

FREE - donations accepted

Carnegie

NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 1, 2001 00

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

This CD is a grassroots effort, conceived, planned, and fundraised by the musicians. It was recorded at the Carnegie Community Centre Theatre, where the music program takes place, and in Earle's living room.



Some people from the music program at Main and Hastings, in front of the Carnegie Centre. Photo by Renee Tabata.

*Available at Four Corners Com.Savings - \$7.50

I Hate You

You put me through hell
Time and again
Forcing me to rail
Over and over
And for that,
I hate you

Even when I refuse
Your power overcomes me
Even when I stop
You force your way into me
And for that,
I hate you

You lied to me
Straight to my face
But I saw right through you
Still, you kept on appearing
And for that,
I hate you

You forced me to love you
Taking away all my feelings
Towards others
I lost all care
And for that,
I hate you

I believed in you
You screwed me over
Most importantly
You killed me inside...

AND FOR THAT...

WELL...

I HATE YOU

The Loss Of A Son — The Start Of A Crusade

Tony Trimmingham lost his 23 year old son because of a heroin overdose in February, 1997. The young man died alone, and Tony knew that if safe injection rooms had existed at that time, his son would still be alive.

Tony, who had been a marriage counsellor in Australia for twenty years, wrote a letter about the death of his son to *The Sydney Morning Herald* three months after his son's death. After the letter was published on the front page of the newspaper, over 200 families contacted him about tragic drug deaths. With their help, he started an organization

called "Family Drug Support". This group runs a 24 hour help line that provides information and counselling, and pushes for intelligent drug policy along the lines of prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement.

Tony Trimmingham spoke to a full house at the Carnegie theatre on January 17th. His thoughtful, compassionate presentation, which included photographs of his son, Damien, and other young men and women who had died from drug overdoses, was a strong argument for more treatment and safe injection rooms. People need time to overcome drug addiction, but you can't overcome drug addiction if you're dead. Tony said that those who called for an intensification of the war on drugs were wrong. More police force would simply drive the problem further underground, making life more dangerous for both drug users and the community at large. HIV/AIDS and hepatitis B and C are all associated with the uncontrolled street drug scene.

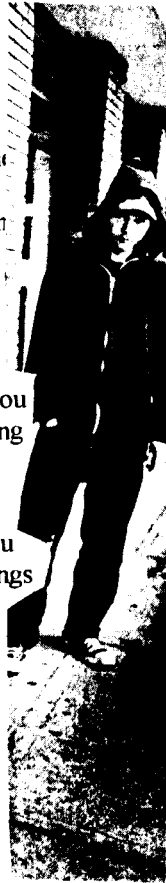
In 1999, Tony, with the help of a strong support group, opened an illegal safe injection room at a chapel in Sydney, Australia. The purpose of the action was to force debate on the issue of safe injection rooms, and although the police closed the site, a legal safe injection room will be opening soon (if it hasn't opened already) in Sydney for an 1-month trial. It has the support of the local residents and the local Chamber of Commerce.

Tony said that other neighbourhoods will be asking for safe injection rooms when they see that such medically-supervised rooms actually reduce overdose deaths, reduce the transmission of disease, and reduce public order problems such as improper syringe disposal and public drug use.

Tony Trimmingham is a brave man who has taken the pain of his son's death and directed it toward the good of the community. In this regard he reminds me of the late Officer Gil Puder of the Vancouver Police Department, who took personal trauma concerning the violence of the war on drugs and turned it into a strong commitment to work for intelligent drug policies that would save lives and build healthier communities.

The people who attended Tony Trimmingham's presentation at Carnegie thanked him for sharing his story and his work with them.

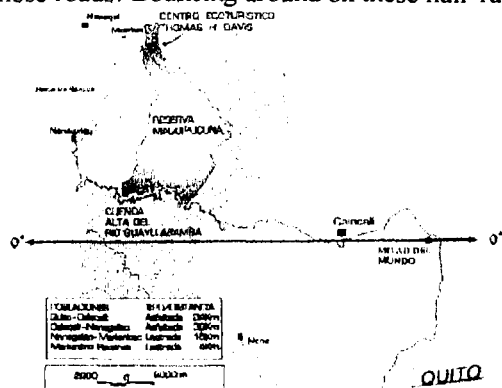
By SANDY CAMERON



Hey Carnegie people!

Greetings from the mountaintop. For all those who were wondering why they haven't seen me lately around the chili pot in the Carnegie kitchen, it's because I'm in Ecuador in the Andes mountains doing organic gardening, of all things.

Along with nine other B.C. residents, I've been enjoying the hospitality of the campesinos (farmers) who live above the 6,000 foot level, eating potatoes and popcorn three times a day, drinking boiled water (to kill the bugs) and learning to do without luxuries like electricity and hot water. And those roads! Bouncing around on these hair-raising



mountain tracks make your average B.C. logging road look like the Trans-Canada Highway.

It's all part of a three-month project by the Environmental Youth Alliance, to work with the campesinos who are trying to save what's left of some of the richest forest lands in the world - the Ecuadorian cloud forest. There are hundreds of bird and insect species in these woods, and all kinds of

plants that have yet to be catalogued, many of them with health benefits

The trouble is, the forest is disappearing because the campesinos are so strapped for cash that they have to convert the trees to charcoal for sale, or clear-cut to create grazing land for cattle and dairy cows.

EYA has hooked up with environmentalists at the Maquipucuna biological reserve, a large tract of untouched virgin forest near the villages, who are trying to come up with alternative ways to earn a living from the land. The campesinos are willing to give it a try - if they can be guaranteed they won't starve in the process

So we are building nurseries to see how to grow corn, bananas and coffee together; planting trees in the logged-off areas; tending vegetable gardens and renovating the garbage and water systems in the villages. It rains every day here (sort of like Vancouver). We're right at the equator, but since we're so high up, the weather is mild day and night

You may be familiar with the Environmental Youth Alliance, the group of young people who are active in the Strathcona Community Gardens developing native plant and youth gardens and building that amazing eco-pavilion. They've also gardened at places like Ray-Cam, Grandview School, the Portland Hotel and the VanCity Place for Youth.

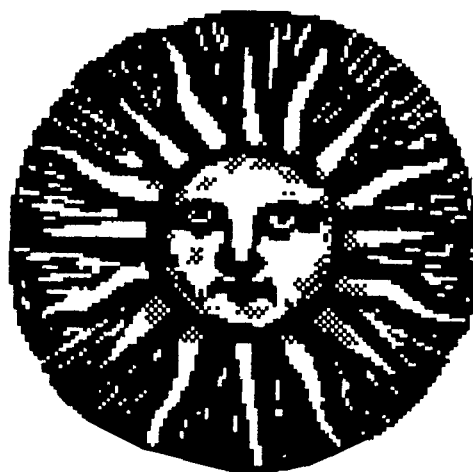
How do I fit in with all these teenagers and 20-somethings? Well, they've voted me into the club as an honorary youth.

Hasta luego, amigos y amigas,

Roberto Sarti

Why me?

When I was raped,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When my Mom left,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When my nanny died,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When Roy broke my heart,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When I got wired,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When I became a prostitute,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
When I got pregnant,
I asked the Lord ... why me?
... and then I thanked Him



The Carn Circus

If one day you happen to Bee-Bop
Under the East-End made big top
With its colourful cadaveric buffoons
Acting up like spaced-out baboons

You'll find fakirs with their needles
While a skinny acrobat juggles
Small rocks for your pleasure
Come on in and share the rapture

See the trapezes without protection
Twist and land their last revolution
With the Aids of their best friend
Come on in and watch the new trend

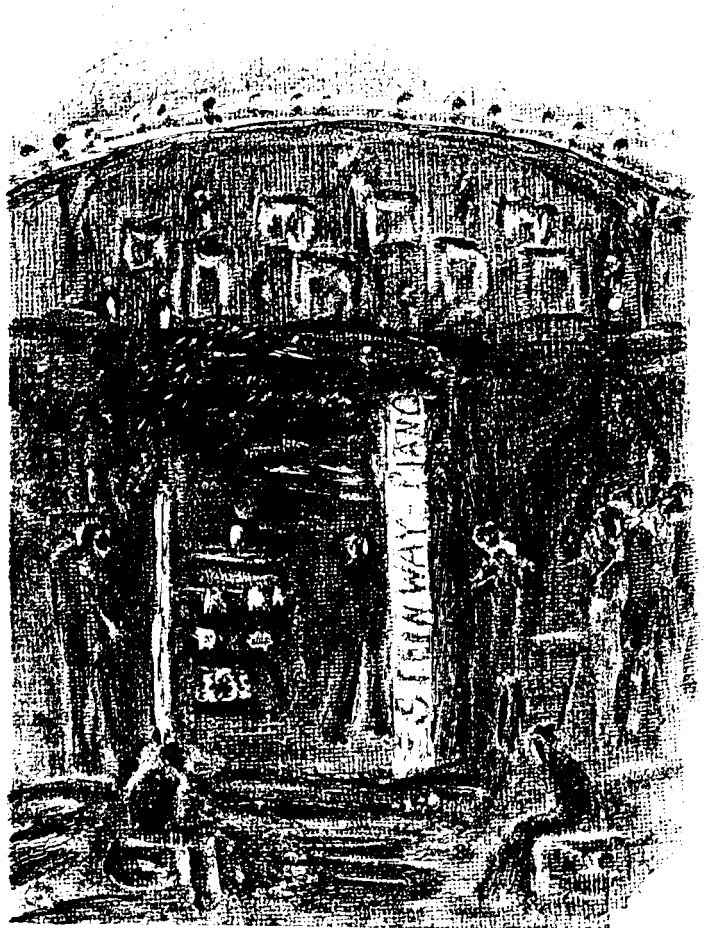
Our freak show is somewhat humane
Even though not much of it remain
Within your son or daughter
Hollowed eyes and empty laughter

Francois Guay

THE WOVEN WAY

The mind set on walking the road of ruin
Remembers how the flowers were in bloom
How everything measured in inches and feet
There was the biggest rainbow, displayed
Over the vieille quartier de la cite
Hope, climbing down the marble staircase
To the Dungeon, unlock the Treasure box
Release the demons from their torture rack
Snakes breaking through the cement floors
It has to be the greatest game of Mouse trap
When Cupid's arrow is so bent and twisted
Never to reach its mark found in the heavens
So it was that Love was wound into the Fabric
All the many different coloured strands, won
From all those moments that were so prized
Let there be something true that shines
Within me, even if it be all of the Fallacies
The underworld as seen through a glass
And expose all those keepers of Normality
An old man picking dimes on the sidewalks
The full moon shot down in the sky at night
Now bullets found amongst the Avocado plants.

Daniel Rajala



PORTABLE

...AFFORDABLE

....DISPOSABLE SHELTER

The piano was a status symbol for many families in the 30s. The discarded piano box became an icon as the ideal shelter for the homeless in the jungles, especially in such places as under the old Georgia viaduct.

A single candle could keep a piano box warm and cozy. A sheet of tar paper over the roof guaranteed dry clothes in the morning..... the piano box was portable, affordable and disposable... far, far better shelter for a human than absolute uncaring, brutal indifference.

Sam Roddan

On September 30, 2000,
the Community Alliance
of business interests
in the Downtown Eastside
and Gastown
organized a rally
to protest new services
for some of the poorest
and sickest people
in our community
- those addicted to drugs
with nowhere to go
but the street.

Some of the people
in the rally
had been bussed
into the Downtown Eastside
from other parts of Vancouver.
They didn't know the history
of Vancouver's oldest neighbourhood
the many battles for human rights
fought by oppressed peoples,
the struggle for the right
to organize trade unions,
the fight for work and wages
in the nineteen-thirties,
the battle for
the Carnegie Community Centre,
the fight for CRAB Park,
and the ongoing struggle
for decent income
and adequate services for all.

Someone had stirred up
the fears of the people
in the rally.
Someone had stirred up
their anger.
They screamed at the residents
of the Downtown Eastside
who supported new services
for the most alienated
of our citizens.
They shouted insults
and carried placards
that preached hate.
"Get rid of the drug users,"
one sign said,

as though poverty-stricken, ill people
could be discarded like trash.
They were condemning people
they had never talked to,
and their fears unwittingly
supported the ambitions
of alculating men
who had another agenda -
the complete gentrification
of the Downtown Eastside.

The river of fear and hate
moved down the street,
and an elderly woman,
Margaret Davies,
dressed as a Raging Granny,
watched them come.
The screaming
the dreadful placards
and the ugly feeling
in the air,
frightened her,
but she stood her ground
and sang
with other Raging Grannies
singing beside her.

A placard threatened Margaret.
The face hidden behind the sign
shouted angrily at her.

"If he hits me
with the placard,
should I charge him,"
Margaret wondered.
Then another idea came to her.
She wanted to see the face
behind the placard.
so she stepped forward
and gently pushed the sign
to one side.

Margaret and a middle-aged man
stood face to face.
"Hello." Margaret said.
The man's face showed astonishment,
and then he smiled.
"We're all Canadians,"
Margaret said.
"and we all have
the right to protest."
"Yes, yes," the man said,
and he shook hands
with Margaret.

Then another man
turned toward Margaret,
face to face,
and he, too, shook hands.
In that instant
these three moved past
the fear and the hate.



SEPTEMBER 30, 2000
[Margaret Prevost (l)]
[Margaret Davies (r)]

DANCE

DANCE

DANCE

D.J. – Mix

Friday, February 2

Carnegie Theatre – 7 to 10pm

FREE - Refreshments

Requests

Admission



[Not everyone may come into Carnegie. Security staff have a challenging job, in line with the Mission Statement, Guiding Principles, the permanent note at each door that says "All persons using this facility must conduct themselves in a civil and proper manner at all times." There is the added challenge of dealing with those engaged in drug activity right outside these same doors. Following is a short memo from Security to staff in general, and it may help those outside. There will be meetings on the baring policies as the accusations of unfairness are ongoing, whether true or not. Ed.]

To all Street Program staff,

To make you all aware, here is the procedure for people who are barred to regain access to Carnegie

-They must come and talk to me – No one else may unbar them;

-I will explain, at length if necessary, what their options are;

-I will ask which option they would choose;

-Then I will either unbar them or tell them that they are still barred and why if they're confused;

-I won't meet with someone who is tweaking, on the nod, or otherwise obviously high.

-If they are active in the street scene out there i.e. buying, selling, smoking rock or just being nasty to others, then they will not be allowed in.

The options I give are simple – "If you want to play out there then you lose the option of coming in. What you do is your business, but our business is keeping the building [Carnegie] safe. If you want to opt in then you are welcome. You cannot shoot up or smoke rock out there and expect to come in. You cannot berate or harass our staff and expect to come in. You cannot buy or sell anything (drugs) and expect to come in."

-I do take time to explain these things and answer any questions they may have.

-We do not bar junkies for being junkies, always an accusation. We bar people for being actively involved in the illegal drug trade outside our doors. Lots of addicts come into Carnegie and do not create problems. Lots of addicts come in, shoot up, take over a washroom for long periods of time, squirt blood on walls and ceilings, run water all over the place, leave rigs in garbage cans or on the floor or OD and cause us to call the paramedics. (We have saved many lives in here.)

-Please do not talk to someone, hear their story and then send them in to talk to Security. They get the idea that this alone will get them in, then they are disappointed and then they verbally attack (sometimes physically) whoever is refusing them entry.

-I hope that street programmers can explain these things first so that the person will have some idea of what is expected from us.

Finally, I'll say that the Street Program has been a very good thing overall and has helped a lot in easing the tension between security and the street people.. and I'm glad of that. I expect things will improve even more in the future, and by just explaining the process to people instead of raising expectations, security and street programmers can make each others' jobs that much more effective.

John Ferguson,
Security Supervisor.

Hushed Love

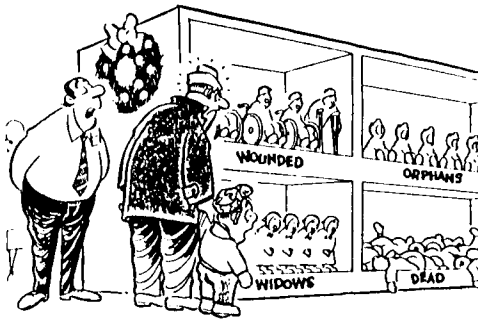
I don't really know you
I only know your name
There's one thing I'm sure of
Our dreams are the same.

You don't really talk much
But neither do I
It seems we're both
Just a little bit shy.

Whenever I see you
It's hard not to stare
Your eyes tell me secrets
Of how much you care.

There's a certain expression
Which I'm sure you've heard
It says:
"Actions speak louder than words."

Dawn Roberts



"BUT, SIR — YOU ASKED TO SEE OUR WAR TOYS."

Life's Change

These times are changing oh so fast
It seems my life has come to pass
What's the rush? I have no clue
I feel as though there's more to do.
Time doesn't stop or even slow down
My life passes so fast I feel I could drown
Everything is changing all around
I wish I could just see the ground.

Dawn Roberts

My Pain

The pain I hold is so god damn deep
The tears I shed until I sleep
I don't know how to make a change.
Pain comes from such a wide, wide range
Sometimes I wish it would go away,
But for right now it's here to stay.
In some people's opinion I'm very poor
But everyday I love myself more
In my eyes that makes me rich
Even though I can be such a bitch!

Dawn Roberts

February schedule, Humanities Storefront, 40W. Hastings

feb. 7...Wayde Compton...poet...Black History Month..."Black BC Writers"....
feb. 14...Bruce Alexander...professor, SFU..."Globalization and the Drug Scene"....
feb. 21...Dara Culhane...professor, SFU..."The Bridge Project"....
feb. 28...Glen Clark...former premier of BC..."Globalization"....

snacks and coffee @ 630pm...lecture @ 700....all welcome...free....

cheers, Andrew

Jive-ass Monkey Man and I got my pay
 I'm sneaking past you Mr. Down Man
 slippin' past you 'fore you get my loot
 to shoot 'nd shoot til my brain goes toot toot toot
 can't get any of my bread this Mardi Gras
 sorry Pa, can't do that no more
 jump outta my chair and I'm gone
 ain't got no time for yer downtown down
 can't be checking cracks in the sidewalk
 for the huge rock I lost
 I'm sure it must be here somewhere...

Al Loewen



THE POLICE, The Police, the police...

The Neighbourhood Safety Office is unique in Vancouver. It is a networking centre for many, including but not limited to DEYAS, Watari, Ray-Cam Community Centre, DERA, Britannia Community Centre, Portland Hotel Society, Tradeworks, Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, Carnegie Community Centre, and the Vancouver Police.

Each organisation and community centre has a rep on the Advisory Committee, and there is good sharing and planning and oversight of the Safety Office's role in this area. The Ministry of Children and Families is one of the funders, as is the Vancouver Foundation. There are various sources and supports for programs and projects initiated and/or coordinated at 12 E. Hastings.

The police, in the persons of Dave Dixon and, until recently Sue Parsons, have been part of this office for several years.

When Chambers was Chief of Police, Community Policing Centres (CPC) were set up throughout the

city, and each neighbourhood having one had to model its according to a standard Operating Agreement vetted by City Hall and the VPD. It puts the police in charge, requires each CPC to be a venue for programs initiated and run by the police, makes record checks for all volunteers mandatory and has wording about insurance and indemnification to cover the City's ass.

The Neighbourhood Safety Office Advisory Board has refused to sign this thing from the get go. Other neighbourhoods have also expressed misgivings on having irrelevant or unnecessary programs and projects run out of their CPC – having no say or input and unable to utilise local people because of this requirement that all volunteers and even staff have spotless records. The ones who objected were told that their City funding would be cut if they didn't sign and so they did... except for our NSO.

When Terry Blythe became Chief Constable, he met with the coordinators of two CPCs and Deb Mearns, coordinator of the NSO, and assured her that a separate operating agreement could be negotiated with us. When it came time to renew funding with the City, \$20,000, about one-ninth of the total for all the programs ongoing and in the works, we heard again that unless we signed the standard Operating Agreement all funding would be cut, the presence of Dave Dixon or any police was in doubt, and they would just open another "CPC" – "maybe in Carnegie." This last is a rumour that began with Inspector Ken Doern.

You wanna dance? Is this kind of red tape even worth the effort (or worth writing about)?

Briefing notes show what's at stake and the clear fact that police are part of, not in charge of:

***Hard-Targeting:** NSO coordination of weekly meetings on strategies dealing with street-involved youth or youth at "high risk".

***Drug Overdose Response:** Training, pictorial rep of CPR and intervention, deals with fear of users re arrest, eviction, guest fees. etc.

***Child/Youth Protection Strategy:** Response to sexually abused/exploited children. Workshops and reporting on sexual predators, gathering of admissible evidence and tracking of cases.

***Safe Havens:** Safety effort whereby many places on both commercial and residential streets display the recognized logo offering safety for anyone

feeling threatened or at risk until support comes.

- *Safety Meetings
- *Mental Health Networking Response
- *Court Watch/Community Impact

*Sex Trade Worker Registration: Voluntary, developed in response to many missing women... Partners include community-based youth services, halfway & safe houses, group home staff, residents, merchants, schools, libraries, businesses, binner, drug users, sex-trade workers, government reps, community activists and the police.

All of the above are involved in one or more of these initiatives and the police, while having a certain and supportive role, are not and cannot be in charge, having everything done according to their model of what is needed or what they alone can control.

The long and (hopefully) short of this is that Insp. Doern left a meeting with the Advisory Board quite willing to negotiate a separate agreement and assuring those present that the police would work with the community where and how they could.

and no, there isn't going to be a police office in Carnegie.

PRT

McBinner does so have the soul of dumpster diving. The Golden Bin [Jan. 15, 2001], dedicated to Tom Lewis, is a gem.

Truly, one can see the eternal stars from a bin and be simply overwhelmed by the wealth of goodies and their good fortune to be in the right place at the right time.

My journey has been brightened by The Golden Bin; yes, the veritable treasure trove one may mine away at on a daily basis. I remember a guy in a big eastern U.S. city, on a talk show, displaying his place and life. As a binner/recycler he was pulling down \$30,000US per year!

The Golden Bin is not about big bucks – it is a sense of being fortunate, happy and amazed at freedom and how things work out.. like those tickets for some gig at the Garage [GM Place] that paid for my eye exam.

More power to you McBinner. Peace and more “gold” in your travels.

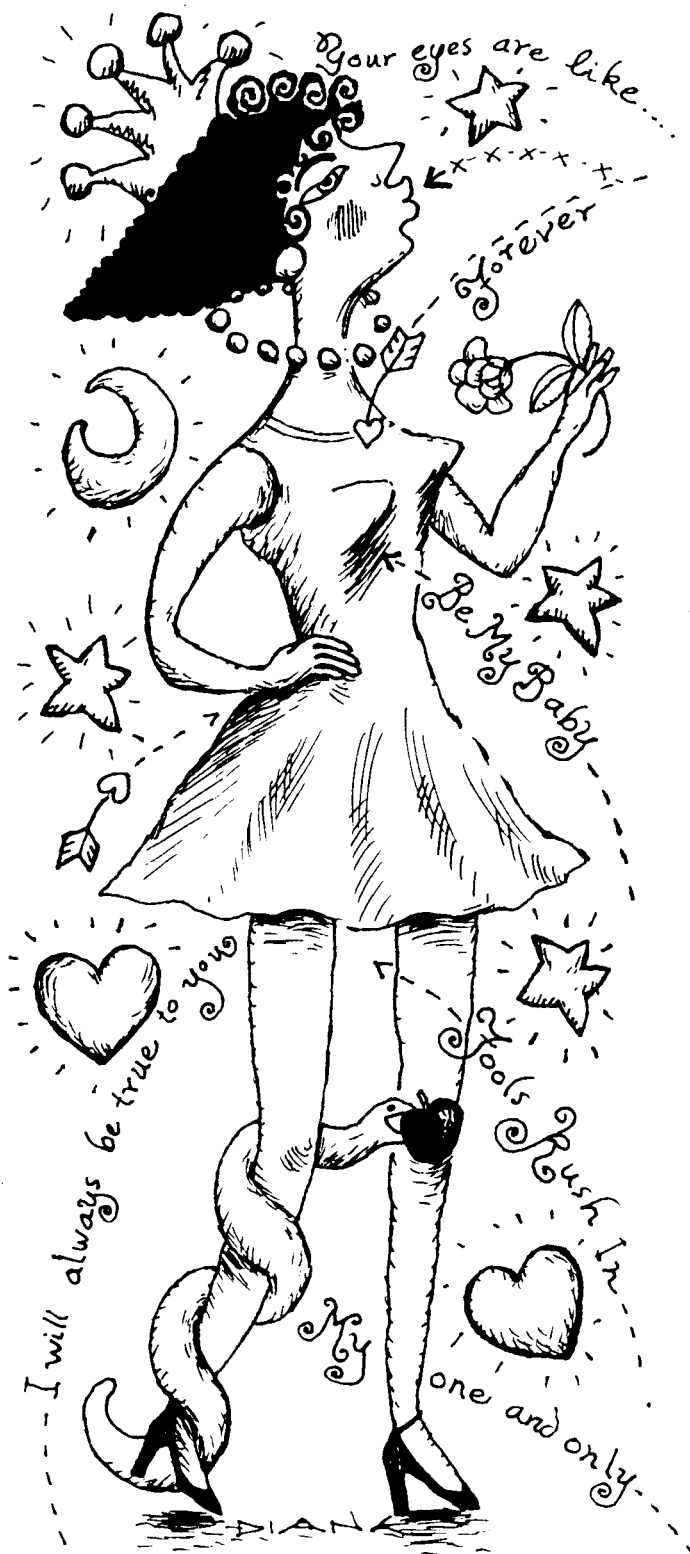
By MIKE BOHNERT
(dumpster diver)

**CARNEGIE
MISSION STATEMENT 2001**

**Our Mission is to nurture mind,
body, and spirit in a safe and
welcoming environment. Through
the leadership and participation of
our volunteers, we provide social,
educational, cultural, and
recreational activities for the
benefit of the people of the
Downtown Eastside.**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. To treat one another with respect regardless of race, ethnicity, colour, religion, gender or age.
2. To accept and celebrate a diversity of lifestyles and cultures.
3. To listen and to strive to understand one another.
4. To settle differences and misunderstandings through patience and goodwill.
5. To respect the personal and private space of one another while offering friendship and inclusion in the life of the Centre.
6. To build on one another's strengths, skill, and natural abilities.
7. To contribute to the work of the Centre while enjoying the benefits of the Centre.
8. To ensure that people in our community are supported in finding their own voice, and in participating in the life of the Centre.
9. To serve the community inside Carnegie and in the Downtown Eastside.



For the Hokey Pokey Princess

Sometimes I write real bad poetry
love poems mostly stacks and stacks
of clichés, worn out phrases
cornball attempts at communication

oh I'm always sincere, sappy sweet
embarrassingly honest about everything
a country bumpkin in red socks

sometimes I'm misunderstood
or the editor did it or I did it
but I try to shoot little missiles of wisdom
from my head to yours
sometimes it's pearls before swine
sometimes it's only th swine talking to himself
whatever it comes out as
it started with a pure heart
just got twisted somewhere on the road

Al Loewen

For the Princess from the 'Burbs

The Princess pokes me with needles
I love it, I let her, lucky they're not nails
I offer her trinkets, trying to incur her fondness
Spring time middle-age men go for young girls
ones they couldn't have been noticed by even in
their prime they waste time dreaming

I used to love heroin but had to leave her
too expensive a jones too costly to everyone else
I had to stop hiding in opiated towers
get back to real street, face the dragon head on

No moral judgment, if you can afford the down
go ahead blow your mind I just found I had
too much to lose to let it all go up a fit
and down the drain

My daughter's tears keep me alive; her at my
funeral is too sad
to do to someone I love so dearly
There must be someone, some reason,
for you to live, isn't there?

Al Loewen



Newsletter of the Carnegie **COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT**

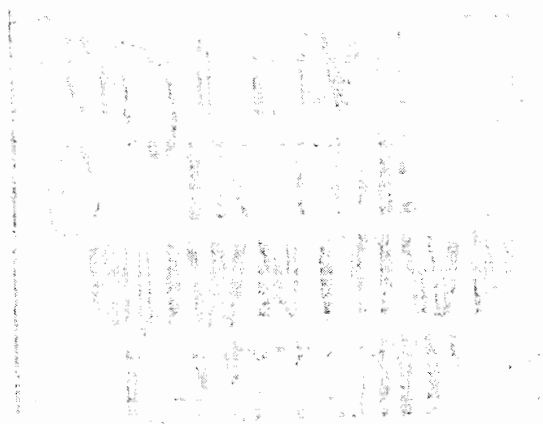
February 1st. 2001

For more information, call 689-0397 or drop by our office, Carnegie 2nd floor



© Duane Prentice

**Carnegie street front
redesign goes to
Development Permit
Board. Feb.19**



Community Directions Draft Housing Plan at the printers!

Pick-up a copy of the plan and give us your feedback.

Copies at Community Directions office (384 Main St.) or at CCAP

Redesign of Main and Hastings Street Corner part of the Vancouver Agreement's Health and Safety Initiative.

Back in September, the Mayor Owen, MLA Jenny Kwan and MP Hedy Fry announced a plan of action to address a broad range of issues in the Downtown Eastside. The redesign in front of Carnegie is coordinated with the opening a "Contact Centre" on the main floor of the Roosevelt Hotel (166 E. Hasting St.). This centre is proposed to operate 24 hours a day. The Carnegie Street Program will work out of this centre.

Also, as part of the initiative the DES Clinic (410 E. Cordova) is to trade places with the proposed Resource Centre (569 Powell St.) Except the Resource Centre is now called "The Lifeskills Centre." Finally, the Gastown Clinic is moved to the "Pender Community Health Clinic" at 59 W. Pender (the old Pender Detox).

A total of four Development Permits have been submitted and will be considered on Monday, February 19 at 2pm.

A Framework for Action: A Four Pillar Approach to Drug Problems in Vancouver.

A four page supplement on the Mayor's drug plan appeared in last Friday's Vancouver Sun (January 26, 2001). Included is questionnaire, which as many people as possible should fill out and fax back. Copies of the supplement are available at the CCAP office.



A firm court date has finally been established for the challenge to Vancouver's panhandling by-law by PIAC (Public Interest Advocacy Centre). The trial will start March 19, 2001.

The City of Winnipeg recently had its panhandling by-law set aside by the courts. The same is expected here in Vancouver.

Gastown's Best Steak and Rib Villa (1W. Cordova St.) wants to change it liquor license.

Sunview Villa Ltd. has applied to the city to change its liquor license from a Class 1 to Class 2. This would allow them to have live music and remain open until 2am. Another Blarney Stone?

The Carnegie Association has voted to oppose this application.

Fibre Optic Line through Gastown

A private company, Teraspan, has proceeded to install a surface laid fibre optic network, from 200 Granville to Gastown and further east to Railtown. Dot-com and other internet companies look favourably upon this kind of infrastructure when searching for an office location.

Some recent numbers from the City of Vancouver's *DE Community Monitoring Report 2000*

of residential hotel units - 5,187

of non-market housing units - 4,364

of strata (condominium) units - 876

Since EXPO 86 the # of market housing built downtown
(e.g. Downtown South, False Creek) (excludes the DE)-
17,786

of non-market units- 1,499

CCAP launches campaign to pressure the city to enact the Hotel Conversion and Demolition Control By-Law.

So far we have had no success in convincing city council
to enact a by-law that would buffer the hotel stock against
conversions and demolitions.

Close to 500 brochures with a mail back postcard to city
council (see below) have been mailed out to supporters of
the by-law. Join the crowd by mailing one in yourself.

Available at the CCAP office.



Dear Mayor and City Councilors:

Three years have passed since you have had the ability to create a residential hotel conversion & demolition
by-law. Since then at least 12 hotels, totaling close to 1,000 units have converted to tourist use. With every
one of these hotel conversions more people have faced eviction, disruption in their lives and greater
risk of homelessness.

This significant loss of units has been large enough to offset gains through new affordable housing built
throughout the 1990s. How many units must we lose before Council takes action to address this
unprecedented loss in low-income housing? Not since Expo 86 have we seen this high rate of loss.

I encourage City Council to endorse as quickly as possible a hotel demolition and conversion control by-law.

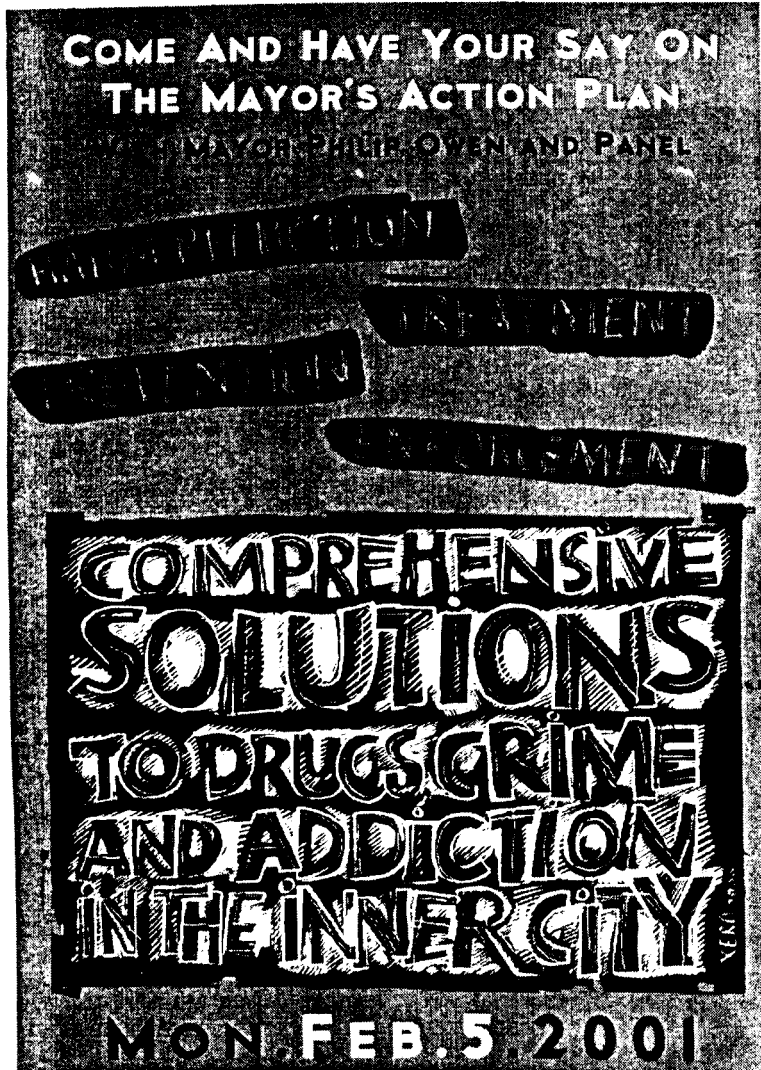
SIGNED: _____

ADDRESS: _____



A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

A 4-Pillar Approach to Drug Problems in Vancouver



**Mayor
Philip Owen
will be
attending.**

*One is a series of
public forums
around town.*

*Hosted by
CCAP & PHS*

*Sponsored by
Vancouver's
Coalition for Crime
Prevention & Drug
Treatment*

**12:00 pm Carnegie Theatre
401 Main St. @ Hastings**

Time's Up

I had faith in you,
But as time rolled by,
It turned out you were only hurting me.
If time could put a face on you,
Nothing would be there,
But us two.
I gave you so many chances.
Dodging your bullets like a difficult dance.
The time I spent with you seemed precious,
But it all turned into one explosive mess.
When I missed time with you,
It made me mad.
But you'd turn your back and make me sad.
Of all the times we spent together,
I never thought I'd ever say never.
But the time has come
To say goodbye,
No more bogues,
No more lies.
I've put you away
Under a lid in a cup,
Because cocaine,
YOUR TIME IS UP!

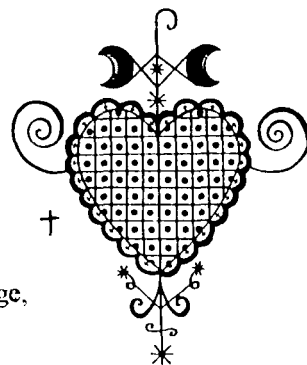
Help

I lay in tears about my problems,
But all I can try to do is solve them.
Obsession is destruction,
It rips you like a knife.
But when life is tough,
And goals seem far,
It's then I'll know
What my true problems are.
I stare into space,
Without taking a wink,
But until I stop this obsession,
I'll never grow from white to pink.
I lay in lies about my past,
But no truth will come
Until one lie becomes my last.
I need to come out,
And tell everyone,
That I need help,
And I'm not a strong one.

Life

In my life of violence,
I try to break away,
But no matter how hard I try,
I always have to stay.
Nobody cares.
Nobody understands.
I feel their looks,
I feel their glares.
I'm scared of people,
I'm scared of school.
I'm tired of keeping up my image,
I'm tired of trying to be cool.
The group controls me,
I don't have any real friends.
I always wonder
If tomorrow will finally bring the end.
I'm tired of trying.
I can't seem to cope,
But one word keeps me going,
It's that one word called hope.

Sher Robinson



No More

You took away
The things I need,
Strong self-confidence,
And no wanting to plead.

You fucked me over,
Too young to know,
And before I knew it,
I was in love with blow.

You told me lies,
And held me down.
I kept saying no,
Yet you took me around.

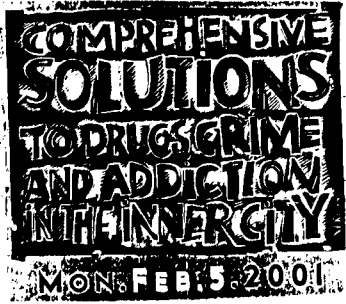
I kept on yelling,
You kept on going,
Now everyone assumes,
That I'm easy-going.

I can't forgive you,
There's no real reason,
But all I know,
Is that you gotta stop teasing.

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE DRUG STRATEGY

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

February 19th, 3:00 pm at City Hall. That's when the Development Permit Board will consider the proposals for five development permits for the recently announced Health and Safety plan for the



THERE WAS LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

(Copied from the internet by Dora Sanders)

An **application** was for employment
A **program** was a tv show
A **cursor** used profanity
A **keyboard** was a piano

Memory was something you lost with age
A *CD* was a bank account
And if you had a broken *disk*
It would hurt when you found out

Compress was something you did to garbage
Not something you did to a file
And if you *unzipped* anything in public
You'd be in jail for awhile

Log on was adding wood to a fire
Hard drive was a long trip on the road
A *mouse pad* was where a mouse lived
And a *backup* happened to your commode

Cut - you did with a pocket knife
Paste - you did with glue
A *web* was a spider's home
And a *virus* was the flu

I guess I'll stick to my pad and paper
And the memory in my head
I hear nobody's been killed in a computer crash
But when it happens they wish they were dead.

Downtown Eastside.

To be on the speaker's list and to get information materials, telephone Ken Armour (Human Resources Development Canada) at **666-0730**.

This drug strategy is part of the Vancouver Agreement plans announced last September. The drug strategy includes:

- * Redesign of the Main and Hastings corner: to reduce drug activity on the corner, improve access to Carnegie Centre and provide covered outdoor space for Carnegie patrons.
- * Opening of The Contact Centre at 166 E. Hastings (the first floor of the Roosevelt Hotel): to provide an open, street level point of first contact for people with addictions who require basic health, safety and personal supports. Managed by the Health Board in cooperation with the Carnegie Centre Street Program, the client group, and the police. Open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- * Opening of the LifeSkills Centre at 410 East Cordova: This daytime education centre will focus on preparing clients for employment and life in the community.
- * Relocation of the Downtown Community Health Centre to 569 Powell. The provision of services for the community as a whole as well as for people with addictions.
- * Opening of the Pender Community Health Clinic at 59 West Pender. The provision of specialized supports for a wide range of addiction and mental health issues.

The Carnegie Association Community Relations Committee is recommending support for this package. People are urged to become familiar with the plans and to voice their opinion at the Development Permit Board meeting.

A sketch of the plans for redesigning the corner is on display in the 3rd floor Gallery at Carnegie Centre.

A BEGINNING: One Person's View:

The recently announced drug strategy is the first step towards a longer term plan for health services for people with addictions in this community, and in the City as whole. As a first step there inevitably are components where people will differ about their importance or where they will be located. But the package is the first comprehensive attempt to

address the issue of addictions. It is the first time that the three levels of government have developed a coordinated approach. In particular it speaks to three pressing needs:

- * A twenty-four hour service close to the drug scene at Main and Hastings that accepts people as they are and is a point of entry into other services in the community;
- * Expansion of detox and treatment services
- * Providing life skills, volunteer, and employment training (training and jobs were the top priorities for people with addictions surveyed at the corner of Main and Hastings).

Drug Dealers in Strathcona

On Friday (January 12), as we walked home from Strathcona School along Keefer Street, the sidewalk was blocked by seven slovenly and suspicious-looking characters. Young children and mothers with babies were backed up and crowding.

I asked a young woman pushing a stroller what was going on. With a pained look on her face she replied, "Drug dealers."

And indeed they were. Two more buyers were coming across Keefer, not fifty yards from the school. I said, "Hey guys, this is no place for that." One female buyer said, "Sorry, lady," grabbed the stuff and ran off. The others shuffled towards Gore Street.

I asked the young mother if this happened often (we usually walk along Pender where we often see needles but not an 'open market' like that). She didn't understand English but she'd clearly known the words "drug dealers".

Drug dealers are the 'boogey-men' for parents and kids in this area. I feel her pain, I understand how frightened residents can get drawn to the Community Alliance stance of "just get them out of here." On the other hand, my good friend's brother has been dealing on the corner lately and

Significantly this is not just a plan for the Downtown Eastside. It includes the development of services for people with addictions in community health centres throughout the City. People will not need to come to the Downtown Eastside for methadone, for needle exchanges or for other counselling and treatment services.

This plan is intended to reduce the level of open drug activity at Main and Hastings. It will not eliminate it, but it will offer, around the clock, opportunities and choices for people with addictions that are not in place now.

Michael Clague
Carnegie Centre Director

we know he's a great guy when he's not a 'crackhead'.

Drug addicts I don't even know have given me presents to give to my son. When we walk through Pigeon Park a rippled shout of "kid in the park" goes through the crowd and people put away their paraphernalia. Drug addicts who sometimes sell are not monsters.

I have been happy to see the Carnegie corner clearing, but not if the scene is moving into the school district. According to Marg Green at Community Directions, crime is reported to be down in all parts of the city except Strathcona.

I was told at one of these meetings that police presence was to be increased in Strathcona. However, I have yet to see officers in the area and I take kids back and forth to school every day. Parents try to pick the path of least destruction and desolation, but there are more afflicted and afflicting-looking individuals than ever.

The police and city officials need to talk with community residents about these issues. I suggest a translated forum on enforcement as soon as possible and at least one police car cruising the Strathcona area at 3:05pm on weekdays.

By LEITH HARRIS

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

FREE - donations accepted

Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

401 Main Street, V6A 2T7 665-2289

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**

Monday, February 12

2000 DONATIONS Libby D. - \$55
 Sam R. - \$40 Nancy W. - \$20 Eve E. - \$20
 Margaret D. - \$30 Shyamala G. - \$18
 Joy T. - \$30 Val A. - \$36 Wm B. - \$20
 Thomas B. - \$41 Harold D. - \$7 Pam - \$22
 Rolf A. - \$45 Bruce J. - \$50 Paula - \$10
 Kettle - \$18 Sonya S. - \$140 BCTF - \$25
 Nancy H. - \$35 Bill G. - \$150 Wes K. - \$30
 DEYAS - \$200 RayCam - \$25 LSS - \$25
 Wisconsin Historical Society - \$10
 Heather S. - \$18 John S. - \$50
 Yukiko - \$10 VEDC - \$25 Paddy - \$60
 Rockingguy - \$30 Peggy - \$25
 Margaret D. - \$30 Anonymous - \$71

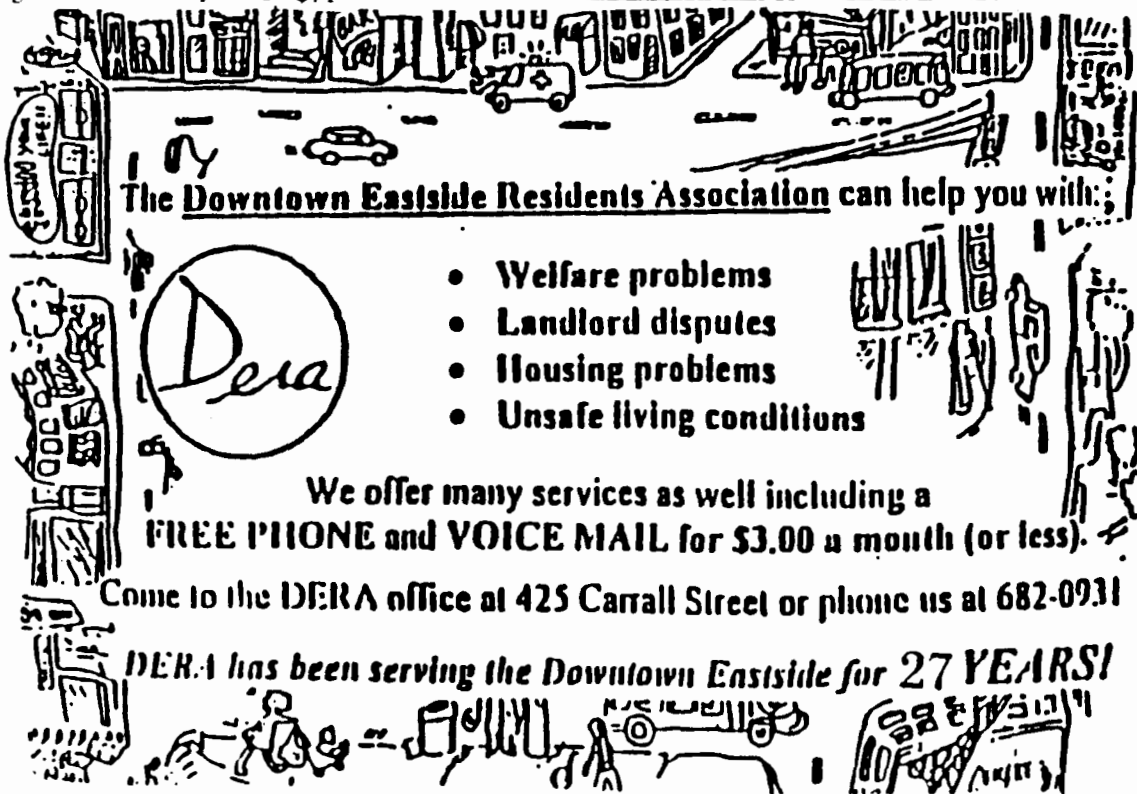
The Downtown Eastside Residents Association can help you with:

- 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).

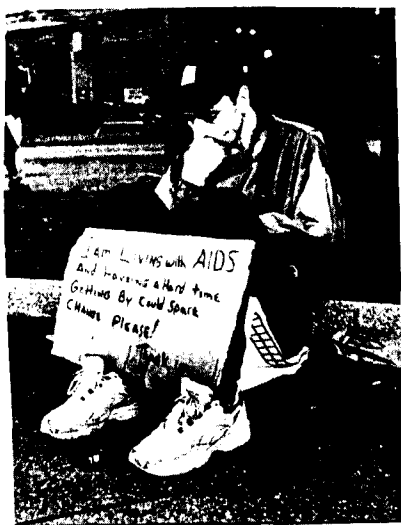
Come to the DERA office at 425 Carrall Street or phone us at 682-0931

DERA has been serving the Downtown Eastside for 27 YEARS!



****FLASH****

At long last the new Metropole Pub has opened its doors. The place is open daily and offers a good place to socialize. The 'House Rules' include no selling of stolen goods, no drug trafficking and no over-serving of patrons. The Metropole is located on Abbott Street, across from Woodwards.



Eaton's Centre, Vancouver

HEADLINES THEATRE IS 20 YEARS OLD AND WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

On January 28, 1981 a not-for-profit society was incorporated to accept and administer funds for what was going to be a single project: a community-oriented, issue-based play about organizing for affordable housing called **BUY, BUY VANCOUVER**. The core company were: Beth Kaplan, Ann Hungerford, Suzie Payne, Colin Thomas, Marjorie McLean, Heidi Archibald, Jay Samwald, Nettie Wild and David Diamond.

Twenty years and almost 300 projects later, Headlines Theatre has established a global reputation



for producing vital, cutting edge and transformational theatre and video that speaks to core community issues. In the 2001/02 season projects will take place in: Vancouver, Victoria*, Vanderhoof BC; Toronto* and Wikwemikong Ontario; Pleasant Point Maine; Bellagio and Bologne Italy; Edmonton* and Calgary* Alberta* not confirmed.

Headlines' core staff: David Diamond, Siobhan Barker and Jessica Pearl and Board of Directors: Kirk Tougas, Tad Young, Nettie Wild, Bill Roxborough, Darlene Marzari, Kamal Sharma and Barbara Buckman would like to thank the many, many people -- previous staff and board members, project organizers, artists, participants, audience, and of course the funders who have made it possible for Headlines to reach this milestone.

As a way to celebrate we would like to hear from you!

If you have stories, anecdotes, thoughts, impressions, of how Headlines Theatre has touched your life and would like to share them with us, there are various ways to do that:

1. Log onto <http://www.headlinestheatre.com> and click onto the 20th birthday icon and post your message.

2. Fax your message to 604-871-0209 ; e-mail it to info@headlinestheatre.com or mail it to 323-350 E.2nd Ave, Vancouver V5T 4R8

~Peace, not Passivity~ (Augusto Boal)

The *Carnegie* Newsletter Crew

This is an issue of photos, of people you may know or at least recognise. Here are some of the people who contribute their energy and talent and incredible strength to getting this rag into your hands twice a month – volunteers all!



DIANE WOOD – cover artist extraordinaire!



LISA DAVID – photographs, sanity



SHAWN MILLAR – poet, doing post-graduate work in the universal School of the Street.



SAM RODDAN – artwork and experience



(left to right)

LEE DONOHUE – poet, collation & delivery



ROBYN LIVINGSTONE – poet, hunter and gatherer of every other paper he can find.

DAN FEENEY – writer, layout, anything to do with computers, graphics, photography.

SANDY CAMERON – writer, poet, collation, delivery, sagacity

PAUL TAYLOR – editor, Help in the DE funding

Letters Editor
The Vancouver Sun

Dear Editor:

It is more than fear that causes the middle-class business and property interests of the Community Alliance to demand an intensification of the war on drugs, although one can sympathize with distraught home owners faced with a frightening street drug scene. (Coalition gathers to fight Owens drug policy, Van Sun, Jan. 20)

The Alliance also opposes more social housing in the Downtown Eastside, and all social programs aimed at reducing the street drug scene and the damage it does to poverty-stricken drug users and the community at large. These policies will help phase out the low income community as gentrification advances, and the Alliance won't even talk to the low income tenants who make up the great majority of residents of the Downtown Eastside.

Gentrification of the Downtown Eastside - the pushing of low income residents out of their community so that developers and property owners can reap maximum profit from high land values and high rents - is a motivating force behind the Alliance's draconian drug policies.

Enormous real estate development has already taken place on virtually all of the downtown peninsula of Vancouver, with Burrard Inlet on one side and English Bay and False Creek on the other. The Downtown Eastside is under siege from gentrification, but there is no humane reason why this low income community, with the affordable housing and services that it needs, cannot become a healthy, safe part of a growing Vancouver. The Mayor's paper, *A Framework for Action*, moves in this direction.

Yours truly,
Sandy Cameron

[This letter was not printed. Editors at the *Sun* are conscious of their influence, and Sandy's point about real estate and class is too close for comfort. His letters linking illiteracy to poverty, poor grades to hunger and malnutrition, gentrification to class, rarely see print in the mainstream media. Who has their head up their ass?]

FIX IT - BUT DON'T
MESS WITH
MY LIFESTYLE!



Who has their head up their ass?

Readers of the *Carnegie Newsletter* may have discerned support for what's known as the Four Pillar approach to the issue of drugs. It comes in part from Europe, and through drug policy advisors and people working on the front lines in several countries. The principles are prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement.

There have been conferences in Vancouver over the last 2-3 years, both in the Downtown Eastside (in a tent in Oppenheimer Park), downtown in the Robson Square centre and at UBC. There is the Mayor's Task Force on Drugs (linked with something labeled Revitalization), the National Plan for Crime Prevention, the Alcohol & Drug Treatment Action Plan of Community Directions, and the political glue is the Vancouver Agreement.

You, priceless reader, may have also discerned a certain lack of respect for the so-called Community Alliance. The machinations of this gaggle of business and property owners are rooted in precepts most people wouldn't tolerate if applied to them. As quoted a few times, this bunch "will not negotiate, will not be drawn into trying to solve the problems, will only speak to policy-makers, will fight [harm reduction] to the death, are completely opposed to any treatment facilities located in the [Gastown, Strathcona, Victory Square, Chinatown] area" and "[we] are the experts on what our (sic) community needs and deserves."

The few most public have gone to extremes to be seen as victims, and embellish on incidents until they are grossly exaggerated. Translation at public meetings has been the forum for direct lies, and press reports in both ethnic and mainstream publications have contained false and fabricated allegations of criminal behaviour on the part of community activists who are working to establish

facilities and programs in line with the above mentioned Four Pillar approach.

Okay, so why drag this out?

The Alliance had a fundraiser, to convince each other of their righteousness. Both rhetoric and dogma ran rampant – Rhetoric being talk that sounds like yaddyaddayadda after the first few sentences, and Dogma being “bad theory presented as truth.”

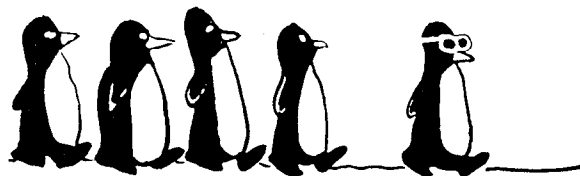
On the one hand is a proposed approach to dealing with the drug problem and, as an inalienable concomitance, ongoing work from many community agencies and hundreds of people to provide better ideas and solutions in the fields of housing (social and non-market), anti-poverty action (issues of welfare, workfare, and legislated poverty); safety (children’s safety & protection, street safety for seniors, women, all of us); education, training in life skills and work search and job retention, women’s services (violence against, childcare); mental health services (drop-in, dual diagnosis, med monitoring) services for sex-trade workers, family services... counselling, peer support, advocacy, and even just listening. In all of the above there are drug users of varying degree, as well as other forms of substance abuse that affect people seeking housing.. who are poor.. who are frightened on the street or in their homes.. who are taking courses or in training.. are female and in abusive relationships or just sick of being treated as 2nd-class.. who are mentally ill and victimized.. who are in the sex-trade.. who have families...

Addiction is a health problem and people with it need help, treatment, and access to services.

One of the four pillars is enforcement, and the police and justice system have crucial roles to play. Prevention can be enhanced through education and by those who have ‘been there, done that’ but the words have to be true.

In all of the above is no clear solution, and there are different ideas on how to approach each issue in each field.

On the other hand, the most virulent of the Alliance seem to compromise groups and individuals, and vow to unseat any politician who gets in their way. The Alliance recently had a huge ‘fundraising’ event and brought together



about 700 people. Over 2/3 were not residents of Vancouver, just as ¼ of those attending their rally at Canada Place were not from this area. Liken it to the Fraser Institute having a ‘public’ event on “zero taxes” and they’d get a huge turnout as well. However much is lacking from the Alliance in the way of alternatives to the Four pillar approach, they attempt to make up for it by attacking every aspect of solutions presented. It’s Not-In-My-Back-Yard taken to extremes. It’s gentrification and displacement, with condemnation of drug users as a front for maligning any and all agencies which provide services that may be used by same.

In the *Sun* on Friday there was a 4-page spread on the proposed Four Pillar approach, things that the City, the province and the feds have all gotten behind, with the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board as a vehicle to run much of it. The last page was a survey asking people to respond. The City is getting most of the flack and threats from Alliance members, and the necessary development permit hearings are sure to be a forum for concerted attacks on everyone and everything that even remotely supports the 5-pronged proposal.

The status quo is not acceptable, meaning that things cannot go on as they are. Treating the problem as just drugs, as the Alliance wants to be seen as doing, isn’t even honest. The arm-chair solutions of forced treatment and complete abstinence are akin to proposals in the Thirties over alcohol, when Prohibition sought to correct people by criminalizing booze but enhanced organized crime instead.

The proposal isn’t perfect, but it may be a good start. Problems with each aspect can be worked on as they arise, but a blanket NO WAY is just tired.

By PAULR TAYLOR

JEAN-MARIE ... PARTI

He walked with a certain gait
Hair pulled back from a proud high forehead
sure footed... back straight.
Jean-Marie parti

Compassionate... soft-spoken... proud
We'll miss having you around
Jean-Marie parti

Je prends une biere; j'me souviens de toi
Jean-Marie ... you're gone

J'regardes le monde; c'est ton visage que j'vois
Jean-Marie... you're gone

Tes douleurs sont partis mais
ton esprit est ici
T'avais déjà souffler plus
qu'un homme est capable de souffrir
Tu n'est pas le Christ

You hid your pain from us
until your pain became too much
for you to bear
Any one of us would've traded
your pain for your life.

C'est ma fete whoopee
Où est-tu Jean-Marie?

Un homme comme une femme
gentillesse un bel homme
j'voudrais que tu soit ici
Jean-Marie

Ne quitte nous pas
Retient ta belle grace
ton esprit reste ici
Jean-Marie

Sans corps ca ne fait rien
dans ma memoire tu retien
une place
Le mot "éternité"
means
Jean-Marie

Prends ta bonne place mon ange, on t'a besoin.



We invite you to a
memorial
for
Jean-Marie Boileau

**Thursday, February 8th, 3-5pm,
at the Carnegie Centre.**

Jean-Marie was well-known and well-liked
by many. Please come and share in rememb-
ering the life of our friend.

Everyone Welcome.