

FREE - donations accepted

# Carnegie



## NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 15, 1999.

401 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 2T7 (604) 665-2289



Community  
Directions

Public

Interest

Private

Space

## Downtown Eastside jobs

Community Directions, the grass roots coalition that has been working to ensure that low-income residents have a voice in the decisions that affect the future of the Downtown Eastside/Strathcona, has secured funding for two full-time, temporary jobs. The jobs are:

••Community organizer

••Asset inventory coordinator

These jobs will be vital in the upcoming months as the community defines its goals and deals with the three levels of government that seem determined to "revitalize" the neighbourhood. Many different special interests, from absentee landlords to business operators to condo owners, want to remake our neighbourhood in their image, so the low-income people who actually live here must have their full say.

Community Directions is a coalition representing more than 50 low-income groups and their allies, from Carnegie, Strathcona and Ray-Cam Centres to the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board and the UBC School of Social Work. More than 200 individuals have also signed the "participation agreement" that sets out the aims of the group.

The job of the community organizer will include working with the full range of community groups, organizing meetings and training programs and helping devise strategies to further the community's goals. This job is for a one-year period.

***Deadline to apply is October 29.***

The assets inventory coordinator will collect and catalogue all the positive skills and resources in the community that can be used for neighbourhood improvement. This is a six-month job.

***Deadline to apply is October 25.***

Both jobs require an ability to work with a wide variety of people, and experience and familiarity with the kinds of issues we deal with. Preference will be given to people with knowledge, experience and interest in the Downtown Eastside/Strathcona.

In the near future, Community Directions expects to be posting other jobs which call for specific

skills and experiences that only residents can provide.

For details on the two jobs, and on Community Directions, check the community bulletins in Carnegie, Strathcona or Ray-Cam, at the Neighbourhood Safety Office (12 East Hastings) and other locations.

The meetings of Community Directions are totally open, and are held every two weeks at various locations. The next meeting is Thursday, Oct 21, at 3:30 pm at Jennie Pentland Place, Hastings at Jackson.

## The Privatization of Public Space

The ingress of uniformed rent-a-cops has not led to the egress of their nemises. If you're poor, homeless, not well-dressed or acceptable, these blanks feel it is their righteous duty and calling to tell you to get the hell out. The baby bulls.. the paper bosses.. it gets pointless to call these people to task but that's exactly what has to be done.

Todd Keller and Darren Kitchen are part of the Main & Hastings Community Development Society. The issue of private security in public spaces is the subject of a documentary film that Todd and others have made and shown in several places. There are many stories from residents and homeless people and youth of harassment, intimidation and physical force at the hands of these people. The film hammers at the "job description" that every wannabee cop seems to fall back on:

- *telling people they have to move on or away from wherever and physically forcing the move.*

**\* Private security have no right or legal force to demand that anyone move if the person is on public property.**

- *threatening people with arrest if they don't stop whatever they are doing or don't move away on their own*

**\* Private security cannot arrest anyone. They are not cops. A citizen's arrest can only be made**

for an indictable offence. Panhandling or loitering or squeegeeing or selling crafts without a license are by-law infractions and warrant a ticket.

**Private security cannot write tickets.**

The worst stories are of private security assaulting individuals with kicks to the head, destroying personal property, ignoring the limitations of the law or proper procedure and treating residents like they/we are just so much garbage. Justification for this comes from their employers, who give a general direction for job performance - "keep the riffraff away from our business/property/'neighbourhood' and run all the junkies into the ground" ... leaving the categorization to the finely tuned and highly trained people who put on the mickey mouse uniforms.

If you don't look nice you're fair game.

Todd connected with the Ministry of Attorney General and knows the legal limitations that all private security must work within. If you can report any incidents involving private security and rent-a-cops, have any witnesses to help make a case, or know of anyone who does, call 688-5303. Stay tuned.

By PAULR TAYLOR

## *The birthday of an old man*

This old man lives in a coastal city of BC. Two years ago he swore one thing for himself: If he could live to one hundred years of age, he would celebrate his birthday by parachuting from a helicopter.

Time flies very fast; he has been one hundred years old since September this year.

His family is very anxious about him, because to parachute is very dangerous for an old man; however, he is a man of strong will.

The helicopter took them around in the sky for about forty minutes. He jumped! Fortunately he was successful in landing.

Afterward, he told his friends that a parachute coach hugged him tightly. The experience seemed to cast him as an old eagle, hovering in the sky... he had a whale of a time.

Submitted by Shang Lung Liao (84)

3.

DANCING YOUR EDGE

CARNEGIE GYM  
11am - 12:30  
every Tuesday  
in NOVEMBER 1999

- \* find your balance
- \* release blocked energy
- \* explore the rhythms
- \* make room for more joy
- \* increase vitality
- \* have some fun

## HALLOWE'EN DANCE!

Friday, October 29, @ 7pm

*Cooking with Pam*





## Disability Issues in the DES.

Disability continues to be the cash cow for nonprofit organizations that provide services for people living with disabilities, both mental and physical, in the DES. I would like to share my opinions/perspectives on why I feel that conditions for Aboriginal people with disabilities in our neighbourhood continue to deteriorate. Considering the generous amount of dollars allocated to organizations in this area, we should, by now, see some positive changes.

Now that residential school syndrome and substance abuse are recognized as disabilities, most groups claim to be doing their part in addressing these issues, and to be doing their part to make life better for all who live here. I am disappointed in the effectiveness of our own Aboriginal groups whether it be the policies they work under, or the fact that there is hot competition for the same monies. There appears to be a certain amount of competitiveness and

jealousy among our Aboriginal groups. It is not a wonder that there has not been any coordinated effort to develop programs that are culturally appropriate, and will be effective for Aboriginal people, including those persons that require much patience or are hard to deal with. . Programs that suit the mainstream European or Asian population are foreign to the cultural tradition of an Indigenous people.

City politicians and those who work for them must acknowledge the fact that Aboriginal people with disabilities have something to offer on strategy planning in the DES. I happen to be Aboriginal and also have a disability. In my humble opinion the focus for programming should have a strong traditional healing component..

Vancouver City has a program in place, Vancouver/Richmond Health Board has a strategy. Even Jenny Kwan is currently working on a plan called the Vancouver Agreement. I would like to know who agreed, who Jenny consulted when she speaks on our behalf.

There exists now, both a traditional healing fund and the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board funding to begin traditional healing programs for Aboriginal people who have particular health problems, and who also live in the DES. It is not a means by which our elected leaders are able to play politics and thus undermine grassroots initiatives.

All my relations,  
Fred Arrance



**BLACKROBE**



Blackrobe, never will we forget  
What your churches have done.  
The effect on our parents and our families  
we still see.

Languages, customs, songs  
Potlatches and drumming all forbidden  
Did you think you helped us  
With your schools?

The ways of the People  
with their connection to Mother Earth  
Will never die.  
Healing has already started  
Our ways are on a come back  
The heart beat of the First People is alive again

As our elders get healed  
Our people become stronger.

Fred Arrance,

## Breaking The Silence Against Violence Against Women



Come help plan the next stage of the  
campaign!

Thursday, October 21

3 - 5PM

509 E. Hastings Seniors' Centre



Many Aboriginal people are suffering the injustice of the BC Government. And its Social Services and Economic Development.

It's either they [the specific ministries] are refusing to give financial aid.. or falsely accusing Native parents of being unfit to care for their children. Social Workers brainwash children, getting them to believe that their natural parents do not care for them. Foster parents abuse the same children for not listening or doing as they are told. When someone smacks another it is assault; when a child is hit it's termed discipline.

Many First Nations' children are suffering mental and physical and emotional abuse, but the false allegations against First Nations' parents go far beyond "White lies"... Sure, many of our people are the adult children of alcoholics. It doesn't mean that they will follow in their parents' footsteps. But to have the Ministry labelling many First Nations people as unfit and chronically alcoholic is a totally harassing behaviour on its part. This mistreatment of First Nations' people has to be confronted and stopped.

Gilbert Walters



## HASTINGS AND MAIN

Hastings, doorstep to the Carnegie, has always been haunted by broken promises, blighted hopes, unbelievable distress... yet beyond darkness and betrayals there is goodness, a strange beauty, great hearts, indisputable truths.

*Sam Roddan*

## THE WAR AGAINST FUTILITY

Garry Gust

It's a line so fine, measured in overlapping moments of time. As we cross that line we know we've escaped the rudest of moods. Little things that irritated us just an hour ago now amuse us.

If only we could stay on that line, how wonderful life would be! But, almost instinctually, we strive to maintain the fine-line feeling. Whether it be beer, whiskey, cocaine, heroin, or Tylenol 3, we are at last numb to the rude mood of life, and now we feel 'human.'

But the mental message is clear: 'If I don't keep consuming the beer, or wine, or whatever, I'll lose this great feeling of well-being.'

And the contest begins with the use-it-or-lose-it mentality instilled in us by the mass media. The beer drinkers go to the fridge for another brew... hmmm, let's see, I started with six cans.. now I've got three left.. Now the struggle begins with a dizzy, sickening feeling of losing control. We go through this process, people like me, about twice a month when things build up to the point of



"Well, I've had enough of this crap" - and we head for the liquor store like a person with an unbearable toothache who already feels relief before reaching the destination.

Now, dear reader, if you will translate this twice-monthly ritual to the language of heroin or cocaine users you may appreciate that the users of such intoxicants go through the process on an hourly basis, day in day out, until either death or treatment intervene to break the cycle

But, because our governments prefer that death is the best option, we will continue to shed our tears as the overdose murders continue.

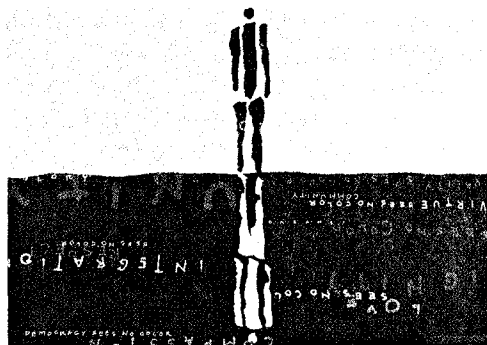
## SUPPORT THE ARTS

And you did! Tuesday evening, Sept. 28, the following performers participated in Poetry Night [hosted by the Carnegie Writers' Circle]: Robert Doucette, Joyce Morgan, Irene Schmidt, Mr. Ten Million Rudolf Penner, Taum, Andy, Isadore, Tora, Peggy, Sue and Alleerk.

Thanks to an understanding artist - Shawn Millar - for being generous enough not to show up and give another performer a chance.

See you all in another couple of months when, hopefully, we'll go out with a whimper instead of a bang.

Anita Stevens



### HATE

I hate the hurt I hate the hurt  
I hate to hurt so I let no one in

If I open the wall the shit comes out  
People will see what I am all about

Mass confusion, contorted ideas  
Not even my family has any idea

There is no love memories strewn all about  
Only chaos and pain that's all I figure out

I don't stare at the sun, the moon, the stars  
they're not realistic  
they're outta reach to far

I want no one's love  
No touch No embrace  
'cause hate's what I know  
what I feel what I taste

anonymous homeless street person

## Mayor Owen Knows Little About The Criminal Justice System

According to *The Vancouver Sun*, Mayor Owen and the Vancouver police board support a group that plans to monitor so-called lenient sentencing in provincial courts (Mayor backs bid to keep eye on judges, *Van Sun*, Oct. 1/99).

Owen is probably aware of a recent Angus Reid poll that found a majority of Canadians felt sentences for criminals should be more severe, and he will probably fight a "law and order" campaign, firmly based on ignorance and fear, in the coming municipal election.

The impression that Canada's criminal justice system treats offenders too softly has been created by sensational crime reporting in the media, the powerful crime control industry (police & prisons), and unscrupulous politicians who prey on the fears of ordinary people who see jobs and income shrinking in a brutal global economy.

Here are some facts about the criminal justice system, and you'll have to read them in the *Carnegie Newsletter* because the corporate media will not present a balanced account of crime control.

How can prison sentencing be too lenient in Canada when the incarceration rate (the rate at which we throw our citizens in jail) is the fourth highest in the industrial world, behind the United States, Russia and South Africa? How can prison sentencing be too lenient in Canada when the Canadian youth justice system jails a higher percentage of youth who come to court than any other industrial society, including the United States? (1)

There is confusion in Canada about community alternatives to prison, or conditional sentencing, but don't count on the media, or power mad politicians, or those who profit from prisons to give you solid information on this subject. The Angus Reid poll quoted earlier found that when conditional sentencing was fully explained to people, they changed from being against the idea to being for it.(2) Well organized alternatives to prison, run by committed citizens and backed by the police, can be effective in steering a person away from crime. Keeping people, especially



7.

young people, out of jail is an important strategy in fighting crime.

Prison does not reduce crime because a person who has been in prison is very likely to end up in prison again. This fact is well known in the prison industry, especially by prison wardens who are often more enlightened than politicians or the media. Prisons do satisfy the need of some people for vengeance, but they do not rehabilitate people. They create the illusion that something has been done about *crime*, but they do not reduce crime. (The Expanding Prison, p.3)

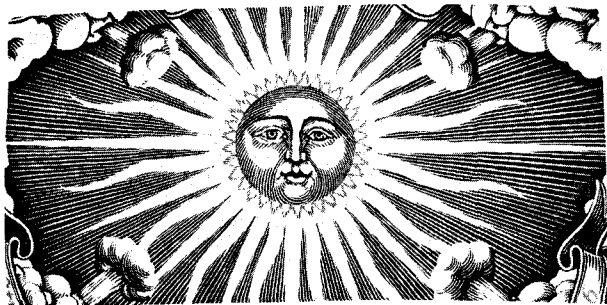
The crime control industry is a powerful lobby that calls for more police and more prisons. We need to remember, and Mayor Owen needs to remember, that prisons are totalitarian institutions which do not address the wide range of ways crime can be controlled in a democratic society – such as a more equitable distribution of income and wealth, decent jobs at decent wages, effective alternatives to prison for non-violent offenders, and drug management policies that keep drug addiction out of the criminal justice system.

Because of media sensationalism, many Canadians still think that crime rates are rising, but since 1991 the general crime rate, and the youth crime rate, have followed the same downward trend. (The Expanding Prison, p.63). We need an intelligent debate on crime control, and Mayor Owen could start by reading David Cayley's excellent book, The Expanding Prison.

By Sandy Cameron

(1) The Expanding Prison, by David Cayley, pub. by Anansi Press, 1998, p.65.

(2) The Globe And Mail, October 2/99, "Majority feels criminals treated too softly," by Kirk Makin.



... for a moment

Walking past Sunset Beach  
one Sunday evening in October  
I saw the most beautiful sunset  
The mountains were so **purple**  
The sky was all a rich **gold**  
and the colour of the ocean on  
English Bay was **emerald green**  
Only for a moment did it last  
Through the window of my room  
Sunlight poured on my rose and  
I saw the full beauty of the flower  
with the look of rich red velvet  
that only was there for a moment  
For a moment as the sun was setting  
Painted the trees in orange and gold  
As birds were laughing in the forest  
This is the reward found every day  
When I take the time to slow down  
To be at one with the world there  
And some day my life will bloom  
to be seen by others for a moment...

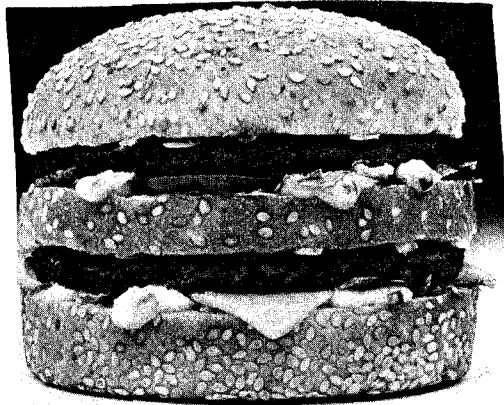
Daniel Rajala

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## Songwriting Workshop



Tuesdays 12 - 2PM  
All Welcome  
Classroom 2



## Civic Election - Nov.20 1999

It's every 3 years now, and for the last 3 it's been people all from the Non-Partisan Association - and maybe that means about as much to gentle readers as the recipe for hagus at a mission.

The NPA - city government - is in the business of making decisions almost solely in favour of business. Bylaws on panhandling, the proliferation of private security, old stand-by beefs like Crab Park access, and the ongoing agenda of the gastown money having decreed that we are no longer welcome in our neighbourhood. The word "lobby" is pretty tame when it comes to the control that certain business and property owners exert over things like zoning decisions and licensing. Gentrification is a goal; elimination of any and all low-income services, housing, community direction is the holy grail. Does this sound like a rant? The decisions and the workings of government can be made to loook awful regardless of who it is - just look at the obligatory anti-NDP stuff that appears daily in the media.

The alternative, the more human, the different - are a formal party. The Coalition of Progressive Electors (COPE) keeps abreast of civic matters and attempts to expose the NPA links and decisions that run afoul of honest government. They have made a liaison with the Green Party to run a joint campaign and a joint slate of candidates. There will be more on the record and direction of the NPA and the need for a new direction, but for now a short biography on some of the candidates.



# VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL

**David Cadman (COPE/Green Party joint nomination):** David Cadman has been a social and environmental activist for over 30 years. His experience as the Chief of Communication and Education at the Greater Vancouver Regional District gives him a comprehensive, unique knowledge of how decisions made at the regional level affect municipal issues such as transportation, sewage, libraries, hospitals and firefighting. As the president of the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation, David has focussed on ensuring the citizens of Vancouver have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, safe neighbourhoods to live and streets that aren't choked with traffic. David spent 12 years with the Vancouver Municipal and Regional Employees Union, serving as President and Secretary/Treasurer. From 1979 to 1993 he was the President of the United Nations Association, Pacific Region. David is the recipient of the 1999 BC Landscape Architects Society Community Award. He speaks English, French, Swahili and Spanish.

**Fred Bass:** A physician trained in public health and preventative medicine, Fred has a long history of working to improve community health, both as a doctor and an activist. As Vancouver's first Director of Health Promotion, he implemented programs which helped Vancouverites with issues like smoking, stress, nutrition and exercise. He also served on the first Bicycle Committee, and on Vancouver's Clouds of Change Task Force on global warming. Fred advocates improved transit services as key to reducing auto pollution, and supports protection of Vancouver's drinking water. Currently the director of the BC Doctors' Stop Smoking Program, he trains health professionals to treat nicotine addiction, and maintains a part-time clinical practice.

**Raymond Louie:** At 33, Raymond is COPE's youngest city council candidate and believes City Hall needs to be opened up in order to better serve the full spectrum of Vancouver citizens. A trade unionist since 1982, Raymond is currently a mailer at Pacific Press and a member of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union. He is interested in improving neighbourhood safety, and supports community policing. A cyclist and road racer, Raymond will work to expand and improve Vancouver's bicycle programs. Raymond lives in Hastings-Sunrise with his wife and two young children.

**Tim Louis:** A civil litigation lawyer, Tim has a strong history of public service. He was elected to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation in 1990 and re-elected in 1993. During his tenure Tim vigorously opposed the proposal to construct a new zoo in Stanley Park; the proposal was defeated by referendum in 1993. He continues to oppose keeping whales in captivity. Tim was key to the creation of BC Transit's HandiDart service for disabled transit users, and chaired the Board of Handidart operator Pacific Transit Cooperative, one of North America's only user-run disabled transit service providers. He served on the Board of the Vancouver Public Library from 1984 to 1996, expanding services for visually impaired and other print-disabled readers, and as Chair of the Finance Committee shifted the library's \$12 million budget from deficit to balance. Tim was a founding Board Member, and is current Chair of the Board, of the BC Public Interest Advocacy Center.

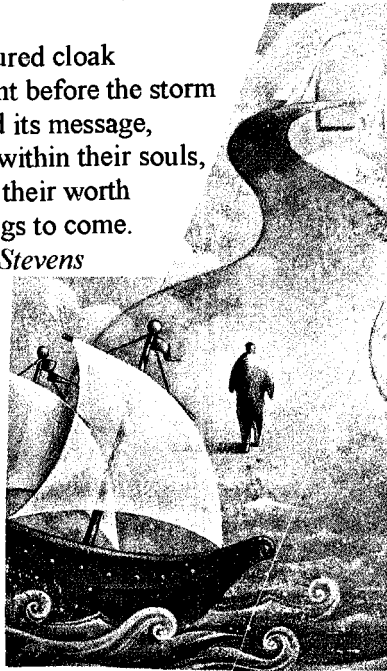
**Bud Osborn:** A poet and social activist, Bud knows the Downtown Eastside as only a 13-year resident can. Bud has served on the board of the Downtown Eastside Residents Association, the Carnegie Community Centre, and the Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society. For the past three years he has focussed on his work as a director of the Vancouver-Richmond Health Board, where he is working to implement their harm reduction strategy. A sought-after speaker, Bud has addressed schools, universities, churches, civic organizations, and the Fraser Institute in his crusade to reduce the social problems associated with illicit drug use. He is a strong supporter of using conversion controls to reduce homelessness. Bud has published four books of poetry and released two CDs. His book *Keys to Kingdoms* is currently a finalist for the City of Vancouver Book Award.

**Andrea Rolls:** Andrea is a trained mediator, counsellor and communicator. She works with the Ministry of Attorney General in the Victim Services Division, coordinating initiatives and developing training for front-line workers on violence against women and children. She works closely with representatives of community victim service organizations, the police, and related provincial ministries including Children and Families and Women's Equality. As a probation officer and family court counsellor, Andrea has worked closely with parents, social workers, therapists and teachers. Living in a housing coop with her two teenage sons has shown Andrea both the benefits of living in an economically-mixed community and the potential pitfalls associated with rapid densification when communities are not adequately involved in planning. A native Vancouverite, Andrea wants to ensure our seniors have access to adequate housing and well-funded health and safety programs.

**Fall**

Fall dons its coloured cloak  
with beauty radiant before the storm  
All creatures heed its message,  
slowly withdraw within their souls,  
search deeply for their worth  
and dream of things to come.

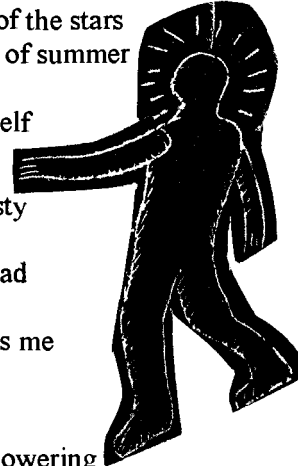
*Anita Stevens*



I go to an island  
silence encloses me  
holds me close  
light penetrates the firs  
and warms my chest  
I smell the fragrance of the stars  
and live the last night of summer  
in tenderness  
I whisper love to myself

I go home to the city  
pay the price of honesty  
become infamous  
touch and bury the dead  
lose my home  
the same blue sky tells me  
hold yourself gently  
I own my love

*Michael Bowering*



**Her vision never leaves my thoughts**  
She's a young and beautiful person  
whom I've caught  
Each day we spend time with each other  
Enjoying each other together

Her hair is soft as silk  
Smelling as sweet as honey and milk  
Her hair is a pretty blond  
Done up as if by a magic wand

Her eyes melt when they smile at me  
All the hurt inside her I can see  
For a moment her troubles flee  
Knowing someday she will be free

Her lips have a cute little smile  
But she's got to go back to work in a while  
I dream of that cute little smile  
Seen in my mind for a while

She doesn't care who I am or what I do  
We are the best of friends true and true  
The time we spend together makes us blue  
This time is special, just me and you



Our interests, some different some the same  
My feelings are the thing to blame  
I hope you can see what I'm trying to tell you  
You're more than a friend true and true

She has a heart of gold  
I'd love to be with her till we grow old  
Doing things together  
Just being with each other

You are a person that I truly adore  
Both in the present and before  
I remember the first time you came thru the door  
You are a friend and maybe more

I cherish this lady for now and then  
Till the next time I don't know when  
You are the best in the land  
The only thing stopping me is that wedding band

*Anthony Dunne*

# NYPD BATTLES CRIME:

## Innovative Strategies in Policing

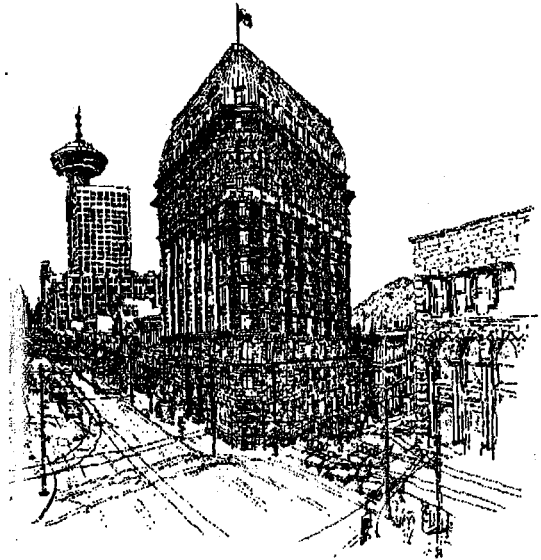
Thursday, October 21, 1999, 7-8:30 pm

Admission is **FREE**, however, reservations are required.

Call 291-5100 to reserve seats

MacGill Theatre, Robson Square Conference Centre, **800 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC**

**Dr. Eli B. Silverman**, author and Professor of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City; will discuss the myths and realities surrounding "zero tolerance" and community policing in New York City. Dr. Silverman has been actively involved and is widely published in the field of criminal justice and public policy. He has consulted and worked closely with numerous criminal justice agencies, including: the New York City Police Department, the NYC Department of Correction, the NYC Department of Probation and the NY State Division of Parole. At John Jay, Dr. Silverman has served as Chair of the Department of Government and Public Administration, and as Associate Dean of the Faculty for the Social Sciences. He writes and teaches in the area of police management, community policing, public policy, public finance and criminal justice policy analysis.

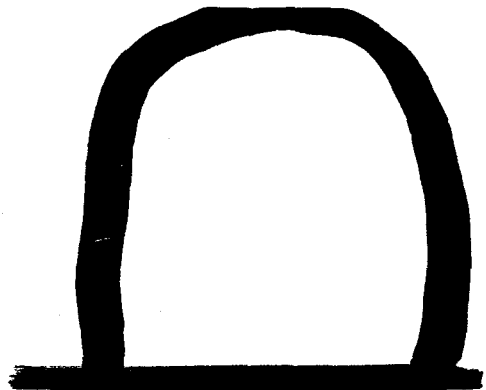


*This free public lecture is sponsored by the Simon Fraser University City Program*

[Why is this here? New York has this zero tolerance policy that has led to extreme police brutality and violation of individual rights. It was, as stated by the Mayor of the city, their policy to gentrify (remove all poor and street people) downtown Manhattan. Here the buzzword is "revitalize". We're usually about 5 years behind the US in social direction. We need insight and ideas to avoid becoming the 51st state.

## WALL MURAL IN JEOPARDY

Many of you will have noted the addition of a beautiful wall mural on the building at 425 Carrall Street. The mural was done by Jerry Whitehead through a grant he received to paint a wall in the Downtown Eastside. Jerry and a couple of co-artists wanted the wall on the east side of the old Bank of Montreal at Hastings and Carrall. The owner of the building was approached and he gave his permission for the previously plain white area



to be painted.

The mural was there for about a month when a complaint was received by the City. The building owner was notified that a development permit should have been applied for. This would have to include 5 sets of drawings of the building and its location, 5 sets of elevation plans showing the dimensions and colours of the mural, the name and resume of the artist, a statement on the content of the mural and a description of the relationship between the mural and the surrounding neighbourhood. There would also be an application fee of \$394

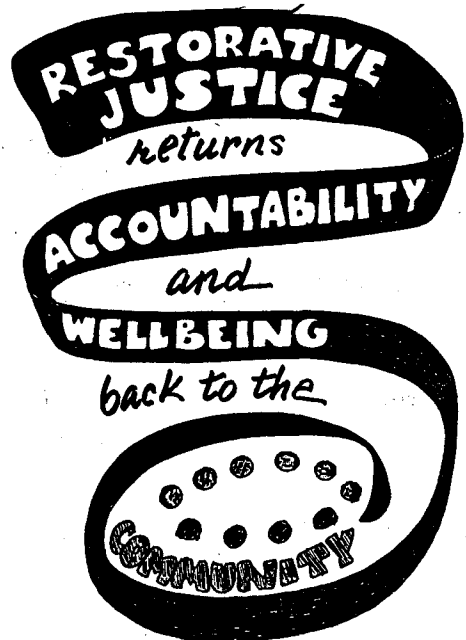
Needless to say, an error was made in not finding out about the necessary permits before painting the mural. This oversight has put the future of the mural in peril. The cost of getting a permit would have been the fee of \$394 plus the cost of the necessary drawings, which would have been an additional \$500 to \$750.

The building owner now faces a dilemma. He must make the application and pay the costs, risk getting heavily fined for not applying for the permits required, or paint over the mural and put back the original white. Painting it white will again make it the target of graffiti, which has not been a problem since the painting of the mural was completed.

The costs of the permit will not be borne by the owner. On his behalf, DERA has written to the City. A letter sent to the Mayor and City Council from DERA President Ian MacRae, protests the city requirements. "This is an effort by the building owner to allow a local artists to bring dignity and a splash of colour to a street corner which, through unchecked criminal activity, has become a dingy blight."

DERA has sent a following letter requesting the City to forgo the requirements and allow the mural to remain.

[From the DERA Newsletter]



*(The following letter was sent by someone working at the Ministry offices to a person receiving income assistance.)*

To \*\*\*\*\*

I understand you are renting accommodation for \$450 a month plus tax - something in the neighbourhood of \$486 per month.

A rough calculation of your monthly benefits indicate that you have \$14.00 per month for food.

This is a little less than our Health Board Canada recommends for a well balanced healthy diet.

Would you either move to cheaper accommodation or share your place with someone else.

If I do not hear from you I will assume you have died from malnutrition or you have undisclosed income.

Please contact me at \*\*\*\*\*

Yours truly,

\*\*\*\*\*

Financial Aid Worker

## Who Cares

Our leaders fight each other  
Over the money  
And the right to speck for Us  
The Chiefs sit in the summit  
Their people die in the street..  
On reserve, off reserve in the city  
It does not matter.  
Status, non-status, Bill C-51  
Metis, we are all the seine Family.  
Lack of decent housing  
Lack of proper representation

In health issues.  
Residential school syndrome  
Cooking wine  
That's what brings on the Pain  
Taking away the bottle -  
Taking away the rig -  
Relocation -  
Not the answer  
Start dealing with the Pain.

All my relations,  
Fred Arrance



## The wedding day

Lyrics and music by Robert Doucette



- 1) The crowd is thin, on this cold summers day  
The wedding band, is here to play  
The bride she waits, in the back of a room  
She emanates her love for the groom
- 2) Her parents arrive, and up the steps they go  
In this church they'll let their little girl grow  
And blossom with the man she loves  
In a long white dress and black satin gloves
- 3) And then they come and lead her through  
The doors to the one who she loves true  
The bridesmaids follow, and hold her train  
She sees a man, and feels the pain

She tries to run, but there's no where to go  
She thinks about it, that day long ago  
And the flower wilts, as her hopes fade away  
Cause she knows she's lost her wedding day

(Chorus)

This man was the one who showed her  
What it was to be a woman  
This man was the one who held her  
Ten years ago  
And she cries, cause her beau doesn't know

- 4) She remembers well, it was her eighth birthday  
A family friend took her away  
When she was found, she was bruised  
She was young, he was forty-two
- 5) He holds out his hand, she's taken by surprise  
It's then she sees the tears in his eyes  
And on that day, forgiveness rains  
He's free of guilt, she's free again
- 6) As the band picks up her wedding song  
She sees her love, standing strong  
She walks to him, and very soon  
She's with him on their honeymoon

(chorus)

This man is the one who loves her  
She feels very much a woman  
This man is the one who holds her  
Much to her delight  
And she doesn't cry, on her wedding night

**DOWNTOWN  
EASTSIDE  
YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES  
SOCIETY**

**STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. every day  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN - 3 Routes  
City - 5:45 p.m. - 11:45 p.m.  
Overnight - 12:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
Downtown Eastside - 5:30 p.m. 1:30 a.m.**

**1999 DONATIONS** Libby D. - \$90  
Sam R. - \$20 Nancy W. - \$20 Agnes - \$6  
Margaret D. - \$25 Shyamala G. - \$25  
Jenny K. - \$18 Joy T. - \$25 Eve E. - \$20  
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Thomas B. - \$41 Harold D. - \$20 Pam - \$30  
Rolf A. - \$45 Bruce J. - \$18 Susan S. - \$7  
Kettle - \$18 Sonya S. - \$60 Beth L. - \$25  
Nancy H. - \$18 BCTF - \$10 Yukiko - \$10  
DEYAS - \$200 PRIDE - \$50 Wm. B. - \$18  
Heather S. - \$35 BCCW - \$20 Bill G. - \$180  
Wisconsin Historical Society - \$20  
Ray-Cam - \$70 Van MPA - \$75 Buss - \$5  
Brenda P. - \$10 Wes K. - \$50 Leah S. - \$20  
Anonymous - \$124 Claudette B. - \$20

FREE - donations accepted

# Carnegie

## NEWSLETTER

101 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 1T7 (604) 682-3200

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE  
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION  
Articles represent the views of contributors  
and not of the Association.

**Submission Deadline  
for next issue  
Thursday, October 28**



**The Downtown Eastside Residents Association can help you with:**

- Welfare problems
- Landlord disputes
- Housing problems
- Unsafe living conditions

**We offer many services as well including a  
FREE PHONE and VOICE MAIL for \$3.00 a month (or less).**

**Come to the DERA office at 425 Carrall Street or phone us at 682-0931**

**DERA has been serving the Downtown Eastside for 25 YEARS!**

# THE PATIO OF THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE



Funny, that for years I believed the mandate of the Carnegie Centre was to be the living room of the downtown eastside - to provide a safe haven and productive activities alternate to the street life of the area.

These days things have changed. The street corner at Hastings & Main has always been a congested and very unpleasant one.. not a nice place to have to catch your bus. Now it is even worse. I

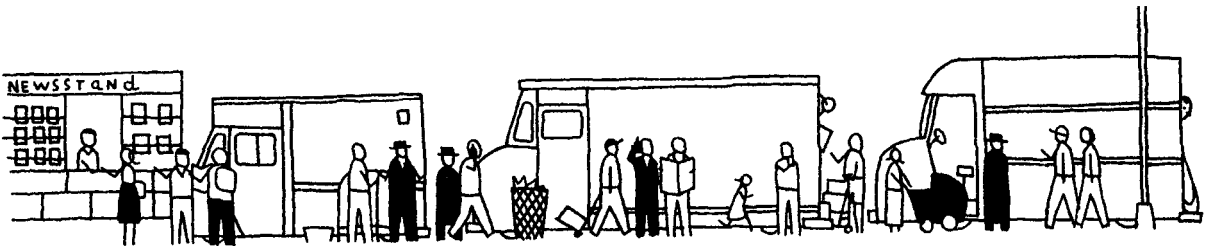
find myself on the road to avoid the drug users who have now apparently taken over the street corner. They are *provided* with chairs, games and refreshments. I agree that there is a terrible drug problem in this city which is not being addressed. There is a desperate need for more detox and health care for these people. However I do not feel that putting the general public at further risk on that corner is at all fair. Why is this happening????

If there is something hidden here that is very good and to the benefit of mankind I cannot see it

I can see the effort put into restoring Oppenheimer Park. It is supposed to be a park. The sidewalk outside of Carnegie is supposed to be a sidewalk. The handicapped ramp is supposed to be a ramp for just that purpose. How easy is the access now?

I would like to see Carnegie as the "living room of the downtown eastside" again, not as a patio which sanctions drug abuse and violence.

Buss Ryder



## HOUSING? CRIME? HARM REDUCTION? PANHANDLING?...

What issues do you want to discuss as we roll into another civic election? On **Friday, October 29**, from 10:00-Noon in the Carnegie theatre, Dera will host a public meeting featuring mayoralty candidates for the upcoming election.

We have invited David Cadman (Cope/Green), Jamie Lee Hamilton (Independent) and Philip Owen (NPA) to participate. As of this newsletter's deadline, confirmation has been received by Mr. Cadman and Ms. Hamilton. We have not yet heard from Philip Owen's office but we remain hopeful he will find the time to take part. If not, we will

proceed with the two candidates that have confirmed. Since our intention is to have as many residents as possible address the candidates, we will ask that no candidates for city council who may be in attendance speak at the microphone. This is our chance to get Downtown Eastside priorities and issues on the public agenda before we the voters make our choices in November. See you there.

Ian MacRae.

### FLASH!!!

There is going to be a full staff meeting in Carnegie on Wednesday, October 27, so the centre won't open until noon.

## Depression Screening Day? Mental Health Awareness?

If, as I have been claiming for years, everything we know about the world and what is happening in the world affects everything we think and do, consciously or unconsciously (unconscious – *that which is not yet conscious*), then, in the circumstances that presently obtain just about everywhere in the world, or everywhere in the world, today, not being depressed, or whatever the term is, could only be a measure, in fact, of someone's *ignorance*, or of someone's *callousness*. Of course, the professionals talk about *clinical* depression (something wrong with your so-called head) and *circumstantial* depression (something wrong with your so-called love life, pocketbook etc.), to distinguish between those they can do something to or so-called for and those who are *going through a rough spot*, the dabblers in depression, as it were, the short-timers. When I first saw the Depression Screening Day posters, I immediately thought that the sponsors might do better to identify *those who are not, in some way, profoundly depressed*, and find out if they have ever watched television news or read newspapers or history books, to really try and understand, as they say, how it is that anyone can be either so ignorant or so callous. But the so-called professionals have no more the tools to discover anything than they have the tools to ameliorate or so-called cure.

What, by the way, will happen with those identified as depressed, those whose so-called depression didn't prevent them from taking one look at the posters and thinking to themselves, *what a hopeless and useless event (in which I wouldn't take part even if I did believe in any of it)?* Is it possible the professionals are running out of depressed people to practice on? Is it possible they could deal with almost the entire population of any given city? Is their so-called success rate increasing to such levels that they need more and more depressed people all the time? Is the so-called health care system in such a rosy state that

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To remember those that have  
come before

it can handle vast new numbers of depressed? Is there hope?

Having, by the way, so-called mental health, in a world so terrifying, horrifying, degenerate and, generally, stinky, seems a little like wearing a fur coat at a barbeque. And, what can so-called professionals possibly teach someone who lives in a Downtown Eastside SRO about mental health awareness? What chicanery! What inanity!

Dan Feeney

Take my hair and I'll be bald  
That won't bother me at all  
Take my eyes and I can't see  
all your love and beauty  
Take my ears and I can't hear  
you whisper I love you dear  
Take my nose and I can't smell  
that fragrance you wear so well  
Take my lips and I'm going to miss  
that sweet tender kiss  
Take my arms and I can't hold  
onto you and grow old  
Take my legs and I can't walk  
Take my tongue and I can't talk  
Take me any way you can  
No matter what, I still am.

Anonymous

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