

FREE - Donations accepted.

# Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

JULY 15, 2004

401 Main St, Vancouver V6A 2T7  
604-665-2289

[carnnews@vcn.bc.ca](mailto:carnnews@vcn.bc.ca)

[www.carnnews.org](http://www.carnnews.org)



Downtown Eastside  
Women's Centre  
Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, July 17  
12 - 4 pm

## Downtown Eastside Women's Centre

### Annual General Meeting

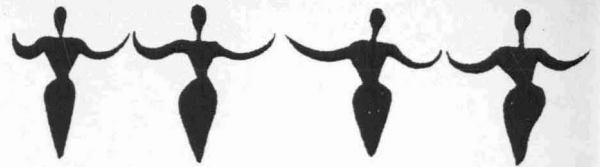
Saturday July 17, 12—4 pm  
302 Columbia Street

**This is YOUR Centre -  
For Change to Happen  
YOUR VOICE is NEEDED**

#### Important Notice

To Vote at the AGM you must have filled out a Membership Application Form by July 2. Applications were available only at DEWC on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday .

[Editor's note: It seems that anyone "barred" for taking a stand against the current Board will be prohibited from voting by this condition. Contact the Legal Services Society (601-6206), the Law Foundation, and CLAS (685-3425) and find out if the Societies Act permits this discrimination. Also ask if it's legal to require applicants to sign a form that commits them to upholding the Constitution and Bylaws of the Women's Centre Society then refusing to provide them with a copy of the rules?]



#### Dear "Anonymous"

In response to your comments, I'll elaborate on my article "Just Imagine" [June 15, *Carnegie Newsletter*].

1) People on general welfare receive \$510 a month. A person has to pay 2/3 (or more) in rent in mostly cockroach-infested SROs. The average left over is \$150 to live on for a month. In a 4-week month that's \$37.50 a week; when it's 5 weeks to the next cheque it's \$30.00 a week. None are allowed to earn a penny but, at the same time, are pressured to find any work or be cut off.

2) People with Multiple Barriers to employment (PPMB) receive an additional \$100, plus are allowed to earn \$300.

3) People on Disability (DBII) are allowed to earn \$400. They are not allowed, and never were, to work full-time. But now they are subjected to reviews (the fiasco of these was made public just last year).

Where do you come from? Where did you get your false information?

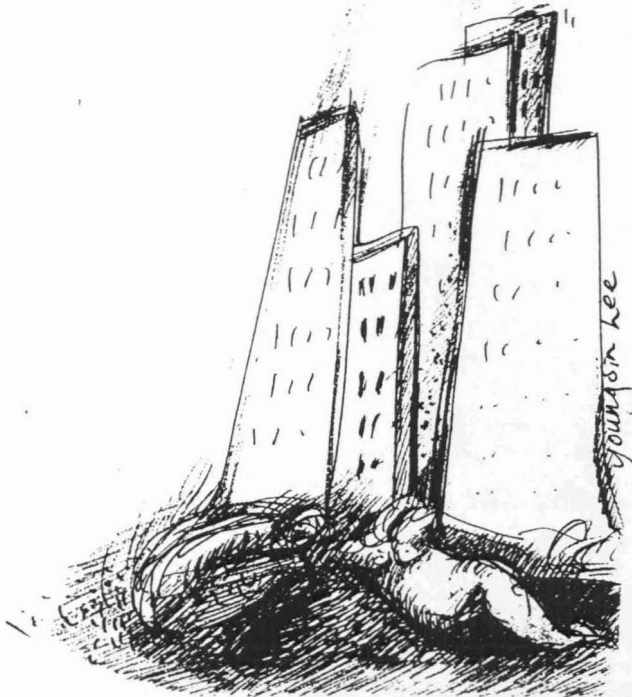
My article Just Imagine was a dream plan to allow people on welfare to receive enough money to help them break the cycle of legislated, abject poverty. Believe me, I would like to get one of those imaginary grants you dreamed up.

Poverty is not a lifestyle set in the mind. It is perpetuated by all 3 levels of government to purposely keep a large segment of the population down. While looking for work under these draconian conditions, people's health gets shot after a few months on a "welfare diet", no money for buses, no phone # to leave and living in constant fear of the Ministry.

I am not bashing anyone; it was not a welfare attack – au contraire. I was dreaming of a plan that would allow everyone to live decently with dignity.

It is people like you who perpetuate the myth that people on welfare are lazy or have too much money. It keeps hundreds of thousands of people in abject poverty, depressed, malnourished, often homeless and eventually dying. The rate of suicide has skyrocketed in B.C. – sorry, Campbelland – in the last 2-3 years. Yours truly,

Christiane Bordier





## Dear Mohawk Nation News:

Just read your interesting article in Carnegie News, <<http://www.carnnews.org>>. Hopefully UNHCHR will respond as enthusiastically to our complaint (below) which has been sent to them by postal mail. You note that UNHCHR promptly sent two of its members to Canada in order to obtain facts and evidence from the Mohawk people.

We are hoping that UNHCHR will accept digital video which can be sent directly from Portside in Vancouver to show how homeless people (like Frank Paul) are tortured and killed by governments here. That would save them a trip to Canada and it will add greatly to the "Facts and Evidence" sections of our complaint file.

UN's definition of torture includes people like Frank Paul, killed by exposure-related illness which begins on the first night of sleeping outdoors without proper clothing and other amenities (like tents which Mayor Campbell of Vancouver explicitly denies to the homeless).

A great number of factors combine to further the torture of exposure-related illness and we hope that UNHCHR will solicit expert testimony, eg from "Doctors Without Borders". For example, rats are frequently found at Portside where the homeless sleep atop pieces of cardboard. If we could see, in

graphic detail, fleas and mites jumping from rats and infecting the people sleeping on those pieces of cardboard, that would make the point that this method of torture is at least as gruesome as pulling out fingernails with pliers. Public health doctors can provide that evidence of the many signs and symptoms of what can fairly be called "exposure syndrome" in as much detail as UNHCHR needs.

Are the many tortures of exposure-related illness "intentionally inflicted" by MHR? How could there be any doubt? The threat is written directly into forms/procedures like HR 2863. But if there is any doubt, we have another audiotape not yet sent to Geneva of a "worker" at the gestapo-like MHR Dockside facility making it all very clear. The Dockside facility is just one block from the first of those Portside cameras below which the victims of MHR abuse and torture often sleep. Other file information from MHR has been requested and will be added to the file in Geneva over time.

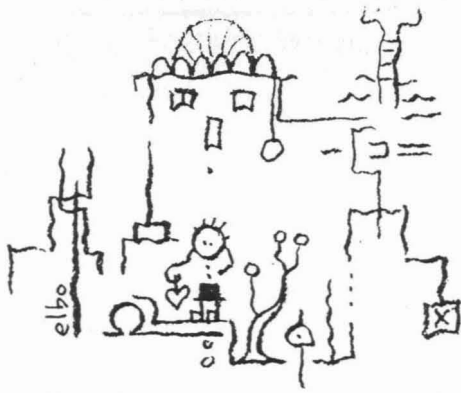
But a point which must be made again and again is that this is very much a "person-to-person" administration of torture and severe threats to the health and lives of MHR victims made directly across desks ... by people to people. The psychological torture administered by the Dockside "workers" becomes physical torture just one block away under surveillance cameras. Doctors at the nearby public health clinics, eg Pender and Powell, could also be asked to report exposure-related illnesses which result from MHR "procedures".

We can advance our case of criminal human rights abuse against MHR and this government by using modern high technology, although a personal visit from UNHCHR staff would be welcome too.

The abuse of human rights - of people - is systematized in this country.

Party of Citizens





## PIGEON PARK Gets Funding (?)

The Vancouver Park Board has a pot of money developers add to; it's called Community Amenity Contributions.

The question mark in the title shows uncertainty; a proposal was made to spend \$120,000 on "improvements" to Pigeon Park and another 20 grand on a Downtown Skateboard Plaza a few blocks away.

"The improvements that are being considered include replacing elements in the park (concrete surface, benches, drinking fountain and lamppost) and provision of additional elements (trees and shrubs, historical references, public art, etc.). [City]Staff are also exploring how Pigeon Park will be integrated in the Carrall Greenway..."

This "greenway" was raised a few years ago by the Gasbag wannabees, as a 'safe passage' – for tourists and those in search of shopping experiences – from Gastown to Chinatown and back. The plan then was to replace most businesses and storefronts with Coffee Bars, shoppes & other upbeat stuff, all designed to keep locals away from this safe zone. When community reps from Carnegie and Dera put things like poverty, homelessness, viable employment for local residents, inclusive rather than exclusive services into the talks... the Gasbags just got fed up with all this social shit and called a press conference, demanding that all funding that aided or provided services for drug users and addicts be immediately stopped.

The current proposal hints at "consultation with current users (of Pigeon Park)" to engage them in the planning process. Anybody remember being "consulted?" Stay tuned.

PRT

## THE LIES

I cannot live with the lies  
 They bring out a rage in me  
 That cannot be controlled  
 The sheer audacity  
 To lie to me that way  
 Can only be insanity  
 Pulls out insanity in me  
 I respond appropriately  
 -To inappropriate deception  
 I cannot sit calmly  
 And be the recipient  
 Of such sheer and blatant lies  
 I can not  
 I will not  
 I will scream  
 I will hit  
 I will rage  
 Every time  
 Every time  
 I do not want to change my response  
 I want to change  
 Being where I receive such insult  
 such disrespect  
 such insanity

By Margaret Bradshaw

## I Will Remember You

'Look over your shoulder' I'll say to you as we depart  
 The way you sweep your hair looks nice, quite smart,  
 The glistening look deep within your saddened eyes  
 Cannot deceive me, what your heart and soul belies  
 No matter what you do or say, or as many tries  
 I see thru your threadbare veil and muffled cries  
 I so wish you would; I'll be patient.. I will wait  
 Time may be tight for you so do it now, don't hesitate  
 Commitments aside, let's start anew, a clean slate  
 Don't be afraid to approach the starkest truth, dawn's  
 harsh icy light shines upon your taut, dry skin,  
 Release your most secret inhibitions, be clear/concise  
 Confront the tragic past in quiet tones, measured stages  
 as you pretend a smile, masking your hidden rages.

Robyn L.

# CARNEGIE VOLUNTEERS ARE<sup>5</sup> THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

## 'VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH' (June)

**Robyn Livingstone:** Robyn has been volunteering in the community for many years. He has faithfully worked with the *Newsletter* and helps out on many other projects and special events. He is perpetually eager to help wherever and whenever the need arises and he treats others with respect and kindness. Robyn's quiet spirit is a balm to soothe the savage soul of those with whom he connects; he is a vital part of the community.

**Paul Campbell:** Paul joined us this year and quickly endeared the community to him with his ready willing and able personality and work ethic. He sweats his way through the day volunteering in the Kitchen working his buns off on an almost daily basis.

Thank you Robin and Paul, your contributions to the community are vital and appreciated!

## **VOLUNTEER FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!!!**

### **Volunteer Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 21st, 2004**

**Classroom II @ 2:00pm**

### **Volunteer Dinner**

**an opportunity for the staff to thank you for all your hard work throughout the month and to serve you for a change!**

**If you have 16 volunteer hours in this month, please pick up ticket from Colleen**

**Wednesday, July 21st, 2004, 4:30pm**

### **Volunteer work has health benefits?**

A study shows that people who volunteer have improvements in their own mental and physical health. (If you think I am joshin ya, look up the report by Susan Aldridge, PhD, medical journalist)

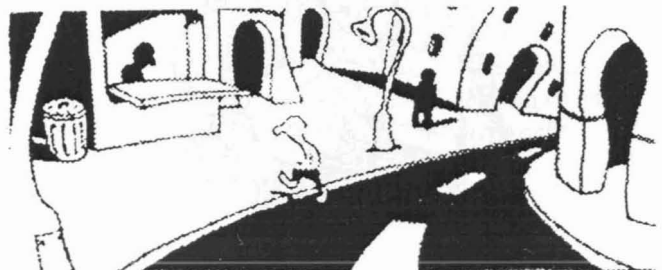
*Colleen*

## **LETTER FROM LORRAINE MUNRO**

Nice to get your message. Still lots of grief when I let myself feel it. Trying not to numb out. Liz-Ann and I did make it to Holland, and back. We organized a service and lots of family and friends came. The service went OK. We organized a spot in the cemetery nearby, in a special wall, where we placed the little urn we'd brought, then sealed the square with a tile. The tile was made up with words, and now people have a place to go and bring flowers if they feel the need to. This was actually her younger brother's desire. The words were:  
Willy Munro – Blokland (and her dates)  
Mother  
Inspirator  
Doorzetter (I don't know how to translate this – someone who doesn't give up until it's done – enterpriser?)  
Spiritual thinker  
The love stays

The last line is what Mom herself picked to be on her own Mother's gravestone.

Love, Lorraine





## ART AGAINST PRISONS

Thursday August 5 – Saturday August 7

1:00 – 5:00 pm every day

free admission

**Interurban gallery:**

corner of E.Hastings & Carral St

Featuring the work of Kate Barry, Carl Billington, Brenda Blondell & Tom Elton, Bobh, Kenna Fair, Elizabeth Fischer, Gayle, Suzo Hickey, Gord Hill, Liliana Kleiner, Velveeta Krisp, Dave Lester, Carel Moiseiwitsch, Janice Oakley, Jean Smith, Stuart Stonechild, Tania Willard, Diane Wood, Kai Ling Xue and more

### **Performance Night & Silent Auction of Art**

Saturday August 7 at 7:00 pm

A fundraiser for local prisoner support groups, admission by donation

Kids welcome

With performances by Chrystos, Wade Compton & Jason De Couto, Mecca Normal, Trish Kelly, Shauna Paull, Trlala, Diane Wood, Cease Wyss, Kai Ling Xue and Circle of Friends Drum Group



## **Prisons are a failed experiment (especially for women)**

Eddie Nalon sat in a solitary confinement cell at Millhaven Maximum Security Prison near Kingston, Ontario. On August 10th, 1974, he was expecting to be given the news that he was to be released from solitary confinement. The guards neglected to tell him of his pending release. Out of frustration or despair, he cut the vein in his inner elbow. The cells were equipped with call buttons that could be used to summon the guards in an emergency. He pushed the button in his cell, other prisoners pushed their buttons, nobody responded, and he bled to death. An inquest into his death found that the guards had deactivated the call buttons in the unit. There were a number of recommendations made by the coroner's jury, including the immediate repair of the emergency call system.

In May 1976, another prisoner, Bobby Landers died of a heart attack in the same unit. He tried to summon help but the call buttons had still not been repaired. Medical testimony at the inquest into his death established that he should have been in intensive care, not solitary confinement.

Prisoners at Millhaven put out a call for August 10th to be a national day of protest against an apathetic prison system that did not seem to care if people in prison lived or died. On this day, prisoners across the country fast, refuse to work, and remain in their cells to honour the memory of all the people who die unnecessarily in prison from suicide, murder and medical neglect. Supporters on the outside organise community events to draw public attention to conditions inside Canadian prisons.

In 2003 the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies and the Native Women's Association of Canada made a complaint to the Canadian Human Rights Commission Special Investigation into Systemic Discrimination Against Women in Prison based on Sex, Race and Disability, on behalf of women who were being held in Saskatchewan Maximum Security Penitentiary for Men. This complaint is also supported by the Aboriginal Women's Action Network, Assembly of First Nations, National Association of Friendship Centres, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Strength in Sisterhood, Disabled

Women's Network Canada, National Action Committee on the Status of Women, Canadian Bar Association and Amnesty International. It alleged that the ties to federally sentenced women in Canada and has disregarded the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and certain international human rights obligations, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, which, in 1975, Canada agreed to uphold. Information on the full submissions made to the Canadian Human Rights Commission can be viewed on line at <http://www.elizabethfry.ca> Women in Prison

"Most importantly, the risks that they [women] pose to the public, as a group, is minimal, and at that, considerably different from the security risk posed by men" (Arbour, 1996: 228). Women represent a small portion of Canada's prison population and their particular needs are overlooked, especially in the areas of meaningful treatment and life-skills programs. Women's crimes are predominantly non-violent and reflect the social and economic standing of women in society. 75% of women serving time do so for minor offences such as shoplifting, fraud, or drug and alcohol offences. The needs of women in prison reflect the same needs of as those in the community at large. 35% of provincially and 48% of federally sentenced women have a grade nine education or lower, and 40% have been classified as illiterate. Most of the women serving time were unemployed at the time of their arrest. Consider first that 70% of the world's poor are women, and that single mothers with children under the age of 18 have a poverty rate of 57%. Two-thirds of federally sentenced women are single mothers, many of whom lose their children to social services and must contend with regaining custody upon their release. 72% of provincially and 82% of federally sentenced women have histories of physical and/or sexual abuse. In terms of violent offences committed by women, 62% of these charges are for 'low-level' or 'common' assault. Most women serving time for violent offences committed their crime against a spouse or partner, and they are likely to report having been physically or sexually abused, often by the person they assaulted. There are only 64 women serving life sentences for murder in Canada.

Correctional laws and policies discriminate against all women. Of particular concern is the over-classification of federally sentenced women as

'maximum security.' Approximately 42% of federally sentenced women are classified as minimum security, yet are imprisoned in facilities that provide much higher security than most of them require. Federally sentenced women do not have the same access as men to lower security institutions and halfway houses.

Since the year 2000 closing the Prison for Women (P4W) in Kingston, Ontario, maximum-security women have been transferred en masse to isolated sections of men's prisons. As a result, there has been a dramatic increase in suicide attempts and other self destructive acts. As one female prisoner explains: "women try to find a way out of these inhumane conditions, even through death."

Canada is ignoring every recommendation made on the treatment of women in prison and is building five new 'super' maximum-security prisons for women. Other concerns for imprisoned women are the virtual absence of minimum-security conditions for women, the labelling of women with mental health problems as dangerous, and the continued use of male guards on the front lines of women's prisons.

In 2003, women formerly housed in men's prisons were transferred into the newly constructed, special maximum security 'pods' located in each regional prison for federally sentenced women, despite the fact that much research indicates that federally sentenced women are not generally a danger to others and do not require maximum-security accommodation. This research shows that less than 5% of the women warranted a maximum-security classification.

The Disabled Women's Network Canada states that federally sentenced women with mental and developmental disabilities are being discriminated against under Section 17 of the Corrections and Conditional Release Regulation, which equates mental disability with a security risk. This legislation applies higher security classifications to these women, and perpetuates negative stereotypes and assumptions, which characterize mental disability as dangerous. Because of their higher security classifications based on disability, women who are suicidal or have mental or cognitive disabilities, are often isolated, deprived of clothing, and placed in stripped or barren cells.

Kirsten, Joint Effort  
[www.prisonjustice.ca](http://www.prisonjustice.ca)



## Calling All Writers & Playwrights

Vancouver Moving Theatre, in association with Theatre in the Raw and the Carnegie Community Centre, is looking for three comedy/satirical plays on life in the Downtown Eastside District (from Victory Square and Gastown to Main and Hastings, from Chinatown to Hogan's Alley and Strathcona, and from Oppenheimer to Luk'luk'i).

Vancouver Moving Theatre and Theatre in the Raw reserve the right for possible production of 1, 2 or 3 of the plays selected during the DTES Heart of the City Community Arts Festival Oct. 2004.

### Entry Rules

The plays must be:

- \* an original one-act play, unpublished and un-produced
- \* a comedy, satire and/or musical about life in the Downtown Eastside past or present
- \* no longer than 20 double spaced typed pages equal to 20 minutes
- \* with no more than 6 characters
- \* presented in proper stage script format
- \* maximum two scripts per writer
- \* written by a writer who has lived, worked, frequented or had relatives in the Downtown Eastside
- \* include your name, phone number and address so we can contact you

If you want your script back please include a self addressed stamped envelope.

### The three selected playwrights will each receive

- a \$100 fee

### Notes

- Please adhere to the 10-12 double spaced typed pages, otherwise we get play overload
- No hand written submissions will be accepted

- Proper script formats are available at public libraries including Carnegie Library
- Vancouver Moving Theatre and Theatre in the Raw reserve the right to workshop and to play edit, in consultation with the playwrights, before production or presentation.
- The plays will be selected by Savannah Walling (Vancouver Moving Theatre) and Jay Hamburger (Theatre in the Raw)

### Important Dates

Contest Deadline:

Monday Aug. 16, 2004 9:30 pm

The three selected plays will be announced:  
Monday Aug. 30, 2004

### Please forward submissions to

Carnegie Centre Front Desk for Vancouver Moving Theatre, attention Rika Uto; or mail it to P.O.Box 88270, Chinatown, 418 Main Street, Vancouver, V6A 4A4

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

"Hello again" to all our Carnegie patrons, from Claudia Douglas - 2nd fill-in librarian for Mary Ann, who's still vacationing in Norway and Ireland. I am very pleased to be back in Carnegie Centre and in the library, after a few years' absence. I filled in here back in 1995 and again in 1998, and enjoyed it immensely. I especially love working with the library staff here, who are all really great, dedicated to serving the patrons of Carnegie, and like working in this part of town! (as do I)

A few words about my personal history, and that of my family, in the Downtown Eastside and in Vancouver. My father, Claude Douglas, was born in what is now a heritage house on West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, right near City Hall, in 1911. So, he grew up in a very "new and different" Vancouver than the one we know now. His mother, (my grandma) and her husband Tom Whitehead, ran the Rainbow Mission down near Oppenheimer Park for many years - and, most Christmases, my dad would bring me down to take part in the services. I was introduced to the downtown Eastside before I was 10 years old!



By the time this gets into print, Mary Ann will be back and our new part-time librarian, Karen Lai, will be settling in. Again, Karen speaks Mandarin, Cantonese, and the Toisan language - so please drop in to meet her.

#### MYSTERY READERS:

I would like to highly recommend a series of mysteries by the Swedish author Henning MANKELL. His wonderful, suspenseful and entertaining series stars the Swedish detective Kurt Wallander.



#### NEW BOOKS at Carnegie:

**The Corporation** by *Joel Bakan*. This is, to tell it again, the new One Book, One Vancouver title, chosen by public vote! Carnegie now has some copies, and there may be a book club discussion group on it.

**The Master: a novel** by *Colm Toibin*. (2004) This is a fictionalized biography of the great writer Henry James, celebrated author of "The Portrait of a Lady", "Wings of the Dove", and many other great works. The novel begins in 1895, and describes both James' working and personal lives. It has been wonderfully reviewed, and Carnegie has a hardcover edition.

**Exile: a novel** by *Ann Ireland*. (2002) This Canadian novel describes the "exile" of Carlos Romero Estevez, from his home in a Latin American military dictatorship to a new home in Vancouver, and a new job as writer-in-residence at a university. At first

9

Carlos thinks he's found a new life — but soon his illusions are dispelled, and he realizes that his life is very far from the one which he knew before his imprisonment, at home.

**The Heart of the Community™: The best of the Carnegie Newsletter.** Edited by *Paul Taylor*. (2003) This is a really nice quality paperback, just received, which contains some of the "best" from the newsletter from 1986 to 2001. It also includes lots of great graphics, cartoons, drawings and poetry, and just plain rants! Check with the librarian to see where it can be found. (there are also many copies at branches and at the Central Library)

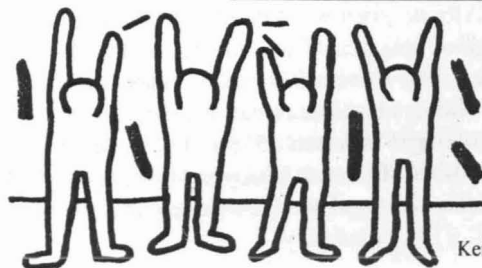
Claudia Douglas ([clauddou@vpl.ca](mailto:clauddou@vpl.ca))



\*From New Star Books Fall 2004 catalogue:

*"After reading The Heart of the Community, I think every school should have a subscription, not to the Vancouver Province or Sun, but to the Carnegie Newsletter."*

- CRANK MAGAZINE



Keith Haring

## Urgent Community Alert:

### Electronic Deposit of Benefits Cheques

The Ministry of Human Resources now requires all disability benefits and income assistance recipients to have their cheques electronically deposited directly into their bank accounts. This means that **the Ministry will no longer mail benefit cheques.**

The Ministry will be asking people to provide their bank account information by completing a form by a certain date. All new applicants will be required to complete the form; existing recipients will be asked to provide the information at their annual review.

**Some people are exempt** from the requirement to have their cheque deposited electronically. People who are exempt are those who:

- have reasonable grounds to believe their account will be garnisheed and some or all of their cheque will be lost if electronically deposited
- do not have access to banking facilities in their community or residential institution
- have their cheque administered because of their health and the safety of others
- have their cheque administered because of their health or disability
- are receiving hardship assistance that they are not obliged to repay
- are receiving hardship assistance that is limited to 3 months.

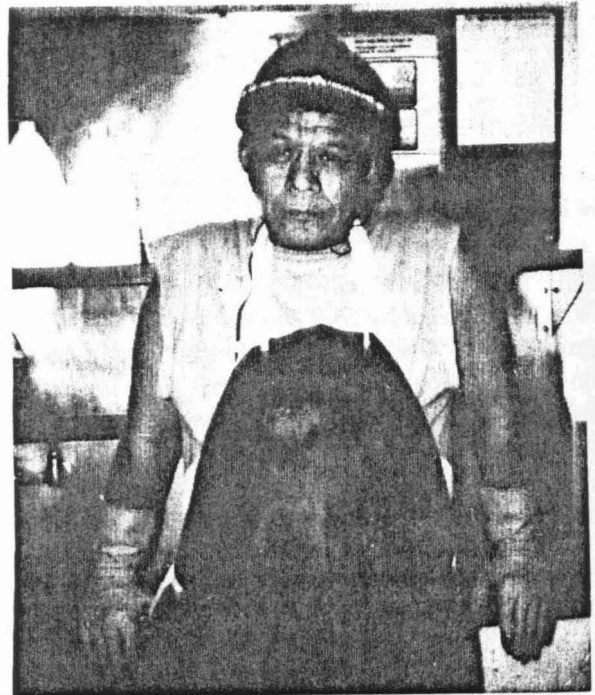
We have been advised by the Ministry that people who are not exempt and who do not provide their bank account information as required may not receive their cheques. People who do not receive their cheque as a result of this change have the right to appeal.

Sent by: BC Coalition of People with Disabilities.

## Neighbourhood News

\*LIBBY Won! This is good news, but it's not news now. There was one other person (a Conservative, I think, in Alberta somewhere) who got the largest percentage of votes cast in his riding. Vancouver East gave Libby Davies 57% of all votes cast. By contrast, almost all of the remaining 308 Members of Parliament got between 35% and 45% (in "landslide" victories). Because Libby is NDP, no major news source, either print or television, announced this proof of her popularity.

I was a scrutineer at Carnegie until the polls closed at 7pm. Lo and behold, in walks Shirley Chan, glad-handing whoever, still trying to influence people. She came to me 2<sup>nd</sup> and I wouldn't shake her hand (even when she stuck it in my face for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time). In line with the strategy of her campaign, she had a table up kitty-corner from Carnegie with big "Vote For ME" signs etc. Food giveaways were part of her 'strategy' in our neighbourhood but were restricted to Liberal supporters (or anyone who said they'd vote for her). This seeming bribery was apparently championed by Jaimie Hamilton, Chan's man in the Downtown Eastside. Anyway, as Chan was walking out of Carnegie's theatre, I asked her how much food she was going to give away the day after Election Day. I won't print what she snapped back. Suffice it to say that Shirley Chan got about 2,000 votes less than Mason Loh, the imported Liberal candidate in the last federal election.



Mr. November, from Pivot's 2004 calendar.

\*PIVOT Legal Society is again giving out cameras for all to take pictures of life and people in the DE. These will be gone through with twelve selected for their 2005 fundraising calendar.

\*Woodwards proposals and designs are on display on site. Find a poster for times and details.

\*The information forwarded by the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities – that all recipients of income assistance (welfare, DB!!, etc.) now have to have their cheques deposited directly into their bank accounts – opens really vicious possibilities. If you can't find a bank, if you don't want a bank account, if you don't want to get treated like a fungus by tellers and/or Security, if you are semi-literate or illiterate, if you are dyslexic or any of a myriad of disabilities, it doesn't seem to matter. And could legislation making the private bank information (like money you have in your account or deposit/ withdrawal info, etc.) of all recipients accessible to and by the government be very far behind?

### THE PRINCESS and the Pauper

I'm at the zenith now, almost 50 years old  
after all the hell I been thru it is time  
to grow flowers and count my blessings  
someone once said 'only at 50 does one have hope  
of unraveling the ball of knots our lives become'  
only maturity brings understanding they say  
one shouldn't read the I Ching 'til you're 50

she comes in wearing yet another pair of new shoes  
she shakes the rain from her frocks unlocks the door

Yes an old man old enough to know better  
but young enough to say oh hell roll the dice again  
I've seen the dark side of women, been taught  
that love is not possession, either given freely or  
not at all

she works too hard the clinic her office the centre  
the poor schmucks falling all over themselves

Seen the needle and the wreckage wrought  
seen the movie but forgot the plot  
leave me be I scream in my dreams  
all I really want now is  
to grow flowers and count my blessings

she parks ANA 957 in the stall and calls  
her phone to get messages on her line  
he calls again to apologize  
for not using her name in a poem

Grasshopper

## Public Meeting to Stop the Fare Increase

**Saturday, July 24, 1 PM**

**Vancouver Public Library, 359 W. Georgia  
FREE\* Refreshments\* Children Welcome\***

**In April 2005, Translink is increasing fares again.  
This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> fare hike in 5 years.**

At the same time Translink has cut services, forcing bus riders to wait longer for overcrowded buses. Bus riders are being forced to pay for Translink's privatization projects, like the new \$2 billion Richmond Airport-Vancouver (RAV) line and mismanagement of public money.

**Fares are already too high! Join the Bus Riders  
Union to stop the fare increase!**

### *A Prayer for Canada*

Dear God let our new [federal] government find out what it is to live in the skid roads of the country. First let them each live as a homeless person, being seen in soup-lines and existing on handouts. Then let them spend a night in our SRO hotels, just to see the games cockroaches play at night. Better yet, let them spend a night on a park bench some stormy winter night or walk a month in a single mother's shoes.

Of all the promises we got before the election, not once did I hear what any/all of them are going to do for the hundreds of thousands of poor and disillusioned Canadians.

So God, once more: Open the eyes and hearts of the politicians to the needs of poor people.

### *A Prayer for the Downtown Eastside*

Dear God,  
Give our fearless/hapless leader Gordo more understanding. While You are at it, give him knowledge of homelessness, hunger and the stark reality of the issues at hand. Please let Gordo understand what it is to live on the streets and go to bed hungry. Show him what it is to be seen in a soup-line and awaken in an alley soaking wet. Let Gordo walk in the shoes of a single mother for a while just to get the hopeless feeling they have. Last but not least let Gordo live life on welfare so he can get an idea of what he has done to the Downtown Eastside and the rest of BC.

Yukon Eric

## Quebec enacts real welfare reform

On April 2, 2004, the Quebec provincial Liberal government made some real welfare reforms—not the fake ones we always hear about, like those of the BC Campbell government or the Ontario Harris government. What the Quebec government did was bring an end to workfare—no longer making people on welfare work for their government assistance—and institute a guaranteed annual income (GAI).

Granted, it doesn't amount to much for a single person on welfare—\$36 extra per year. But for a single parent with two children, it amounts to an extra \$1,186 per year.

Even though single people on welfare don't get much more, they have the chance to receive more, either by enrolling in a training program or proving they are looking for work.

This approach to welfare policy in Canada is revolutionary among the provinces—no other province has such progressive welfare plans.

A GAI is by no means a new concept. The idea was tried out in Manitoba during the 1970s but unfortunately, no results from the experiment were ever published. (You can find a paper on the subject in *Policy Options*, January-February 2001.)

Now, other provincial governments are watching the Quebec experiment with interest—they want to know if progressive welfare changes lead to disincentives for beneficiaries to find work.

In an article in *The Long Haul* in December 2000, anti-poverty activist Jean Swanson made clear certain other caveats that were of concern to people in the real world, not government or business.

She wrote that for a GAI to work, it would have to have, at the very least, all of the following:

- the income would have to be adequate, at least at the poverty line, and would have to increase as the cost of living increases;
- people could not be forced by rules or necessity to take paid employment
- existing social and other programs could not be destroyed (reasoning that people could now pay for them with their GAI)
- it would be paid for by a progressive tax system (where the wealthy and corporations pay more than middle income people) and not by a flat tax system (everyone pays the same percentage of tax, which is unfair to the poor).

Jean asks other questions about the GAI in the article. For example, would a GAI keep us from working for a more equitable system that is not motivated by profit, a system where people get what they need and do what they can? Would a GAI challenge the obscene distribution of wealth in Canada and the world, or would it be a way to justify greed?

Quebec is raising its minimum wage and putting money into social housing (as well as the welfare reforms) but still its new system doesn't meet all the criteria that Jean (and other anti-poverty activists) uses to judge whether or not it is suitable, and helps solve poverty. So far, however, it's a start, and also, a wait-and-see situation.

By Rolf Auer



**Hi everyone,**

I have been wondering how we can get the media and the general public to understand how punitive and mean spirited Hagen's ministry is. In some ways having the government add the 25th exemption last April really took the focus away from the poor. I think everyone (including the media) thinks, "Oh, they backed down, so everything is okay." The real story, at least in my region, is just try and get on IA (nearly impossible with no kids), just try and keep your supplements (they will take those away and make you appeal) just try and comply with your EP (they'll cut you off anyway if your at 24/60 and make you appeal it all the way to tribunal and hope you don't have an advocate), miss an appt, boom your ineligible. As you know the list goes on and on.

What the general public doesn't understand is that when MHR systematically goes after the little guy it isn't a media story because they are invisible. The gov't was quite crafty to include the 25th exemption and they even "let the anti poverty advocates take credit for pressuring them into backing down." I don't think they backed down at all, I still think they are just cutting all these people off and making them appeal it and the reality is probably most are not winning. How do we make the real story visible?

Debra



## Zen Thoughts For Those Who Take Life Too Seriously

1. Save the whales. Collect the whole set. 2. A day without sunshine is like, night. 3. On the other hand, you have different fingers. 4. I just got lost in thought. It wasn't familiar territory. 5. 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot. 6. 99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name. 7. I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe. 8. Honk if you love peace and quiet. 9. Remember, half the people you know are below average. 10. He who laughs last, thinks slowest. 11. Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm. 12. The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese. 13. I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol. 14. Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have. 15. Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7 of your week. 16. A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory. 17. Change is inevitable, except from vending machines. 18. Get a new car for your spouse. It'll be a great trade! 19. Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow. 20. Always try to be modest, and be proud of it! 21. If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments. 22. How many of you believe in psycho-kinesis? Raise my hand... 23. OK, so what's the speed of dark? 24. How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink? 25. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something. 26. When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane. 27. Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now. 28. Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film. 29. If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends? 30. How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges? 31. Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines. 32. What happens if you get scared half to death twice? 33. I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out. 34. I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder. 35. Why do psychics have to ask you for your name? 36. Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened. 37. Just remember - if the world didn't suck, we would all fall off. 38. Light travels faster than sound. That is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak. 39. Sacred cows make the best hamburger



## A Blast from the Past

*Saturday Nite's Poetry & Folk Festival  
in Carnegie's Theatre (July 10)*

### Hey man! Peace! Wow!

I say What a trip Man! This is Hashish the Hippie needin to make a connection through the Air Waves. I am a blast from the past, and just wanna tell ya how far out that poets' event was. It was like Woodstock all over again. Love, peace, flower power... that whole thing. Even ran into some Mama's and Papas haven't seen for years! What I was smoking though was some heavy s--- man. I'm still in a daze. Hey! Leona Shapeshifter was there, Mary-Jane, Sky Coyote, that super-hippie Rockin Robyn and that Super Mama we can't forget, as always your friend and mine: Diana Nirvana!! I don't remember what I had written but I heard someone had rolled a joint with the paper it was on so I don't remember a dam thing...

Hey, You! gotta go now but thanx to all who came out. We had over sixty people in the Joint (man was it hot in more ways than one)

Thanx to the Hippie Nation from Hashish!



## Britannia Trial wraps up

**Q: What do you get when you cross 50 Vancouver Police officers on steroids with Gordon Campbell?**

**A: The Britannia Police Riot.**

Nearly two years ago, on Oct. 3, 2002, Premier Gordon Campbell was slated to show up at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Britannia Literacy Centre. The Woodward's Squat was on and Vancouver police were frustrated by their failed attempts to get activists charged. Premier Campbell was frustrated by getting heckled every time he showed his face in public. Solution: Send in the VPD to arrest some activists and kill two birds with one stone.

The problem was that the demonstration at Britannia was small and peaceful: mostly parents concerned with provincial cuts to education. Close to 50 cops were <sup>3</sup>mustered<sup>2</sup> nearby waiting to leap into action. The paddy wagons were ready. Campbell had already cancelled, so, to get the ball rolling, the VPD arrested United Church minister and children's clown George Feenstra. They handcuffed him, strong-armed him and smashed him face first into a stucco wall. When those present, including school children, called for his release, they became an "unlawful assembly.: When they tried to help people being beaten up by the police they became guilty of :obstruction" and "assault."

In all, nine people were arrested including two juveniles. Most were taken to a walled-in parking lot, then jail, then strip searched and held for more than 26 hours. It was only when a DTES community group sent in their lawyer that they were finally released. While they were languishing in lockup, Premier Campbell held a press conference calling the demonstrators "thugs." The VPD held their own press conference, calling the demonstrators "thugs."

During the five-week trial close to 30 police officers "testified." They said they punched children they thought were 10 or 11 year old in the face because they were in fear for their lives, that the Anti-Poverty Committee was somehow controlling events from a command post behind a tree in a nearby park



By Trevor M. From *Woodsquat*

and that demonstrators flew at them "like Superman." None recalled threatening handcuffed prisoners at the parking lot pit stop.

The trial finally ended on July 5. Most of the charges were dropped along the way for lack of evidence. The reverend was found not guilty on all counts as was Scott Rohan. Activists Ivan Drury and Justin Goodman received conditional discharges. Journalist Murray Bush's charges were stayed because of the violations of his Charter rights - being strip searched and held for 26 hours without access to a lawyer.

No members of the VPD were charged. None were disciplined. The seven police complaints about the Britannia Police Riot were all dismissed by the Vancouver Police. In fact, they gave themselves a citation for "courage" and "restraint." The prosecutor likened high school students yelling at police at Britannia to suicide bombers in the Middle East. The judge couldn't think of a reason why "peace officers" would lie.

- Murray Bush

fluxdesign@shaw.ca

## FEAR

I sit on the floor in this dark basement suite  
No furniture, no carpet, no bath, and no heat  
Comparatively speaking, I used to have bliss  
What the hell did I do to deserve all of this?

I used to have nice things, a house, and a job  
A husband, two kids, a cat, and a dog  
But I'm fooling myself because bliss it was not  
The outside was pretty ~ the inside was rot

The truth is the life I had led wasn't me  
So phony, so empty ~ I'd longed to break free  
And without knowing how, it just all seemed to go  
As I searched for the girl that I wanted to know

The journey was tough, filled with anger and tears  
Reshaping myself unearthed huge hidden fears  
Reached past the sweet safety of things so familiar  
To look for the demons that lived in each layer

So scary and bleak was this world of unknown  
Unwilling to plunge, I'd lay lost and alone  
Cocooned in the comfort and warmth of my bed  
Where the words he'd spoken swirled in my head

"Your need for control is your instinct to run"  
"And it's stopping the work you have to get done"  
"Step into the fear. Don't avoid it. You'll see."  
"That's the only way you will ever be free."

And slowly, so slowly, when fear came around  
Finally not running or pushing it down  
No clever mind games to keep it at bay  
No anger to mask it, no lies to replay

I let out the monster so dark and so thick  
My stomach heaved up and I almost got sick  
Every nerve, every cell started violently shaking  
As I fought with the panic my fear was creating

I paced back and forth, my senses all hazy  
Wringing my hands to prevent going crazy  
Sobs of sheer terror in the room all around  
My scream when it came made a bloodcurdling sound

It came with such force that I just couldn't stop it  
My body bent double ~ I clutched at my stomach  
I screamed and I screamed as my guts ripped apart  
As white hot eruptions spewed out from my heart

A pillow I pushed to my face all the while  
A friend to absorb all the heartache and bile  
Hung on for dear life till finally it finished  
Lay weak with relief when the force had diminished

Curled up for some time in a tight, soothing ball  
I whimpered and cried from the pain of it all  
Then out of the mist a soft rumbling there  
And up came another in its struggle for air

For hours it seemed that this process went on  
Until most of the fear in my psyche was gone  
Or maybe it was that my body gave out  
And the Lord in His mercy had called a time out

Through the months on and off I suffered like this  
And gradually I found the intensity less  
Realized one day that I'd made a huge shift  
Been brought to my knees and given a gift

My grief had been caused by suppressing the fear  
Embracing it fully made pain disappear  
The peace that I found is my secret for you  
Experience the joy of releasing it, too

What you resist, persists ~ please hear this now  
Turn away from your instinct to push it all down  
Step into emotion and welcome the ride  
Avoid a slow death from the fear left inside

It didn't destroy me, that's the really good news  
No need to conceal it with drugs or with booze  
The bad news? I'm still in this damn basement suite  
No furniture, no carpet, no bath, and no heat!

Maureen Kerr

### My Silver Sister

Fortunate to be as privileged as you are  
So lucky to be born to forgiving upper-class parentage  
Private schools and strictly adhered-to rules  
Lucky, with your perfect nose in the air putting on airs  
Silly me, left out of the loop, jumping through hoops  
I'm missing out. On what/Who cares/I don't. That's all.  
Am I a bother, in my threadbare wardrobe of little cost  
I so apologize for my slovenly attire, Your Highness!  
maybe the powers-that-be will cut me down to size  
Could be you'll realize it's me being free you despise.

Robyn L.

**DOWNTOWN  
EASTSIDE  
YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES  
SOCIETY**

49 W.Cordova  
604-251-3310

**NEEDLE EXCHANGE – 221 Main: 9:00am – 7pm every day  
NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN – 3 Routes:**


604-685-6561

City – 5:45pm – 11:45pm

Overnight – 12:30am – 8:30am

Downtown Eastside – 5:30pm – 1:30am

FREE – donations accepted



**Carnegie**  
**NEWSLETTERS**

401 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 2T7

www.carnnews.org  
camnews@vcn.bc.ca  
604-665-2289

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:**

**Tuesday, July 27**

We acknowledge that Carnegie Centre, and hence this  
Newsletter, happen on the Squamish Nation's territory.



**Contact  
Jenny  
Wai Ching  
Kwan MLA**

**Working for You**

1070-1651 Commercial Dr, V5L 3Y3  
Phone: 775-0790 Fax: 775-0881

**2004 DONATIONS** Libby D.-\$40 Joanne H.-\$20  
Barry for Dave McC.-\$50 Rolf A.-\$45 U'mista - \$20  
Margaret D.-\$25 Christopher R.-\$25 Paddy -\$30  
Mary C-\$30 Bruce J.-\$30 Rockingguys -\$20  
Heather S.-\$25 RayCam-\$30 Gram -\$100  
Glen B.-\$50 John S.-\$80 Peter T.-\$20 Wm B-\$20  
Penny G.-\$21 Jenny K.-\$20 Dara C.-\$20  
Sandy C.\$20 Audrey-\$20 Wes K.-\$50  
The Edge Community Liaison Ctt -\$200  
PG for PB -\$25 Mike B.-\$15 Anonymous-\$23



**CFRO 102.7 FM co-op radio**  
**listener powered radio**

For a free listeners guide, phone (604)684 8494

CO-OP

**TURN ON YOUR RADIO**

Who Shot the Sheriff?  
Thursday July 8, 89pm  
Co-op Radio's Legal Education Show  
focuses on cuts to legal aid.

Prison Justice Day  
Special Programming  
Monday August 9, 48pm  
A closer look at Canadian prisons.



**The Downtown Eastside Residents Association**

**DERA helps with:** Phone & Safe Mailboxes  
Welfare problems;  
Landlord disputes;  
Housing problems  
Unsafe living conditions



**At 12 East Hastings St. or phone 604-682-0931**

# Summer Dream Reading Festival

@ The Vancouver Art Gallery's Georgia Street Square (outside!)

9:30AM - 8:30PM

**JULY 24<sup>th</sup> /04**

## Pandora's Collective hosts the first annual Summer Dream Reading Festival.

We invite you on Saturday July 24th, 2004 from 9:30am to 8:30pm to the Georgia Street Square, outside the Vancouver Art Gallery to partake in a literary event show-casing the hosts of on-going open mics accompanied by featured readers from the Vancouver area. Seventeen groups rolled into one. We ask you to support Covenant House and their work with young adults by bringing donations of cash, clothing and non-perishable foods.

### Festival Line Up:

- 9:30-9:45 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 9:45-10:15 Under the Elephant
- 10:15-10:45 Poets Nuit
- 10:45-11:15 Revisions Reading Series
- 11:15-11:45 Shore Line Writers
- 11:45-12:15 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 12:15-12:45 First Tuesdays Assembly of Poets
- 12:45-1:15 Literatura
- 1:15-1:45 Bolts of Fiction
- 1:45-2:15 Ten Dollar Words
- 2:15-2:45 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 2:45-3:30 Band Melic Thrum
- 3:30-4:00 Thundering Word Heard
- 4:00-4:30 Third Thursdays
- 4:30-5:00 Quills
- 5:00-5:30 World Poetry
- 5:30-6:00 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 6:00-6:30 Carnegie Writers**
- 6:30-7:00 Twisted Poets
- 7:00-7:30 Wax Poetics
- 7:30-8:00 Vancouver Poetry Slam
- 8:00- 8:30 - Announcements

Are you 19 or older and looking for work?  
Opportunity awaits at The Job Shop.

If you're out of work and need help finding a job, then here's your opportunity. **The Job Shop** is a free program that will support you in a quick return to work. With one-on-one coaching you'll get connected, gain confidence and learn from others - all with a view to finding meaningful employment. Call **604-253-9355** now to attend the next Job Shop info session. The Job Shop is brought to you by Tradeworks Training Society.



## "Good Morning Don Pablo"

"Buenos Dias Don Pablo, Happy Birthday' You are just one year younger than our Carnegie".

Neftaly Reyes was born on July 12, 1904 in the town of Parral (central Chile); his father was a rail worker and his mom died one month after his birth. Neruda took his pen name - the last name - from the Czech poet Jan Neruda who he admired in his youth. Neruda was a man of the people, and stayed with, and fought always in favor of the poor, the peasants, the homeless, the victims of injustice and the oppressed labor movements. And he gave his life for that cause. In 1971 Neruda received two great distinctions: the Nobel Prize in Literature and The Lenin Award of Peace.

On September of 1973, Neruda was very ill in his home at Santiago. The military gang headed by Pinochet hated The Poet because they knew he was a good man, a person not for sale. At that time, they had already killed the democratically elected president of Chile, Dr. Salvador Allende, the great Chilean poet Victor Jará, and thousands more, in the soccer stadium of Santiago (Official records give an account of 1,164 people missing; 2,134 executed and 100,000 jailed after the coup). So every night, Pinochet and his gangsters brought very loud music — serenade- near the widow's house where Neruda was lying sick. It was a cruel way of torture against a senior citizen and a very sick person (isn't that terrorism?). As a matter of fact Neruda died less than two weeks after the military coup, on September 23, 1973. Political opponents were targeted for assassination in third countries. Three years later, Orlando Lettelier (a former Neruda colleague and friend), who had been Chile's Ambassador to Washington during the Allende years, and Ronni Moffitt (his assistant), were assassinated in a powerful car bomb explosion on a busy Washington street. The guilty have not yet been brought to book. It seems there has not been great interest in solving that crime. Wasn't that terrorism? Who did it? Again we see that there are several kinds of terrorism: advertised, unadvertised, wag the dog, etc.

But a poet never dies, especially if he was a person of the people. Neruda loved the Dylan Thomas verses:

*"Dead men naked, they shall be one, with the man in the wind and the west moon, and when their bones are picked clean and the clean bones gone, they shall have stars at elbow and foot... and death shall have no dominion".* No way "Milicos" (nick for bad soldiers) you could not kill men of the stature of Neruda. He is one of the representatives of the whole Latin American fight against the intervention of the forces, "south of the border's next door place". That is clear in all his writings. That was the reason he went into exile and became a political refugee in several places around the world, where all his neighbors always liked him because of his humane condition and care for the people.

I have learned that a sculpture (created by Chilean artist Raul Eberhard -a gift of the Chilean Consulate) to commemorate Neruda, will be placed at Carderos Park near Coal Harbor seawall. Sounds very good, though if the poet were in our City, surely you could see him fighting for the DTES, writing at our Reading Room and playing chess at Carnegie; where the values of solidarity, diversity, tolerance, inclusion and non violence are appreciated.

Every time I remember Neruda, three of his short quotations come to my mind:

Neruda The Social Activist: "The white collar burglar gets immunity and probation. The homeless and the poor -who steals a piece of bread, gets jail and torture"

Neruda The Romantic: "One day, maybe in my dreams, I will give you a kiss and from that kiss you will be able to know all that I have kept secret in my silence"

Neruda The Dreamer: "I want to jump into the water..., just to fall in the sky"

If the sculpture commemorating Neruda in our City faces the sea and the mountains, somehow The Dream of the Poet would have come close to reality. As Che Guevara used to say: "We are realists: we dream the impossible"

By Jorge Escolan-Suay



*DTES Community Arts Festival*

**"Heart of the City Festival"**

Friday Oct 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 2004

*A Downtown Eastside Open House - by the people of the DTES - for the people of the DTES & the Greater Vancouver community.*

*Featuring Downtown Eastside artists with invited guests.*

Victory Square, Gastown, Main and Hastings, Chinatown, Oppenheimer, Little Tokyo, Strathcona

Coffee Houses

Radio Plays

Labour Songs

Urban Barn Dance

Theatre

Music

Workshops

History Walks

Visual Arts

Festival Launch Party

Spoken Word

Forums

Media

Music in the Streets

Gala

For more information please contact

**Dan Feeney**

**Festival Administrator/Programmer**

**665-2213, 841-3454, [darkthirty@shaw.ca](mailto:darkthirty@shaw.ca)**

**Terry Hunter**

**Artistic Producer**

**254-6911**

When Gord Campbell took over he gave us a 25% tax cut, but 25% of nothing is still nothing. After cutting thousands of people off Welfare, they have the nerve to ask us what kind of "wish projects" we have?! I am just wondering how much the coming Olympics are going to cost. Most of the people in Vancouver and BC cannot afford the price of Olympic tickets. Here in the Downtown Eastside it will mean higher rents or being evicted, like what happened in 1986 when the world came to Expo '86. It's funny how this government is willing and able to afford the costs of the Olympics when it can't look after their own people properly.

Well, since they've asked for my "wish project" here it is: Give the homeless a roof over their heads and bring the welfare rates up to where a person does not have to make a decision between eating and having a roof over their heads.

It is a shame when those of us from the DTES, who try and alleviate the wretched conditions of homelessness, are called thugs and terrorists by political people in power, both Municipal and Provincial.

Yukon Eric

**The Quiet One with the Smile**

Watching Peter talk suddenly I catch a glimmer of a younger man, with no pretensions at all, relaxed I see him in the Sixties, a rare Chinese hippie, trekking across Europe travelling...

even now he laughs so easily as back then funny, the years age the body but the spirit is bright and frisky, playful and life-loving the years only greyed him sometimes tho you'd swear he was still wearing his old sheepskin and tying back his long black hair he is senior here not because of age but wisdom and the necessary patience he does his work with an even hand indulging the weak he modifies all he taught me - an old honky - how to write my name in Chinese teaches me while he treats my pain he is my doctor first and foremost a man worthy of admiration he is genuine

grasshopper



Susan C. Boyd invites you to a book launch in celebration of the publication of her new book:

***From Witches to Crack Moms:  
Women, Drug Law, and Policy***  
(2004) Carolina Academic Press

Susan Boyd will be reading from her book  
Tuesday, July 20, 2004 at the Interurban,  
9 East Hastings St.  
at the corner of Carrall and Hastings  
Vancouver BC  
From 7-8:30 pm  
\*\*\*\*\*

Susan C. Boyd is a community activist working-  
with drug user groups and an associate professor  
in Studies in Policy & Practice  
at the University of Victoria.  
She is the author of *Mothers and Illicit Drugs:  
Transcending the Myths* (1999).

**BLUE'S Attack**

Sue Blue:

I was walking over to the bench talking to Bandit. There were people smoking, drinking, fighting. I decided to get a picture of the Bird Lady I call "Mama". Everyone else calls her 'bird lady' or 'cigarette lady'.

I reached over to mama to give her a hug but as I did the big dog that was beside me jumped up and bit my arm. The guy who owned it grabbed it and pinned it to the ground. It held on to my shoulder

and I went down with it. When the owner squeezed his neck he let go. I didn't know what to do, so I grabbed my instant camera and took a picture.

The guy apologized. Apparently the dog is very protective of 'mama' and it bit me because it thought I was attacking her.

Justin and Sandy, Oppenheimer staff, came by to make sure I was ok. Lucky I wore my sweater and jacket today. I wasn't going to. But I am Sue the Unbreakable. No dog will stop me! Bow-Wow!!