

FREE - donations accepted

Carnegie

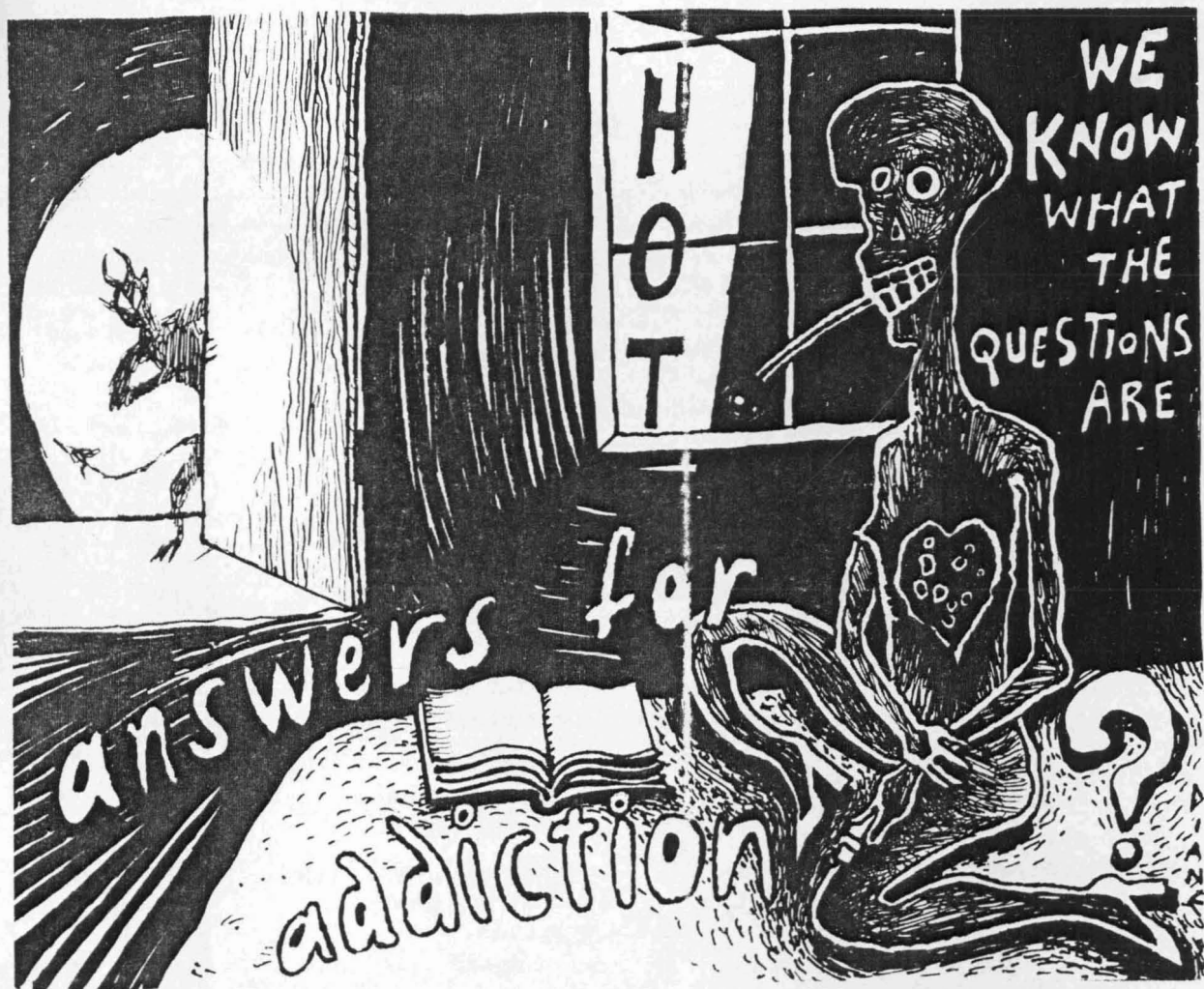


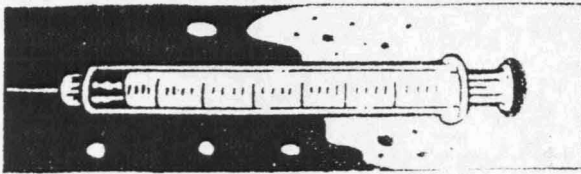
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 15, 2004

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

carnnews@vcn.bc.ca
www.carnnews.org





Needle Exchange is In Transit

I'd like to clarify the current status of the DEYAS Needle Exchange fixed site, as there seems to be some confusion about the status of our move.

More than a year ago, a number of DEYAS programs, including our main administration, moved into consolidated office space at 49 West Cordova Street. At that time, we began planning to move the Exchange fixed site from 221 Main to 5 East Hastings, just off Carrell Street.

A permit application was filed with the City shortly thereafter. For a number of reasons, it has taken many months for this application to wend its way through the City process and DEYAS has participated in a number of community processes to address concerns about the new location.

Towards the end of June, we achieved what I believed at the time was the last required agreement to allow the City to issue us the required permit. At that time, we gave notice on the 221 Main Street site. Much to my dismay, I discovered subsequently that we still had one or two more steps to go. Nonetheless, we had no choice but to vacate our former premises as of July 31st. Clients were notified of the upcoming move as soon as notice on the site had been submitted and a sign was put up in the window of the old site.

As of this moment, we are between fixed site locations. We are working actively with the City to address the remaining concerns as quickly as possible. In the meantime, DEYAS exchange services remain available 24 hours per day. We have vans on the road constantly and have exchange workers out on foot during most daylight hours. We are stressing having van services available close to our Main Street site to ensure the continued availability of exchange services. All van services are now launching from the base van office at 50 Blood Alley. Exchange vans and home delivery can be reached by calling 307-9996. Community pick-up can be reached at 657-6561. The Health Outreach van can be called at 551-5011.

I apologize for any confusion around the fixed site move. I will notify as soon as we have the required permits and the fixed site can be reopened. Thank you for your concern and support.

Judy McGuire
Executive Director DEYAS
(Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society)
49 W.Cordova St, Vancouver, BC V6B 1C8
Phone: 604-685-6561 Fax: 604-685-7117

how a community of the poor resists neo-liberal forms of death pounding down its door

"neoliberalism...the tactical cleansing of urban space...has been met by sustained and creative opposition, often in ways that depart from the traditional repertoire of political protest."

-nicholas blomley 2004

"the shared life of a people is corporeal.. bodies are used to one another and recognize one another as similar . .and hence a community of hope.. of human beings who feel in. solidarity with each other."

- jose comblin 2002

"community is a place where in togetherness a ladder is built and divine sparks are fashioned and become visible."

-dorothee soelle 1997

mary overdosed alone
in her hotel room
but the old guy next door
an alcoholic
found her and saved her life
they watch out for each other
like when he's drunk
she helps him get back to the hotel
but mary broke
a couple of her fingers
when she dropped
and her face has now erupted
with a rash and sores
from a bad cut
in the heroin

Bud Osborn



all the horror (a prose poem)

"all the horror is in just this, that there is no horror"

- alexander kuprin

invited to speak at the ubc department of geography, as part of a lecture series, my topic was: "a little genocide in the downtown eastside;" where the calculated destruction of thousands of human beings is occurring through withholding health and human rights measures that would save their lives.

after i spoke, a young woman, a student, told me her mother works in a daycare centre in the eastside; and most of the mothers who bring their children for the day are first nations, economically impoverished, addicted to illegal drugs, and infected with one or more of the various epidemics allowed to rampage out of control in the area, an area coveted by upscale development.

she said a woman recently brought her 6 year old son into the daycare space, then went outside and sat down on a bench in front of the church which houses the centre, and cooked a shot of heroin.

the woman injected, and after the warm rush and heavy sedation passed, her story fused into a razor blade and she slashed and slashed and gouged and hacked at the veins in her arms until she bled to death. on the bench, in front of the church. in front of hundreds of automobiles grinding past her a few feet away on east broadway.

it was the woman's 6 year old son who, when he came outside during a break in the centres' activities, found his mother.

his mother is one of the genocided i spoke of at ubc. because here, in north america, we learn to assassinate ourselves,

because here the death squads sent against us are our own conditioned thoughts.

and the 6 year old boy, another traumatized orphan, will likely blame himself for the death, instead of the bled-out corpse of social compassion, roaming like a zombi-robot of indifference, where our children look for love and hope for care...

Bud Osborn



Get Yours Today, Folks

Are you tired of being accosted by those annoying crackheads? Tired of people begging for a smoke? Just sick of seeing all these mentally defective coca babies?

Well, the Ronson Corp now has the answer you've all been looking for: The all new Jesus Stick.

Now you can get rid of those annoying vermin and bring religion to the ghetto just by using the Jesus Stick everyday. Just stab the 'perp' in the chest with the all-new, never-before-seen-in-this-country Jesus Stick and you'll send 20,000 volts and a shot of RFJ (Religioua Fanatic Juice) straight into the heart of these pesky crack addicts. They'll be dancing (actually, convulsing) and singing the praises of Our Lord for hours after just a touch from the miracle Jesus Stick. For hours you'll hear the little blighters yelling Jesus! Jesus!! Jesus!!! ?

Think what your neighbours will say. You'll be the envy of everyone and everyone will want their own Jesus Stick. Why, together you and your family can have just loads of fun sticking those nuisance drug fiends with the new Jesus Sticks. Imagine the satisfaction you'll feel after a night of 'sticking it' to those filthy unbelievers. Your communit6y will rise up in appreciation and you'll get the recognition you always craved.

Send \$55.55 (U.S. dollars only) to J.S. Enterprises Ltd. in Podunka, Illinois and we'll start you on a rewarding program of sticking it to all those freaks. Remember, with the Jesus Stick only God knows what fun you'll have.

[submitted unsigned]



ENDLESS SUMMER FESTIVAL

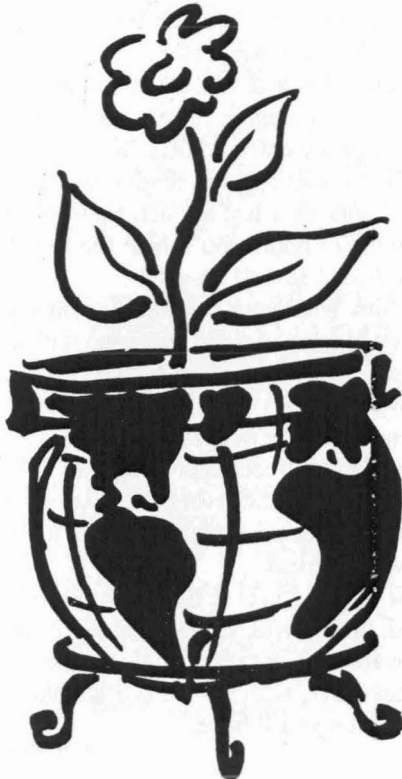
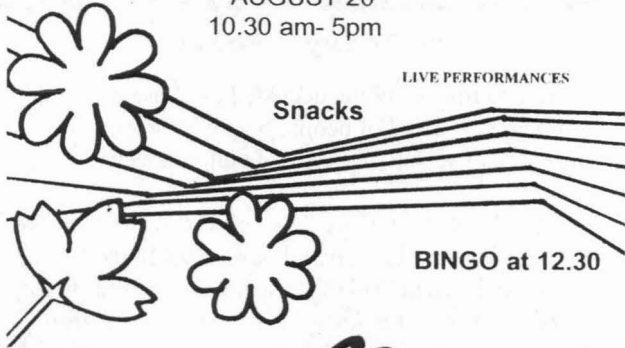
at
Oppenheimer Park

AUGUST 20
10.30 am- 5pm

LIVE PERFORMANCES

Snacks

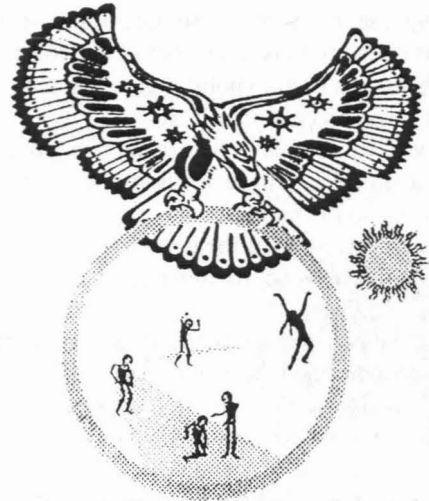
BINGO at 12.30



VISION QUEST

Vision Quest is a four day cleansing of the mind and body through prayers, smudging, plus fasting. Vision Quest began in 1998 by concerned community men and women interested in the First Nations means of being balanced in life and being a positive entity to this people of this highly addicted area. Their untiring efforts have since been an instrument, a guiding light, where there was only darkness for the many of no hope or peace of mind. So I extend my gratitude to them, for I was one of the lost souls here. I'm now clean and sober, completed my grade 12 at 52 years of age and looking forward to begin working as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor. This is my way of saying thanks to these wonderful people and giving back a little of what they've given to me.

Gerald (Jerry) Lavallee
All My Relations!



SPIRITUALITY

I support my friends who fast for four days at the Vancouver Vision Quest every August. It's always an emotional time; stories pour out of abuse, foster homes, residential school, addiction, alcoholism and the deaths of loved ones. We talk, we listen,

we comfort each other, we criticize and we laugh. And we explain to passers-by why the fast is occurring – to grieve and pray for our losses, and to plan and pray for everyone's future.

A pretty street woman comes by, wobbling a little in her ankle strap sandals. We answer her question with reasons for the fast – the suffering in the neighbourhood, the missing women, and residential schools stripping natives of culture and identity. We answer yes, we're doing a smudge and she says she used to do that when she was in a treatment house. When she leaves she says "I think I might stay here tonight, I know I'll be safe."

I am talking with Joanne Moen, one of the fasters about how her life has changed. She was living a death wish 10 years ago, she used to cry to her doctor at Native Health "I want to die, I'm so unhappy", she felt like a failure. "I even tried to shoot up my Prozac. I'd put anything in my body in the hopes that it would end my pain, and it didn't." Now she is thankful she never found that death, and has found people who love her. I asked how she got involved with Vision Quest. She said in 2001 when she was on Hepatitis treatment Interferon at the clinic, and she came by to sit and visit with Bill and Jeannine. "This place drew me, the totem pole, the peace. Maybe this is where I can find out who I really am. I wanted the freedom to say yes, I really am a part of this." I asked what stopped her from doing this earlier. "Years and years of foster care, being told no one would ever love me, I was nothing but a dirty little Indian, years of dying my hair and wearing tons of make-up and trying to be anything but Indian." She speaks with pride of a man she met in the Downtown Eastside who told her he could love her if she stopped using. This man became, and still is, her husband for more than 7 years! "I've learned I can love and I can disagree and be angry and I can even

hate and it doesn't have to be violence and all that trauma."

5

"The Vision Quest in 2002 was the first time I participated fully. I was so proud of myself after 4 days for what I had accomplished. I accepted the gifts of a smudge bowl and smudge, symbolizing the responsibility of using it wisely. Bill showed me how, for about a month, until he felt I was ready to do it myself. At first I was nervous, but everybody welcomed me. I smudge just about every morning in Oppenheimer Park since 2002, from 8:30 until 10:30 when the coffee line starts."

Trauma and sorrow in this neighbourhood is so great, Joanne tells me, that yesterday (Thursday) a middle-aged woman tried to hang herself on the fence behind the baseball diamond. "In the midst of us all trying to find a source of life, there are still people searching for their death. We all have to open our eyes a little more. I was in the park all day and was unaware that had happened." She preys that the woman finds the strength and comfort to survive, or for clearer vision, alertness and awareness of what is happening around us.

Diane Wood



News from the Library

Calling all playwrights !

The library has purchased some new titles to help you win that competition and snag that part. Come speak to librarian Mary Ann if you wish to check out any of the following titles

How Not to write a play by **Walter Kerr**. Kerr is a Pulitzer Prize-winning drama critic and this about-face look at writing has chapters such as "Act before you Think", "How to spoil a good story", "Arthritis in the joints" all of which should be interesting for those who want to set their creative process flowing.

You Can Write a Play by **Milton E Palsy**. This work is like a textbook and has photos. Suggestions for classroom activities. Pages of exercises Etc. People may just wish to photo copy relevant pages of this work.

The Playwrights Process: Learning the Craft from Today's Leading Dramatists. by **Buzz Mc Laughlin**. This is a resource for beginning and experienced writers and the author gives the basics of dramatic structure and more.

How to get the part without falling apart by **Marge Huber** This text features a phrase technique to get actors through readings without stumbling over the script. Actors learn to prepare thoroughly whether they have 20 minutes or two weeks. Also included are script excerpts, audition stiches and tips from industry professionals.

True and False: Heresy and common sense for the actor by **David Mamet**. A common sense approach to acting by this very famous playwright.

A practical handbook for the actor by **Melissa Bruder**. This work is introduced by David Mamet as "the best book on acting written in the last twenty years

Acting in Film by **Michael Caine** This is an actor's take on movie making.

Other New Titles received:

The Old Man Told us: Experts from Mi'kmaq History by **Ruth Holmes Whitehead**

Those Who Forget the Past: The question of Anti-Semitism by **Ron Rosenbaum**

House of Bush House of Saud: The Secret relationship between the world's two most famous dynasties by **Craig Unger**

Can't Sleep Can't stay awake: A woman's guide to sleep disorders. by **Meir Kryger**

Speaking Out: Ideas that work for Canadians by **Jack Layton**

My Lfe by **Bill Clinton**.

Book Club:

We are interested in forming a Book Club and reading "*The Corporation*" the movie of which has evoked world wide acclaim. Joel Bakan -the author may be available to come and be part of a discussion when we show the movie later this year at Carnegie. If you are interested or know anybody who is, please get in touch with me and we will set up a suitable time and place *Mary Ann*



Junkie's Lament

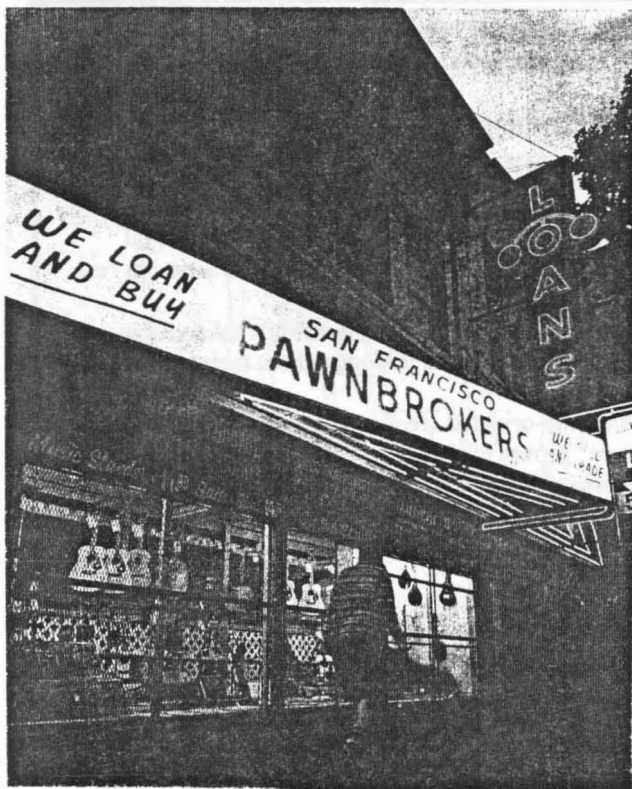
Trying to stay straight in this neighbourhood
like dancing on the razor's edge
a tightrope walk when you're gonna fall
Question is: how far?

Trying to stay straight in this neighbourhood
do that up and down and wonder
why I can't shake this Jones
sliding down a razor blade
surprised when you get all sliced up

Dealerman just laugh and say
'like shootin' chickens in a barrel with a shotgun'
You know you can't miss, can't help
spreadin' a little death around, all in the name
of free enterprise.. y'all see what I'm sayin

Dying to stay straight in this neighbourhood
see myself in a thousand sets of eyes
the end draws ever nearer
closer than you realize
Dying to stay straight in this neighbourhood
lord knows I'm tryin'
to stay straight in this neighbourhood.

R. Loewen



Work is the answer for those who can

Susan Martxnuk's column (*Province*, July) "Unemployed need work, not perpetual welfare" appears to have been written in response to a National Council of Welfare report stating that B.C.'s welfare rates are "cruel and punitive."

She goes on to state that the Fraser Institute claims welfare rates are adequate. The Fraser Institute — a conservative think-tank that ideally would like to see welfare abolished in favour of charity (unworkable) — consistently lowballs the rates.

Martinuk calls socialists and left-leaners who are likely to agree that B.C.'s welfare rates are punitive "whiners."

Has she tried to live on the \$185-per-month support that government assistance offers? She wouldn't be able to afford a telephone or transportation or even enough food to sustain her through the month. Would she be whining if she complained?

I agree work is the best solution for those on welfare but, let's face it, some people on welfare are just incapable of working. Shouldn't the rates be compassionate rather than state-instituted torture?

Rolf Auer, Vancouver

Advocating for low-income bank accounts

*My credit union asked me to complete a very long survey. I took the opportunity to suggest, several times, a no-fee account for people whose income is less than \$1,000/mo.

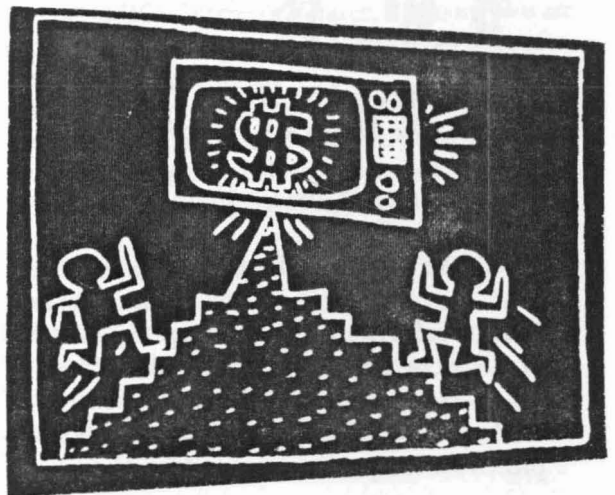
(This credit union used to have this, but nixed it. Now one must keep \$1,000 (a sum that people on regular assistance cannot legally have). in the account to avoid fees.

*Here in Sechelt, that amount is \$3,000.00. Of course it's discriminatory, but there are no laws about poor bashing yet, are there.

*the best account that I've been able to find costs \$3.95 per month at TD/ Canada Trust (in Duncan).

Here in the Downtown Eastside, the best (lowest) account fee is at Pigeon Park Savings, 92 E.Hastings Most, if not all, other financial institutions — banks, trusts, some credit unions — charge punitive fees to low-income clients. This is another fine example of the attitude and meanness of Campbell, the Liberals and their bosses who are, almost to a man (gender definitely a factor) at the Fraser Institute.

As John Douglas wrote in a letter about Mayencourt's Bill to punish all squeegee kids and panners, "I recently saw an old b&w movie *Diary of Anne Frank*, and it occurred to me that many affluent people in Executive suites/suits don't even SEE most panhandlers; to the former they aren't human (just as jews/gypsies/slavs/homosexuals and the disabled weren't human to Nazis)."



gallerygachet, 88 east cordova st, vancouver bc V6A1K2

t. 604 687 2468 f. 604 687 1196 web: www.gachet.org hours: wed.-sat. noon -6pm

art made here an open studio for the public/artists in residence
AUGUST 6-30, 2004

If you find the idea of walking into an art *gallery* intimidating, welcome to something a little less formal.

During the month of August the gallery gachet exhibition space will see itself turned inward as artists in residence *fill* the space to honour the process of *Creation*.

Artists will extend the exhibition walls and space to include their working environment and make visible the stages of creation from idea to living, breathing artwork. They will be open to *dialogue* about their inspiration, *vision* imagery, technique and message.

Please visit the gallery during a *month* of intense and community-oriented creativity to view these works and artists in the act of making them. This "exhibition of evidence" proves to challenge the myth of divine intervention when artists and the public merge their influence. Visitors can very well change the process of *Creation*.



gallery gachet and the absolut theatre co-
present: *The Masks We Wear Project*.

Monday Aug 30th 2004 7-10pm at the Scotia
Bank Dance Centre
677 Davie St, Jandali Studio

Mask Performance Workshop

In this workshop participants will explore the character behind the mask. We will work on creating images, scenes and choral pieces for the performance in March.

Please bring an open mind, a desire to play, a pencil and journal, wear comfortable clothes that you can move in and bring the mask you created in the previous Plaster Mask Making Workshop.

To register in this free workshop or the series please call gallery gachet at 604 687-2468

This is an innovative multi-media community- building project devised by Siobhan

McCarthy, the Artistic Director of the absolut theatre company and Artist In Resident at gallery gachet. It is an experimental workshop/ lab/ rehearsal series that will take place over an eight month period- where actors, visual artists and members of the general public can drop in and make masks, develop pieces and performances that will result in an installation of all of the masks and performances of all of the participants in the month of March at gallery gachet.

For more information please visit www.whoareyoucallingcrazy.com and www.gachet.org



March for Economic Human Rights
Sunday, September 19, 1 PM
Main Street SkyTrain Station

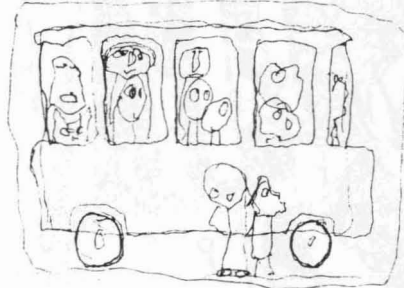
Join the Bus Riders Union on September 19th for the 2nd Annual March for Economic Human Rights. The BRU is inviting all poor and working class people to join us as we march for our communities' rights to jobs with justice and dignity, health for our communities, universal education, affordable housing and an affordable, reliable public transit system.

The march for economic human rights is a call to make people's needs the top economic and political

At the Bus Riders Union we are organizing hard to **Stop the Fare Increase** that will take \$40 million for the privatized Richmond-Airport-Vancouver rapid transit line, the "Olympics" line. Help bring together the struggle for our right to transit with

other struggles for social justice and human rights 9
 Join us and march in a demonstration of strength and unity and to envision a better world!

This year we are also holding a Forum on Economic Human Rights on Thursday, September 16, at 7 PM at the Vancouver Public Library, Central Branch.



Vancouver Status of Women is extremely excited to have finally purchased a space at Nanaimo and Hastings (Vancouver) with the kind donations of the community.

We are moving offices and downsizing, and need to get rid of A LOT of office supplies, furniture, books and other goodies. The Moving Sale happen[ed] on the 14th & 15th of August [but there may be stuff by the time readers of the *Carnegie Newsletter* see this].

* Couches * Desks * Filing Cabinets * Book Shelves * Office Supplies (file folders, adding machine rolls, * Fiction and Non-fiction Women-related Books * Clothing and Much, Much More!

The proceeds of this Sale will enable VSW to offset some of the costs related to our August office move, a move necessitated by the Provincial Liberals' cuts to BC's Women's Centres, like ours. We are also really looking forward to clearing out a lot of these items, so you can be sure that they will be priced to please!

For more information, or if you would like to donate items to VSW, please call Jessica or Nicole at 255-6554 or email jessica@resist.ca

We also encourage you to support our move via donations, see our website, www.vsw.ca.

Benita Bunjun

Women and Welfare Project Coordinator
 Vancouver Status of Women

After August 31st, 2004: 2652 E. Hastings St., Van., BC, V5K 1Z6



Prison Justice Day Committee Update:

P.O. Box 78005, 1755 East Broadway
Vancouver, British Columbia V5N 5W1
<http://www.prisonjustice.ca>

BCCW Closes

The closure of the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women (BCCW) has brought many changes for women in prison in BC.

BCCW was a Provincial Prison, under the jurisdiction of the provincial government, it held women who were on Remand -awaiting trial, Provincially Sentenced Women - sentenced to less than two years, and through an Exchange of Services Agreement it held Federally Sentenced Women - sentenced to more than two years. There were two separate prisons at BCCW; one was a multi level secure prison, that meant that everyone was in a maximum security setting, it held Remand, Provincially and Federally sentenced women. The other was called the Open Living Unit (OLU) and held up to 28 minimum security prisoners. When BCCW closed the remand, provincial and federal prisoners were separated. Three new prisons were opened for women in BC. The cell space for women prisoners has increased by over 100 beds.

The majority of women in prison are in for non-violent offences, and do not pose a threat to the community.

Provincially Sentenced Women

The BC Liberal Government removed all men from the Alouette River Correctional Centre in Maple Ridge. The prison was remodeled, to hold more prisoners, the internal and external security of the prison was increased, and it was reopened as the Alouette Correctional Centre for Women (ACCW). It now holds up to 130 provincially sentenced women. However, not all of the women under provincial jurisdiction were transferred there. Any woman who is being held on remand, immigration hold or classified as maximum security, is been held in an isolated section of the Surrey Pretrial Centre - a men's lock-up. This is unacceptable, women do not belong in men's prisons.

Urgent Action Needed

It was bad enough when the women were moved to Maple Ridge. This move has resulted in the women being even more isolated from their families, friends and the community. As prisons are moved further from urban areas, transportation for visitors becomes a major issue. There are fewer community resources for women in rural areas and this decrease in community support translates to a decrease in release opportunities. The decision to start holding women in men's prisons is absolutely horrifying and it must be stopped. There are few programs and resources available to women held in men's prisons. The women are being held in virtual isolation, segregated from the programs and treatment that are needed for release. Despite the fact that a new provincial prison for women opened in BC, the majority of provincial women prisoners in this province are being held in a men's prison.

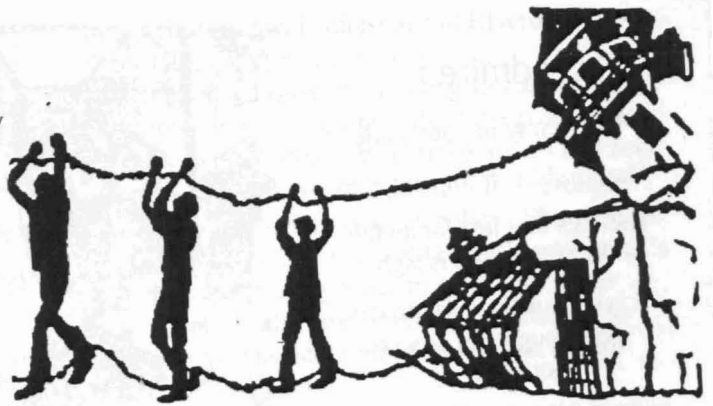
Federally Sentenced Women Across Canada

Women make up a very small percentage of Canada's prison population, however this population is one of the fastest growing. The number of Federally Sentenced Women (FSW) has increased by 150% in the last two decades, despite decreasing crime rates. This increase can be attributed to a number of factors, the most obvious being the building of new prisons. With the announced closing of Kingston's Prison for Women five regional prisons were built. These prisons were supposed to incorporate a more holistic approach to women's imprisonment based on empowerment, meaningful and responsible choices, respect and dignity, shared responsibility, and supportive environments. In 1996

after a walkaway escape, slashing and suicide attempts by women in the new regional prisons the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) responded by transferring all Maximum security classified women out of the women's prisons and into isolated sections of men's maximum security prisons. For the past 8 years women have been held in isolation in men's maximum security prisons. On March 8th 2001, the women in Saskatchewan Penitentiary brought a discrimination complaint against CSC. The Canadian Human Rights Commission agreed to investigate. In January 2004 they found discrimination against federally sentenced women based on gender, race and disability, and made 19 recommendations for change. The report is called 'Protecting Their Rights' details at <http://www.elizabethfry.ca>

New Maximum Security Prisons

Rather than moving the women out of the men's prisons into the existing women's prisons, CSC has started building Maximum Security Prisons. Some of these new Max Prisons have already opened, and the conditions under which the women now live are still not equivalent to the conditions for maximum security men; they are much harsher, and more in line with the super maximum conditions at the Special Handling Units. The women are to spend their first six months locked in their cells, only to come out for doctors appointments and visits, they are not allowed to communicate with any other prisoners, and when they come out of their cells they are in leg shackles, handcuffs and escorted by two or more guards. She can work her way to the next step where there are no shackles; just handcuffs and two guards. At any point she exhibits inappropriate behaviour she can be sent back to the first step. When one prisoner is out of her cell all other prisoners are locked up. This level of security is not justifiable in terms of women's crime nor women's threat to the community. Women are seen as a low risk to re-offend and high needs in terms of treatment and healing from physical/sexual abuse, substance abuse, employment training, and education. The majority of maximum security classified women are First Nations women and women with mental health issues. The needs of women in society have been turned into risk factors and as result women who are the most socially and economically disadvantaged are classified as maximum security.



Federally Sentenced Women in BC

When BCCW closed, the federal government regained jurisdiction over the FSW. They built the Fraser Valley Institution for Women in Abbotsford (FVI). For FSW the move from BCCW was an improvement, because they have regained their rights as federal prisoners. (These rights are lost anytime a federal prisoner is being held in a provincial prison.) Despite the fact that FVI already has a maximum security perimeter, they plan to build a Maximum Security Unit there. Until it is built all maximum security women are at the Surrey Pretrial Centre.

Statistics on prisoner deaths

For the last reported year 2001/02; 50 Federal prisoners died in custody and 77 died out of custody. 41 Provincial prisoners died in custody and 1 died out of custody. Out of custody deaths are attributed to prisoners who are serving out the remainder of their sentence in the community, whether it is on day parole, full parole, statutory release or "compassionate release" they are still under the care and jurisdiction of the criminal justice system. While some prisoners who have medical conditions that are considered terminal are granted parole for "compassionate" reasons, this is the exception and not the rule.

Write:

Premier Gordon Campbell
P.O. Box 9041, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Rich
Coleman
P.O. Box 9055, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Admired

The beauty in your smile.
The sunshine from your eyes.
Feelings that last for awhile.
As all I can do is sigh.
Living our lives day to day
For thoughts of you are
not far away
Carrying our own weight
As time does not wait
Values that we hold closest
to our hearts.
Have no way of tearing
them apart.

Selina Barton



Deep Down I Believe in You

She strums a guitar, she hums to her simple, surreal, sweet tunes
Some bitter, some sweet, yet all concerning unrequited love and ruin
As she picks at the notes, drifting along within the still, chilling night air
Quite disquieting, as it seems you no longer belong in my scattered, blind dreams
Please do not vacate my heart, leaving hollow despair as my reality rapidly slumbers
I really do yearn to remain on your serene, tranquil level; it's just as it seems,
especially now, when certain and true circumstances are fragile and encumbered
Please do not compromise or patronize me now, as your tears fall to your blouse
Neither nothing nor anything can ever be perfect in this off-kilter world
of shattered plans or schemes
However always remember that the winner never – quite rightly – takes it all
and to lose sometimes simply means that you learn, you recover,
You begin to climb the steep precipice once again, yes,
you never completely fall all the way down into an abyss's pains, delusions and loss.

Robyn Livingstone

I was born in a crowded barn

with a six-gun by my side,
The six-gun never left my side
cuz I had no place to hide.

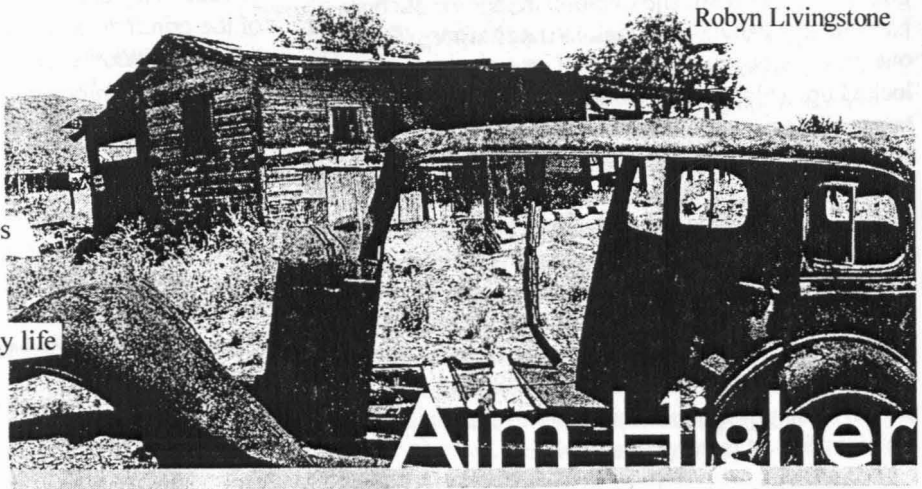
People say I'm crazy
They say I've got no control
But they've never seen me
when I'm on a roll.

You see I'm a claustrophobic
and I'm really not into crowds
The only way to fix that
is to fire a couple rounds.

One guy made me angry
I shot him right between the eyes
Two others made me mad
I tried their chests for size.

I day I got up, decided to live my life
I grabbed a man's horse
Hell, I was on a roll
so I also stole his wife.

James B.



An Interview with our MP, Libby Davies

I decided to seek out more information about our newly-elected, third-time NDP MP for our constituency, Libby Davies, because I thought more information about her needed to be written, and I wanted to rebut the federal Liberal candidate, Shirley Chan, in her claim that Libby hadn't done enough for the Downtown Eastside.

First, in case you didn't know, here are the voting results between the two: Libby Davies: 23,498; Shirley Chan: 10,776 (Chan placed second).

I had a chance to talk with Libby for about a half hour, and I asked her what Chan was saying during the election. Libby said that at one meeting in Chinatown, Chan said, "If I were the MP of that area, I would be ashamed."

Libby went on, "It's not so much what I do as an MP—the way I see my role is as an ally in the community. What I've tried to do over the years is to make people more visible." For example, when the police did sweeps of the Downtown Eastside, Libby's office put out press releases. Libby has also tried to highlight Gordon Campbell's attack on the poor, the legal aid cutbacks, welfare changes, and the cuts to women's centres' funding. Libby sees her role as an advocate to speak out.

As we began talking, Libby asked me how far back I wanted to go about her accomplishments in the Downtown Eastside—as far back as when working with the Downtown Eastside Residents Association, for example? We decided that there would be neither time nor room to cover everything she did, so Libby limited the discussion to three issues during her time as an MP: (1) the drug issue; (2) the sex trade and the missing women in the Downtown Eastside; and (3) affordable housing.

On the first issue, about deaths due to drugs, Libby felt that the overdose rate was critical. She worked with Bud Osborn, the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users, and others to try to bring in heroin maintenance procedures, and to start up a safe injection site. She met with (then) federal Health Minister Allan Rock to bring in the drug user resource centre. Through this was established the Life Skills Centre and the Contact Centre, as part of the battle to have drug users treated like human beings. Libby sees lack of affordable housing as a piece of this complex puzzle. Problems complicating the picture

were deinstitutionalization (like of Riverdale Psychiatric Hospital) and poverty.

On the second issue, the missing women of the Downtown Eastside, Libby tells of the problem going back to the 1980s. The policing model had been a failure, the system broke down. Libby brought forth a motion to review police policy. She worked with PIVOT, PACE, and WISH (legal and women's organizations). Libby notes that the Vancouver Agreement (for the three levels of government to work together) is undermined by Gordon Campbell's welfare policy.

On the third issue, housing, Libby was the leading advocate in Parliament for restoring the federal Liberal's decimation of affordable housing funding. She says federal NDP leader Jack Layton was right to say during the election campaign that Paul Martin was directly responsible for homeless people's deaths.

Libby says that she doesn't care what Homelessness Minister Bradshaw said about homelessness being a result of individual crisis, like addiction, for example. Libby thinks it's a structural problem, namely the Liberals eliminating the affordable housing program. Libby considers it her duty to expose Paul Martin's record.

Libby said a lot more during the interview, but I only had time to jot a few notes, which I've relayed above. I hope I've captured the gist of what Libby told me, and again, please realize that this is only representative of a fraction of the work Libby has done on behalf of the Downtown Eastside.

I think it is a mark of the tremendous confidence her constituents have in her, that Libby won by so wide a margin as detailed at the beginning of this article.

By Rolf Auer

PNE Tickets!

Apparently many residential buildings are being papered with Free Admission Tickets in the DTES.

If you or neighbours get one and aren't going to use it, please bring it/them to Carnegie's front desk!

Calling All Actors!

AUDITION FOR SIX ROLES

Through the People's Voice will be a staged reading with live music of three one act plays written and performed by Downtown Eastside involved people. The plays will be directed by James Fagan Tait and the music by Joelysa Pankanea. Actors and musicians will be paid honorariums for these performances.

Tues. September 7, 6-10 pm

location to be announced

Script workshops: Sept. 13, 18, 25
Rehearsals: Oct. 10-15
Performances: Oct. 16 -17, at the
Heart of the City Community Arts Festival

Look for further details in the September 1st
issue of the *Carnegie Newsletter*

Produced by Vancouver Moving Theatre
in association with
Carnegie Community Centre.
For info: 604-255-1948; 604-665-2213

Moving Life

As the computer-sucking millennium bleeps upon us
a poet sits in old drinking grounds studying a pitcher
of the best student-approved beer
like liquid tea leaves; not trying to read futures.
Pool players romp around green felt seas
multiple elevated TV consoles titillate the legions
of sports-challenged spectators but
this is 'reading week' not many be about.
Weak rock music pouts from myriad speakers.
Groups of bored students (not reading) sit about
like blocks of well-bred empty-headed geese,
the dance floor is polished but also empty.
flush in the garb of people but
one can't tell who is what faculty - theirs is clearly
butt; the discipline of more beer cigs pool balls
tight pants fashioned air with credit cards
and the inevitable, creeping end of term.

john a douglas

DEALER of Our Hand

Beauty in the sky above
Sunshine to show
the Creator's first love

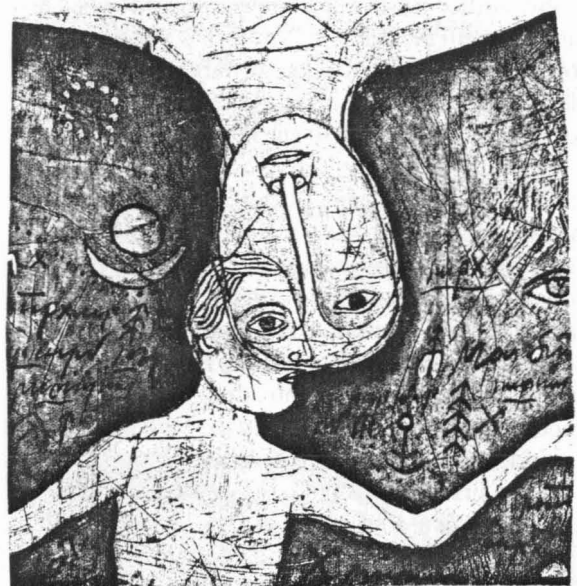
Listen to the birds sing
It's a lot more musical
than a diamond ring

The colour of Mother Earth's landscapes
is better through a Native
robe cape

Feel the heartbeat of our land
by putting your feet
in the sand

Smell the fragrance of our wealth
and don't think of
hands we were dealt

Selina Barton



LIVE BAND

DANCE to:

SNEAKY PETE AND THE PETETTS.

A world famous band on an international tour playing just for us — Why? Because they like us!!!

Friday, August 20th 7pm-10pm, Carnegie Hall
EVERYONE WELCOME

refreshments served

July 31st : CHESS TRIP to MAPLE RIDGE.

Arriving at Maple Ridge we descended upon the secluded "Cup Of Italy" café. In front of the café is a large, beautiful park, with a quaint little gazebo off to the right.

The Maple Ridge chess players didn't arrive until later. Apparently they didn't know we were coming in the morning. At 1:30 p.m. the first couple of players drifted in. They phoned the others, and before you knew it we had a great group of happy campers playing chess. Everyone was very happy to make new friends, and eagerly looking forward to the next time we meet at the end of August.

Representing Carnegie were; Robin, Kris, Al, Alex, Aleks, Sean, Philip, Keith, Max, Nasab, and Steve. For more details check the bulletin board at the entrance of Carnegie, or contact Sandy.

Article & Photos by Aleks Djosich.



INSIDE OUT Opening Reception: Thursday, August 19, 7 — 10 pm

Inside Out is a group show dedicated to the residents of the Downtown Eastside (DTES) who are vital to Vancouver's urban core. It celebrates a community of artistic people who have been creating for decades and often go unnoticed. *Inside Out* features a group of DTES artists who are committed to producing and extending the already rich aesthetic tapestry that fills the neighborhood with positive narratives.

Interurban. 1 East Hastings Street, Vancouver.
Tel: 604.609.7355. Fax: 604.683.6653.
Gallery hours: Wednesday to Saturday 1 -5pm.

KUNDALII YOGA

as taught by Yogi Bhajan

Beginner's class – all levels of fitness welcome!
Bring water and small blanket for deep relaxation

Starting Friday, Aug. 13, 4:30 – 6 pm
in classroom II on Carnegie's 3rd floor

The Worst Kind of Terrorist

- One:** You keep the population in the dark as much as possible;
- Two:** You cut social services for tens of thousands of people;
- Three:** You make promises you can't possibly keep;
- Four:** You cancel negotiated labour contracts;
- Five:** You force a labour contract with a cut of 15% in wages;
- Six:** You privatize everything you can possibly privatize;
- Seven:** You make sure that work goes away (new ferries to Europe, farming to Mexico);
- Eight:** You bring in money-eating events (Olympics, Richmond-Airport-Vancouver transport);
- Nine:** You get (only) fined for driving drunk in a foreign country (wonder who paid?);
- Ten:** You keep telling everyone that everything is just peachy but can't prove it.

If these sound familiar, they are meant to point to only one man: BC Premier Gordon Campbell.
Welcome to Campbelland everybody.

Yukon Eric Holopainen

The advantages and benefits of being A VOLUNTEER

How can I get involved in my neighborhood?

Where can I find an activity that will help me gain skill and improvement in life? In today's struggle in the Downtown East Side, our community needs volunteers who can dedicate themselves for the well being of all. My volunteer experience at Carnegie Centre helped me acquire different skills and was blessed with advantages and benefits.

Because Carnegie Community Centre was in close proximity, I applied on January 3, 1997 for a job in the cafeteria and started the next day. My work consisted of picking up used dishes and trays throughout the whole building. Also, on the second floor, the tables had to be cleaned and the floor swept regularly because the smooth operation of the kitchen depended on these tasks. I enjoyed this kind of duty; and along the way I developed the ability to perform a variety of cleaning duties efficiently. I even took the initiative on a daily basis, to wash the terrace's tables and was appreciated for it by the regular patrons. It is not the task by itself that is important in volunteering but the personal initiative of an individual and the satisfaction of helping others.

The volunteers were rewarded on a regular basis for their work and had the opportunity to enjoy different activities at Carnegie. I received, consequently, ten meal tickets for a five-hour shift. It was rewarding to have a decent repast on a regular basis and bring home fruits and sweets. Among other advantages, I started in the Learning Centre to use a computer by starting with some typing exercises. Fellow volunteer, after a while, helped me to understand this technology - and what a treat! On one hand, I was connected to the happening of volunteering at Carnegie and, secondly, I joined the many who surf the Internet. Incidentally, it's a good choice to find a place like Carnegie that encourages and motivates its volunteers.

When Carnegie Centre was declared a smoking free area by January 2000, I gave up tobacco. It was a great relief because I began to breathe effortlessly and found that the food tasted better. Throughout my volunteer activity from January 1997 to July 2003, I discovered a great satisfaction in planning my budget.

Subsequently, volunteering can create in you a sense of responsibility and the Carnegie Centre is the starting point for all who need to improve their life, acquire new skills and help their community by helping themselves. Personally, doing something voluntarily was time well spent and, as the popular saying goes, 'keep up with the good work'.

By Jean Prevost

LAUGHTER IS THE MUSIC OF THE SOUL OUR VOLUNTEERS: OUR GREATEST ASSET. Thank You for all your Hard Work

Volunteer Dinner -- an opportunity for the staff to serve you for a change! Wednesday, August 18th, 2004 @ 4:30pm Sharp in the Theatre
Alouette Lake Picnic (Seniors and Volunteers)...with *Marlene, Colleen, Ian* ...this trip has filled up fast. Thursday, August 19th meet at 1st floor Info Desk at **10:00am SHARP** ...if you are late, you have the luxury of running behind the bus all the way there.
Camp Fircom September 13-17, 2004

. You must come to the **TWO pre camp meetings to be eligible** for this trip:

Wednesday, August 18th, 10am in the Theatre
Wednesday, September 1st, 10am in the Theatre
- folks who cannot make these dates (volunteering or in hospital), please tell Colleen or Marlene.

Other than that **MUST SHOW OR NO GO** and we are two tough cookies to convince otherwise.

*These meetings are an opportunity for your input for the trip; food you would like, games you would like to play, entertainment, hikes, fishing, and all that jazz. We will give all of your ideas attention, and if possible, add them to the itinerary for your enjoyment.



RESISTANCE WITHOUT RESERVATION



**CONVERGENCE & DEMO
AGAINST SUN PEAKS AUGUST 29TH**
In front of Sun Peaks Resort
Bring banners, food & camping gear

Sun Peaks Resort and Delta Hotels are built on Secwepemc territories that have never been ceded or surrendered. Land and Water BC disregarded the Secwepemc, who said NO to expansion at stakeholder meetings, and in June 2001 obtained a court injunction to forcibly remove Secwepemc from their homelands.

With the 2010 Olympic bid, environmental destruction and expansion on unceded territories will be perpetuated yet further. In the spirit of solidarity movements that honour front-line struggles of communities, rather than organizing actions in the city, it is imperative to escalate the fight against the state and corporate colonialism on the territories itself. Buses leave Saturday August 28th at 10:30 am from the Safeway parking lot at Commercial and Broadway. For tickets (\$5-\$30) or more information, contact 778-552-2099 or noi-van@resist.ca

Tansi Kiya is a program run by the Vancouver Métis Community Association in partnership with the John Howard Society Lower Mainland and The Vancouver Foundation. It is a community resource for Métis citizens who are presently incarcerated in the federal penal system. Our workers and volunteers work with the offenders from the institutions, through their parole and finally to the community, assisting with such resources as: education funding, family reunification, and Aboriginal Spirituality, among other resources.

For more information contact: Tyler Ducharme: 604-681-8556, or Ron Kears: 604-817-4514.
June Scudeler
305-1556 E 5th Ave
Vancouver BC V5N 1L7

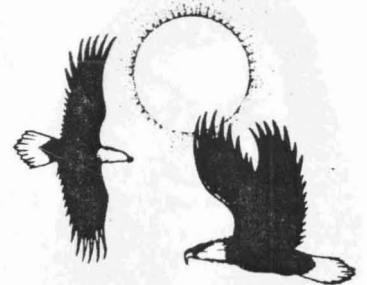
Proud to be Metis!

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 recognised that education is a fiduciary and treaty right of Aboriginal Peoples, pre-paid in exchange for the use of Native land and resources.

CELEBRATION METIS

The Vancouver Métis Community Association presents an afternoon of Métis history & culture, food, music and dance, arts and crafts with performances by Sandy Scofield, Wayne Lavallee, Moshom's Little Métis Jiggers and fiddler Art Burd. Vancouver Art Gallery (750 Hornby St) lawn on the north side. August 21st 11:30pm - 6pm. Everyone Welcome.

Info 604-253-1690 or vancouvermetis.com

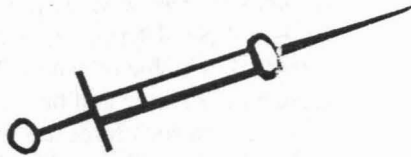


Sometimes I feel....
Rejected
Left naked
Bruised within numbness
Bliss...
Untangle me from this web.

S.Siobhan McCarthy from Spirling Within

**DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY**

49 W. Cordova
604-251-3310



**NEEDLE EXCHANGE – 223 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
NEWSLETTER

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www.carnnews.org
carnnews@vcm.bc.ca
604-665-2289

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Articles represent the views of individual
contributors and not of the Association.

Editor: Paul R Taylor; art & layout: Diane Wood

Submission Deadline for next issue:

Monday, August 30

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



Contact
**Jenny
Wai Ching
Kwan MLA**

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

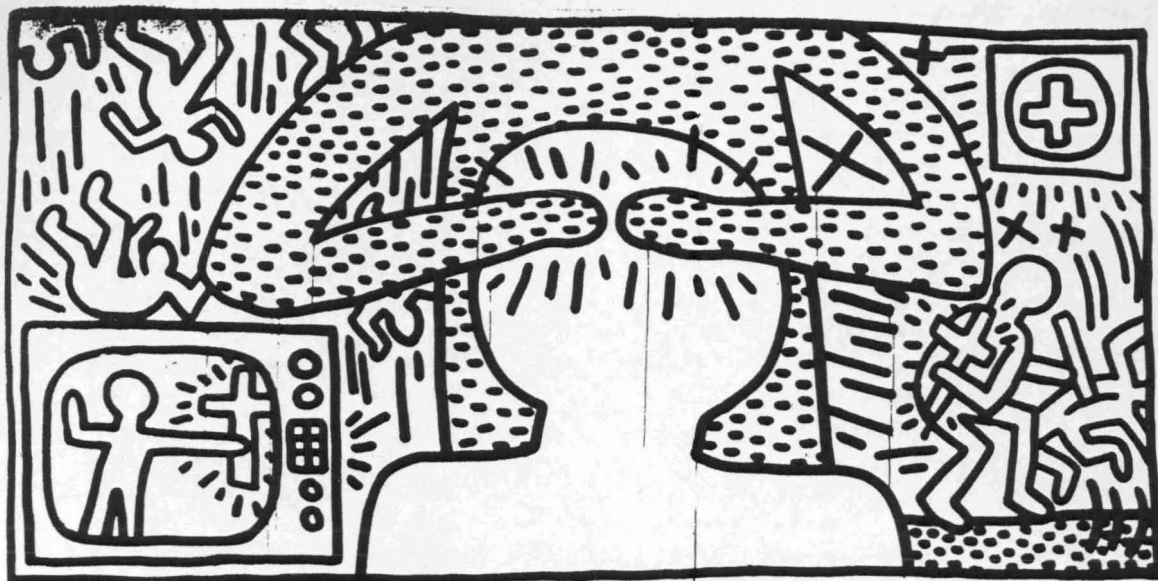
Retraction: In the Aug. 1st issue there was a story about one Tommy Hilfiger, fashion designer, who, on the Oprah Winfrey show, confirmed racist comments he'd apparently made.. A few readers sent in statements copied from a website set up just to respond to this lie.. Oprah states that Hilfiger has never been on her show, that she has never even met him. This lie began its life on the internet over 3 years ago and regularly gets started again. It may have something to do with the prices charged for Hilfiger's product line.

 
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



DTES Community Arts Festival

"Heart of the City Festival"

Friday Oct 8th to Sunday Oct 17th 2004

*A DTES Open House - by the people of the DTES - for the people of the DTES & the Greater Vancouver community.
Featuring DTES artists with invited guests.*

Victory Square, Gastown, Main and Hastings, Chinatown, Oppenheimer, Little Tokyo, Strathcona
 Coffee Houses Music Spoken Word Radio Plays Workshops Forums Labour Songs History
 Walks Media Urban Barn Dance Visual Arts Music in the Streets Theatre Festival
 Launch Party Gala

For more information please contact

***Dan Feeney**, Festival Administrator/Programmer

665-2213 or 841-3454 darkthirty@shaw.ca

***Terry Hunter**, Artistic Producer: 254-6911

Looking for a real job?

Then take *this* number down: 604-253-9355.

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 the support of one-on-one coaching, you'll get connected, gain confidence, and learn from others - all with a view to finding meaningful employment. It really does work. Call **604-253-9355** now to attend the next Job Shop info session. The Job Shop is brought to you by Tradeworks Training Society.



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TRAINING SOCIETY

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of Canada

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du Canada

Neighbourhood News

*There is a sub-section of **VANDU** (Vancouver & Area Network of Drug Users) named **RUG** (Rock Users Group). People involved admit to being crack addicts – cocaine users who smoke the crystallized stuff or “rock”. RUG is proposing changing the use of a room at *InSite*, the current safe injection site on E.Hastings, to a “Safe Smoking Room” where users could go to light up in a medically safe environment. Patrons would get a ‘rock kit’, composed of a sterile glass pipe, 5 screens, a brief on safe methods of use, condoms, info on harm reduction & access to counseling services to help those with active addictions.

The idea, as reported elsewhere, is to approach the Vancouver & Coastal Health Authority, which funds and operates *InSite*, to approve & fund this addition to that facility. VCHA would then have to do the work to get such a room exempted under the law about possession of controlled substances. *InSite* got such an exemption, but only after years of lobbying and research of different heroin-use programs from around the world.

So far spokespeople for both the Police and VCHA have not been in favour of the idea. Police cite the unpredictability of users who, while experiencing cocaine psychosis, engage in violent or very disruptive / disturbing behaviour. VCHA is apparently aghast at going through the entire process of getting a legal exemption again.

RUG/VANDU are making either/or statements about a ‘safe smoking room’ being set up illegally, if that’s what it takes.

*The Salvation Army’s facility at 500 Dunsmuir was sold to some developer, and a clause in the contract stipulated that the deal requires the S.A. to deliver the building empty of residents. It’s now a month (or maybe less) until the Sally Anne goes away, but a handful of long-time residents refuse to leave. They were not served legally with eviction notices and declined offers from the S.Army to aid them in relocating. Apparently they are going to court to have a judge decide who screwed up, but what came to mind when hearing of this was what happened when Olaf Solheim was evicted from his room at the Empress so the owner could make cosmetic changes and gouge tourists in town for Expo 86. Olaf had lived in the same room for 41 years but was given 30 days notice and put on the street. He

wandered the neighbourhood for about 2 weeks, unsure, confused, and alienated; just one more nameless, homeless (hopeless?) old man. He died.



*And finally, this issue marks the **18th birthday** of *Ye Olde Carnegie Newsletter*. In this last year much coverage was given to “*In the Heart of a City*” the Downtown Eastside Community Play, along with the last celebrations and events of the year for Carnegie’s (the building) 100th Anniversary. Part of the celebration, by coincidence maybe, was the completion and release of our book – “**The Heart of the Community: The Best of the Carnegie Newsletter**”. It contains much wisdom and insight; by, for, and about the people of the Downtown Eastside. I’m pleased to say that virtually all reviews and comments from readers have been good (critical acclamation, perhaps) and it’s available through the Vancouver Public Library. If you’d like to have one of your own, copies are available through the Newsletter Office on Carnegie’s 2nd floor. For those on welfare or a pension, a donation of \$12 is asked; for the rest of ya’, asking donation is \$24.

As one reviewer stated, “*After reading The Heart of the Community it was obvious to me that every school should have a subscription, not to the Sun or the Province, but to the Carnegie Newsletter.*”