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# Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

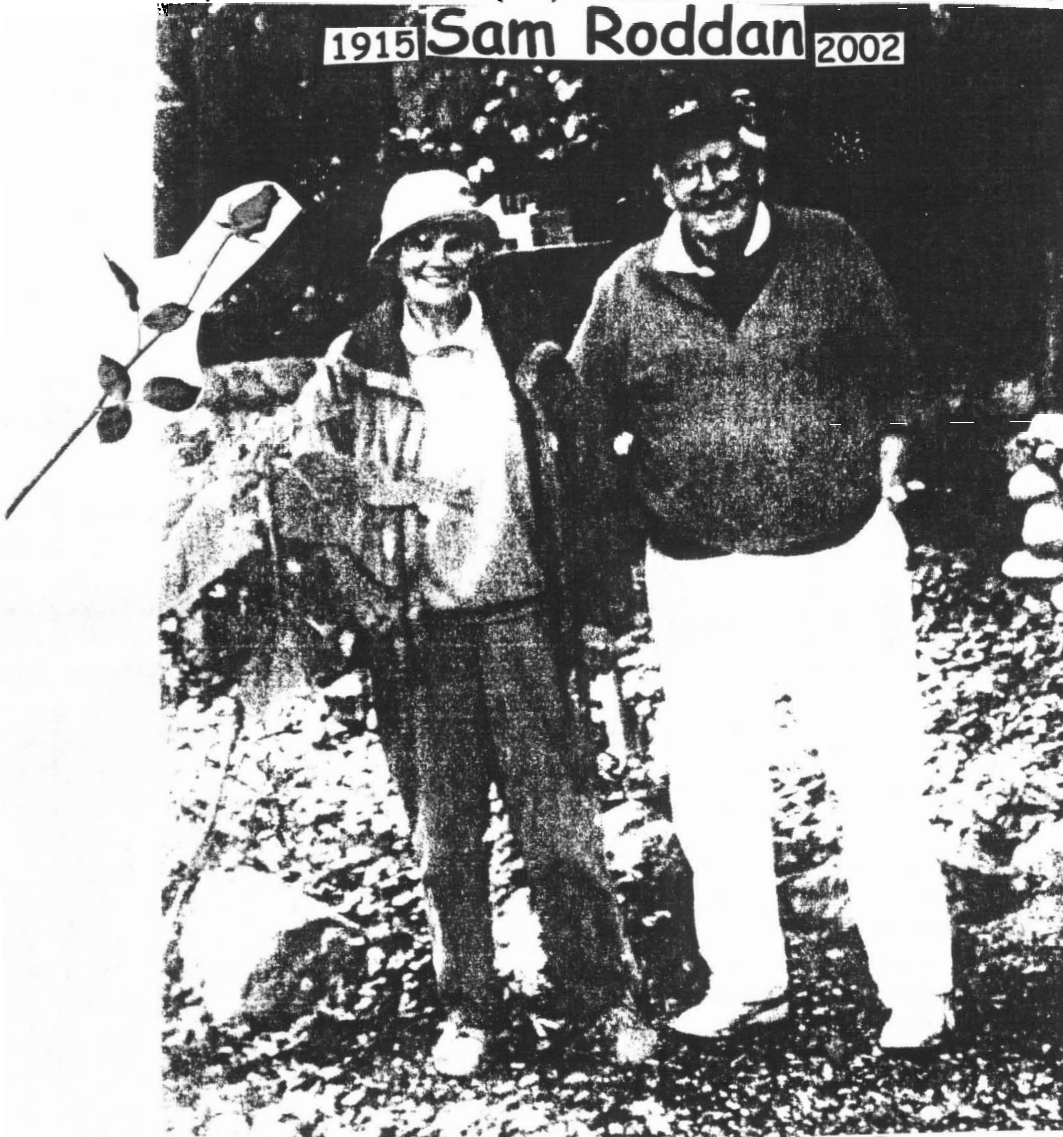
JUNE 15, 2002



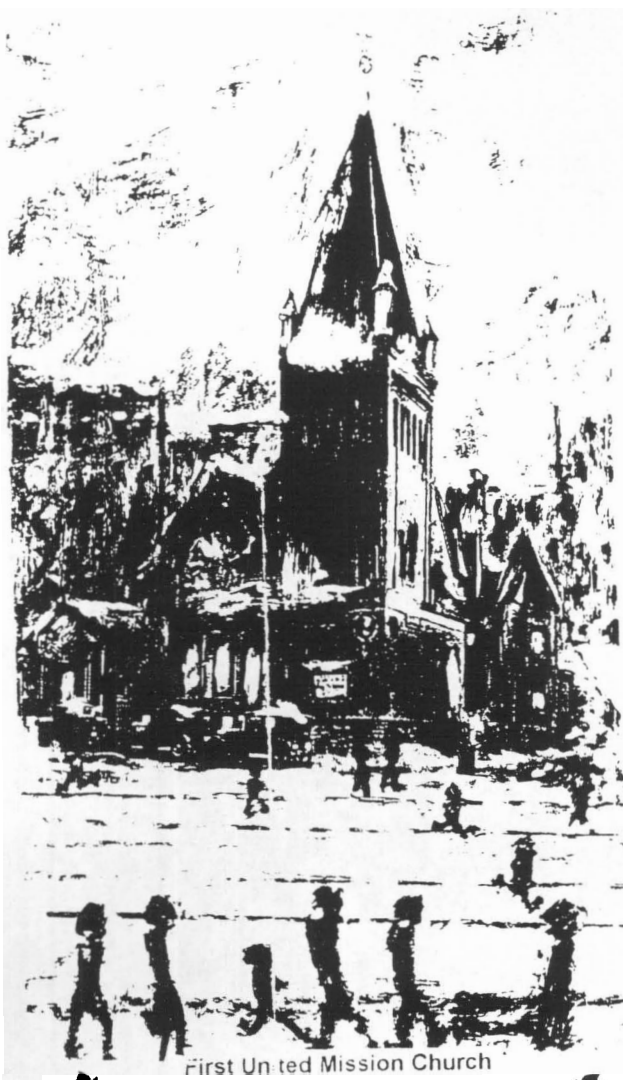
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1915 Sam Roddan 2002



Friend of the Downtown Eastside



First United Mission Church

1882 - 1962

### A Photograph Of My Mother

A shutter tripped fifty years ago, on a summer afternoon; and because of that, you gaze back at me today. You're posed before the fairgrounds; behind you a Ferris wheel looms. You're in the full bloom of your youth and beauty; and although other figures populate, you dominate the frame. You smile back at me, shy and satisfied — your mouth still savoring the indulgences of licorice and ice cream. Your eyes reflect the keen excitements of your adventures upon the midway: the jugglers, the acrobats, the bright banners and the distorting mirrors. You're radiant in the afterglow of joy and abandonment — you so freely and recklessly spent the hard-earned and horded bills

**RODDAN** — Sam. Born January 29, 1915 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he came to live in the Vancouver area in 1929. After a brief illness, Sam left quietly on June 8, 2002 at 87 years young. Sadly missed by his loving family: wife, Hulda; children: George (Susan and Liam), Janet (Reto and Krigi) and Maggie (Lou); brother David (Gail); sister Esther and many other nieces, nephews and friends. He was pre-deceased by his father, the Rev. Andrew Roddan and mother, Mrs. Jennie Roddan, his brothers Stuart and Andrew and sisters, Margaret and Ruth. Sam was well known and loved in the Crescent Beach community and the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. A Writer, Artist, Soldier, Teacher and Master Story-teller, Sam was a friend to one and all. A Memorial Service and celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2:00 p.m. at Crescent United Church 2756-- 127th St., Surrey, B.C. A service will also be held at Vancouver First United Church on Friday, June 14th at 3:00 p.m., 320 East Hasting. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First United Church Mission, Vancouver, B.C.

Sam Roddan was so much a man of the world that he considered himself part of the Downtown Eastside. Since 1996 he has contributed his artwork and a brief thought to exemplify compassion and trust in the human spirit, and the Carnegie Newsletter has been graced with both.



on the thrilling rides and games of chance. And you stare back at me now through all these years, with one hand in your pocket clutching your last remaining coins for the trolley ride home.

Ken Morrison

## The G-8 Summit At Kananaskis – 3

### *The Bears Fight Back*

Although there has been a lot of protest against corporate, global imperialism, Prime Minister Jean Chretien has chosen the tiny mountain community of Kananaskis, Alberta, about 50 miles west of Calgary to be the site of the Group of Eight (G-8) Summit on June 26 & 27, 2002. The Group of Eight is made up of some of the world's most powerful industrial nations with some of the world's most powerful corporations.

The purpose of the conference is to move forward the corporate domination of the world. "We think it's pretty exciting," said Dale Dyck, general manager of Delta Lodge, one of the two hotels in the remote community. Dale Dyck has no idea just how exciting it's going to be.

To enforce totalitarian security, Chretien will bring in enough tear gas and pepper spray to poison western Canada. There'll be tens of thousands of police and military personnel, tanks, water guns, flame throwers, helicopters, rubber bullets, real bullets, electric prods, baseball bats, stun guns, barbed wire fences, attack dogs, and specially built gulags. In a world as despairing as this one, it's easy to find people who will beat up (and sometimes kill) other human beings for money.



But wait a minute. The G-8 Summit at Kananaskis is going to be in the wilderness, and the creatures of this fragile mountain environment aren't happy about this invasion by the most destructive animal the world has ever seen - corporate man who would turn every part of our beautiful earth into a commodity for sale.

Already the animals, birds, insects, snakes, fish, mountains, trees, lakes, rivers, earth and sky have met together to discuss this threat to their being. Everyone looked to the grizzly bears to lead the resistance, but the bears were wary of the enormous firepower of the enemy. "We can't match their violence," the bears said. "We have to think of a strategy they can't deal with."

There was a long silence after this statement, for all the creatures knew of the murderous power of profit-driven men and women. Then the mosquitoes spoke. "We are not strong like the bears," they said, "but along with our cousins the black flies, we have the power to drive men crazy. Also, we can carry diseases like yellow fever and malaria, and because we move our wings one thousand times a second, we can create a humming sound that will obliterate their entire communication system. Maybe we can use their high tech equipment against them. We can swarm under their visors, into their helmets, and find the crevices in their Halloween outfits. We can jam their gas masks, attack their eyes, block their ears, fly up their noses, and charge into their mouths. Many of us will be killed, but we're like the phoenix in the fire. Our awareness of living includes the past and the future, and the continuity of life is more powerful for us than the finality of death. There are billions and billions of us, and we have lived on this earth for four hundred million years. We share with you a vision of community that lifts being-in-the-world from the predatory stage of development to ecological balance. We do not want our success to depend on another's failure, nor our prosperity on another's poverty. We want to be in control of our lives, to belong to our land, and to live with our traditions. We are not for sale."

All the creatures of the wilderness cheered after this speech, and the grizzly bears said, "Come, friends, let us work together, and we will prevail."

for more information on resistance to the G-8 Summit, see [www.G8activist.ca](http://www.G8activist.ca)

Sandy Cameron





**May 2002 – Kootenay Library**

**>From the desk of the Chief Librarian:**

**Q:** Has the province's audiobook program been reinstated?

**A:** I have been hearing a lot of confusion about the provincial audiobook program and would like to clarify the issue.

As many of you know, the province, through its Public Library Services Branch, has been in the business of producing books on tape for the visually impaired. These audiobooks are then circulated as a traveling collection between the public libraries in B.C.

The program ensured that new titles arrived in our library on a regular basis without additional cost to the user or to the library and it filled the needs of many of our audiobook users. In particular, this program filled a significant gap in the commercial audiobook market by ensuring that Canadian and B.C. books were available in audio format.

The provincial government announced recently that the program would be cut - and then rumours came out that they had decided to reinstate it..

Staff at the Public Library Services Branch were kind enough to fax me a press release from George Abbott, Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, in which he states that "our government came to the conclusion that it was neither necessary nor appropriate to continue producing a commercial product." He notes that, in 1974, when the audio-book program began, "commercially prod-

uced audiobooks were unavailable." Now there are "thousands of titles produced by the private sector" and "hundreds of commercially produced audiobooks titles are added annually to public library collections in British Columbia." The Province is, however, "currently in negotiations with InterLINK, a federation of 17 library boards", for this group to "continue maintaining, duplicating, and distributing the existing audiobook stock" of 106,750 volumes.

There is a possibility that Interlink will produce about 50 new titles a year as well - about 25% of the program's former output. The province's equipment would be given to Interlink and funding to assist them in setting up the necessary structure for the maintenance and distribution of the audiobooks could be forthcoming when an agreement is reached.

It is worth noting that audiobooks were previously circulated to public libraries at no charge for the use



of visually impaired patrons. To fill this gap with our own funds will require us to significantly increase our audiobook budgets. Quality unabridged audiobooks from commercial producers cost between \$50 and \$100 per title. In a time when maintaining current levels of funding for public libraries from local governments is uncertain, this may be difficult. The losers will be the visually impaired users.

**June 2002**

**>From the desk of the Chief Librarian (Nelson):**

**Q:** When the Legal Services office in Nelson will be closed (as of August 2002), where will I go for legal information?

**A:** The Library can't provide legal advice or assistance but we can help you with information.

\* We can direct you to Canadian statutes online and offer you the Statutes of British Columbia in print.

\* We have over 250 Self-Counsel Press books, 29 of them in Reference and the rest in the circulating collection.

\* We carry other reference books such as Martin's Annual Criminal Code, Black's Law Dictionary and Copyright Law in Canada.

\* The Library has just received a box of pamphlets and booklets from the Legal Services that cover a broad range of topics such as family violence, work permits, human rights, and living common law. These will be interfiled in file boxes with books on the same topic to make them easy to find.

\* You can also consult the Electronic Law Library at: <http://www.bepi.gov.bc.ca/ell/>



Staff will be retained at the Legal Services Society office in Vancouver to maintain and update this website even after the Legal Resource Centre is gone. Only one or two staff and a small collection of print resources for the use of these staff in maintaining the Electronic Law Library will be retained after the LRC is closed.

The loss of many knowledgeable staff, the bulk of the print resources, the audio-visual resources, and the annual public library grants will be keenly felt by librarians - and those who look for legal information through their libraries - across the province.

Deborah Thomas,  
Chief Librarian  
Nelson Municipal Library



Comments?  
Concerns?

Contact  
Jenny  
Wai Ching  
Kwan, MLA

**Working for You**

1070-1641 Commercial Dr., V5L 3Y3

Phone: 775-0790 Fax: 775-0881

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-4pm

## 5 THE G8 JUNE MEETING IN KANANASKIS: A STRATEGIC MOMENT

By Starhawk

The G8, the heads of the eight most industrialized countries in the world, are preparing to meet in late June in the isolated wilderness area of Kananaskis, near Calgary, in Alberta, one of the most prosperous and conservative provinces of Canada. Last July, their Genoa summit was met by hundreds of thousands of demonstrators, and protests that at moments became pitched battles. Carlo Giuliani was shot and killed, and many other activists were brutally beaten, imprisoned, and tortured. But the global justice movement has not been silenced.

As we near the time for the June summit, major demonstrations and counter-summits are being planned in Calgary and the Kananaskis area. Is it worth making the trek to Western Canada to engage in yet another summit contest? Would we not better devote our resources to the thousands of local battles that are also the front lines of the global justice struggle? Both the local and the global struggles are important. But right now, a strong protest in Alberta is vitally necessary. We fight on a thousand local fronts because we are challenging a larger system that ultimately needs to be dismantled as a whole.

The large summits are still the best place to confront the overall system of global corporate capitalism. And this is a strategic moment in that battle. Local struggles are important. The system of global corporate capitalism has thousands of local impacts. It's Exxon polluting the Nigerian delta, Chevron spewing forth air pollution in a low income community in California. It's an inner city hospital closing, a CocaCola logo on the high school gym, a factory in Canada moving to the Mexican border, a young woman displaced from a village in Chiapas forced to work in that factory for less than a living wage.

Addressing the local face of globalization brings the issues home, roots us back in community, gives activism integrity, and also teaches us some deep lessons. For local issues always face us with complexities. Global issues become human, personal. The opposition is the guy down the block who works at Chevron, the mother at your kids' school who welcomes the windfall from Coke. We have more need and incentive to hear their point of view, to see



the issues in their fullness, not in simplistic, black and white terms.

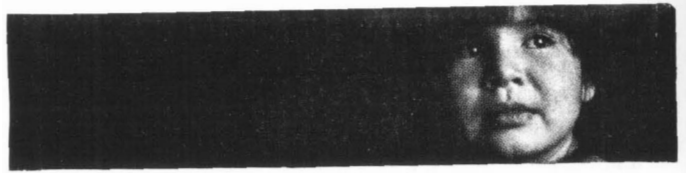
Working locally, we can also see the results of our actions in our daily reality. Every day, we walk by the school, the medical clinic, the worker-owned cooperative. On a local level we can implement solutions, try out programs, make immediate changes that affect real people's lives. And local actions are accessible to everyone, to working people with limited means and time for travel, to parents who have kids to take care of.

Nevertheless, local action is not enough. Some of us have been working locally, often for decades and we understand quite well that no local gains will be sustained in the face of the major policies set by the WTO, the IMF/World Bank, the G8 and all their alphabet-soup brethren.

Our hardest won victories can be erased in a moment by a press conference, a new regulation or a stroke of a pen. A local victory, no matter how important, is like nibbling away at the toes of the beast.

The places where we can challenge that system as a whole, where we can strike at its heart, are the summits, those big meetings of the elite that function as rites of entitlement and reinforcers of legitimacy. The strategy of contesting them has served us well since Seattle. Disrupting the meetings has focused a spotlight of public scrutiny on institutions that were functioning in near-secrecy. It has raised debate, called into question their legitimacy, and begun to undermine their power. The protests highlight internal conflicts and support dissenting factions within the institutions.

Moreover, the summit protests bring us together, building alliances that can strengthen our work when



we go back home.

Educators speak of the teachable moment, that instant in which an urgency cracks the shell of apathy and a previously resistant student opens to learning. Most people respond to the news somewhat like bored kids in school, knowing there is an overwhelming amount of information being directed at them, but not quite knowing why they should care or what action they should take. The big summit actions create mass teachable moments.

They generate a drama, an excitement, an urgency that draws attention and wakes people up. The public suddenly has a reason to pay attention to institutions it has long ignored, to crave information it has long neglected. Without a central drama going on somewhere in the world, decentralized protests draw only the faithful and have minimal impact. They still serve an important educational role. But their impact is magnified a thousand times when a large action is taking place at the site of a world summit meeting where media and global attention are concentrating.

A critique has also been raised within the movement that summit protests are not accessible to the very people who are most impacted by global policies--the poor, people of color, immigrants, families--that attending the protests is for the privileged. It's true that travel is hard for those with limited means and pressing life responsibilities. But our response should not be to stay home, but to increase our efforts to raise funds and share resources so that a wider spectrum of people can attend. Because in opposing the G8, we join a struggle led by the people of the global south, by indigenous people fighting for their lands and cultures, by the poor and dispossessed around the world, who have asked for our solidarity. The privilege we might have confers a responsibility to use our resources to carry the struggle into the beasts' lair. When those who benefit from the system openly reject it, the beast truly begins to tremble.

The G8 summit is also a strategic moment. The beast is gnashing its teeth, spoiling for a new fight, and this is a crucially important opportunity to halt its advance. The government, media and corporate

interests have used the attacks of 9-11 to further their agenda that makes corporate profit the prime value by which every human activity is ordered and every potential resource exploited. These systems represent the everyday terrorism of policies that breed poverty and despair. They kill millions every day, from the children who die of diarrhea because the IMF has forced a government to abandon a program to provide clean water, to the civilians who die in the bombings that clear the way for policies favorable to corporate desires.

The success of the corporate agenda depends on the cooperation of masses of people whose own true interests are not being served. To assure their compliance the violence inherent in the system must be kept from the public eye. Capitalism is equated with democracy. Those who dissent are labeled terrorists' and criminalized. And when the guns and bombs and missiles that back up corporate policy are unleashed, the interests they serve are disguised by noble rhetoric. A strong summit protest rips the benevolent



mask from the face of corporate globalization, makes the violence visible, and exposes the lie.

The authorities are put in a dilemma. They cannot convincingly claim to represent democracy and suppress dissent. Either they allow us to gather and express the enormous public opposition to their policies, or they are forced to openly repress us. So far, their strategy in Alberta has been one of active discouragement and criminalization. While giving lip service to democracy, they have undermined and blocked efforts of the organizers to secure safe and legal places for marches, gatherings, and encampments. They hope people will be intimidated, and stay home. The drama in Alberta may well become a contest for public space and freedom of expression,



played out on the streets of Calgary as well as the road to the mountains.

But the struggle for global justice is a struggle for space: for life-space, for learning spaces free of corporate advertising and influence, for the traditional territories of an indigenous community, for a commons that cannot be sold to the highest bidder. And it is, ultimately, a struggle for freedom: for the freedom of people to cross borders as capital does, for the freedom of communities to control their own resources and destinies, for the freedom to participate in decisions that affect us.

The G8 summit is the moment for the global justice movement in North America to return from the setbacks of 9-11 with renewed vigor and creativity. With strong support from the Canadian labour movement and thousands of union members coming to take action, it's an opportunity to reforge and strengthen alliances among broad sectors of the movement, and make the impact of global policies on working people a central focus. And with new wars on the horizon every day, ongoing violence in the Middle East and the far East, an invasion of Iraq on the Bush agenda, it's a vitally important moment to draw attention to the links between militarism and global corporate capitalism, to pry Canada away from backing the U.S. drive for hegemony, to unite the movement for global justice with the movement for peace.

To mount strong actions in conservative Alberta, we need numbers. Calgary, Edmonton, Canmore and surrounding communities have been organizing for months, but Kananaskis was cleverly chosen to be far away from major centers of activism. The moment is crucial enough, and the stakes high enough, that it is a worthwhile use of our resources to go there if we possibly can. Of course, not everyone can go to Alberta. Direct actions are also being planned

in Ottawa, and a call has gone out for protests in capital cities across the world. The sister actions that will take place around the globe will help spread the impact of the actions. We need to work both locally and globally. But western Canada is where the beast has gone to ground, and where the central drama needs to take place. Come to Calgary and even Kananaskis country if you can, and then bring the struggle back home with renewed energy and new alliances.

The G6B Countersummit will take place in Calgary from June 21-25. The Labour/family march will be June 23rd. Direct actions will be ongoing through the G8 meetings taking place in Kananaskis June 26-28.

For information on the actions, G6B summit, and ongoing organizing, go to [www.G8activist.ca](http://www.G8activist.ca)



## Glen Valley Farm Trips 2002 – All on Sundays

June 16 9 am-5 pm Summer Solstice  
 July 21 9am-5 pm: no meeting! Summer Lunch  
 August 18 9 am - 5 pm  
 September 15 9-5 3rd Annual Harvest Festival  
 October 20 9-5

Potluck lunch provided 12 pm  
 Meeting 1 - 3 pm (for those who want to attend)

**Stroll, lounge or help with farm chores**

Sign up in the Program Office, 3rd floor

**Carnegie Community Centre**

## Queen's Golden Jubilee Medals

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - Libby Davies, Member of Parliament for Vancouver East, is awarding 20 medals to outstanding residents of East Vancouver to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The medals will be awarded to those who have contributed a significant achievement or distinguished service to their fellow citizens, their community, or to Canada. For details or to nominate someone, please call (604) 775-5800.**

## Yoga for body & mind

Yoga exercises and meditation to improve and tone up the muscles and the nervous system to give a peaceful inner harmony.

2-3pm *Teacher Dada Tattva*  
**TAI CHI for inner health**

With smooth motions of tai chi the body remains in a state of relaxed efficiency to make the mind free.

3-4pm *Teacher Yogatma*

Free of charge! Everyone welcome!

Every Saturday in the gym  
 Carnegie Community Centre,  
 401 Main Street

## Special General Meeting Common Concerns Association

Calling all members and residents: to discuss issues related to the management and governance of the Common Concerns Association and the Clothes Encounters Laundry/Cafe. It is imperative that all members and Downtown Eastside / Strathcona residents attend.

**Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m.**  
 3rd floor Study Room Carnegie Centre,



[*"The following was spoken at the peoples' festival in victoria, b.c."*]

## take back space

I was talking last week with libby davies, member of parliament for the downtown eastside of vancouver, and libby told of a star trek episode she'd seen a futuristic situation in san francisco - an enormous wall had been constructed dividing poor people from everyone else.. and outside this wall in super consumerist upscale society there was almost no awareness of who was struggling to survive on the other side of the wall nor how wretched their living conditions were and libby said "that's not our future it's happening right now"

north america's anti-panhandling bylaws and other prohibitions against the presence of certain people in what was formerly public space is a central objective in the global and local war against the poor

to put this situation in perspective i'd like to quote from an excellent book "geographies of exclusion" by david sibley; he says

"power is expressed in the monopolization of space and the relegation of weaker groups in society to less desirable environments.. the boundaries between the consuming and nonconsuming public are strengthening with nonconsumption being construed as a form of deviance

at the same time as spaces of consumption eliminate public spaces in city centres, processes of control are manifested in the exclusion of those who are judged to be deviant imperfect or marginal - who is felt to belong and not belong contributes in an important way to the shaping of social space it is often the case that this hostility to others is articulated as a concern about property values the urge to make separations between clean and dirty ordered and disordered us and them that is to expel the abject is encouraged in western cultures creating anxieties

because such separations can never finally be achieved this anxiety is reinforced by the culture of consumption in western societies the success of capitalism depends on it

and a necessary feature of the geographies of exclusion the literal mappings of power relations and rejection is the collapse of categories like public and private and to be diseased or disabled is a mark of imperfection the fear of infection leads to erection of the barricades to resist the spread of diseased polluted others there is a history of imaginary geographies which cast minorities .. imperfect people .. and a list of others who are seen to pose a threat to the dominant group in society as polluting bodies or folk devils who are then located elsewhere this elsewhere might be nowhere as when genocide or moral transformation of a minority like prostitutes are advocated the imagery of defilement which locates people on the margins or in residual spaces is now more likely to be applied to the mentally disabled the homeless prostitutes and some racialized minorities"

the downtown eastside of vancouver, where I live, is by any statistical measurement of poverty and disease a third world area besieged by upscale developmental greed of truly genocidal proportions the highest rates and numbers of hiv/aids..suicide.. hepatitis c..syphilis and tuberculosis in the western world and close to the lowest life expectancy

and the single question I am asked more than any other by media and concerned citizens is "where will they go?" where will the people go when they are driven from this area by gentrification/displacement?

referring to sibley, I must conclude that the municipal provincial and federal governments must have some imaginary geography in mind because there is nowhere for the people to go and in the downtown eastside the public space that has been available for drug mentally disabled, homeless, prostitutes is being seized from them

WISH YOU WERE HERE...

shutters and grates cover doorways and stairwells where human beings who have nowhere else to go at least could stand for awhile awnings are removed from buildings so that cold rain pours down on very ill people large private security forces in gastown and chinatown business districts enforce to the limits of their capability anti-panhandling bylaws and harass poor and vulnerable people out of their areas. away from tourists and businesses

there is serious talk of establishing what is being called the carroll street corridor - a kind of demilitarized zone between gastown and chinatown so that tourists do not have to walk through the defiled downtown eastside

and in the midst of the downtown eastside the police have established a red zone for prisoners released from jail, meaning you could be arrested simply for being found on a certain block

and vancouver city council has recently invested time and money in an attempt to circumvent the charter of rights and freedoms naming the downtown eastside specifically as the target of this action to loosen even more the search and seizure regulations

there are no-go zones in new westminster several block areas where you can be charged if you are deemed an undesirable just for being there and that is basically in response to drug addicts driven from the downtown eastside to new west by police

but there is resistance. I know there is here in victoria and in vancouver not long ago activists protesting the anti-panhandling bylaw invaded city hall and occupied city council chambers

the sophistication of the system we are opposing is such that the presence of panhandlers in business areas of vancouver has been greatly reduced without the police having to charge a single person yet thus the system is able to avoid a public legal challenge and public space continues to be seized

to put this in a theological perspective I'll briefly quote from a book entitled "money and power" written by jacques ellul, who fought in the resistance in france during the second world war and engaged in many social justice struggles throughout the remainder of his life. ellul says

"ultimately the rich seek to kill the poor this happens because the rich are exasperated by constantly being called into question by god through the poor - and this is the real reason for the amazing problem that in all societies the rich have detested the poor and why when precisely the rich are the powerful the superior the strong do they set themselves against the we can find of course all the psychological and sociological reasons we could want but none of these reasons is definitive none really explains but they all relate to the fact that the poor are a temporal reflection of god"

to resist today is to take back space but when we are few in numbers and have no money or political power, what do we do?

the question I finally asked myself is not which cause, which new assault on the poor should I take on? anti-panhandling bylaws? the health care system? housing? the legal system? racism? unemployment the theft of children from poor women? welfare? but who are the defiled? the ones who don't belong? the human beings who are relentlessly dehumanized? those who are victimized by this social cleansing?

in the downtown eastside as well as throughout the province of british columbia it is the drug addicts who are homeless, diseased who are excluded, marginalized, pushed out, vilified abandoned and destroyed and it is the impoverished drug addict on whom the entire system bears down every institution of law education business health and religion

the degraded situation and circumstances of drug addicts is one issue that affects or will affect everyone in b.c. and is the only opening, the only breach in the system I have yet seen

during my activism in the downtown eastside the horrendous condition of drug addicts has forced government, the system, to yield resources it never would have otherwise

I believe that in the downtown eastside to defend the entire community of poor people the best way to do it is to defend and stand with and for those who are most defiled and excluded the drug addicts

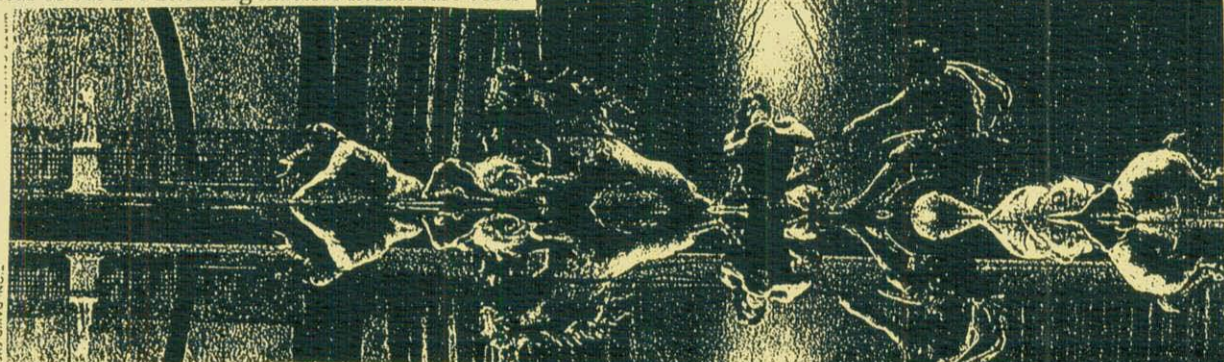
a year ago several downtown eastside activists involved with the drug situation held a protest

we blocked the corner of main and hastings  
and distributed a pamphlet describing the horrendous  
situation of overdose deaths and disease  
we planted 1200 crosses in oppenheimer park  
to commemorate the number of people  
who have died as a result of drug overdoses  
in the past 4 years

and then  
as a member of the vancouver/richmond health board  
representing the downtown eastside

*I introduced a motion which passed declaring the  
hiv/aids infection rate among injection drug users  
vancouver's first public health emergency*

these events brought international media attention  
to the predicament in the downtown eastside  
and since drug addiction and its consequences affects  
all areas of our live including massive health care costs



the media has the story from one perspective or another  
ever since, in such a widespread and ongoing manner,  
that libby davies said she has never  
in all her years of activism seen anything like it

at approximately the same time as these events  
ann livingston and myself held meetings with drug  
addicts in the downtown eastside  
hundreds of addicts and listened to them say over and  
over that what they most needed was a place to go  
a place, some space to be safe and rest and have the use  
of a telephone and a shower and a restroom  
common amenities denied them  
for even the community centre in the area is off limits

*from these meetings a campaign developed  
for a 24-hour resource centre for drug users  
and that coincided with the federal government  
the liberals coming forth with a million dollars to deal  
with the public health emergency  
and it has been decided that the federal government will*

initially fund this resource centre for addicts  
a commitment which would have seemed  
impossible unthinkable and absurd a year ago

there is currently a battle over where this facility will be  
and there are those insisting it be located anywhere  
elsewhere nowhere but it will be in the downtown  
eastside; and it is space taken back  
because if anything can be said to be  
an anti-gentrification project, it is this one

*and the health board in cooperation (of all things)  
with other ministries and bc housing  
put together money not marked for any other housing  
venture and purchased 2 hotels in the dark heart of the  
emergency - the block where the red zone is located  
the block most people in business wish was gentrified  
and the addicts expelled as soon as possible*

and these 2 hotels will house mentally disabled drug  
addicts, many of whom are infected with hiv/aids  
this initiative is an important signal that a commitment  
has been made to house "undesirables"  
in the downtown eastside

and most dramatically of any project so far  
is a drug users' organization  
also funded by the vancouver/richmond health board  
it is called vandu -vancouver area network of drug users

sibley says in his book  
"there is always the hope that through political action  
the humanity of the rejected will be recognized  
and the images of defilement discarded"

and that is what vandu  
has most powerfully begun to accomplish -  
the de-marginalization of those most marginalized  
the most powerless and voiceless are finding their  
voices and speaking forth at meetings and conferences

and on committees where they had never been seen or heard before

it occurs to me regarding activism in the downtown eastside that out of all advocacy efforts and all the meetings and demonstrations around housing, while important as acts of resistance, they have not yielded one square inch of space taken back but the drug emergency has been truly hopeful

a petition campaign was begun by vandu members for safe injection rooms in the downtown eastside more space for the lowest the least and the last and because of the horrendous number of overdose deaths, this has become a possibility the 24-hour resource centre committee unanimously supported this petition and safe injection sites and this committee includes a gastown business leader and an inspector of the vancouver police department and the chief medical officer of bc. john millar, in a report on the public health emergency, urges the government to yield resources with housing mentioned prominently to help save lives of drug users

out of this suffering of drug addicts and their families out of this exclusion, out of this genocide, out of the enormous health care costs now and later out of the monstrous market of international drug trade against first nations people out of the wild fire consequences of the prohibition of illicit drugs out of the disease, out of the lives of the most execrated most written-off and hated human beings in our society has come an opening.. a possibility for something new for change for taking back space

and the emergency is not going to go away problems associated with drug use will only increase and worsen if real changes are not made for social activists this is an opportunity that may not ever come again

you can take on the whole system from the side of a drug addict this crisis is in victoria, it is in the comox valley it is on reserves throughout the province it is across the world and so I urge political activists to organize with drug addicts - they are in the biggest mess there is their lives are the biggest messes and the closer you are to them the more of a mess you get into

but this solidarity is the only hope I see for actual concrete change

the downtown eastside is being crushed there are a million battles to fight I have never before realized the width and breadth and power of the system as I have in this advocacy because here is a real threat to the system, trying to save the lives of those others would rather see die



I'll close with another quotation from the best book I know on this whole debacle it's called "the corner" the corner being the drug corner, the drug scene the authors david simon and edward burn say

"the corner is everywhere and we have swallowed some disastrous pretensions allowing ourselves a naive sincerity that even now assumes the can be restricted to heroin and cocaine limited to a self-contained cadre of lawbreakers when all along the conflict was ripe to become a war against the underclass itself we can commit to the people of the corner, to the notion that they are our own, that their future is our future or we can throw the problem back on them empathy demands that we recognize ourselves in their faces, that we acknowledge the addictive impulse is something more than simple lawlessness that we begin to see the corner as the last refuge of the truly disowned and connectedness admits that between their world and ours the distance in human terms at least is never as great as we make it seem"

Bud Osborn



## MEMORIES

Close your eyes and go back in time.... Before the Internet or the MAC... Before semi automatics and crack..Before SEGA or Super Nintendo... Way back..

I'm talking about hide and seek at dusk.

The Good Humor man, Red light, green light.

The corner store.

Hopscotch, doubledutch, jacks, kickball, dodgeball.

Mother May 1?

Hula Hoops.

Running through the sprinkler.

Wax lips and mustaches.

An ice cream cone on a warm summer night, chocolate, vanilla or strawberry.

Wait.....

Watching Saturday morning cartoons...

Short commercials, Fat Albert, Road Runner,

The Three Stooges and Bugs.

A million mosquito bites.

Sticky fingers.

Cops and Robbers, Cowboys and Indians, Zorro.

Climbing trees.

Building igloos out of snow banks.

Walking to school, no matter what the weather.

Running till you were out of breath.

Laughing so hard that your stomach hurt.

Jumping on the bed.

Pillow fights.

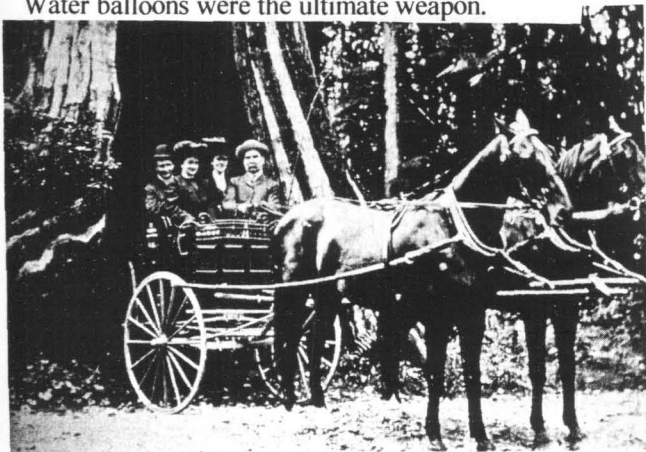
Spinning around, getting dizzy and falling down was cause for giggles.

Being tired from playing.... Remember that?

The worst embarrassment was being picked last for a team.

War was a card game.

Water balloons were the ultimate weapon.



Baseball cards in the spokes transformed any bike into a motorcycle.

Eating Kool-Aid powder.



Remember when...

There were two types of sneakers for girls and boys: the only time you wore them at school, was at "gym" It wasn't odd to have two or three "best" friends.

When nobody owned a purebred dog.

When a quarter was a decent allowance and another quarter a miracle.

When milk went up one cent and everyone talked about it for weeks?

When you'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny.

When nearly everyone's Mom was at home when the kids got there.

It was magic when dad would "remove" his thumb.

When it was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a restaurant with your parents.

When any parent could discipline any kid or feed him or use him to carry groceries and nobody, not even the kid, thought a thing of it.

When they threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed and did!

When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited a misbehaving student at home.

Basically, we were in fear for our lives but it wasn't because of drive-by shootings, drugs, gangs, etc. Our parents and grandparents were a much bigger threat and some of us are still afraid of them!!!

Didn't that feel good? Just to go back and say, "Yeah, I remember that!"

Remember when....

Decisions were made by going "eeny-meeny-miney-mo."

Mistakes were corrected by simply exclaiming, "do over!"

"Race issue" meant arguing about who ran the fastest.

Money issues were handled by whoever was the banker in "Monopoly."

Worst thing you could catch from the opposite sex was cooties.

Having a weapon in school, meant being caught with a slingshot.

Nobody was prettier than Mom.

Scrapes and bruises were kissed and made better.

## Cutting into the bone...

Shelter cuts of \$50 to \$75 per month starting in July could impact more than 78,000 people, or almost one-third of those on welfare in BC, according to Lesley Moore from End Legislated Poverty.

About 26,000 families will likely be affected by shelter cuts, many of whom are parents, children and people with disabilities. An estimated 70% of those affected will come from single parent families.

Although families of two or less will not face a shelter allowance cut in July, single parents on welfare are still reeling from the \$51 cut to their support allowance that took effect in April.

Shelter amounts for families on welfare are already insufficient to meet housing needs. According to CMHC, the average 2-bedroom suite in Vancouver costs \$751, but a family of three currently receives only \$610 per month for shelter. That shelter rate will be reduced to \$555 per month in July.

"It is clear that families on welfare will be forced to choose between eating and paying the rent. Those families who choose to eat may fall behind in their



rent and could face eviction," says Moore.

Only 7% of welfare recipients in Canada are living in subsidized housing, according to a 1997 National Council of Welfare study. Most – about 68% – are living in rental accommodations.

When the shelter cuts take effect late this summer, many families could end up on the street or in temporary shelters as of September.

End Legislated Poverty calls on the BC government to rescind the cuts to welfare before thousands of BC families lose their homes.



## Olympics' Impact

*INSIDE THE OLYMPIC INDUSTRY* presents a critical analysis of the politics of Olympic bids and preparations from the perspective of all those adversely affected by the social, economic, political, and environmental impacts of hosting the Olympics. The resistance efforts of international anti-Olympic and watchdog organizations, whose activities have long been underreported and underresearched, are the center of the analysis. Events in 1998–1999, when allegations of bribery in the Olympic industry were finally investigated, marked the beginning of the end of a long era in Olympic history characterized by secrecy and corruption. At the end of the twentieth century, the voices of Olympic whistle blowers and critics are finally being heard.

Dr. Helen Lenskyj came to Vancouver at the end of May to meet with people having concerns over the Olympic Bid for the 2010 Winter Games. The IOC (Impact of the Olympics on Community) is a citizen group that has heard of and investigated the impact of the Games on cities and people all over the world.

Dr. Lenskyj is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto and is a recognized authority on the International Sports industry. It was through her work and other watchdogs of the other IOC (International Olympic Committee) that the scandal of bribery and elite treatment of its members came to light around the Salt Lake City Games.

It was not just an academic discussion. The local IOC coalition has looked at the impact on the poor and vulnerable people at the last six events and every one is found riddled with corruption at the highest levels – people on the Bid Committees and especially in the business of getting millions of dollars for the construction of state-of-the-art facilities make huge profits and huge amounts of public money flow in private hands.

People are evicted, homeless and poor people are routinely arrested, kept out of sight, prices skyrocket and what's left is nothing like what is 'promised' by the organizers.

This sounds like a rhetorical rant, but Lenskyj documents the sleaze step-by-step in her book *Inside the Olympic Industry*. The people of the local IOC are not opposed to the Games, although Lenskyj

warns that getting honest concessions from the Games' business elite is going to be a public relations affair and nothing more. This was proven in both Salt Lake and in Toronto during its bid for the 2008 Summer Games.

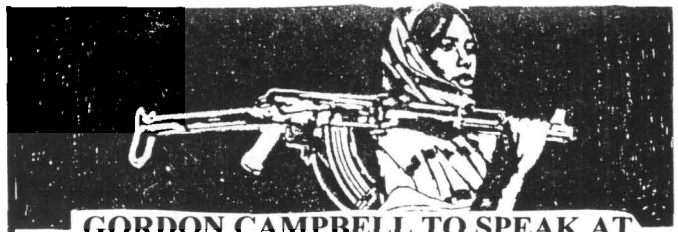
A people's organization called Bread Not Circuses went to public meetings, held demonstrations and rallies, and tried to get the ear of the IOC members when they came to Toronto. They were ignored by the press and got an arrogant and icy reception from the IOC. It was to be business and only business, with requests for housing and services for the sick, poor and vulnerable just boring social shit that no one wanted to hear about.

It was only after Toronto lost to Beijing (China) that the press and disgruntled corporate execs tried to blame Bread Not Circuses for ruining the whole thing. They spent something like \$26 million of mostly public money (while Harris's government closed hospitals and slashed services).

In BC the expected price on just the Bid is \$32 ml, with an additional \$500,000 fee just added by the IOC. But get this – the provincial government has already guaranteed \$310 million of public money if the Bid is successful ...while closing hospitals and slashing services and saying that there's just no money for tens of thousands of social needs – like medicine, housing, children, seniors and on and on.

The impact of the Olympics on communities will be felt for years to come. Toronto was fortunate.

By PAULR TAYLOR



**GORDON CAMPBELL TO SPEAK AT VANCOUVER ART GALLERY JUNE 14.**  
*ARTISTS, ACTIVISTS AND GUERRILLA GIRLS TO PROTEST.*

On FRIDAY JUNE 14 (6pm), at the VANCOUVER ART GALLERY (Howe St entrance, corner Howe & Georgia) a group of artists, activists and women dressed as gorillas will gather to let art patrons know what they think of the Liberal government's pro-corporate, anti-artist, undemocratic shenanigans.

"WE'VE BEEN FRAMED!" says one artist (we'll call her "Georgia"). "Campbell is using the opening of these three women artists to promote himself as a hero to the corporate elite of the art community! Georgia O'Keeffe, a committed social democrat (and one of the artists whose work is featured in this show) would have been outraged!"

A Guerrilla Girl named Frida (Guerrilla Girls take the names of dead women artists) says, "Frida Kahlo, a longtime socialist, would be horrified at Campbell's gutting of social services in this country!"

And the Guerrilla Girl posing as Emily Carr adds, "And how about that insulting Native Rights referendum!" Carr, known for her paintings of aboriginal totem poles and her support of First Nations' struggles, would also, says this Guerrilla, have stern things to say to Gordon Campbell. "Emily Carr taught art in Vancouver for many years. She would not have been amused at the rise in college and university art tuitions, let alone the new \$6/hour training wage, which makes art school inaccessible to many aspiring artists".

Georgia concludes, "Campbell's stated intent is to make BC 'open for business'. From municipal art galleries to the Olympic bid, culture is now on the Liberal agenda. What kinds of disastrous changes to our art institutions and art practices will we see in such an avowedly corporate climate? What does this say about the VAG's current community awareness and future direction?"

Taking drugs meant orange-flavored chewable aspirin.

Ice cream was considered a basic food group.

Getting a foot of snow was a dream come true.

Abilities were discovered because of a "double-dog-dare."

Older siblings were the worst tormentors, but also the fiercest protectors.

If you can remember most or all of these, then you have LIVED!!!!

Pass this on to anyone who may need a break from their "grown up" life...

I DOUBLE DOG DARE YA!!!



### Would you like to be a member of the new Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal?

\* Qualified people are needed to serve on regional Employment and Assistance appeal panels across the province. These appeal panels will conduct hearings on disputed decisions involving the denial, discontinuance or reduction of assistance.

\* The regional appeal panels are part of a new independent Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal that will be under the direction of the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson.

For each appeal, panel members will be remunerated according to Treasury Board guidelines.

#### Who may apply

To be considered for appointment to the Appeal Tribunal, an individual must:

\* Not be an employee, or have been an employee within the past six months, of the Ministry of Human Resources; and

\*Not be a recipient of income assistance or disability assistance from the Ministry of Human Resources.

#### How to apply

Please enclose a letter, detailed resume and three references that include addresses and daytime phone numbers. Clearly identify in your letter that you are applying for an appointment as a regional appeal panel member.

**Resumes must be mailed and postmarked before 4:30 p.m. June 28, 2002:**

**Legislation and Inter-Agency Branch  
Ministry of Human Resources  
PO Box 9932 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9R2**

So should we all put in the same resume?

EAST VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA



HepHIVE in conjunction with the Carnegie Community Centre, will again this year be offering a series on Hepatitis C information seminars in the theatre at the Carnegie Centre. The first session is the day before this paper comes out. The second in our series in July will be on co-infection. This will feature BC PWA and HepHIVE.

BC PWA will give an information session on HIV, HepHIVE will do a short presentation on Hep C. Together we will discuss co-infection, and the directions in treatment.

The third in the series in August will look at nutrition and alternative therapies. In a province where getting treatment is increasingly difficult people want to know what they can do to keep themselves healthy. Food is often the greatest way to improve your health. With the nutritionist from the Aboriginal Diabetes Awareness Programme we will explore nutrition as medicine.



In September we will again have our Hepatitis C Awareness Fair. After last years successful event we have decided to bring in a group of knowledgeable experts to discuss the different aspects of living with Hepatitis C. We hope to have experts from BC Hepatitis Services, doctors that are treating hepatitis and alternative medical practitioners. Also we will have information tables of various information providers for those infected and affected by hepatitis C and co-infection. Last years event was a great source of information with some of the best hepatitis C professionals in the province speaking. Check notices for dates and times each month.

### LIFE ... as I understand it ,,,

1. There is no "right" or "wrong" way to live. There are only "painful" and "comfortable" ways to live.
2. You and those around you deserve a life as free from pain as possible.
3. Every living being deserves care and respect, no matter how insignificant that being may seem to you
4. Try to focus on what is positive in life. This does not mean insulate yourself from reality but rather always remember that reality is often more complex than human understanding.
5. Nietzsche said there are no evil acts because all so-called acts are motivated by the individual trying to procure pleasure and avoid pain at some level.
6. We almost always underestimate the potential of others.
7. The concept of "wasting time" is fallacious. Time is infinite. Reality, as we perceive it in this life, is finite.
8. Our bodies are only vehicles for our minds. Keep them running well but do not obsess over aesthetics.
9. Do not compete to beat others, as there will always be someone stronger, faster, smarter than you. Beat yourself, explore, enhance your perceptions.
10. Life may or may not be meaningless. Do not confuse "meaningless" with "valueless".
11. If everyone took as little as possible and returned as much as possible, the suffering in this world would automatically invert.
12. You can accomplish anything, within natural limits, if you are willing to be tenacious.
13. The best teachers I have ever known are children and animals.

Lex Kinest



### Tall Tight Angel

(for Nelly McClung, because you wanted me to write a poem about Boadicea)



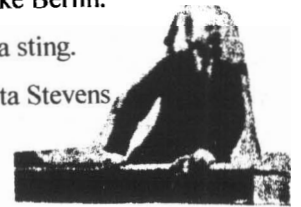
I am not unlike Boadicea  
Who, rather than acquiesce  
to her captors, would kill herself  
You see, a golden necklace, a yoke around my neck,  
Would indicate much the same –  
A bird in a gilded cage  
soon learns to forget to sing.

Mighty warrior, who led her people in a chariot,  
with handmaidens at her side,  
There is a sculpture of you in London  
and Leonard Cohen would sing, "And first we take  
Manhattan and then we take Berlin."

Boadicea, a Scorpio with a sting.



Anita Stevens



I'm just foolin' around, being the clown  
After many long days with nothin' rehashing  
I've gotta let off some steam and smoke a few dreams  
because the world as we know it is crashing  
as in falling through a crack, a crevice, a chasm  
sucked into a time warp to past days we thought dead –  
political bosses, their masters and lackeys, run  
roughshod, without feeling, over hard won gains,  
until the cupboards are bare.. until nothing remains.  
So tip a glass while you can, sands of time sifting  
You can walk freely for awhile, it's not yet a crime.  
As the seconds tick by, as your money runs low,  
Hitch a ride to the Food Bank with your children in tow  
Storm clouds rollin' in with no change a-tinglin'  
You may starve, you will suffer, no bite, not a thing,  
Maybe pan a few pennies by squatting on corners but  
it won't feed your family.. just make you feel poorer.  
Sliding down the class ladder is serious business  
It ain't pretty or fun – this cold-hearted darkness.  
So what can be done before the whip comes down?  
What can be done to put the brakes to this turnaround,  
an end to this stomping, this heartless oppression?  
Open everyone's eyes to these destructive deductions,  
Turn off the burners decanting this simmering scent  
"It" is a back alley concoction of fear,

nothing more, nothing less.

Robyn L.

If we accept the postulate given to me by Ms. Teresa Banyan during my Freshman year, '...that it will be a cold day in Hell before I sleep with you.' and take into account the fact that I still have not succeeded in having sexual relations with her, then, #2 cannot be true, and thus I am sure that Hell is exothermic and will not freeze."

The student received the only "A" given.  
(Submitted by Daniel Hayes)

## REVENGE

of the fittest. The clock explodes. Let me witness 'eyes' recognition / resignation; time's tidal wave submerging their titanic struggle, drowning in awareness, life jackets of compassion disdained. I sink or swim, save me not, for a hospital red patient or inmate – ward of the State. The living dead, boardroom desperadoes, corrupted by conservative perks, buttressed by family naiveté, destroyed by gutless, crotchless shame; finally, revenge of the fittest.

A.Kostyniuk

## Secret Sounds

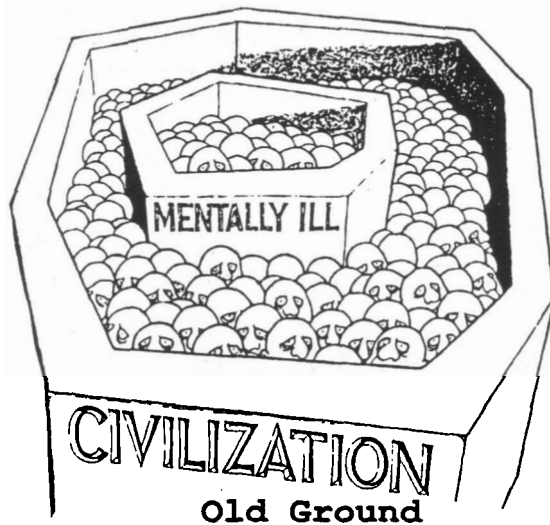
It's the secret sobbing that gets me  
the whores ranting from too much dope  
or too little dope or the madness of the work  
don't bother me, not much anyway

It's the middle of the night  
sobbing as deep as a hole  
straight to hell  
When they cry part of me dies  
I'm reminded life is tough  
and only gets rougher  
You listen sometimes go ahead  
to the depth of sadness  
the working girls hide

Secret sobs in a trapped world  
a slow death interrupted only  
by what the money can buy

Next time you look down your nose  
listen for the secret sobs  
of all the lost souls  
just surviving as best they can

A1



"I can get behind anything" – The Tragically Hip  
"Learn to forget" – The Doors

As I wait for my anti-psychotics to kick in  
I wonder about the woman  
I was told I begged sex from  
on the way back to the Midtown Hotel  
after blacking from three-sharing  
a half-gallon jug of blackberry wine at the foot  
of Granville where (all but) last memory stayed  
Back at the hotel, my will disembodied,  
I 'traded' sexual favours  
with an ex-minesweeper sailor (WW II)  
after blacking out – which I feel the need to repeat –  
still my only 'shared' orgasm  
not recovered by memory until late the next morning  
when I woke up to the stench of my vomit

Proof that I'd begged bowing down to the sidewalk  
was there to surprise me as I returned from shower  
we all take in vain still feeling grit under our skin  
The scrape on the bridge of my nose begins there..  
and was explained by a friend of my assaulter  
whom I passed on the street on my way to another  
afternoon called 'Basic Job Readiness Training'

She probably thought – just a drunk loser  
a short creepy weirdo pathetic and jeerable...  
Yet really I have no right to make assumptions  
about the kind of woman she was or is become

So maybe, I think, an unlikely wistfulness lingers  
in her mind to this day... at least until my  
anti-psychotics kick in

Stephen Belkin

**DOWNTOWN  
EASTSIDE  
YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES  
SOCIETY**

**STD CLINIC – 219 Main; Monday to Friday, 10am – 6pm  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE – 221 Main; 8:30am – 8pm every day  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN – 3 Routes:**

**City – 5:45pm – 11:45pm**

**Overnight – 12:30am – 8:30am**

**Downtown Eastside – 5:30pm – 1:30am**

**2002 DONATIONS** Libby D.-\$81  
Sam R.-\$20 Eve E.-\$18 Nancy H.\$50  
Margaret D.-\$22 Sabitri G.-\$22  
Pam C.-\$9 Val A.\$18 Wm B-\$27  
Harold D.-\$9 Mary C.-\$18 Paula R.-\$35  
Rolf A.-\$75 Bruce J.-\$18 Peggy -\$25  
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DEYAS-\$125 RayCam-\$25 LSS-\$200  
John S-\$36 Paddy -\$75 Sarah E.-\$10  
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Jo's Mom -\$25 Charles F.-\$10  
Mennonite CC -\$60 Rosemary Z.-\$40  
Joanna N.-\$40 Jenny K.-\$18  
Charlotte F.-\$20 Nancy C.-\$50  
Debbie -\$20

Free donations accepted.  
**Carnegie**  
NEWSLETTER  
401 Main St., Vancouver, BC V6A 2T7  
Email: carnew@direct.ca

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

**Submission Deadline  
for next issue:  
Thursday, June 27**

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

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

Come to the Dera office at 425 Carrall Street or  
phone us at 682 - 0931  
DERA has been serving the Downtown Eastside  
for 28 years!!!!

Book Release

# ON HASTINGS STREET

12 noon, Tuesday, June 18, 2002

1970 - 2000

Carnegie Centre Gallery, 3rd flr. 401 Main St.

30 Years of Retail History

in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside

New Study highlights changes in storefront retail use on Hastings Street between Cambie and Main St. Original Maps and historical photos, including entire streetscapes, will be displayed as part of the book release. The book concludes CCAP's Community Banner Project funded by PEACH.

Carnegie's Community Action Project

Also, CCAP will be releasing a similar study of Chinatown, written by Andrew Yan, and published in English and Chinese.



refreshments will be served



## The physics of Hell

The following is an actual question given on a University of Washington engineering mid term. The answer was so "profound" that the Professor shared it with colleagues, which is why we now have the pleasure of enjoying it as well.

Bonus Question: Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)?

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law, (gas cools off when it expands and heats up when it is compressed) or some variant. One student, however, wrote the following:

"First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So we need to know the rate that souls are moving into Hell and the rate they are leaving.

I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving.

As for how many souls are entering Hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today. Some of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there are more than one of these religions and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all souls go to Hell.

With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially. Now, we look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand as souls are added. This gives two possibilities:

1. If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.
2. Of course, if Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over. So which is it?