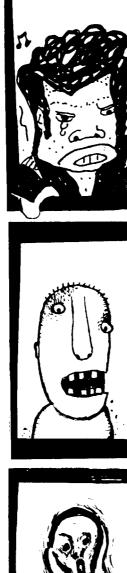
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carnnews@vcn.bc.ca JUNE 1, 2003

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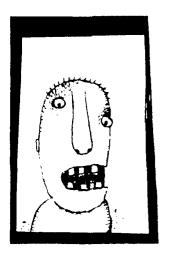




2003

window pain

The disAbility Coalition to Stop the Cuts









What: An Art Exhibit

When: end of June? July? August?

Where: Still Seeking Studio Space, preferably local

to the Downtown Eastside

Why: Overwhelm the decision-makers with support, thereby forcing a halt to the re-assessment process.

How Can You Help?

The *Window Pain* project grows from an outraged disabled population who are under a government-led attack of astounding proportions - a *re-assessment*. In response we have gathered 18 disability level 2 and level 1 recipients to collaborate on an art exhibit that asks the question, "How has the government reassessment process affected your life?"

We are currently looking for support from those who are able to provide a financial boost to enable us to mount this moving artistic piece.

Janet Baxter, a volunteer, is photographing the faces of individuals who are currently a disability level 2 or level 1 recipient. These will be displayed within a huge sixteen-pane glass window frame. Kym Hothead, also a volunteer, is providing inspiration and glue to pull this project together. Also on display around the room are submissions from the people whose portraits appear - through writing, multimedia installations, spoken word and visual art.

We aim to move our friends and neighbors to act.

Will you be willing to send us a small donation to help us fund the production of this show? We need a space to house the show, preferably end of June. We need money to hang the show, and rent a space. We are flexible, however, and will gladly take inkind donations of everything from lighting, nails and hooks to wire for hanging. We will also be happy with a donation of the space; even an abandoned building would work (if we can acquire money to create the display. Please make arrangements with Kym at 604-253-0613 to make a donation.

Kym is a two-spirit activist, who was born in poverty, lived and worked successfully, but is currently on disability. Kym has studied life her/his entire life. She is also a multimedia artist and has shown her work in Calgary, Victoria and Vancouver. She has completed her first video called *i'm telling* at Video In as a project with the 'Out on Screen' film festival.

Janet is a local photographer who specializes in portraiture. She studied at Emily Carr, her freelance work ranges from performance documentation, to CDart and wedding photography. Her personal work explores themes of ritualized behavior, anxiety and isolation. Janet's work has received high acclaim in Canada and the United States.

Background:

Gordon Campbell's BC Liberals have repeatedly stated that their "New Era" legislative agenda is to get as many people working at private sector jobs as possible. To this end, at least 14,000 people are now in the process of having their legally recognized disability status 'reassessed' by Human Resources Minister Murray Coell. However, this is just another one of the BC Liberal's "New Era" agenda strategies to save money by:

- a) Taking away tens of thousands of peoples' Disability Level I (\$608/month) and Disability Level II (\$786.42/month) status and benefits;
- b) Declaring many thousands of people who now have, or had, Disability Level I or II to be "employable" and to be put on regular income assistance benefits of \$510/month;
- c) The final goal is to cut "employable" people off all benefits after 2 years of receiving regular income assistance and drastically reducing the benefits of "employable" parents under the new 2-year limit. . Many people will not be eligible for any benefits for another 3 years.
- d) Elimination of the Disability I designation. DB I recipients now must all qualify as "People with Persistent Multiple Barriers". But the government's "screening tool" is so flawed that, as one advocate has stated, "a person who is blind would not qualify. Huge numbers of older people with health problems (even 64 yr olds!) are being designated *employable*. (\$510/month) and must do an employment plan or be cut off welfare altogether!
- e) Targeting those with "invisible" disabilities like mental illness, Hepatitis C, diabetes and so on. Advocacy groups around the province are reporting extreme panic, stress and depression among the disabled people who have received reassessment forms. Suicide is a commonly mentioned option.

Because of the "reassessment" process, thousands of people on Disability I or Disability II are enduring psychological abuse in the extreme at the hands of the BC Government. Disabled people (especially those with invisible disabilities) are being threatened with eventually being cut off welfare benefits altogether and ending up penniless and destitute should they not be able to find some sort of job. All people with Disability Level's I and II have already gone through a long, difficult and humiliating process to

get their disability status. Many disabled people now see that they are being put on 'trial' once again for the 'crime' of either being physically or mentally 'different.'

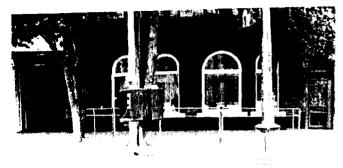
"Because of the fear and distress the reassessment process has caused, there has been an estimated 30 suicides in B.C since October 1" (Times Columnist Nov. 22/02, The Province November 15/02) More individuals are bound to end up in the medical system if these so-called policies are not drastically re-thought or rescinded. As well as being ill-conceived, the costs of these draconian measures are high for both society as a whole and the person with the disability. The government recently withdrew the reassessment process for some 5,000 mentally ill citizens, but there are still 14,000 people on DB II who are still being reassessed and must fill out the 23 page forms.

We call on the government to grandparent in everyone who was on DBH and DBI, to rescind the 23
page application form, and return to the previous
definition of disability.Because of increasing outrage
from disability advocates and health professionals,
the deadline to submit their forms was extended to
March 15, 03. However, the whole intent of this process is to disqualify people so they lose their benefits
and the government has more money to spend on
things like the Olympics and, of course, on salaries
and perks for politicians - many of whom make well
over \$100,000 a year.

While the deadline for the reassessment process has passed, many people have been unable to return their completed forms to the Ministry. Others who do not qualify for disability benefits under the narrower eligibility criteria will see their monthly cheque drop by nearly \$300 a month. They will also lose their enhanced medical, their bus pass, and many could lose their housing.

The reassessment process must be stopped. Attempting to slash thousands of peoples' disability benefits and thus deprive them of more of the necessities of life is an incipient public health crisis and we call upon all who are concerned about this to join in this campaign.

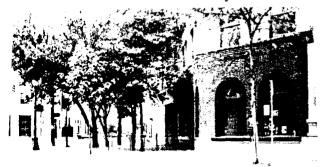
You can deposit any donations directly into a bank account set up for Window Pain at CCEC Bank at 2250 Commercial Drive Vancouver BC, V5N 5P9 Account number 9063-9 Telephone: 604-254-4100



Because. Why? Because ...

Because they said so, because it read so
Stay off their corners or else they'll be informers
Do as they say or you'll surely pay: Just Stay Away.
"Be A Charter Member, A Full-time Contender!"
Because the rules are written, because it's befittin'
if perchance you cross the designated line
you'll be knocked about an' downed in ¾ time
Because of the rules – ignorance is no excuse – as
I attest to be as I crawl around not making a sound.
'Don't try to take an inch when my back is turned,
or you'll be in pain until court is adjourned.'
Ill repute flies in my face at an atrocious pace
I'm thwarted again and again with a shocking refrain
But mark my words: I swear with sweet disdain
Be on guard when these imaginary boundaries end.

Robyn L.



"Imaginary boundaries" are what these photos are about. The latest owner of the newly renovated space at the corner of Columbia and Powell has decided he doesn't need to talk to the community or even the City. He's put up a fence on the corner and is serving alcohol outside. It doesn't matter that the Dugout has been holding noon-time AA meetings for years, or that patrons have well-kept benches outside on which to sit, talk and smoke, or even that the Dugout has been performing its services for over

4 decades. This new owner, and the thing next to it, are amazing when they get right in people's faces and say "Don't stand here. I have <u>people</u> coming." And they honestly (and arrogantly) expect anyone they deem undesirable to just scurry away!

Lynn Kennedy, when she was on Council, lied when presenting a report about Community Partnerships. She said "the community is in full agreement on promoting business efforts." DERA and DEYAS and Carnegie and residential neighbours all voiced opposition to having another liquor outlet, especially in light of the Dugout's AA aspect. Now it appears that City services -supposedly regulating the fencing off of public land- are at a loss as to how this dismal excuse is getting away with it.

Maybe he/they figure it's easier to just do it and deal with whatever the (watered down) consequences are, which will almost certainly exclude those who don't have a lawyer or even the stamina to go to the 'right' committee and argue for weeks or months.

The same business (or should I say class) interests taking this Fuck You approach are going to the same 'right' committee meetings again and again trying to get the Dugout's lease cancelled, or at least not renewed. "Block by block, store by store, sidewalk by sidewalk..." gentrification at its ugliest.

PRT

* ...for an event and positive influence on us and everyone, the following photo is Wendy Pederson giving the history and insight into the mosaic at her feet. This was part of the Spirit of the Arts Walk and tour of 22 (of 31) inlaid mosaics throughout the DE. The success of this event was amazing; fundraising was its reason for being but that became a minor thing when almost 300 people were eagerly involved and mostly astonished at the rich history and culture of our neighbourhoods. As and after walking groups returned to Oppenheimer, there was music, entertain ment and finally a mass feeding until the food was gone! (The Deputy Prime Minister just left, but he got a copy of Help in the Downtown Eastside so he wouldn't get too lost while walking around..)

You can no more win a war than win an earthquake.

- Jeannette Rankin

When the rich make war, it is the poor that die.
- Jean-Paul Sartre

It is the job of thinking people, not to be on the side of the executioners. - Albert Camus



A huge, humongous, heartfelt

THANK YOU

To all the SPIRIT OF THE ARTS Walk

VOLUNTEERS

who gave so generously and kindly of their time, energy, skills and enthusiasm to make Sunday May 25 such a joyous and wonderful celebration.

There were volunteers at Oppenheimer decorating the park at 7:00am who were still there at 7:00pm cleaning up.

There were volunteers putting up tents, transporting tables, chairs, supplies.

There were volunteers registering walkers, volunteers, media.

There were volunteers guiding and marshalling the 5 kilometre walk.

There were volunteers serving food and coffee.

There were volunteers explaining, entertaining and welcoming.

There were volunteers drumming, dancing and enjoying the sunshine.

Yes it could have been better organized. But hey - that was the first time for a fundraising marathon event! We all learned a lot.

A special thanks to the walk participants; many of whom have been raving about our fascinating history and what a great time they had.

And a very special thanks to the mosaic designers and makers for creating those magnificent markers which Downtown Eastsiders will cherish forever.

Cynthia Wong and Leith Harris

PS: I have heard from a quite reliable authority that those much-sought-after yellow HOST vests will be given to volunteers after the Community Play in November. So keep in touch. The Community Play workshops (we prefer to call them 'funshops') are happening all around the DTES. The events are posted on bulletin boards and in the Carnegie Newsletter. Please join us. For further information leave a message for Rose, Colleen or Leith at 665-3008 or at the Carnegie reception desk.

"Exterminate All The Brutes"

Where did George Bush get the idea that the American Empire can just start killing people in Iraq until it gets what it wants? Where did a young American soldier in Iraq get the idea to write "KILL 'EM ALL" on his helmet? (1) Where did Hitler get the idea that it was alright to murder six million Jews, plus another six million Slavic people, disabled people, gypsies homosexuals, and political opponents in the during the Second World War? Where did extreme Israeli nationalists get the idea that it was alright to push Palestinians off their land and oppress them in concentration camp conditions?

A Swedish writer by the name of Sven Lindqvist has tried to answer these questions in an important book called Exterminate All The Brutes -One Man's Odyssey Into The Heart Of Darkness And The Origins Of European Genocide, The New Press, 1996. The expression "Exterminate all the brutes" was spoken by Kurtz in Joseph Conrad's novel, The Heart Of Darkness. Kurtz had gone to Africa to bring "civilization" to the Africans, as he said so arrogantly and hypocritically. He ended up saying, "Exterminate all the brutes," which, in fact, was the true, racist, imperial policy.

In his book, Sven Lindqvist shows how th ideology of European imperialism and racism led to genocide, and he reminds us that Hitler grew up when this ideology was widely accepted in Europe. In 1850, the British philosopher, Herbert Spencer, wrote with ignorance and arrogance that imperialism had served "civilization" well by clearing the "inferior races" off the earth. (Lindqvist, p.8)

It was a widely held view in Europe in the 19th century that "inferior" races must be sacrificed (exterminated) for progress. Even Charles Darwin, who was appalled by the violence of empires, was ensnared by this vicious racism that refused to see the other, different person as human. "At some future period," Darwin wrote, "the civilized races of men will almost certainly exterminate and replace throughout the world the savage races." (Lindqvist, p.107) On May 1, 2003, George Bush spoke to the world, in that machine-like voice of his, from the deck of the U.S. aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln.

He said that any "rogue" state that had weapons of mass destruction was a danger to the "civilized" world. Unfortunately, George Bush's idea of civilization comes out of the barrel of a gun. The democratic American President, Abraham Lincoln, would be dismayed by the arrogant, imperial behavior of George Bush.

Germany was late getting into the empire game in the 19th century, but Germany picked up the racist ideology of empire from other European nations quickly. "All historical rights are invalid against the rights of the stronger," said German writer Alexander Tille, in 1893. It is "the right of the stronger race to annihilate the lower." (Lindqvist, p.148) Sven Lindqvist points out that these iron "laws" of empire can be applied not only to aboriginal peoples, but also to the poor, the homeless, the unemployed, and other "undesirables" of Europe and elsewhere.

In 1904, the Germans exterminated the Herero people in Southwest Africa. They were just following the imperial behavior of the British who exterminated a number of peoples including the Powhatan Indians of Virginia, the Tasmanians of Tasmania, and the Beothuk of Newfoundland, and the Spanish who exterminated the Guanches of the Canary Islands and the Arawak people of the Caribbean, to give just a few examples.



Heinrich von Treitschke, German political scientist, wrote in 1898 that international law didn't apply to

wrote in 1898 that international law didn't apply to "barbaric" peoples. He said that if Germany applied

international law in its African possessions, that would not be justice but shameful weakness. (Lindq-

vist, p.157) George Bush, who disregarded international law in his attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq, would agree. The question comes up, "Who is the

real barbarian?" Dr. Muller, President of John Hopkins University in the early 1980's, said that Ameri-

can universities, like Yale for example, were turning out "skilled barbarians". What did he mean by that?

Sven Lindqvist concludes his book by saying that the logic of imperial genocide in the Americas, Africa and other European colonies throughout the world

showed up in Europe itself with Hitler and the Nazis. No one wanted to speak this truth, yet everyone knew it. The Jewish Holocaust had a longer history,



Valiant

Hero



involving the tragic and often misinformed relationship between Judaism and Christianity, but this Holocaust, too, was influenced by over 400 years of European racism and genocide. Today we have George Bush and the American Empire. Everyone knows the violent, racist, European/American imperial history behind 9-11. It is time for everyone to speak it.

By SANDY CAMERON (1) Photo in *The Guardian Weekly*, Pg.1, April 3-9, 2003.

HAPPY SALES TO YOU

Because there's opium in Afghanistan and oil in Iraq There's a canal in Panama (and cocaine too)
And then there are these (and other things)
In Venezuela and Columbia (just you wait and see!)
And the Americans will soon remind us that there's A lot of coffee in Brazil or a lot of water (as well as other things) in Canada

Because Milton Friedman claims that there is NOTHING That cannot be given a market value *Everything* is now on the block It's *all* up for grabs and you ain't seen *nothing* yet

"HAPPY SALES TO YOU... UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN... "HAPPY SALES TO YOU.

They stuffed Trigger did you know that? He's in a museun And you can see him (if you want to)
But you have to pay admission

"... UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN..."

Ken Morrison

Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will, When the road you're trudging seems all uphill, When funds are low and the debts are high, And you want to smile, but have to sigh, When care is pressing you down a bit-Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns;
And many a fellow turns about
When he might have won, had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow-You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man;
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down.
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside outThe silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit;
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

News from the library



Mary Ann, your librarian

New Titles

Failing our kids: How we are ruining our public schools by Charles Ungerleider C # 370.971 UNG Charles Ungerleider has written a passionate and serious indictment of the Canadian Education system. Drawing from his experience as a Professor of Education at UBC, Deputy Minister of Education during NDP Provincial Government and COPE elected trustee to Vancouver School Board, he warns us that our public schools are in danger of collapse, and if they do, we will all pay the price. Reading this solid call to arms we become aware of how schools are neglected in a perversely malicious way, and that is up to all of us to try and do something about it. (Globe & Mail review of this book available in library)

I'm Not Scared by Niccolo Ammaniti;853.914 AMM

This Italian Best seller is in twenty languages. It is a story of growing up and the parallel worlds inhabited by children and adults. There have been rave reviews in the media. *The Guardian*, February 1, 2003 says 'Don't start it on the way home from work unless the train terminates at your station.' And from the *Washington Post*, March 29, 2003 we are told that 'Ammaniti encloses a suspense story as gripping as any Hitchcock thriller.'... You be the judge.

Rogue Diamonds: The rush for Northern Riches on Dene Land by Ellen Bielawski #323.1 BIE

Rogue Diamonds is set on the territory of the Dene who find diamonds on their land. Author Ellen Bielawski was a non-native negotiator for the Dene community of Lutselk'e and is described in Canada's major review journal Quill & Quire as being "a fabulous writer, who not only gets the story right but has a novelist's gift for telling detail, everything from the layout of the band office to the jokes the negotiators tell at dinner." Bielawski also includes just enough scientific and historical information to give us not only essential background on the African diamond, but also the history of resource extraction in the North, and even the 1918 and 1928 flu epidemics that decimated the Dene. She informs us that Canadian diamonds are marketed as "pure ice," untainted by the bloodshed and war of the African diamond trade. Rogue Diamonds makes it clear that the claim is misleading: Canadian diamonds seem to be every bit as nasty as those from Africa.

Regarding the Pain of others by Susan Sontag. Call #303.6 SON

Susan Sontag's new book is a profound rethinking of the understanding of contemporary depictions of war and disaster. She presents arguments about how pictures can inspire dissent, foster violence, or create apathy, She gives us a long history of the representation of the pain of others -from Goya's The Disasters of War to contemporary images from Bosnia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine, and New York City on September 11, 2001. She also leaves us with this paradox: although we are inundated more than ever before by stark visual evidence of the "pain of others, "we've yet to increase our capacity to do something about it".



People who gathered for **THEATRE GAMES** with MERCEDES BAINES and **ACTING AND THEATRE SPORTS** with RENAE MORRISEAU during the month of May had a **GREAT TIME!!!** We hope everyone comes back and brings new people along to:

- **PUPPET MAKING with Cathy Stubbington, Thursday, June 5th at RAYCAM Centre, 2-4 p.m. **
- ** THEATRE GAMES with Mercedes Baines, Friday, June 6th at DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE, 2-5 p.m.**
- ** ACTING with Renae Morriseau, Wednesday, June 11th, Firehall Theatre, 1-4 p.m.**
- **WRITING with Marie Clements Wednesday, June 25th at the Firehall Theatre 1-4 p.m.

COME ONE! COME ALL!
TO METIS DANCING
with Yvonne Chartrand
Saturday, June 7, 2 – 4 p.m. @ Carnegie
Theatre
Fiddle music, jigging, square dancing

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE EVENTS AND OTHER PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY PLAY, WATCH THIS SPACE OR CALL: Colleen, Rose or Leith @ 604-665-3008

Big thanks to the following folks who participated as readers for the community play script feedback session at the Ukrainian Hall on Friday May 23rd. They did a great job¹

Paul Decarie Leith Harris Grant Chancey
Jason Logan

Robert Escott
Alex Martin

Patrick Foley
Joan Morelli

Jay Hamburger Muriel Williams

Woodward's Open House

WHAT: Come see the results of the Community Workshops and the Woodward's Ideas Fair.

WHEN: Tuesday June 3, 6-9pm

WHERE: Vancouver Community College (City Centre campus) 250 W.Pender, Room 240

Much violence is based on the illusion that life is a property to be defended and not to be shared.

- Henri Nouwen

Editor.

I do not believe that the 50 affidavits collected by VANDU/PIVOT about police harassing drug addicts are true. The police are just doing their job. Our safe fixing site is on its way and the police are not harming people in this neighbourhood. Rather they are helping those who need and/or want help.

Margaret Prevost D.E. Community Activist



ETIQUETTE FOR THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

Miss Manners answers a question overlooked by most books and advice columns on etiquette –

"What do you do when attacked by a friend with a butcher knife?" signed Dazed and Confused

Dear Daisy,

The first inclination would be to swear and scream at the "friend". However, a calm and unruffled tone of voice is called for in such social quandaries. The idea is to counter the attack with the unexpected the overly excited assailant is well acquainted with name calling and threats. Try a different approach, to put a whole new spin on your demented little dance with danger. As much as we try to convince everyone we're "Normal", in some situations absurdist tactics are called for. Tea and cookies - or maybe apple pie; would the knife-wielding weirdo like to slice and serve? Keep yourself busy with plates, cups and cutlery, to the amazement of your "guest". You'll be proud of yourself for not losing your cool, plus you'll rack up bonus karma points for your next life in case your "friend" does kill you.

Miss Manners

I Am

I am a worthwhile person. I am entitled to be who I am. If you can't accept me as I am, Then you are not worthy To be a part of my life To ignore or reject who I am Is your loss. I deserve uncompromised devotion. Anything less is unacceptable. If you can't view me As the treasure, the prize That I am, Then forget it--I am worth more than that. There will be others Who will recognize The worthiness of who I am. I am who I am And I am a worthwhile person.

Anon.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR JUSTICE IN PAI ESTINE

JUNE 5TH

On this day, the 36th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, international peace groups are calling for linked actions.

This call for solidarity is being initiated by a host of international peace groups including the Peace and Justice Studies Association, the International Women's Peace Service, and the International Solidarity Movement. As a coalition they do not identify with or align with any political party. Jewish and Israeli peace groups are friends and allies in this struggle. Charges of anti-Semitism are often hurled at anyone who challenges the Israeli government. This campaign is not directed at Jewish people or institutions, but against the policies of the Sharon-led Israeli government and military, and the US funding and support for those policies. They encourage participating groups to be proactive in reaching out to their local Jewish communities to begin dialogue around this issue.

They are asking for

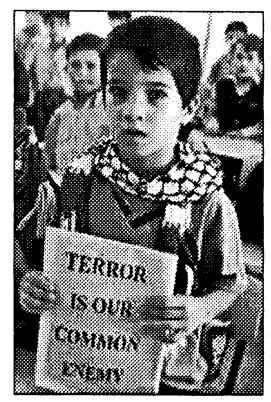
- A UN Forum for Peace and Justice in Palestine
- Immediate deployment of UN international observers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip
- A moratorium on the building of the so-called "security wall", land theft, appropriation of water and resources, and the destruction of homes, villages and livelihoods



- An end to policies that violate the human rights of Palestinians: checkpoints, curfews, roadblocks, snipers and ongoing attacks on civilians; as well as the obstruction of education, health care and emergency services
- Demonstrations and acts of nonviolent resistance by Palestinians and internationals within the occupied territories of Palestine
- Demonstrations, vigils, and nonviolent direct actions by Israeli peace groups within the pre-1967 borders of Israel
- Teach-ins and educational programmes in communities around the world
- Demonstrations, vigils, and occupations of Israeli embassies and consulates worldwide, and at offices of corporations that profit from the occupation

For this campaign, they ask that groups that participate commit to nonviolent actions that maximize respect for life, and that embody the openness, creativity and compassion they are calling for There can be no peace or security in the Middle East without justice for the Palestinian people. In the wake of the war on Iraq, the Sharon government has stepped up a campaign of land confiscation, enclosure and isolation of Palestinian communities, and attacks on nonviolent human rights workers. We have been witness to the murder of ISM human rights worker Rachel Corrie by an Israeli Occupation Forces bulldozer, and the subsequent lack of investigation. The message this gives is that it's OK to attack Palestinian civilians and children, nonviolent peace workers and inconvenient witnesses. No medical personnel, journalists, NGOs or human rights workers will be able to operate safely in the occupied territories. Without those who are prepared to intervene against, witness, or report on acts of aggression by the Israeli military, the way is open for even further escalations of violence and repression against the Palestinian people.

The Israeli government is rapidly moving ahead on the construction of a mammoth "security fence" – in reality an apartheid wall, which dwarfs the Berlin wall. A 30 foot high concrete wall with gun towers in some areas; in others, a giant electrified fence surrounded by a wide band of no-man's-land. It strays far from the 1967 borders, and will confiscate

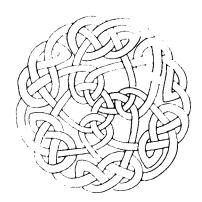


more than 30% of the proposed Palestinian state and turn Palestinian cities into open-air prisons. The construction of the fence and security zone has destroyed homes and olive groves, and will affect water resources.

For more information contact:

http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/palestine.php http://www.unitedforpeace.org http://www.palsolidarity.org

Submitted and edited by Diane Wood



President's Report 2003

Well folks we went through this year so fast, with a few good times and sad times. For me this was one of the toughest years at Carnegie due to the 100 year Anniversary. Everyone from the community is involved and I am happy to see that.

Once again thanks to the ALL Carnegie Staff and Volunteers from Carnegie and the community, plus those who donated towards the special event! When we put our minds to it, it seemed everyone was in high spirits to help us in creating a beautiful celebration.

Also I would like to thank all the board member who put in a great deal of their time for committee meetings. We lost a few board members due to jobs, school and other situations: these people were Am Johal, David Jones, Randy Dawson, R.H. Burr, Velma Piket: Thanks for the time you gave as board members and continued success in your journeys.

I am always sad to report those who we have lost to death. These volunteers were: Graham Fox, , Larry McCallum, Al Jardie and John W. Adlys (Aka JW). Joanne Hamen moved to Ontario and we will make sure she gets a copy of our world-famous *Carnegie Newsletter*. Good Luck Joanne!

Most importantly I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Carnegie Volunteers for a job well done. Without you we could not have kept our programs going.

Here's looking at another glorious year at the big house at 401 Main Street!!



Margaret Prevost CCCA President

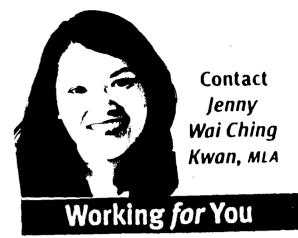
Carnegie Community Centre Association

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, June 5th at 6 pm Registration starts at 5 pm.

To vote, you must have a current membership at least 14 days in advance (by May 22nd)

To run for the Board, you must have a current membership at least 60 days in advance (Apr.6th)



1070-1641 Commercial Dr., V5L 3Y3 Phone: 775-0790 Fax: 775-0881

Musings...

A year ago, I was meandering through pastoral French countryside, carrying no more than an old, donated knapsack containing a thin sleeping bag and a change of clothes from the Red Cross, and a bamboo walking stick. When a bartender made me the staff, he explained that it had two purposes: to propel myself forward, and to defend myself against adversities.

See, I was walking the most well-known pilgrimage route in France - that of Saint James of Compostello. Catholic myth had James, with God's guidance, forging a trail through forests, rivers, pastures, swamps and mountains, on his way to build a cathedral on Spain's Northwest coast. When he arrived he gathered seashells, which have served as the symbol of the pilgrim ever since.

The struggles were many. I endured long days in the scorching sun, hours of monotonous walking through flat forests, barking dogs, rain, and at day's end, no more than a small, rural store at which to buy more provisions, Not at all glamourous. But in all my life I have nowhere met such friendly, interesting people as I did in that remote countryside.

Nowhere, that is, but here in this neighbourhood. And if a walking stick is needed to defend myself against perils in France, a well-honed bullshit radar is doubly needed to navigate the streets of the Downtown Eastside. If a police officer issues you a ticket for some type of disruptive lawlessness, you might ask him why your action is damnable, while

the same action done by someone in uniform is a sign that civil order is being maintained.

This could have been a complaint letter to the Vancouver Police Department, but instead I am choosing to make it a rant. I am appalled that an officer could issue me a jaywalking ticket, then lie and say it's only a warning, then cross the road, in thick traffic, at the same spot with three other officers the very next day! I'm livid because it's disrespectful to lie, and I imagine car drivers are equally irate when their way is blocked by a police officer, rather than by a neighbourhood 'civilian.'

The police have been given authority (both by the law and by carrying a lethal weapon), which means they act as leaders where they work. But after following the ancient route St. James walked, I believe effective leadership is by example; we should model the behaviour we want others to copy. So it would make sense for the police to act the way they want us to.

I believe respect engenders respect. And if there was more respect around here, I imagine this would be a much nicer neighbourhood in which to walk down (not diagonally across!) the street.

Kimberlee Graham-Knight



When will our conscience grow so tender that we'll act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?

- Eleanor Roosevelt

The U.S. Is Addicted to the War On Drugs

As the Bush Administration tries to bully Canada into submission on drug-policy matters, keep the following in mind.

First, every independent commission to examine marijuana policy, from Australia to the United States, has concluded that punitive prohibitions do more harm than good. As well, safer injection sites have proven effective in reducing drug overdoses, infect-ions, risky injection practices and public nuisance. The White House may not like what you are doing (re progressive drug policy in Canada), but

you've got the evidence on your side.

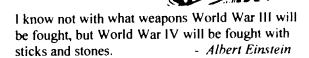
Second, Canada's drug policy initiatives may be progressive by North American standards, but not by those of the advanced industrialized world. Switzerland is poised to leapfrog the Dutch cannabis policy and establish a legal regulatory system. Belgium just decriminalized marijuana. Dozens of safer injection sites now operate successfully in Western Europe and Australia. It's the United States, not Canada, that's out of step.

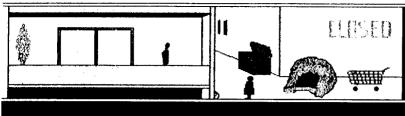
Third, there's no evidence that the drug policy reforms under way in Canada increase drug abuse. The best U.S study of marijuana decriminalization found no difference in use rates between the 11 states that decriminalized marijuana during the 70's and others that did not. Ditto for needle exchange, heroin maintenance and safer injection sites.

Fourth, the principle impact of drug policies is not on levels of drug use, but on death, disease, crime and the criminal justice system. By and large, the more punitive the approach, the greater the harm that results. Thus, the United States represents 5 per cent of the world's population, yet has 25 per cent of the world's prison population. This brutal incarceration rate is part and parcel of U.S. drug policy. Canadians, beware.

This isn't the first time the US government has tried to bludgeon Canada into adopting backward US policies. In the 1920's, it tried to compel Canada to help enforce U.S. alcohol prohibition. Canada resisted - as you had the century before, when you rejected U.S. demands for the return of fugitive slaves. Think of the war on drugs as America's addiction. Canada's obligation, as friend and neighbour, is to speak to power.

Ethan Nadelmann
U.S.-based Drug Policy Alliance
www.drugpolicy.org
Article in *The Globe & Mail*, May 20/03
Edited by the *Carnegie Newsletter*





The Conversings OF ARTHUR DECO & MOLLY KRUSCHEF

By Garry Gust (c)2003

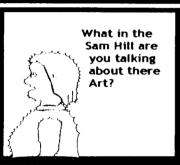
Good morning, Molly.
I've just written a new poem about technology, would you care to hear it?

Sure, Art.
I like a
good
poem now
and
then.

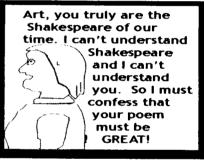
Okay, here it is:

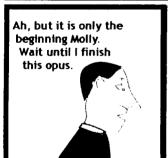
Where do bytes go after the recycle bin? Do they evaporate to where we all begin? Is there a soul in each megabyte we create?





Molly! Do you not see? It is about hard drives, which I equate to this planet Earth. It is about individual bytes, which I equate to people. It is about life as we know it, dwelling on an instrument of being!







Being Indian

Being Indian you are told to
Be proud of who you are
And be grateful
To be Indian now is like
Don't care or don't smile
or say hi, hello, how are you
Just keep walking with your
Head down or your head so
High in the air no time to face
Anyone so much shame anger
Dislike but at the same time we
All must know that we all we all
Have feelings.

it is reversible
i know how to do it
an historical defect
do it again
stare out
no one to let me
or stop me
deny that you know
a thousand year record
leaving
when?
who?
hiding out
on you
never forget

So take a look around you And smile now that is Being Indian

c.jim

Presenting a New Column from The Job Shop!

In the weeks ahead, The Job Shop at Tradeworks Training Society will be contributing a regular column to the Carnegie Newsletter on employment issues. The column will explore the challenges of looking for work, getting a job, and keeping that job. The discussion will range from looking at what we gain (and give up) by working, to providing tips on managing the changes that work brings to our lives. We hope these columns will get you thinking

What is The Job Shop?

The Job Shop is a program for people who want to find stable employment. The program is 16 weeks in length. Some participants complete the program earlier, depending on their job readiness and success. Throughout the program, participants receive on-going support, job search tools, and individual & group counselling. Participants are encour aged to do what they need to do to move closer to their employment goals.

You might consider participating in *The Job Shop*, if you'd like to...

- Learn how to follow through on your intention to change your life
- Share your own experience while learning from others
- Receive ongoing support through workshops and counselling
- Create an effective resume & improve your interview skills
- Increase your self-confidence
- Join in a positive learning environment

For help on your path back to employment, if you...

- -Are currently unemployed
- -Have an open attitude to learning new skills
- -Are aged 18 and over
- -Have stable housing
- -Have been drug-free for at least 3 months
- -Have challenges or barriers to employment
- -Are willing to address personal issues
- Can be active and complete the program

NEED A CHANCE TO PROVE YOU'RE READY, WILLING & ABLE TO WORK?

Get the

you deserve!

Find out what your next step needs to be. Call to attend the Job Shop Info session at Tradeworks: 604-253-9355

Program funded by HRDC

Human Aesources

Developpement des Development Canada ressources humaines Canada

The Job Shop accepts new participants every week. Program information sessions are held Tuesdays, at 1 p.m. Call 604-253-9355 and ask for The Job Shop.

A call to all –

Read The Long Haul

End Legislated Poverty's Newspaper

When Jean Swanson first started this amazing paper, she commented that "it isn't as good as the Carnegie Newsletter, but..." The Long Haul is consistently the paper of record for news, views and needed hope for all of us living in poverty.

> If you want one, call 604-879-1209 and get the distribution point nearest you.

My Mirror is a Liar, still

At home, thinking up new ways to outsmart me, The ones I love, the world in general, Dangerous tho' believing your own line of crap

Thinking of sure-fire ways of attracting a gal With my wit.. and tons of money real estate, mutual bonds, etc) - love in short Now if I can just figure out my next coffee I'll be dangerous.

DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY

NEEDLE EXCHANGE – 221 Main; 8:30am – 8pm every day

NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN – 3 Routes:

<u>City</u> - 5:45pm - 11:45pm <u>Overnight</u> - 12:30am - 8:30am <u>Downtown Eastside</u> - 5:30pm - 1:30am

2003 DONATIONS Libby D.-\$60 Barry for Sam R.-\$50 Eve E.-\$18 Nancy H.\$30 Margaret D.-\$25 Hulda R.-\$5 Val A.\$18 Wm B-\$20 Mary C-\$50 Paula R-\$15 Rolf A.-\$55 Bruce J.-\$50 BCTF-\$10 Wes K.-\$15 Charley B-\$5 RayCam-\$25 Gram -\$100 Paddy -\$50 Sarah E.-\$10 Charles F.-\$10 Rosemary Z.-\$20 Joanna N.-\$20 Jim G.-\$150 Glen B.-\$75 John S.-\$100 Penny G.-\$20 Liz S.\$5 Jenny K.-\$18 Celeste W.\$30 Sandy C.\$20 Dara C.-\$20 Ellen W.-\$150 Nancy C.-\$25 Rockingguys -\$25 Joanne II.-\$20 The Edge Community Liaison Ctt -\$200 Jay H.-\$25 Bob S.-\$25 Christopher R.-\$25 Anonymous -\$4.02



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

Editor PaulR Taylor, Cover art & layout: Diane Wood

Submission Deadline for next issue:

Thursday, June 12



WHEN I'M HURTING

It's easier for you to walk away, than it is for you to reach out to me. It's easier for you to look away, than it is for you to see the depth of my despair. It's easier for you to look through me, than it is for you to see "me." It's easier for you to distance yourself, than it is for you to really care. It's easier for you to hear, than it is for you to listen. It's easier for you to judge, than it is for you to understand. It's easier for you to label, than it is to get acquainted. It's easier for you to bask in your joy, than it is for you to feel my pain.

It's easier for you to bewilder at my mysteries, than it is for you to probe deeply into the depths of my soul.

It's easier for me to look away, than it is to let you see the feelings betrayed through my eyes. It's easier for me to cry, than it is for me to talk. It's easier for me to walk alone, than it is to risk rejection. It's easier for me to push you away, than it is for me to be held. It's easier for me to distance myself, than it is to trust that you won't hurt me. It's easier for me to die, than it is for me to face life's challenges.

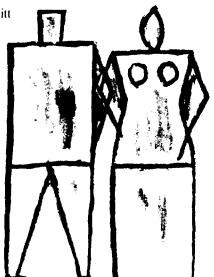
It's hard for me to smile when I am hurting. It's hard for me to talk when you won't understand. It's hard for me to reach out when I need help the most.

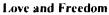
If only you'd really look at me and see who I am.
If only you cared enough to reach out when I push you away.
If only you'd hold me, without asking why.

If only you'd acknowledge the validity of my feelings.

But it's the easy roads that are most often taken. And so I hurt alone.

-- Jo A. Witt





I was born to share, to give, to love.
As a child I wandered through other people's lives.
As an adolescent other cultures adopted me.
Sharing with me their way of life.
My first initiation into the realm of the Universal Soul.

In my youth I gave my love to someone whose soul was dead And he tried to crush mine through fears. He plundered my mind, my body, my love. And tore at my soul, my being, my life. What was left was a shell with no life of its own.

The healing was long and painful and fruitless at first But the strength of one's spirit can always be heard. NOW I walk through fields of beauty and sight. SHARING kindness, and happiness and spiritual love. I travel the world in beauty of mind. Learning human philosophies of a higher kind. I know now that nothing is worth more than freedom of mind.

But caution please be, so as not to forget.

That we are one of many, and part of the flow.

A universal consciousness of mind, body and soul



THE UP OF DOWN

Depression has been seen as a Bad Thing, with little acknowledgement of the positive experiences that arise out of it. The vulnerability of depression can often create intimacy between survivors, a place of individual courage and growth. A person suffering from such a condition is forced to develop a heightened insight into their own nature, as their illness often pushes away all else. It creates openness, a human vulnerability and powerful sense of empathy for others.

We have come up with a list of the benefits (the "ups") of depression:

- 1. You get flowers if you have to go to the hospital
- 2. You spend less money because nothing appeals to you
- 3. You find out who your friends really are
- 4. Misery loves company! It's possible to make new friends with people who feel as shitty as you do.
- 5. You develop a macabre sense of humour (watch those flowers you received from well-wishers die)
- 6. You slow down and notice the beauty of small simple things (the way shadows pass across your bedroom wall)
- 7. Creative processes may be awakened (paint those shadows on your bedroom wall)
- 8. You feel more spiritually connected to natural forces, such as developing a deeper relationship with your dead fern)
- 9. Your pet will appreciate the constant attention of you being home all the time. You stop answering the phone and talk to it instead.
 - 10. Your shoes don't wear out as fast.
- 11. You save money on soap and laundry detergent, because you never get out of your pajamas.
- 12. If it lasts long enough, you're not in danger of being stuck in ajob you hate.

a little secret... THE BIG BAD WOLF WAS REALLY A CARNEGIE VOLUNTEER!

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!

Everybody knows the story of the Three Little Pigs, or at least they think they do. But I'll let you in on a little secret. Nobody knows the real story, because nobody has ever heard my side of the story.

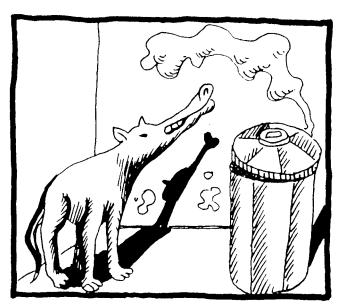
I'm the wolf. Alexander T. Wolf. You can call me Al. I don't know how this whole Big Bad Wolf thing got started, but it's all wrong.

Maybe it's because of our diet. Hey, it's not my fault wolves eat cute little animals like bunnies and sheep and pigs. That's just the way we are. If cheeseburgers were cute, folks would probably think you were Big and Bad, too. But, like I was saying, the whole Big Bad Wolf thing is all wrong. The real story is merely about a sneeze and a cup of sugar.

Way back in *Once Upon a Time* time, I was making a birthday cake for my dear old granny. I had a terrible sneezing cold. I ran out of sugar so I went down the street to ask my neighbor for a cup of sugar. Now this neighbor was a pig.(and he wasn't too bright, either.) He had built his whole house out of straw. Can you believe it? I mean who in his right

mind would build a house of straw? So of course the minute I knocked on the door, it fell right in. I didn't want to walk into someone else's house so I called, "Little Pig, Little Pig, are you in?" No answer. I was just about to go home without the cup of sugar for my dear old granny's birthday cake but my nose started to itch. I felt a sneeze coming on -and huffed and snuffed and sneezed a great sneeze. And you know what? That whole darn straw house fell down. And right in the middle of the pile of straw was the First Little Pig ~ dead as a doornail. He'd been home the whole time. It seemed like a shame to leave a perfectly good ham dinner lying there in the straw, so I ate it up. Think of it as a big cheeseburger just lying there.

I was feeling a little better but I still didn't have my cup of sugar, so I went to the next neighbor's house. This neighbor was the First Little Pig's brother. He was a little smarter, but not much. He'd built his house of sticks. I rang the bell on the stick house. No one. I said, "Mr. Pig, Mr. Pig, are you in?" He yelled back, "Go away wolf. You can't come in. I'm



when somebody talks about my sweet granny like that, I go a little crazy. When the cops drove up, of course I was trying to break down this Pig's door. And the whole time I was huffing and puffing and sneezing and making a real scene.

The rest, as they say, is history.

The news reporters found out about the two pigs I had for dinner but figured a sick guy going to borrow a cup of sugar didn't sound very exciting, so they jazzed up the story with all of that "Huff and puff and blow your house down" crap and made me the Big Bad Wolf.

That's it. The real story. I was framed.

Colleen G

shaving the hairs on my chinny chin chin." I had just grabbed the doorknob when I felt another sneeze coming on. I huffed and snuffed and tried to cover my mouth, but I sneezed a great sneeze. You're not going to believe it, but this guy's house fell down just like his brother's. When the dust cleared, there was a Second Pig. dead as a doornail. Wolf's honor.

Now you know food will spoil if you just leave it out in the open. So I did the only thing there was to do: I had dinner again. Think of it as a second helping. I was getting awfully full, but my cold was feeling a little better. I still didn't have that cup of sugar for my dear old granny's birthday cake so I went to the next house. This guy was the First and Second Little Pig's brother. He must have been the brains of the family. He'd built his house of bricks. I knocked on the brick house. No answer. I called, "Mr. Pig, Mr. Pig, are you in?" And do you know what that rude little porker answered? "Get out of here, Wolf. Don't bother me again."

Talk about impolite! He probably had a whole sackful of sugar too. And he wouldn't give me even a little cup for my dear sweet old granny's birthday cake. What a pig! I was just about to go home and maybe make a nice birthday card instead of cake, when I felt my cold coming on. I huffed. And I snuffed. And I snuffed. And I sneezed once again. Then the Third Little Pig yelled, "And your old granny can sit on a pin!" Now I am usually a pretty calm fellow, but



M77

[*This may seem like a bit of fluff, but change Pig for Poor or Senior or User and read it again! -Ed.]





Free Legal Advice Clinics

Law students have begun their free legal advice clinics for the summer, May 14th to August 14th, 2003 in the Lower Mainland. They will be able to provide legal representation to qualified individuals in front of arbitrators under the Residential Tenancy Act, Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunals and similar tribunals. The law students are able to provide legal representation to qualified individuals in front of the Small Claims Court. General legal advice is also available. Please phone the Law Students' Legal Advice Program (LSLAP) at 604-822-5791 to make an appointment. PLEASE NOTE: All clinics, except for the one at Carnegie Centre, are by appointment only.

Clinic Schedule - Summer 2003

* Burnaby: Burnaby Information & Community Services Society, Suite 18 - 250 Willingdon Ave. formerly Burnaby Heights School Monday, Wednesday, Fri., 10-3:30, Thurs. 2-7:30 EVENINGS OK, BUT BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

* Britannia Community Services Centre, 1661

Napier St., Vancouver, BC, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Friday 10-3:30, Tuesday 2-7:30

* Carnegie Centre, 3rd Floor, 401 Main St. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday, Friday 10-3:30

DROP-IN; WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* Chinatown, Chinese Cultural Centre, 50 E. Pender Tues - Friday 10-3:30; WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

* Coquitlam, Place Maillardville, 1200 Cartier Ave.,

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10-3:30
* Gordon Neighbourhood House, 1019 Broughton

Mon, Tues, Friday 10-3:30, Thursday 2-7:30, EVENINGS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

ONLY; WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

*Kitsilano Neighbourhood House, 2325 W. 7th Monday to Wednesday, Friday 10-3:30; WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE * Langley Family Services, 5339 207th Street,

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10:00-3:30
* Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, 3981 Main

Monday 10:00-3:30, Wednesday 2:30-8:00;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* Collingwood Neighbourhood House, 5288 Joyce Tuesday, Thursday 10:00-3:30

* Marpole: Oakridge Community Centre, 990

W.59th & Oak St., Vancouver Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 10-3:30;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, 800 E. Broadway & Prince Albert, Monday to Friday 10-3:30

* New Westminster, Queensborough Community Centre, 920 Ewen Avenue: c/o

Queen's Park 600 8th Street, New Westminster Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-3:30;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* New West Seniors(NWS), Century House, 620 8th St.New Westminster

Friday 10-3:30; WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* North Shore Neighbourhood House, 225 E. 2nd St. North Vancouver

Mon, Thurs, Fri 10:00-3:30; Wednesday: 2:00-7:30;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* Richmond: South Arm Community Centre, 8880
Williams Rd. & Garden City Rd. Richmond

Mon, Wed, Fri 10-3:30; Tuesday, 2-7:30;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* South Vancouver Neighbourhood House, 2010 East 48th (2nd Floor) (at Victoria)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10-3:30

NOTE: NO PERFUME; WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

* Surrey Delta Immigrant Services Society, #1107-7330 137th Street, Surrey

Monday, Tuesday, Friday 10-3:30; Thursday, 1-6:30

NOTE: Clients must buzz in after 4:30;

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

* Surrey Legal Services Society, Suite 201 Leader Building 9180 King George Highway, Surrey, BC, Monday- Thursday 10-3:30

Penny Goldsmith, Co-ordinator PovNet (penny@povnet.org) 604-876-8638 (ph); 604-685-7611 (fax)

#800-1281 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7

http://www.povnet.org