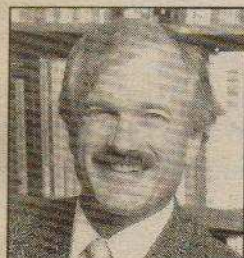


# the Badger

## Right-wingers Challenge Layton

**B**etty Disero, Councillor for Ward 12, jumped the gun on slower-moving right wingers by making an early announcement of her candidacy for Toronto Mayor in the Nov. 12 civic election.

A self-described moderate, but with a right-wing voting record (see table), Disero called a quickie press conference to endorse herself as the only true "middle of the road" candidate. She encouraged candidates to the right of her to run so the electorate would have a clear choice between the right, centre, and left.



Jack Layton

Who is Betty Disero? A CITY-TV interviewer tried a dozen or so Torontonians on the street; only one had heard of Disero. Reform Toronto's voting record, showing her head-to-head with Layton, indicates who she really is:

Vote	Layton	Disero
<b>Olympics:</b> risk public money on expensive and disruptive fun and games	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Harbourfront:</b> stop the concrete wall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Victoria/St. Michael's College:</b> develop university green space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Island Airport:</b> turn it into a major jetport polluting the waterfront	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Gay Pride Day:</b> Integrate the gay community into the rest of Toronto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Railway Lands:</b> add 30,000 more commuters to downtown Toronto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Affordable Housing:</b> encourage new housing projects	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

x = Reform Vote o = Old Guard Vote

The *Toronto Sun*, featuring columnists with sometimes sexist, racist, homophobic points of view, is championing June Rowlands, late unlamented chair of the Police Services Board. The Province replaced Rowlands on the board because of its failure to deal with these very issues. She too is being portrayed as a "moderate".

At the press conference announcing her candidacy, supporters such as political dinosaur Tom Clifford, young Old Guard champion Tom Jakobek, and Police Commissioner and pro-gun activist Norm Gardner rallied around Rowlands. She appears to be going after the far right voting bloc, if the company she keeps is any indication.

Rowlands is running on a "law and order" platform despite a bloated police budget during her term, heading the Police Services Board did nothing to reduce crime patterns. Several groups called for her resignation because of a perceived lack of sensitivity to minority concerns.

The third right-wing challenger to Layton is former midtown councillor and Tory cabinet minister Susan Fish. While better than Rowlands and Disero on social issues, Fish is still captive to the development money that has distorted Toronto so badly over the last decade. Fish was one of the supporters of the old Central Area Plan, which created such a dense concrete jungle that voters rebelled during the last city election.

## Vote '91 Heats Up!



Susan Shaw, Candidate, Ward 2

By Rob Glen and Himansu Desai

### West End

A credible reformer winning in Ward 2? It's possible. Susan Shaw, a community worker and activist, will challenge Chris Korwin-Kuczynski in what is shaping up to be the city's most interesting ward battle.

Korwin has been the Ward 2 (High Park) councillor for 10 years. Funded year after year by the same crew of well-heeled developers, he has used his uncontested vantage point in the Council to support one monster development after another, oblivious or indifferent to the damaging affect of these downtown megaprojects on the whole city, including his own west-end ward. In the last election, the Badger estimates, 79 percent of Korwin's campaign money came from the development industry, a higher proportion than any other city councillor received.

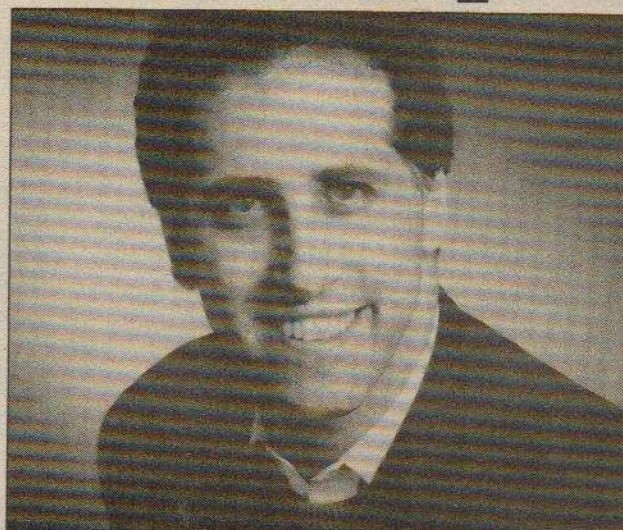
Over the years, Korwin has become famous for his strident approach to local problems, such as his late-night stroll (with City-TV) down Queen Street West. Wearing a T-shirt saying "Ward 2 Hooker Patrol," he pointed at one woman after another and hollered for them to "Get out of this community!" Korwin is not known for his deep understanding of the issues.

### A real voice in Ward 2

Into this political vacuum enters a candidate with a long background in the community. Shaw, a social worker at the Parkdale Community Health Centre for the past three years, stands a better chance than anyone of giving Ward 2 residents a real voice on City Council. For eight years prior to that, she was a legal worker in the Family Law Division for Parkdale Community Legal Services. From 1978-79 she served as executive assistant to Barb Adams, then Ward 2's City Councillor.

Shaw, who is very strong in South Parkdale, already has the support of a number of community people in the residential parts of the ward. Helen Garland, president of the Roncesvalles-MacDonell Residents Association (RMRA), says "Susan has been working in the community that she represents for a very long time, and has been working at the grassroots level." Garland says her support for Shaw is based on the candidate's understanding of process. "Process doesn't seem that important until you start trying to get something done," she says, "and then you realize it's the underpinning of democracy."

"If she can convey [the importance of process] to High Park, as she's already been doing here, then I think she'll be recognized as a good candidate, and a person with integrity.



Howard Brown, Candidate, Ward 16

I think then people will want to participate.

"Our current representative portrays Parkdale as a dumping ground," says Garland. "Susan comes along and looks at the positive. She recognizes a lot of positive energy out there and some very vibrant residents' groups."

Shaw, has attempted to open up her campaign to community people who don't belong to the NDP. This is important when you consider politicians like Rob Maxwell (NDP for Ward 11), who came into office as a reformer but without broad community support. He has drifted into the old guard camp on key Council votes.

### O'Donahue faces considerable challenge

In Ward 3, incumbent Tony O'Donohue is likely to face a considerable challenge from the 51 percent majority of his constituency he often has trouble understanding. Debbie Field executive assistant to downtown Metro councillor Dale Martin is taking on O'Donahue. She has been active in the women's, environmental, and labour movements stretching back 20 years. Her platform includes maintaining and promoting neighbourhood integrity, addressing environmental concerns in City Council decisions, and establishing racial and community harmony (a sore point, she claims, throughout the O'Donohue tenure).

### Uptown

After conservative Michael Walker's not so clear-cut victory (by 16 votes, on a recount) three years ago, two individuals have decided to challenge in Ward 16. Malcolm Martini, who almost beat Walker last time, will run. Howard Brown, a Martini supporter in

1988 is also running.

Brown, a marketing manager, points to his involvement with tenants' organizations over many years as giving him a broad base of support that the other candidates lack. Brown also has the support of local MPP Dianne Poole. Brown says he wants to more accurately represent the wishes of the ward. "The public has lost faith in the ability or willingness of City Hall to adequately represent them on local issues," he says. Concerns for the electorate, according to Brown, centre around assuring "personal economic opportunity, security, and well-being." He'll focus on Toronto's response to the recession, public safety and security, and housing. Though he wouldn't pledge to refuse campaign funding from developers, Brown indicated he won't actively solicit funding from them, or from unions.

Martini is expected to have announced his candidacy by press time. He's concerned with whether political parties

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1990 "Best Councillor" Awards p.7



# "MODERATES" or PUPPETS

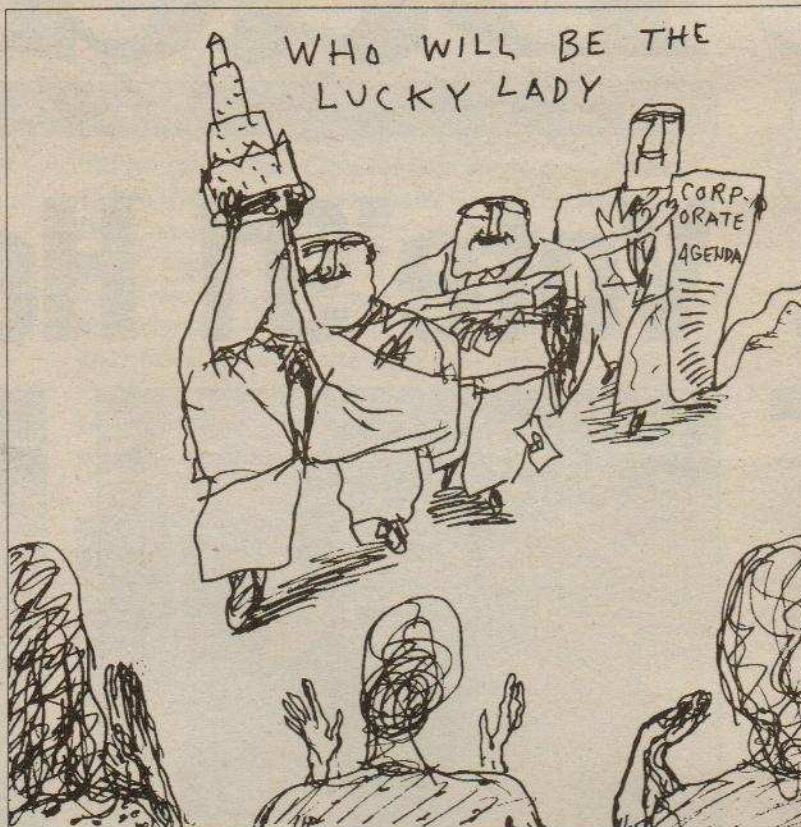
When Art Eggleton announced his intention not to run for re-election this November, Ralph Lean, an Old Guard fundraiser, was quoted in the Star saying "the coalition" of Liberals and Conservatives that elected Eggleton would be looking for "a new horse."

What kind of nag will Big Money back? The development industry has charged its political team with finding a "moderate" or a "middle-of-the-road" horse. The media describe Eggleton himself as "centre-right" and "moderate."

In 1988, the development corporations pumped more than \$150,000 into Eggleton's campaign. This was typical of Eggleton's other campaigns in the 1980s. Once in office, he faithfully represented his backers, for the third straight term, by not once voting against a major development, even when the public organized and protested at City Hall.

If you judge a politician by his public voting record, it is obvious that Eggleton, far from being moderate, was almost religious in his devotion to the developers' agenda. To be sure, Council has more intolerant, more fanatical right-wingers, but it doesn't matter to the industry what council members think, as long as they vote on cue.

Eggleton's middle-of-the-road image was a great asset to his backers, making him in some ways the model developers' mayoral candidate. While focusing almost exclusively on clearing the way for expensive, grandiose megaprojects, he did the public relations routine of appearing at press conferences and media events to express his "commitment" to the fight for racial harmony and social justice.



In Toronto politics, the mayor has to appear willing to fight for the underdog. The electorate expects it. But appearances can be manufactured easily, as Eggleton did, with the help of a lazy media. What really counts in the eyes of many is how much time politicians devote to corporate projects like the Olympics, which, by their very nature, trample the underdog.

Whomever the development industry decides to support – June Rowlands, Betty Disero or Susan Fish – the strategy will be to promote the candidate as a middle-of-the-road consensus builder, con-

cerned about development and social justice. Meanwhile, their opponent, Jack Layton, will be painted as a crazed radical bent on killing every development in sight.

While the mayoral race heats up, the same people who brought you Art Eggleton, "Mayor of all the corporations and none of the people," will be scrambling to find candidates to run in the wards. Incumbents who have done their bidding in the past – the Jakobeks, the O'Donohues, and the Boytchuks – will find cheques in the mail, mostly of the maximum amount allowed, \$750.

These are the certified Old Guard candidates. Voters must also be on the lookout for the more recent political phenomenon of the pseudo-reformer. In the last election, several candidates got elected by identifying with the reform movement. Once in office, they shed their reform colours.

Rob Maxwell (Ward 11), Martin Silva (Ward 4) and Barb Hall (Ward 7) approved a string of nightmare developments: the Bay-Adelaide tower, the Olympics bid, the Front Street extension. Nadine Nowlan (Ward 13), along with Howard Levine (Ward 14) and Kay Gardner (Ward 15) voted for the Ballet-Opera House, and as chair of the Land Use Committee, Nowlan shut the public out of the discussion on the Railway Lands (see story this page).

These hardly seem like the actions of reformers. In 1988, the citizens of Toronto elected a potential reform majority council, throwing out two hard-core right-wingers (Michael Gee and Fred Beavis), and sending a strong message to a third (Michael Walker). The new Council failed to carry that potential majority into a coalition of principled leadership, a travesty that must not be repeated.

*The Badger* will publish a comprehensive ward-by-ward guide to the candidates before the November election. This issue gives a sketch of the candidates who have already come forward, though, with a few exceptions, it is too early to know the new candidates well.

Now is the time to get involved. Find out who is running in your ward. If no community candidate has come forward, find someone with roots in the community to run. If someone is running who claims to represent the interests of the community, don't take their word for it. Insist on knowing how the candidate intends to remain accountable, once in office.

## Public Shut-out of Railway Lands; Nowlan Knows Best?

Citizens are crying foul over a midnight move by Annex councillor Nadine Nowlan to exchange city-owned land for leased land of Marathon Realty, a major developer on the Railway Lands, a massive 200-acre site around SkyDome.

Councillor Nowlan moved on March 25 to swap a prime piece of city land worth upwards of \$200 million for parklands and housing south of SkyDome; and a community facility south of Union Station. Her motion also fast-tracked the review of the Railway Lands so as to pass the new plan by July 1991. Councillor Nowlan heads the powerful land-use committee, which is supposed to ensure full public input.

The Railway Lands Action Coalition (RLAC), a citizens group, was not consulted by Nowlan about the land exchange. RLAC wrote to council that "we are unaware of any public consultation on this important issue ... we will hold you accountable for any decision made in haste and without the benefit of a full public forum." Their concerns were ignored.

### 'Public process' a farce

Nowlan's move has confirmed many citizens' belief that the much-vaunted "public process" on the Railway Lands development was a farce. Most of the key discussions about changes to the Railway Lands were made among private developers, city staff, and especially its hired gun, lawyer Richard Shibley. Citizens will never know how many meetings were held in private; nor will they know what was discussed. No one had to register as lobbyist, a normal procedure in land-use matters, but waived in this case due to a legal technicality.

Private discussions heated up from November 1990-January 1991 after a brief series of public meetings. For long-time watchers of the Railway Lands, history has repeated itself. Back in 1985, council voted to kill the Railway Lands plan under enormous pressure from ratepayer groups. Frantic private negotiations between Mayor Eggleton and the developers shut out the public.

This time around, council, especially Nadine Nowlan, felt pressured to ram through the new plan because of



Nadine Nowlan feels the public's wrath.

potential legal hassles at the Ontario Municipal Board, and lawsuits from Marathon and CN Real Estate, developers on the site. Marathon has been brought inside through the lucrative land exchange. CN Real Estate will not co-operate.

### Questionable negotiating skills

Whatever one thinks of these arrangements it is impossible to assess, given the failure to involve citizens at all stages of the process. City politicians continue to say "trust us" on their ability to make deals. Given their sorry record around SkyDome (still no housing, as promised), the Ballet Opera House, and Bay-Adelaide (still no housing, as the deal promised), citizens remain wary of the negotiating skills of councillors like Nowlan.

Marathon Realty is wary for other reasons. The developer wants the deal cemented now since it fears the council to be elected in November may be unsympathetic to its need to maximize profits. A recently leaked memo from Marathon states it wants to get development approvals from the city before the municipal election "as there is a possibility that an anti-development majority will be elected to council." In the meantime, the revised Railway Lands Plan will speed through public hearings as Nowlan, and the developers dictate. – *Badger Staff*

## the Badger

*The Badger is the official voice of Reform Toronto, an organization devoted to keeping alive the spirit of municipal reform in the City of Toronto. The Badger is produced by volunteers and paid for by individual Torontonians through donations to Reform Toronto. Letters to the editor should be mailed to: Reform Toronto, 633 Lakeshore Blvd. W., #309, Toronto, Ont., M5V 3B9.*

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# Gun Free Metro?

**A** gun-free Metro is a distinct possibility within the next 12 to 18 months. The concept is simple: It is against the law to discharge a firearm anywhere within Metro Toronto. Proponents of a gun-free community believe any firearms stored within Metro should be in secure armouries away from residential areas.

- an unenthusiastic Chief of Police
- potential jurisdictional wrangling between Metro, the local councils and the federal government
- a too silent majority of supporters

The gun lobby is, by Canadian standards, extremist. Pro-gun spokespeople seem to believe they have a right to keep firearms handy to protect themselves against whomever and whatever offends them. Legitimate hunters and gun club members should have no problem with the extra security for the storage of their firearms.

Lack of enthusiasm for gun control among the Chief of Police and some of his senior officers seems, in part, because they see the gun lobby as part of their natural constituency. They appear to share many of the gun lobby values, particularly their xenophobic view of the world.

Toronto Police are doubly unenthusiastic that Eng and Layton champion tighter restrictions, which, ironically,



## Toronto Police are doubly unenthusiastic that Eng and Layton champion tighter restrictions, which, ironically, will make all police officers safer.

will make all police officers safer. In other jurisdictions, senior police management have been much more supportive of stringent controls.

The jurisdictional disputes arise because Ottawa has overall responsibility for firearms legislation. Municipal lawyers tend to find reasons for wanting to dump it back

on the feds, who are weak on the issue, because of a large rural constituency.

The last problem, a too sedate and quiet citizenry, is something you can help with. Let us know how you feel about a gun-free Metro, by filling out the form below.

Susan Eng at the Police Services Board, and Jack Layton at City Hall, need your support for this reform is to succeed. Citizens For Gun Control, an ongoing community-based group, needs your support as well, particularly to make the feds pay more attention.

**Contact:**  
**Citizens For Gun Control**  
**Box 395, Station D**  
**Toronto, Ontario**  
**M6P 3J9**  
**(416) 604-0209**

### Storing guns away from houses would mean:

- a dramatic reduction in stolen firearms. About 53,000 guns are stolen or lost each year in Canada
- No easy access to firearms by angry spouses, upset youths, and curious children
- no easy access to firearms by persons in suicidal moods

The results would be fewer suicides, fewer shooting accidents, fewer spousal homicides, fewer anger- or frustration-motivated shootings, and a decreased use of firearms by persons with criminal intent.

Public opinion polls show more than four of five Canadians want stricter controls on firearms. Advocates include new Police Services Board Chairperson Susan Eng, the Canadians For Gun Control community group, and Toronto mayoralty candidate Jack Layton.

To effect such an arrangement would require co-operation from the police, local municipalities and Metro.

The six Metro municipalities must first pass a bylaw prohibiting storage of firearms in residential or commercial areas. It would allow such storage only in industrial zones or existing gun clubs and gun stores.

Metro would then pass a licensing bylaw specifying the standards for any armouries, be they gun clubs, sporting goods stores or any public armouries.

Metro should consider setting up several public armouries on the edge of Metro. The bulk of users would be hunters who would pick up their weapons on the way out of town and return them on the way back in. The armouries would have heavy security and would be self-supporting, relying on user fees for storage and handling.

What are the obstacles to removing the estimated 100,000 or more guns scattered around Metro? The problems are:

- the rabid pro-gun lobby

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

TELL US WHAT INTERESTS AND IRRITATES YOU!

### • About a gun free Metro:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### • About other Issues.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in working with others in Ward \_\_\_\_\_ to elect a true reform Councillor in November 1991.

*Life in Toronto is too fast*  
 Take the time to tell us what interests and irritates YOU.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**  
**REFORM TORONTO**  
**633 Lakeshore Blvd. W. , #309**  
**Toronto ON M5V 3B9**  
 (Make all cheques payable to "Reform Toronto")

I WANT TO JOIN REFORM TORONTO  
 Enclosed is my annual membership fee  
 \$20 Regular     \$10 Student/Senior     \$0 Unemployed

I WANT TO HELP PRINT MORE BADGERS  
 The Badger is funded by individual contributions from concerned Torontonians. I want to help Reform Toronto print more Badgers. My cheque is enclosed for:  
 \$20 prints 400 Badgers     \$50 prints 1,000 Badgers  
 \$100 prints 2,000 Badgers     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I WANT TO HELP DELIVER THE BADGER  
 The Badger is distributed door to door by volunteers. It's great exercise and important to let people know what's going on.  
 Call me and I will help deliver



# LOOKING BACK:

## BAY-ADELAIDE '88-'89

A vote to allow a 70-storey skyscraper at the corner of Bay and Adelaide in return for affordable housing at the Sears warehouse near Gerrard St. The housing would be built later in a large, existing warehouse unsuitable for easy conversion. Just as tragic, thousands of blue-collar jobs were lost when the Sears warehouse closed.

The reform group lost when Rob Maxwell switched his vote after a call from developer lobbyist David Smith. Construction of the office tower at Bay-Adelaide is on hold. No housing is built on the Sears warehouse.

## CHERRY STREET INCINERATOR '89

A vote to stop construction of a garbage-fired steam plant in the east end. Council killed the plant, believing it would encourage dependency on garbage as a fuel. The proposal would slow recycling and waste reduction strategies.

Reformers united against this hare-brained idea. Born-again ecologist, Tony O'Donohue, oddly enough, backed the scheme.



Illustration: Julia Bhushak

## FRONT STREET EXTENSION '89

A vote to link Front St. to the Gardiner Expressway in hopes of moving more traffic in and out of the downtown core, at a cost of \$80 million. Roads encourage more traffic and pollution, and this proposal would pave the way for massive office towers around SkyDome.

The reform faction splintered, with Maxwell, Silva and Hall supporting more roads, traffic and pollution.

## BALLET-OPERA HOUSE '90

A vote to guarantee that significant affordable housing would be included in the deal to build an Opera-Ballet House. Councillors Levine, Gardner and Nowlan joined the Old Guard to defeat the move. Another example of how lousy councillors are at making deals for housing.



# Three Years of City Council

## THE OLYMPICS '90

A vote to encourage Toronto's pursuit of the Olympic Games. Council wasted valuable time and taxpayer money on pursuing their need to be a world-class city. While kids lost their athletic outlets in the same world class city, councillors cheered on an open-ended I.O.U. on the taxpayers' behalf.

Reformers split down the middle. Councillors Hall, Maxwell and Silva, mesmerized by the glitz and promised goodies, voted to spend money and time on the bid.

## RAILWAY LANDS '91

A vote to review the 1985 Plan for 200 acres surrounding the CN Tower. Powerful interests are against any changes on the Railway Lands. Council voted to review the plan in order to get more housing and less office space.

The usual Old Guard councillors opposed the review. The process has since gone off the tracks; see story on page two.

## PHOTOS ON BALLOTS '90

A vote to have pictures of candidates on ballots, a small gesture to the multilingual electorate. The Old Guard joined with councillors Levine and Gardner to keep Toronto's ballots in one language and without photos.



## A ROLLER SKATING RINK '90

A vote to fund a roller skating rink in the downtown near Jarvis and George Streets. An icon to low-cost recreation – the roller rink known as the Terrace {also known as the Mutual St Arena} – was lost to the city in 1989. Council, under pressure from kids seeking a new site, voted to build a new rink in 1991-1992.

Councillors Jakobek, Eggleton, and O'Donohue, big Olympic boosters, voted against funding a new rink.

## BASEMENT APARTMENTS '91

A vote to allow homeowners to build basement apartments. Toronto is in a housing crisis. Council initially voted to permit homeowners to create basement apartments. Councillor Walker re-opened the vote in an unusual procedure and effectively killed the initiative for more affordable housing.



# Olympics Zap Barcelona

By Adam Vaughan

The Olympic games may be the best thing that never happened to this city. Supporters of this city's bid still take issue with this statement, but the effects that the Olympics have on a city are absolutely devastating. No where is this more true than in Barcelona. The Spanish city is currently being torn apart by its effort to hold the 1992 games.

During the debate on the Olympics, supporters and detractors of the bid studied the experiences of Montreal, Los Angeles and Seoul. For a variety of reasons these cities failed to provide a clear standard of measurement.

The problems of the debt ridden Montreal games were easily dismissed by Olympic boosters. It was said that the '76 games were held before the days of intense corporate involvement in the Olympics and for that reason alone they were an economic and social disaster. It was argued that times have changed. The Olympics are now profitable. The economic performance of Los Angeles and Seoul were trotted out as proof.

Critics countered that the success and spectacle of the Los Angeles and the Seoul games offered a very poor comparison. In contrast to Toronto, the last two host cities are huge. The direct impact of the Olympics was diluted and hard to determine. As well, in Los Angeles almost all of the facilities were in place prior to the games so the city under went a much less expensive process of renovation as opposed to the costly process transformation.

In Seoul the event was a national spectacle not a local one. Economic demands that the city could not meet were taken care of by the South Korean government. Opposition centred on the social impact of the games was crushed by the state. Holding the Olympics in South Korea was a political statement by the country not a search for economic prosperity or a method of urban development.

## Parallels with Toronto startling

Conspicuously missing from the evaluation process was a study of the effect the Olympics are currently having on Barcelona. The parallels between Toronto and Barcelona are startling. The similarities between the two city's Olympic bids are equally fascinating and very instructive.

Like Toronto, Barcelona sought the Olympic games for many of the same reasons; economic benefits, the honour of presenting the spectacle and for the right to call the city "world class". Both cities witnessed opposition from social justice groups and in each case the debate surrounded the benefits such a spectacle brings to a city and how those benefits match existing priorities. In an effort to hush protests promises of housing were immediately and hastily added to the projects.

The similarities do not stop at the Olympic bids however. Toronto and Barcelona are both capital cities in their respective regions. The two cities are key financial centres of their respective countries and their populations are roughly the same size.

Major problems confronting both cities include housing, drugs, racism, and the usual slate of environmental problems common to cities their size. Ironically each city is in the midst of recession generated largely by the movement towards a continental economy.

Geographically Toronto and Barcelona are both nestled against a large body of water and are hemmed in by a series of smaller municipalities. Barcelona's urban sprawl is similar to that of the Golden Horseshoe.

Tragically both cities have developed in such a way that they are cut off from their polluted shorelines. In Barcelona, as in Toronto, this has been achieved with a combination of industry, rail lines and expressways. Both metropolises are trying to reclaim the waters edge by way of the mega-project. Both cities are failing in succeeding along the same lines. Public parks are cut off from the population. Public transportation is either lacking or badly integrated with the existing system. The automobile continues to receive priority in almost all transporta-



tion policy decisions. In both cities the Olympics were seen as the salvation to most of the problems identified by city planners.

To host the Olympics Barcelona has had to build almost every major facility with the exception of the main stadium, but even it has undergone major renovations. If Toronto had been awarded the games, the scale and scope of development would have been almost identical.

On a cultural level Barcelona is a lot more like Montreal than Toronto. The city hosts a vibrant café life and mixes old and new customs with an ease that bounds on flair. Parallels between the relationship that the Catalan region, in which Barcelona is located, has to Spain and the relationship that Quebec has to Canada are also very strong on both linguistic and nationalistic levels.

Unlike Montreal however, Barcelona has a sort of "chip on its shoulder" attitude exactly like Toronto. This is best defined by the way its corporate and political leaders lust after the same "world class" status that leaders in Toronto so conspicuously covet. Into this parallel universe enter the Olympics.

## Olympic enthusiasm causes big disruptions

You are greeted by Barcelona's Olympic effort as soon as your plane lands in the city. The airport is undergoing major redevelopment, it is being tripled in size

to handle the massive influx of visitors expected for the games. Regular air service is completely disrupted for the project. The rush to get the facility finished on time and under budget has created several problems, not the least of which is the new airports ability to collapse.

Palm trees are the next signal that the games are coming to Barcelona. Every where you look there the giant trees dot the landscape. You notice them because they look awkward. Critics suggest they are a testimony to the economic success of the Los Angeles Olympics, a sort of good luck charm sold to the city by one of the corporations on the organizing committee. They have to be wrapped because palm trees are not native to the region. Indigenous vegetation like the indigenous population rarely gets involved on a beneficial level when it comes to the Olympic effort in Barcelona.

On the ride from the airport to the city centre you notice how many roads have been closed for repair. The routes to various Olympic sites are being modernized to assist visitors get around the city more efficiently during

the games. Despite the desire of city planners to gain better access to the waterfront a four lane highway along the waterfront is being upgraded, almost guaranteeing that the city will remain separate from the water.

The question of whether or not it is appropriate to continue making concessions to the car in a city choked by exhaust fumes is not addressed. Roads continue to receive priority status, possibly another testimony to Los Angeles. New trains were bought for the public transit system last year but no new lines have been built, nor are any planned.

Downtown, the city is receiving both a face lift and major surgery. National monuments are being restored, new gas lines laid and to accommodate development required for the Olympics a new sewage line is being built.

The new sewage line is a horrendous mess. Housing for the athletes is being built in the south-east corner of the city on the waters edge at the point where the old sewage line used to pour directly into the Mediterranean Sea. In an effort to reclaim the water and improve the smell of the area, sewage is now being diverted across town to a new treatment plant. The current system is so old and the conversion so complicated and slow that neighbourhoods in Barcelona must now endure large open sewers for months at a time while the

mess is sorted out. The disruption, not to mention the stink, is incredible.

Criticism of the sewage project was swamped by Olympic enthusiasm. Barcelona had to address the crisis sooner or later but the problem required long term planning. Due to the Olympics however, the city has had to operate under an artificial timetable. The whole project is now creating more problems than it is solving.

Housing for the athletes as mentioned before, is located on the waterfront. Even though it is a world class design it too has been a centre of controversy. The land for the development used to be owned by some industrialists. Included in the area being developed are Barcelona's old rail yards. In a move very similar to the process surrounding Toronto's railway land development, companies that owned the land were "permitted" to sell it at a huge profit in exchange for the right to do as they pleased with their other holdings in the area. Sound familiar?

As in Toronto the Barcelona Olympic effort has encountered a great deal of opposition. Development is wiping out pockets of low income housing and thousands

**Low income earners are being forced to either leave the city or find alternatives. Tragically for many the alternative is living on the street. In Barcelona the number of people who are homeless is rising faster than the high jump record.**

of people have been forced out of their homes. In an attempt to silence critics, promises of socially assisted housing have been made. The trouble is that the displaced people have nowhere to live for three years while new housing is being built. Low income earners are being forced to either leave the city or find alternatives. Tragically for many the alternative is living on the street. In Barcelona the number of people who are homeless is rising faster than the high jump record.

The housing problem is further compounded by landlords who are busily upgrading rental units so that they can be converted into hotel space during the games. Like Ontario, capital improvements by landlords are passed onto the tenant. The combination of remodeling and speculation in the housing market is making it impossible for middle income earners to hold on to their apartments. The more volatile the market becomes, the faster rents rise.

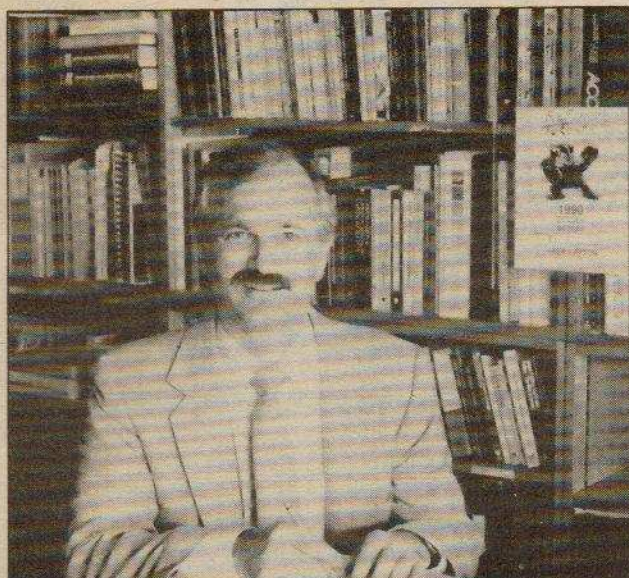
Supporters of the Olympic process around the world

Continued on page 8

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## 2ND ANNUAL BADGER BANQUET



Layton wins Golden Badger as City Councillor of the Year

Ward 6 Councillor Jack Layton, a candidate for mayor in the November election, carried off the prize for Toronto's best councillor at Reform Toronto's second annual fundraising and awards banquet.

Roger Hollander (Don River, Metro Ward 25) topped the poll for the best Metro Councillor from the City of Toronto.

Tied for the "Worst Toronto Councillor of the Year" Award were outgoing Mayor Art Eggleton and Ward 10 Councillor Tom Jakobek.

The banquet attracted 200 people to a 10-course



Roger Hollander best Metro Councillor

Chinese feast followed by a night out with two of Canada's top ranking entertainers, comedienne Sheila Gostick and singer/songwriter David Sereda.

Reform Toronto's best and worst awards are based on: the voting record at City or Metro Councils, the number of initiatives taken on important reform issues, the amount of effort devoted to organizing the community around these issues, and honesty.

Proceeds from the annual Badger Banquet help finance issues of this newspaper.

## Peter Tabuns' First Six Months

Six months after winning last November's by-election, Peter Tabuns has settled into his new job as City Councillor for Riverdale's Ward 8. *The Badger* favoured Tabuns over Lynda Lynch on the basis of his years of work in the community and his clear reform positions on a wide range of issues. He won with 3,217 votes to Lynch's 2,421.

Although he has not faced any challenges on the scale of a Bay-Adelaide deal, or an Olympics vote, Tabuns has shown principled leadership on a number of reform issues.

The most controversial initiative involved a social housing project at Queen and Pape Streets. The project, a joint venture by the city's housing department, called for an old, under-used factory to be torn down and social housing built on the site.

A small but vocal group of residents, led by the Lakeshore Area Neighbourhood Association, insisted the project would turn the neighbourhood into a haven for "pimps and prostitutes." As Tabuns pointed out in public meetings, the new building, with windows looking out onto the street, would actually make the neighbourhood safer.

Fortunately, the project will go ahead. At a lower height (five instead of seven stories), and a lower price tag, it represents a feather in the cap of the new Councillor.

In April, Tabuns helped brake a runaway plan by Metro Works to expand the Ashbridges Bay Main Treatment Plant. The proposal included doubling the water treatment facility, importing sewage sludge to burn in new incinerators, extensive lakefill, and constructing a new sewer system.

Several community groups, including Citizens for A Safe Environment and the Eastern Area Community Health Board, opposed the massive expansion. Citizens believe the proposal would discourage water conservation. There are also concerns about increased use of chlorine, the impact of lakefilling, and the old east-end problem of odour from stack emissions.

In Council, Tabuns called for a stricter environmental assessment and Council backed him. The tougher assessment is estimated to take from two to three years, according to Metro Works officials.

Tabuns has proven to be one of the most accessible members of Council. And so far he has been very active in his Ward. He has recently started holding what he calls monthly "Town Hall" meetings, where the community can come out and discuss problems and ask questions.

Tabuns isn't expected to face serious opposition in the November election.

## REFORM TORONTO PRINCIPLES

In December, 1988, Reform Toronto adopted a series of principles to govern its operation. The principles emphasize Reform Toronto's independence and commitment to reform goals. If these principles appeal to you, join us by completing the membership form on page 3.

1. Members must subscribe to broad reform principles. Issue #2 of the *Badger* is a reasonable guide. Only members are allowed to vote at meetings. To vote at the Annual General Meeting, one must be a member at least 60 days prior to that meeting.

2. Basic direction is determined by regular meetings (normally monthly) of the Committee of the Whole, to which all members are welcome. These directions are then passed on to the Co-ordinating Committee, which refines them and carries them out. The Co-ordinating Committee is free to take action between meetings of the Committee of the Whole, to which it reports.

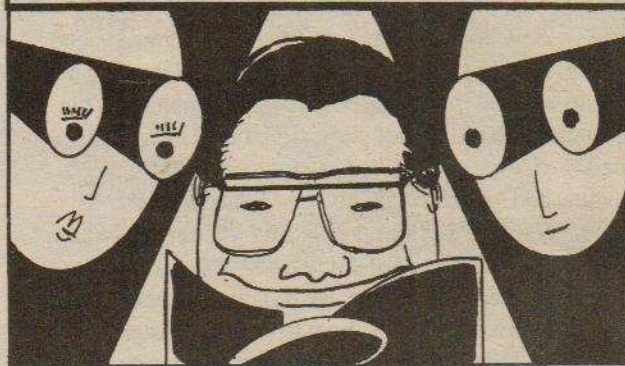
3. Reform Toronto is independent of any group, caucus, party, or politician. Members acting on other than a Reform Toronto agenda are not welcome.

4. The Co-ordinating Committee has a primary responsibility to protect the integrity and independence of Reform Toronto, and is deemed to have a standing order to fulfil this primary responsibility.

5. Reform Toronto is committed to ensuring that credible, community-based reform candidates contest all City and Metro seats in the City of Toronto. To this end, it will encourage active community involvement and will not allow its endorsement of candidates to be pre-empted by other groups, parties, caucuses or politicians. Membership in Reform Toronto does not constitute an endorsement of anyone's candidacy.

6. *The Badger*, the voice of Reform Toronto, will be an independent and fierce advocate of reform, and will closely scrutinize all Toronto politicians.

## MAYOR WATCH



Paul Godfrey, former Tory Metro Chairman, associate of Patti Starr, and publisher of Toronto's sleaziest daily newspaper, and David Smith, mouthpiece for Toronto's best-heeled developers, are locked in a monumental battle over a new puppet mayor to replace Art Eggleton. • The Old Toronto boys' network and their nouveau riche retainers favour ex top-cop-flop June Rowlands. Part of their strategy is to run front-page photos of her as a grandmotherly Sunshine Girl, surrounded by white-bread patrolmen swearing allegiance to the Queen, Chuck and the rest of the billionaire horsey set. • Smith and company (the really big developers) favour someone more palatable, with at least a tinge of social consciousness. Horse trainer and former councillor and Tory MPP Susan Fish is their idea of someone they can harness. • Out in far right field is council member Betty Disero (see story this issue) whose opportunism makes her too much of a loose cannon for the more civilized Bay Street crowd. Development Lawyer Alan Blott, and the less elegant money set behind him, seem to like Disero's striving style. • Watch for a series of musical chair switches as big money moves from camp to camp. The question is who can be bought off now and for how much, instead of taking it out in residuals over the course of a Mayor's three year term. • Councillor Tom "Lawsuit" Jakobek, the loosest of the right-wing cannons, has been convinced not to run and has thrown his support behind Rowlands. • The *Toronto Sun* pulled off the journalistic stunt of the year by featuring a front-page colour photo of Rowlands surrounded by fawning police brass, after her term as Police Commissioner was not renewed. The yellow headline screamed, "Lady in Waiting." The next day, a well-timed *Sun* poll showed that June had better name recognition than the other candidates. CFTO-TV, owned by Godfrey pals, the Bassetts, gave the story a big play. Watch for even more "objective" reporting as the race intensifies. • (*Sun* publisher Godfrey, the *Star*'s David Lewis Stein reported, was municipal don in 1980, when Eggleton dreamed of the top Metro job. "At a historic dinner hosted by lawyer David Smith, Godfrey told him he would never be Metro Chairman ... [but] there would be money and workers to mount a fantastic campaign" against then-Mayor John Sewell. His campaign started with a \$100-a-plate Royal York Hotel dinner hosted by Liberal John Turner and Tory Alan Eagleson.) • Parkdale's Chris Korwin-Kuczynski made himself available to the big money boys as well, but it doesn't seem to have gone his way. KK's rationale for considering running is that his name had appeared in the paper, "at least once a week over the past couple of years." His real interest in running for Mayor is more likely his apprehension at having to confront community activist Susan Shaw in a tough fight for his Ward 2 seat this November. • All of this old guard manoeuvring leaves reformer Jack Layton looking better and better. The big money movers and shakers are so transparent in their string-pulling that they will have trouble selling the eventual winner as anything more than a pro-development puppet. • Layton meanwhile continues to have trouble with the on-again off-again NDP caucus of councillors. Many of them would prefer he not run for mayor. They are concerned that smear campaigns to be directed at Layton may touch them as well. They would prefer to hide out and be ignored rather than fight back.



**Vote: Continued from page 1**

should be involved at the municipal level, how the City will survive in the long term as a responsible government, and what to do about taxation given the need for increased revenues due to increasing costs. Martini emphasizes his independence and lack of party affiliation. Unlike Brown, Martini pledges to scrutinize the sources of his campaign funding and has instructed his chief financial officer to refuse contributions from people who will have or be seen to have political influence or interests.

Upon closer examination, the differences between these two alternatives to Walker seem to be more of style than substance. They both support basement apartments (where the local community allows it), want more housing on the Railway Lands than planned, reject Market Value Assessment, and plan to introduce ward-based councils if elected. One wonders whether they'll split the vote and allow Walker back onto Council. Stay tuned for much closer scrutiny and *Badger* endorsements in the next issue.

In the other North Toronto constituency, Ward 15, incumbent Kay Gardner has already declared her intention to seek re-election, with no opposition declared thus far. One or more community-based candidates is expected to run against her and her sometimes erratic voting record.

**East End**

In Ward 10, Shelley O'Neil will likely be taking on crafty right-winger Tom Jakobek. O'Neil, a registered nurse who works at Women's College Hospital, is chair of the Eastern Area Community Health Board, which actively opposed Metro's proposal to expand the Main Sewage Treatment Plant.

At this early point, O'Neil is the only serious candidate

to come forward. It's a brave decision, since Jakobek, the developer's candidate, has both money and recognition. O'Neil will have to find some solid support in the community to win. More on O'Neil, and any others who join the race, in the next issue of *The Badger*.

Sheila Cram, an experienced administrator with an interest in health issues, neighbourhood safety, and housing, will be running in Ward 9. Her opponent will be Tom Clifford, Toronto's longest-serving City Councillor, and a political cornerstone for the development industry.

Cram will be working with O'Neil out of a central east-end campaign office. Cram has been involved with many east-end health organizations, most recently the Regent Park Community Health Centre, and has served on the Board of Health. She also served on the board of directors for the WoodGreen Community Centre. It's too early to say how deep her support in the community will be, but Cram looks like a good candidate at this early stage.

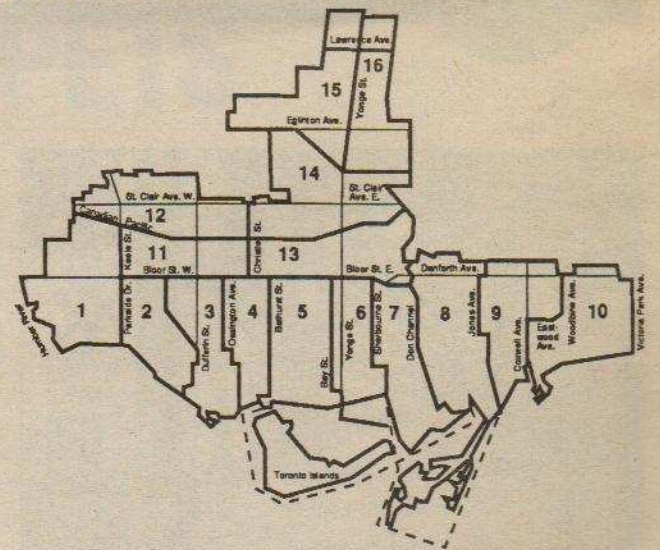
Also running is Terry Bracket, co-editor of the *Leslieville News*, and long-time supporter of ex-old guard politician Fred Beavis.

**Downtown**

No right-wing candidates have declared in Wards 5 or 6. The big question downtown appears to be: Who'll fill Jack Layton's shoes?

Ward 6 incumbent Layton has chosen to run for mayor.

Kyle Rae (No, Bob's not his uncle), who declared early, appears to be the front runner with a strong public profile. Rae is executive director of the 519 Church Street Community Centre and has been active in the local community for more than a decade. Rae feels Ward 6 received excellent representation during Layton's tenure. He is most concerned with public safety, community



development, and affordable housing. He has a strong history of involvement in the lesbian and gay community, and was instrumental in the creation of Gay Pride Day as well as the City's AIDS memorial. He also cites working with the police to curb gay-bashing and other assaults in Ward 6. He initiated the community's successful backlash to Mayor Art Eggleton's plan to turn Bay and Church Streets into one-way traffic corridors cutting through city neighbourhoods. Rae also vows not to accept campaign funding from developers.

In Ward 5, incumbent Liz Amer has declared her intention to seek re-election. So far, no opposition has declared.

**Homelessness Increases as Construction Trades Decline**

After years of over-building office towers downtown, Toronto has produced terrible unemployment for construction workers. Up to 80 percent of some trades are estimated without work. Major office construction has slowed to a glacial pace as vacancies have increased to 15-18 percent in the downtown core. The Bay-Adelaide office tower, for instance, has been capped indefinitely.

Meanwhile, the housing crisis has intensified for the low-income groups. Years of neglect in building affordable housing has driven homelessness up and stretched the resources of food banks to the breaking point. Yet there appears to be no political will to build alliances between the construction trades who want to work and the proponents of more affordable housing.

The new Railway Lands proposals for the land around SkyDome decrease the number of housing units and maintain the same ratio of office space to housing as in 1985. The proposals imply that most of the housing will be built later, rather than sooner. This will do nothing to help jobless construction workers nor house the thousands of people in dire need.

Council rejected even the modest proposal to allow home-owners to build basement apartments, citing concerns over parking and density. Councillor Michael Walker misled the public by suggesting that basement apartments would threaten single detached homes in neighbourhoods (known as R1 zoning) even though the proposal clearly excludes such neighbourhoods.

—Paul Carney

**City Reduces Waste in New Buildings**

New strategies around waste reduction have diverted a potential 18,000 tonnes from landfill sites. In 1989, Council passed motions requiring owners of new developments to implement waste-reduction and recycling strategies. The results are promising. Had the developments been approved without the new requirements, 37,000 tonnes of new waste would be heading for landfill sites. Only 19,000 will go now.

The City is expanding these innovative strategies to include requirements to conserve energy and water and reduce car use. These measures should reduce the stress on the public purse.

**Olympics: Continued from page 6**

claim that the financial benefits outweigh the disruptions, and that the best measurement is the bottom line. This argument surfaces in Barcelona too. Four sectors of the economy are clearly reaping the financial benefits of holding the games.

Construction companies are doing very well. Every where you look something is either being repaired or built. Many people are currently employed and will be for another eighteen months. But then what? The Olympics, unlike housing industry, is not a sustainable economic activity. It is a project with a definitive starting and finishing date and it does not naturally integrate itself into the economic life of any city.

The second area beginning to benefit economically from the Olympics is the hospitality industry. Several new hotels are being built to handle the expected influx of tourists. Hundreds of new rooms for two weeks worth of business. While some hotels will be converted for other use after the Olympics, most will stand either idle or force many existing and smaller operations out of business. Major hotel chains will benefit at the expense of the little guy. It is a familiar theme when the Olympics come to town.

Restaurants in Barcelona are also undergoing the same change. As part of the deal to transform the waterfront a small community of restaurants in the old harbour area are being forced to close. The traditional coupling of fishing and seafood restaurants is not only an historical integration of the city and the sea, but it is also one of the only waterfront neighbourhoods that blends into the city naturally. From an Urban planning perspective the restaurants constitute the solution to Barcelona's waterfront problem. Unfortunately development along the shore line is being led by the corporate interests of the Olympic bid not the needs of the city or the people who live in it.

As for the displaced restaurant workers, not to worry, Olympic organizers have plans to take care of them. Barcelona is being flooded by major fast food chains. McDonald's, Burger King, Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken, are rushing in to make a buck on the Olympics. The economic boom in Barcelona is taking on the characteristics of the Reagan era and its trickle down theory. Thousands of jobs are being created, but at minimum wage.

The third area of economic expansion is the most

impressive The Police Force. Earlier this year it was announced by the civic government that leading up to the Olympics 15,000 new police officers will be hired. This act roughly doubles the size of the existing force. No word on what happens after the games, the move is either temporary or else inhabitants of the city will become the most policed citizens in Europe. Which ever the case, it represents a clear conflict between the social and economic needs of the city and the demands of holding the modern Olympics.

The final economic benefit the city is due to receive is one that even the most vocal supporters of the Olympics are a little embarrassed about. Having endured four years of transportation chaos, housing speculation, disruption of traditional employment and general economic and cultural upheaval, many citizen's of Barcelona are planning to leave the city during the games and sublet their apartments to visitors to try and get at least a small

**Many people are currently employed and will be for another eighteen months. But then what? The Olympics, unlike the housing industry, is not a sustainable economic activity.**

share of the Olympic booty.

Opposition to the games refuses to disappear. Walls all over the city are covered with anti-olympic slogans and symbols. In Olympic propaganda the letter B in Barcelona has been changed to C and reads "Carcelona". A play on words in the Catalan language that transforms the name of the city to mean jail. The Olympic rings are often reproduced with the bottom two rings replaced by handcuffs and the ever present corporate mascot for the games is constantly being attacked by hand drawn black cats.

Make no mistake the events and developments in Barcelona translate in a very direct way to Toronto. What is happening to Barcelona is what would happen to any city its size that tries to hold the new and improved "post-modern Olympics". Its a disaster and all the hype in the world can't prevent it

The profound and tragic reality of Barcelona should be a lesson to the politicians and corporate bagmen who support the notion that mega-projects are the way to build a city. Cities built on a world scale do not work. To function, cities must be built on a human scale. This is as true for Barcelona as it is for Toronto.

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