, am very proud of my association with all parts of the Carnegie, but share a special love for the tutors, students and passersby who visit the third floor classrooms.

Ever since the rescue from the Vancouver School Board we have become one as a unit of friendship and understanding. With people like Sarah, Carol, Wendy, and others behind the scene, this is one of the best places to visit.

I pray for many more blessings for our Learning Centre.



Carl MacDonald

### Frederick Murphy Yeltatzie

Freddie was born on June 5, 1942 in Masset, Haida Gwaii. Many of his friends have been shocked and saddened to learn that he died on April 9, 1997 at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver.

Freddie left behind his mother, Mary Swanson, a daughter and a grandson, Mahalia and Donovan Young, granddaughters Bambi Loyie, Deshanna and Chas, sisters Yvonne Muschamp, Crystal Robinson, and Goldie and Roberta Swanson, and a brother, Darin Swanson.

Following is a poem written by Fred to his sister:

*May warm winds of happiness  
blow softly upon you,  
And may the great spirit bring  
sunrise in your heart.*

*Love,  
Fred.*

Internet Registering and tutoring  
with Carl MacDonald  
Tues & Thursday, 12-2pm

### A Special Thanks to All

We wanted to let you know how much we appreciate and value your tremendous efforts at putting together such a successful Literacy Day presentation on September 19.

Thanks to you, Larry was encouraged to put together a 25-minute reading of scenes from Fifty Years Credit, his new play. Being able to read it at Carnegie before an enthusiastic audience was significant. It was at Carnegie that Larry wrote his first play, Ora Pro Nobis (Pray For Us). Not only was this play performed at Carnegie but also at the South Hill United Church, at five Lower Mainland prisons, and in Toronto as well at the annual aboriginal theatre festival.

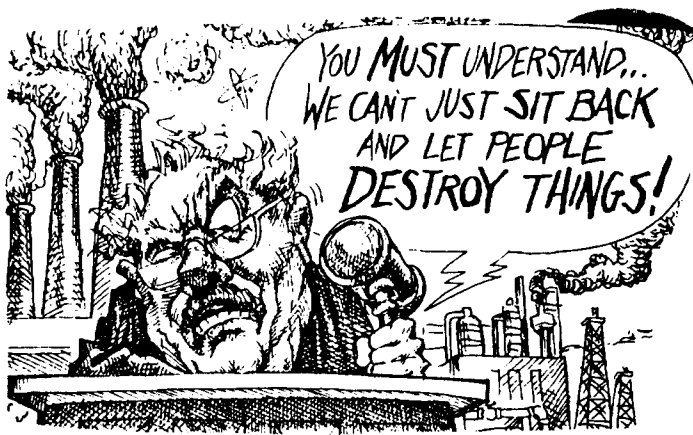
Fifty Years Credit is a play about the media (especially newspapers) and the effect of media coverage on First Nations people. In addition to Carnegie Learning Centre staff and volunteers, the reading was attended by representatives of the Vancouver Public Library, Literacy B.C. and Native Education. We were honoured to have both learners and other writers in the audience.

Response was very positive - the most commonly received comment was that the play was "powerful." Several audience members noted that a scene where Wayne portrayed Almighty Voice telling of his last hours, then singing his death song, sent chills through them.

All in all, it was a very successful introduction of Larry's new work. Once again, thank you all for the great support, planning and hard work that went into making the afternoon event such a huge success.

Yours sincerely,

Oskiniko Larry Loyie, playwright  
Constance Brissenden, director



## Two Students Arrested at UBC Administration orders the arrest for activities against APEC

On September 22, two University of British Columbia students were arrested by the RCMP while participating in a non-violent action to raise awareness about the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Summit to be held on campus this November 24 and 25.

The arrested students, Shiraz Dindar, 25, and Mark Luchkow, 22, were painting a circle on pavement around the Goddess of Democracy statue, which commemorates the victims of the Tianamen Massacre. The students, part of a grassroots campus group called APEC ALERT have dubbed the circle an "APEC-Free Zone."

RCMP arrived on the scene and promptly arrested the people who happened to be painting at the time. Dindar and Luchkow were fingerprinted, had their photos taken and were charged with mischief. RCMP officers told the students, neither of whom had criminal records, that they were told to make the arrests by members of the UBC administration, the same people who decided unilaterally to hold the controversial APEC meeting earlier in the year without absolutely no input from staff, students or the general public.

Dindar, a sociology student, defended the actions of APEC ALERT. "We're trying to establish an

APEC-Free Zone, a place where we can be free from the tyranny of dictators like General Suharto, the President of Indonesia, who is due to visit UBC this November along with 17 other 'leaders' as part of APEC."

The APEC process hopes to establish a "free" trade zone for the entire Pacific region by 2010, but is largely a mechanism to create an aura of approval that just doesn't exist. Having this Summit at a university is calculated to legitimize all the smoke n' mirrors employed to disguise the real goals - a race to the bottom in terms of stripping governments of power to intervene in the world of business if business decisions are not in the best interests of citizens, and in terms of the massive poverty that will result; the destruction of social programs and ultimately democratic forms of self-determination (one person / one vote etc.) in favour of profit and corporate power.

The extremes of APEC, as with existing "free" trade deals, is to perpetuate the present imbalance

- "The top 358 billionaires are worth the combined income of 45% of the planet's population, the 2.5 billion people on the bottom." - Covert Action Quarterly

The idea of establishing an "APEC-Free Zone" is ripe for the Downtown Eastside. Why? When APEC 'leaders' met in Manila in the Philippines, over 20,000 people were violently driven from their homes in the poorest area of that city. The reason was that these 'leaders' would be driven past the slum area daily and poor people and their communities were an eyesore.

So far about the only propaganda being released by the business spin doctors is that the APEC meeting in Vancouver in November is going to be the largest security operation in the history of Canada.

"And YES boys & girls! You too could be part of this great (security) event - if not as a participant then certainly as a victim!!!"

(\*The first part of this came from Kinesis and was released by the East Timor Alert Network.)

casually, these last few hours  
 unwind what need to be  
 done. oil, oil  
 filters, hydraulics  
 water for the engine  
 ice. all in time  
 untied from its deeper necessities  
 like the steam donkey  
 stranded on a grassy hill  
 perusing the wharf  
 an old tourist as home  
 here as anywhere

no vengeful sirens, deprived  
 of us unmoor this life  
 secretly in the harbor dark  
 rather, indifferent, flux  
 time, monopolization, whatever  
 unmythical and persistent angularity  
 chugs forward its path

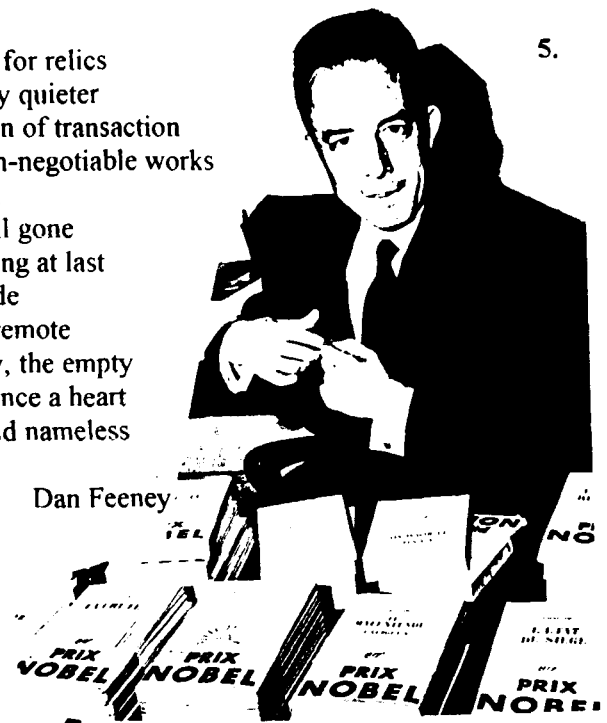
### Life Preservers for the Pier

A few weeks ago a young couple were at the beach in Crab park and, it being a scorching hot day, dipped in to cool off. She swam further out and suddenly was in trouble. As her friend yelled for help I looked around for a life-saver and couldn't locate one. None near the green barrels, none near the lamp standards, and none on the pier.

I pushed a flat board out towards her husband. He swam back out with the plank and at the same time, at the other end of the beach, a native dude side-straddled a log and paddled over. They both arrived at the same time and saved her from certain hypothermia.

Being curious I went over to the ranger's hut in

in a terrain fit for relics  
 while each day quieter  
 beneath the din of transaction  
 something non-negotiable works  
 its resignation  
 the motions all gone  
 through, drifting at last  
 on a higher tide  
 to a shore as remote  
 as love, sanity, the empty  
 mesh of evidence a heart  
 is, aground and nameless



Dan Feeny

the park and inquired as to the availability of life-saving equipment. "well, there's not supposed to be swimming there" he hastily replied.

"Well, what if it was a boating accident?" I countered. Then it was off to the port police. No reply. The marine squad beside Tyson Tours, again no reply. Gold Seal has preservers on the entire fleet. Finally at the fire department the fireman said, "they keep getting ripped off so call 911- we have floatation devices."

Well, I wouldn't want my life dependant on a phone call .....

While hiking on mount Artaban, one leader turned around at the halfway point and, as the other hikers wished to continue the climb, was forced to return alone. While alone he encountered a hornet's nest on a tree log and was attacked by four hundred angry wasps. He survived with only seven stings, but again it stresses the danger of separating from the group to go it alone. More safety in numbers.

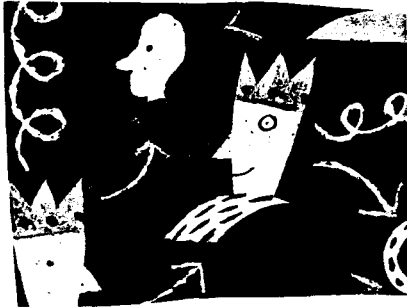
Taum

'97091716427..td



## Seraph

I think I'm gonna build me a menstrual hut  
 'cause when I get my period, I'm in rut.  
 Seraph, won't you come? Won't you come and get  
 this little badger, this lonely gretch  
 and take her to her loony., take her to her moony,  
 take her to her menstrual hut



## Reading Room Roundup

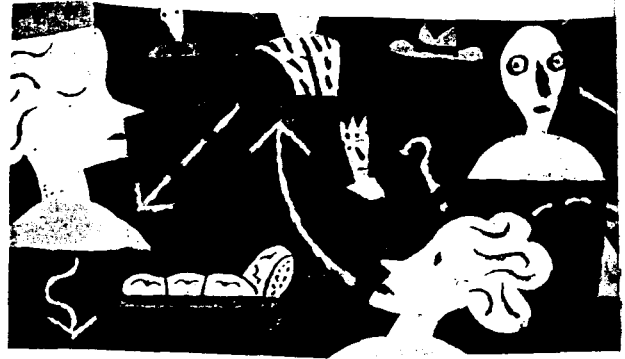
On August 6 we had a retirement party for a very special person. Eleanor Kelly could relate to everyone who entered this building and was such an efficient organizer.

There were many tributes to our head librarian. I remember her as a counsellor, as many patrons would pour their hearts out to this amazing lady when they were feeling down. It was because of a daughter's illness that she decided to work in this area.

Cyril Ekstein was one of many who often confided in Eleanor. We were shocked to hear how he passed away at such an early age. I shall always remember Cyril helping me decorate the Christmas tree in the library. I thoroughly enjoy

I have 6 keys in my pocket.  
 Each for a coffin.  
 I had my unborn killed.  
 I had a choice.  
 I see no reflection in my mirror.  
 I'll never know my children..  
 I've planted weeping willows on their grave.

## POETRY BY ANITA STEVENS



being on the library committee and one of the highlights was when we attended the first Inner City Library Conference. Eleanor was instrumental in obtaining funding for us and we owe her a great debt of gratitude.

We stayed in a beautiful old brick building which used to be a T.B. sanatorium. It is nestled in the midst of the spectacular Qu' Appelle valley surrounded by rolling hills.

Even though we went there at the end of April there was still ice on the lake.

The organizers of the conference were fantastic and there was entertainment for us every evening. We were invited to a Sioux reserve for supper and dancing. Everyone made us feel extremely welcome.

This is a time for new beginnings. We were very fortunate in obtaining Andrew Martin for our library. He is great for this community as he used to fill in for Eleanor, and finds it easy to relate to the patrons. Please make him feel welcome..

Irene Schmidt

Previous articles have told of the de-listing of Kevin Annett as a minister in the United Church -

Both Kevin and Harriett Nahanee held a public forum at Carnegie on Sept. 26 to present evidence they each have of wrong-doings and to have other survivors participate.

New testimony had revealed more deaths of Native children at the (Port) Alberni residential school Harry Wilson, a former student there between 1961 & '70, claims that he discovered the body of a dead young woman behind the school in 1967.

*"She was about 16, lying dead, completely naked and covered in blood. There was blood everywhere. I ran and told Mr. Andrews, the Principal, and he said he was calling the RCMP. But I never saw them show up, and the girl's body disappeared."* - from a signed statement made on September 17.

Mr. Wilson claims that the RCMP never questioned him about the incident and that no investigation of the death ever occurred. He also states that another student, Frank Williams, was found dead in the school lunchroom the same year. He was found hanged.

Harry Wilson was sent away from the school soon after this, in 1967, and was eventually hospitalized against his will in Bella Coola by the RCMP after they talked to his parents.

There was an article in Victoria's *Times-Colonist* recently on Harry's statement. Kevin Annett was contacted by Constable Gerry Peters, who heads the RCMP's "E Division" which investigates 'abuse allegations' at the Residential Schools. He changed the line given to Harriett Nahanee that the RCMP had "concluded its investigation" of the schools in January 1997, saying to Annett that it was still ongoing. Unfortunately, Paul Willms, who once headed the investigation, had been "transferred elsewhere" and no-one had replaced him. It was exactly the same kind of subterfuge the church had been using for more than 3 years, with denials of responsibility for anything and re-writing history as it suited church officials. Peters

then said (and it's on tape), *"It was never the mandate of the Task Force to investigate reports of homicide at the schools. We decided that before the investigation began."*

At the same time Peters stated that another alleged murder victim, Albert Gray, had died of pneumonia. When asked if there was a death certificate or burial certificate, Peters said "no" to both. "Then how do you know? Did you just accept the word of people with something to lose?" Collusion between church officials, RCMP officers and MacMillan-Bloedel executives is not the stretch it sounds like when all things - institutionalised racism, hidden economic agendas, theft of Native land and the attempted spiritual destruction of aboriginal families with abuse and 2nd-class citizenship the norm - are considered.

In a related event, an incident recorded on film and attested to by an eye-witness occurred outside the United Church offices on W.4th Ave. Both Kevin and Harriett were there for a press conference. **Brian Thorpe**, Chief Officer of the United Church in BC, took copies of government documents indicating the liability of the United Church in abuses at the schools from a box belonging to Kevin without his knowledge or permission. Watching the incident and holding the door for Mr. Thorpe was **Jon Jessiman**, legal counsel for the United Church of BC. Both of these guys were instrumental in the removal of Annett from his ministry in Port Alberni.

For more info: Kevin Annett 462-1086.

### Residential School Healing Circle

on Carnegie's 3rd floor

Sundays from 7-9pm, Classroom #2

**Starting October 5**

*All welcome.*

**DOWNTOWN STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday - Friday, 10a.m. - 6p.m.**  
**EASTSIDE NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 8:30am- 8p.m. everyday**  
**YOUTH Needle Exchange Van -3 Routes: City (5:45pm-11:45pm); -**  
**ACTIVITIES Overnight (12:30am-8:30am) Downtown Eastside (5:30pm-1:30am)**  
**SOCIETY**

**1997 DONATIONS**

Census Wkrs -\$200	Rocking Guys-\$30
B.C. PIURA -\$1000	Paula R.-\$30
VanCity Chinatown -\$200	Wm. B.-\$20
Legal Services Society -\$1230	Lillian H.-\$25
	Joy T.-\$20
	Frances -\$25
	Charley B.-\$15
	Libby D.-\$40
	Guy M.-\$10
	Sam R.-\$20
	Rick Y.-\$63
	BCCW -\$60
	Joan D.-\$5
	Ray-Cam -\$40
	Sonya Sommers -\$100
	Tom -\$20
	Amy -\$10
	Sharon J.-\$50
	Holden Htl -\$5
	Mike -\$15
	Harold D.-\$19.10
	Anita S.-\$10
	Rene -\$30
	Neil N.-\$10
	Bill G.-\$20
	DEYAS -\$75
	CEEDS -\$10
	Susan S.-\$30
	Sara D.-\$20
	Diane M.-\$15
	Lorne T.-\$20
	Mel L.-\$20



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:  
 10 October  
 Friday**

## 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 24 YEARS.**





# Community Action Project

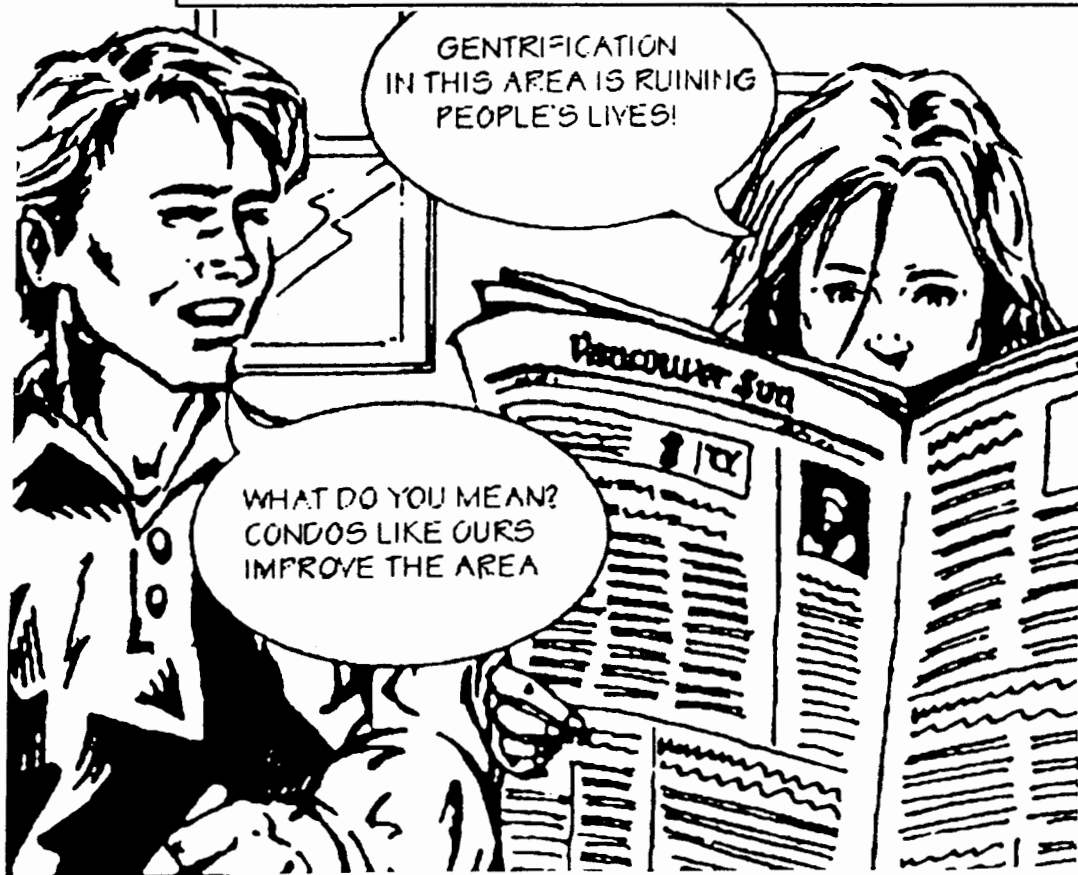
October 1, 1997

Want to get involved ! Call 689-0397 or come see us at Carnegie (2nd fl.)

## ! News Flash !

- **Woodwards' Development Permit Hearing Rescheduled**
- **Council decides Mole Hill's future**

(see back page for details)



.....continued on next page

## CCAP talks with Tourism Vancouver

Recently, CCAP met with Rick Antonson, President of Tourism Vancouver, to discuss the proposed hotel anti-conversion and demolition by-law. Tourism Vancouver is a powerful voice in Vancouver's tourist industry, so CCAP felt it necessary to let Mr. Antonson know how important CCAP believes the proposed conversion control by-law is to preventing homelessness and community disintegration.

Recently, in the *Vancouver Sun* (Sept 18, 1997), Mr. Antonson commented that "the last we [Tourism Vancouver] want is a backlash against tourism ... We need to develop a community-embraced industry." These comments offered CCAP some hope that Tourism Vancouver would support us in our effort to get hotel conversion controls.

Another hopeful sign was Tourism Vancouver's opposition to the waterfront casino project, back when this community was struggling hard to block the casino development.

While CCAP received no firm assurance that Tourism Vancouver would endorse a conversion control by-law, Mr. Antonson did point out that likely they would not be a strong supporter or opponent to the by-law. In other words, Tourism Vancouver may remain silent. CCAP will continue to communicate with Mr. Antonson over this issue.

**Note:** CCAP advised Tourism Vancouver that some of the residential hotels that have evicted monthly residents, like the Dominion Hotel, advertise (through brochures) in their storefront office at Waterfront Centre. Mr. Antonson told CCAP that there is little he can do to prevent these hotels from advertising at their storefront. However, if any cares to, feel free to pick up the Dominion Hotel's (and others) brochures, they make great bookmarks!

## Hotel California Evicts its residents at the end of October

Close to one hundred residents of the California will be looking for new homes at the end of October. Legal challenges, organized by the Legal Service Society, Downtown South Residents Association and Main and Hastings Community Development Society, were unsuccessful at reversing the evictions. The owner of the California (and the Yale Hotel), Wade Luciak, has yet to formally indicate a change of mind over the evictions. His motives for the evictions are based on his very premature fear over the proposed hotel anti-conversion by-law. If he knew anything about San Francisco's hotel by-law, he'd understand that any application of such a by-law to the California may likely include status as a residential and tourist hotel.

**Backpacker Hostel in the California.** *BC Rainbow Hostel* has moved out of the Dominion Hotel and into the California. The rate is \$18/night in a room with 3 to 4 beds.

## City Inspectors check out the Orwell Hotel.

On Thursday, October 11, police, fire and property inspectors from the city jointly checked out the conditions within the Orwell (456 E. Hastings). There were numerous fire and standards of maintenance violations as well as signs that management wasn't in control of the situation. In some ways it looks similar to what happened at the Roosevelt in terms of the manager being incapable of properly managing the hotel.

The owner of the hotel is **Kwok Wah Investments Ltd**, their address is nearby at #202 - 261 E. Pender St. Drop by, tell them they don't take care of their building.

## BC Housing will now consider time on wait list as a consideration for housing

A recent housing workshop organized by PRG and CCAP, invited guest Jim Woodward, head of BC Housing's Community Services division, announced some new selection criteria to their housing wait list.

From now on your length of time on the wait list will be considered a factor in determining an applicant's eligibility. Before, eligibility was solely based on factors that demonstrated greatest need. BC Housing will now also do landlord and credit checks on applicants. Doing landlord checks concerned many people at the meeting, considering that hotel landlords have terrible reputations.

**Note:** BC Housing generally has about 80 to 85 vacant units per month, which is not very much.



(story compliments of EYA)

## ***Here We Go Again !***

### **Woodwards' Development Permit Hearing, Monday, October 20**

The upcoming October 20th Development Permit Hearing will be the third try by FAMA Holdings to get their all-condo Woodward's project approved by the city. Since the April 4, 1997, betrayal by Fama to not include the Woodward's Co-op attempts at getting their project of the ground have been stalled for one reason or another. Certainly, one reason for the delay has been the level of protest this community has inflicted upon Fama Holdings. It has cost Fama at least an additional six months (since April). As you know, "*Time Is Money.*"

**The Development Permit Hearing will begin at 3 pm. in the Council Chamber, 3rd. flr. CCAP,** in conjunction with other Downtown Eastside organizations, has begun to plan a series of events for the day of the hearing. If you'd like more information or want to help out in organizing the events please drop by the CCAP office on second floor of Carnegie or call us at 689-0397. Also, if you'd like to speak at the hearing it's a very good idea to register with the City Clerk's Office @ 873-7276.

The Woodward's plans submitted to the City by Chuck Brooks Development Planning on behalf of Fama Holdings indicate the following development plans.

Total area	610,429sq.ft.
Retail/Commercial uses	209,051sq.ft.
Residential area	401,378sq.ft
Condo units	419 units

# 419

## **Condos Proposed !**

The new plans include a very large increase in the number of condos. Even before the Woodward's Co-op was involved, the plan was for 354 condo units (June, 1995). Now we have 419. So, not only do we have Fama asking for more residential area (an additional 27,000sq/ft), but also more condo owners, in smaller units, demanding that the neighbourhood be "cleaned-up" (that is, get rid of the existing low-income residents). The substantial increase in the number of units is one argument members of the Development Permit Board must clearly hear. **What is the Development Permit Board ?** The Board is the Director of Planning, the City Engineer and the Director of Social Planning. The Board makes all decisions and does not need the advise of Council.

### **City Council to make decision on the future of Mole Hill Tuesday, October 7, 2pm**

After years of confrontation, consultation and indecision Mayor Owen and fellow Councilors will likely make a decision over the future Mole Hill. Over 80 units of rooming house style market rental housing may vanish if Council decides to convert over half of the total number of rooming house units (168) to high-end market housing. As well, the demolition of a number of heritage houses is at stack.

Attendance at the October 7th meeting is critical. Council needs to know that Mole Hill deserves to remain as affordable market rental housing

A large mass of energy propelled away from the sun and came apart in nine major pieces in various sizes and distances from the sun.

One of the energy masses cooled and formed into the planet earth. The cooling caused certain gases to float slightly away from the gravitational force of the planet, creating an atmospheric envelope that helped to protect the earth from the scorching radiation of the sun.

The lessened radiation that did make it through the atmosphere reached earth with beneficial effects.

The radiation deflected off the earth and back out into space, carrying with it new elements that would form clouds that became trapped between earth and its atmosphere.

Being trapped, the clouds fell into the first Law of the universe - that all mass and energy must be in a slow, constant state of change.

And so, the lighter substances of the clouds converted into the heavier properties of water that fell back into the gravitational force in small droplets, and the womb of our planet was created as the conversions increased over the millennia until great bodies of water covered the earth.

.....

From the ingredients of the sun came the earth. From the altered ingredients of the earth came water, From the further altered ingredients of water came our most ancient ancestors, in a condition we now call life.

Tiny specks blossomed in the nourishing waters. Tiny specks changing, always changing over millions of years. Growing, surviving, evolving into a new form of energy, dependent only on the liquid womb around it, and the sun's filtered radiation.

The specks took into their bodies a form of oxygen from the waters of the great oceans. Some of the specks floated into inland streams and became trapped in small puddles. When the puddles evaporated, the specks died because they had no process by which to bring oxygen into their bodies, outside the womb of water.

Again, Nature steps in and demands change from the mindless specks, giving them a more powerful innate intelligence. We can imagine the inaudible voice of Nature instructing the dumb organisms that if they could live outside the water for three seconds, then with practice they could live outside the water for four seconds, etc.

And on and on it went until the organisms could spend an hour on dry land, then half a day; allowing the chemical processes in their slimy bodies to develop a capacity to take in oxygen outside of the water's womb, and thusly, the lung began to evolve.

Millions of years later, the organisms were spending more and more time out of the water and traveling greater distances from it. But their bodily systems still required daily supplies of fresh inland water to survive.

Tonight the descendants of these specks and organisms are still striving to escape the boundaries that trap them. The Mir space station is the ultimate evidence of how far our earthly evolution has journeyed.

.....

The above article is based on a culmination of thought from a number of documented sources. It is not intended to be accepted as factual to the point of undermining current religious beliefs which are, in part, in the domain of the spiritual side of life. The spiritual side will be discussed at another time.

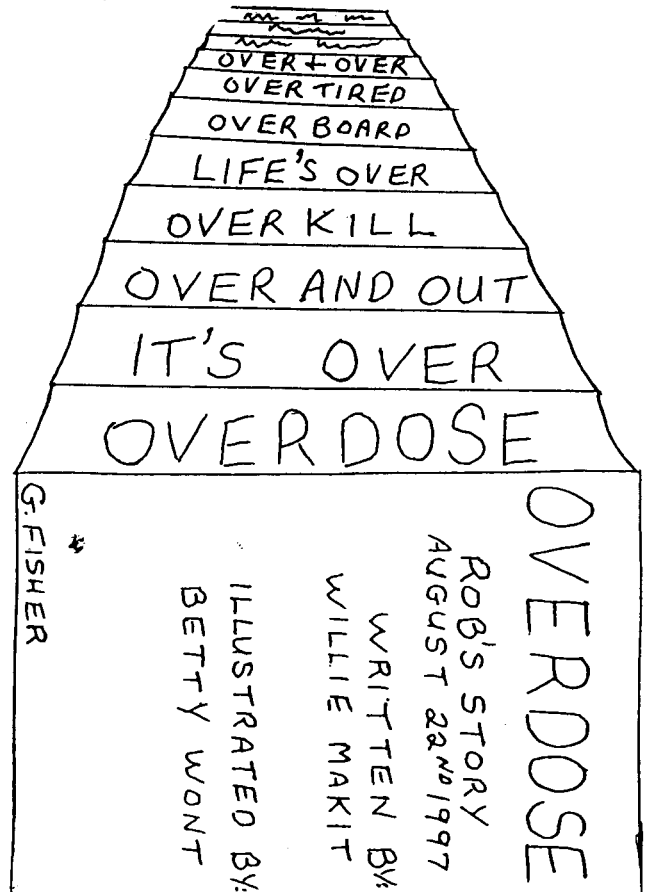
## WAITING

- Waiting for the day to arrive  
hour to leave  
time to go
- Waiting for the cab to come  
get there
- Waiting for the airport line to end..for a washroom  
my time at the desk  
to load my luggage
- Waiting for the hour the plane leaves  
to move to the designated area  
board the plane
- Waiting for the plane to leave  
to get there  
five, four, three, two, one hour
- Waiting to pick up my luggage,  
leave the airport  
for the airporter bus for a washroom
- Waiting to get to the hotel  
arrive for the washroom
- Waiting to sign the register  
go to my room  
rules for tour "rise early"
- Waiting to go out to a restaurant  
see the town, alone
- Waiting for the tour coach  
after being woken up at 5:30  
to see the sights, eat for a washroom
- Waiting to get to a hotel  
get to bed  
for the next day waiting for a washroom
- Waiting to leave for home  
for an airporter bus  
the time to get on the plane
- Waiting to eat on the plane  
for a drink, the washroom  
to prepare to get off
- Waiting for a cab home

Dora Sanders

**MAKE YOUR CAREER DREAMS A REALITY**  
Pride Centre - Employment Options is a service that assists people within the V5A V5B V5C, E, G, H, J, K, L, V0M, V6A postal code area. Everyone is eligible for measures such as career exploration and job finding club. People with disabilities and those who have been on Employment Insurance within the past 3 years or Maternity Leave within the past 5 years are eligible for training, self-employment assistance and job creation.

**HOW DOES IT WORK** Come in to Pride Centre at 425 Carrall and make an appointment. Bring info such as Social Insurance Number, Employment and Education record. Bring your latest Resume if possible. Come on Monday, Oct. 5, and be available for questions and bookings.



# THE DAYS OF WINE OR ROSES

ARRIVED IN TOWN TEN YEARS AGO,  
MY SELF ESTEEM WAS VERY LOW,  
MAINTAINED FIVE YEARS, STILL NO WORK,  
MY WELFARE WORKER IS SUCH A JERK,  
I STARTED DRINKING THIS SPECIAL WINE  
MADE OF RICE IT WENT DOWN FINE,  
IT'S KILLING MY KIDNEYS AND MY BRAIN,  
ON MY LIVER WHAT A STRAIN,  
DESTROYED FRIENDS I DIDN'T KNOW  
A DEATH SENTENCE, VERY SLOW,  
IT'S TIME TO STOP AND FACE  
THE PAIN,  
IT'S TIME TO STOP AND  
LIVE AGAIN

IN FOND MEMORY  
OF ROBERT MACDUGAL  
1947 - 1997



*Glenn Fisher*

# The Dominion Hotel



When I came to Vancouver  
in January, 1965,  
I lived at the Dominion Hotel  
on the corner of Abbott and Water Streets.  
It was a quiet hotel  
and the residents  
were retired loggers  
miners  
fishermen  
and construction workers  
for the most part.  
They were the men  
who built the resource industries  
of British Columbia,  
and the Dominion Hotel  
was their home.  
Rent was forty dollars a month,  
and the well-run beer parlour  
was our living room.  
You could buy a  
ten cent glass of beer  
in those days,  
and I would sit  
and listen to stories  
told so dramatically that trees would fall  
right by our table,  
and fish would jump

into our beer glasses.  
Gastown didn't exist  
at that time,  
and Woodward's  
at Hastings and Abbott,  
was an important part  
of the Downtown Eastside,  
as it had been since 1903.

In 1997  
the Dominion Hotel  
became part of the gentrification  
that threatened the Downtown Eastside.  
A section of the building  
was converted  
to a backpackers' hostel -  
a bunk bed in a room  
shared with others  
for seventeen dollars a night  
for each person.  
Most of the building contained  
rented rooms for tourists  
from seventy-six to  
one hundred and twenty-eight  
dollars per night.

The Carnegie Action Project  
conducted workshops on housing  
for residents  
of the Downtown Eastside.  
Here is what two citizens  
had to say about gentrification.

"The problem is  
that there ~~are~~  
no other areas  
where you can  
rent a place  
at this price  
on your own." (1)

"One day they're gonna  
come in here  
with a bunch  
of army trucks,  
and ship us all  
out to the sticks  
like P.O.W.'s" (2)

Sandy Cameron

(1) Carnegie Action Project (CAP) Newsletter,  
Sept. 15, 1996

(2) *ibid.*, Jan., 1996



## The Changing **Face of AIDS**

### **AIDS Information Exchange and Open House**

Healing Our Spirit First Nations AIDS Society, Outreach Office

Wednesday, October 1, 9 am - 4 pm

96 E. Broadway, Room 212

For more information call: 879-8884



Infection rates today are rising fastest among the most socially and economically disadvantaged persons in our society: women, youth, people who use injection drugs, Aboriginal communities and young gay men.

The new drug treatments are not the cure. What can you do for you and your community?



### **“Into the New Millennium:**

### **What will be the Changing Faces of AIDS?”**

A panel discussion on the shifting demographics of people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

Thursday, October 2, 7 pm - 9 pm

The Roundhouse Community Centre, Pacific Blvd. and Davie St.  
A FREE! Event sponsored by AIDS Vancouver, YouthCO, and ASIA

For more information call: 681-2122 ext. 266

Media sponsor: Co-Op Radio

**NATIONAL AIDS AWARENESS WEEK**  
**SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 5, 1997**



# Still Raising Hell

*Poverty, Activism  
& Other True  
Stories*

by Sheila Baxter

Many women before me have made fabric quilts that showed their family histories. Each scrap of material, each pattern, was a memory of something passed on, perhaps dreams of freedom. Each quilt held many memories. My book is such a quilt, stitched together with poverty's thread and very little trimming.

We, the non-academic, working class poor don't have many books that speak our true voices. Often when someone like me writes, our thoughts are reconstructed by others who feel that education brings the authority to interpret our meaning. I have so many memories of speaking and being interpreted. People say things like, "what Sheila is trying to say is..." or "what Sheila means to say is..." When I speak from my working-class perspective I know what I say and I know what I mean. I have an un-canny knack for seeing through bullshit.

As a writer I am committed to preserving the voices of the working class. My books are easy reading but the contents are often harsh.

Most politicians, be they right-wing, left-wing or center, use poor bashing to get votes. Poor people are used as scapegoats for all of society's economic problems and to divert anger away from the greed of rich people and of corporations and banks which get millions of dollars in tax breaks from the government. Stern-faced politicians face T.V. cameras and point the finger at poor people, saying no more welfare fraud, no more lazing around on welfare, no more free rides for people who don't want to work. The media play up dysfunctional alcoholics and drug users as the typical poor person yet thousands of unemployed non-substance-abusers struggle to feed their families. They quietly line up at food banks,



hanging their heads in shame for being poor. I've been called a "free rider" because my income is too low to pay income tax. I am guilty of being poor; does this mean I don't deserve to be alive?

The truth about poor people is very different from the lies perpetuated by the politicians and the media. People are poor for many different reasons. When we get our welfare cheques, we pay our bills and we buy food and clothing, often walking or travelling by bus around the city to get the best bargains. It's almost impossible to live on the money that current welfare rates provide, especially if you have children. Sometimes people get desperate enough to have their kids put into foster care because they believe they will be better off.

Summer's here and something wonderful is happening at Carnegie. Sidewalk chalking is here again. Last June posters started going up. They said, "come join us on the sidewalks of Carnegie in a celebration of the Downtown Eastside. Spread some colour in the heart of the city. Draw big. Speak your mind."

Sharon, a young woman with lots of energy and dedication, was behind the project. First the sidewalk outside Carnegie was powerwashed. Then big buckets holding large pieces of coloured chalk were handed out to anyone who wanted to draw a picture, write a poem or just express



themselves. there were only two rules: no racism and no obscenity...

In all my years of coming down to Carnegie, it was the first time I had seen this space used by the community for such a positive event. Usually the corner stank of urine and was frequented by pushers and people stoned out of their minds. So this was powerful, taking back our sidewalk.

The chalking went on for the whole summer, even when it was raining. One day a young man

helped me to draw a hopscotch, and some young kids started to use it as soon as it was done.

When we first start to write or draw as children, a lot of damage is done to us by insensitive teachers and critical adults. Here on the sidewalks at Carnegie, there is no one looking over your shoulder to correct your mistakes. Here is the freedom to speak out about what matters to you. Here is the deep, deep satisfaction of working with other people to express the kind of world you want to create...

## Segregation

(to Randy)

Am I the only one who  
feels so deeply?

Am I the only one who loves  
so deeply?

Am I the only one wanting more?

Am I the only one wanting you  
so badly

I look for traces of you to keep  
my sanity?

Am I? Am I the only one?

BROKEN PROMISES ARE BETRAYALS

*Anita Stevens*



## THE LAST REFUGE

Twice in a channel 9 TV documentary it was said that the Downtown Eastside was the worst place to live in Canada.

The people making this judgement are of course right if they dwell only on the statistics of poverty, crime, and disease.

But beyond the statistics and TV cameras, the real workings of the Downtown Eastside go unnoticed by judgmental outsiders.

People who choose to live or work here obviously believe that this is the best place to be at this particular period of our lives, and the blessings we find here are plentiful.

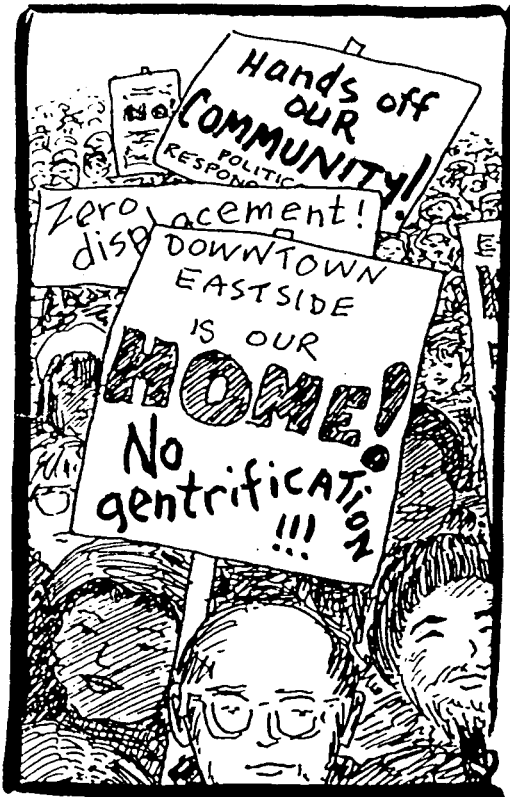
No, this isn't the worst place in Canada, it just has the biggest challenges in an uncaring country.

G.G.

*The United Nations called on the Canadian Government to eradicate poverty but the number of people in poverty continues to increase !!*

October 17 is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Despite signing covenants and documents which promised to build and maintain better social programs, the Canadian government continues to slash funding for the poorest while ensuring the richest get richer. We deserve accountability from our governments.

Join us on Saturday, October 18, at Canada Place at 1:00 pm for a March through Downtown to Carnegie Centre. Participate in the Poverty Info Fair, which will include speakers, entertainment, survival, educational and children's activities, refreshments and community information tables.



It's unanimous Marilyn...  
you can stay !!!  
2007

