

The newsletter of campaigns and activities of the Toronto Disarmament Network



Oct. 20 demo completes campaign

The Peace Petition Caravan Campaign: already a success!

Thousands of signatures have already been collected since the March 15th kick-off of the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign here in Toronto. Hundreds of volunteer canvassers took to the streets on a door-to-door canvass through rain and shine and will continue to do so until the national campaign culminates on October 20.

Along with the canvassing campaign, the Toronto PPCC organized the city-wide demonstration on April 28, the Peace Festival at Hanlan's Point, and the August 6th Hiroshima rally at Lilton Industries to highlight the PPCC objectives.

According to the PPCC national office in Ottawa, hundreds of thousands of signatures have already been collected across the country.

The Caravan:

Two festively decorated CARAVANS WILL kick-off simultaneously on SEPTEMBER 29 from Vancouver Island and St. Johns, Newfoundland. Highly publicized celebrations will begin their three week trek east and west across the country to reach Ottawa on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20. They will pass through more than 45 communities collecting the petitions along the way. Each participating town has enthusiastically agreed to welcome the CARAVAN with its own locally organized, well publicized event and to accommodate people travelling with the CARAVAN.

Caravan hits Toronto Tuesday, October 16th!

PAND (Performing artists for Nuclear Disarmament) have agreed to host the Toronto Caravan event on the evening of Tuesday, Oct 16 with a media splash focussing on a celebration of hope for our children and the future.

Caravan reaches Ottawa Saturday, October 20th!

Both east and west CARAVANS will come together in Ottawa on Saturday, October 20th for a celebration rally where the petitions from across Canada will be presented to the newly elected members of parliament. It is imperative that these representatives realize that our PPCC demands will not be forgotten. Rallies will be held across the country in support of the CARAVAN's arrival.

Huge rally in Toronto, Saturday October 20th!

In Toronto the TDN is currently organizing a Walk for Peace and massive rally to mark the completion of the PPCC. Thousands are expected to show their support, listen to speakers and festive entertainment. (see below for details) A major mobilization blitz is underway and thousands of posters and leaflets are being printed to build the momentum which should culminate in a powerful and exciting finish to this important campaign.

Peace movement shows strength during election



The TDN raises disarmament issues with Brian Mulroney as he mainstreets in Broadview-Greenwood.

Brian Mulroney and the Progressive Conservative party were not the only winners of the 1984 election. The peace movement in Toronto and across Canada also scored major gains in raising the issue, influencing politicians and electing a considerable number of pro-disarmament politicians.

The Conservatives' 211 seats give them a huge majority, but no honest mandate to increase Canada's nuclear involvement. Several pro-disarmament PCs were elected and will, it is hoped, keep disarmament concerns heard in the new government.

The debate within the Liberal

party will also continue. Now in opposition the Liberals will undoubtedly revise their policy to differentiate themselves from the new government. Support for such demands as a nuclear freeze will likely come from them in the near future.

The New Democratic Party was the major party with policies most similar to the program advanced by the peace movement and also did well. 30 NDP members will be sitting in the next parliament, most of whom raised disarmament prominently as part of their election campaign.

Although what little was heard of the PC's foreign policy was not favourable, the new prime Minister showed during the election campaign that he does respond to pressure from the peace movement and he feels that pressure both from outside and inside his own party.

See Election, page 2

EDITORIAL

Newsletter for a growing movement

The Toronto Disarmament Network is growing! The TDN was formed two and a half years ago with just 15 groups; we have now expanded our membership to over 70 organizations, each bringing to the TDN its own unique contribution to make the Network a powerful voice for disarmament in Toronto.

Working together, peace, labour, women's, community, performing artists, and youth groups have organized city-wide campaigns involving a variety of major disarmament events which have attracted thousands of people to the disarmament movement, directly reflecting its growth and strength in Toronto and across

Canada. As well, we have established solid contacts with peace groups throughout Canada and around the world. This has been an exciting and demanding time for us all, and for many this movement has grown faster than we could have ever imagined. With the forma-

See Newsletter, page 2

OCTOBER 20

Walk for Peace!

Saturday, Oct. 20

Be there!

11:30 am:
Assembly and rally University Avenue between Dundas and Queen

12:30 pm sharp:
Walk For Peace begins

2:00 pm:
Rally at Christie Pits

Tag Day to blitz city

The TDN is planning a fundraising Tag Day for September 22. Funds raised will be divided by the TDN coalition and TDN member groups, (based upon the number of participants each group provides) and the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign.

This event is a high profile blitz of the city asking for contribution and giving tags to those who support peace.

The success of the day depends entirely on the number of participants. It should be fun as well as lucrative, so please contact the TDN if you would like to sign up for a 4 hour shift.

IMPORTANT GENERAL MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 20th

All PPCC supporters and group delegates are urged to attend the PPCC General Meetings on Tuesday, September 18 and October 16 at 7:30 PM at Friends House, 60 Lowther Avenue. Your attendance is important to help plan and implement the culmination of the PPCC.

Petitioning accelerates!

The PPCC petition gathering goes into high gear during September and October. Our emphasis shifts from the important (but slower) work of door-to-door canvassing into higher profile street and workplace petitioning. With this strategy we should add thousands of names to our petition and thousands of participants to the October 20 Walk for Peace.

In addition to supporting an international Nuclear Weapons Freeze, the PPCC petitions calls for the following domestic disarmament action:

- We ask that the Parliament of Canada act to refuse the testing of the Cruise missile in Canada.
- We ask that Canada be declared a Nuclear-Weapons Free Zone.
- We further ask that wasteful spending on the arms race be diverted to fund human needs so as to ensure prosperity through peace.
- Finally, we ask that the above-stated objectives be subject to ratification through a "free-vote" in the Parliament of Canada.

Name _____		
Address _____	Postal Code _____	Signature _____
Name _____		
Address _____	Postal Code _____	Signature _____
Name _____		
Address _____	Postal Code _____	Signature _____

REPORT

August 6: Hiroshima remembered

On August 6th, a thousand peace and labour activists gathered at Litton Systems Ltd. in Rexdale, to commemorate the bombing of Hiroshima. The event was organized in support of the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign by the Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto, the Cruise Missile Conversion Project and the Toronto Disarmament Network. Litton Systems is notorious for its production of the cruise missile guidance system and for its unfair labour practices in the United States.

The large turnout at Litton and the increasing participation of organized labour in the peace movement's activities were important steps forward in giving a

new level of credibility to the demand that military industry should be converted to socially beneficial production, without loss of jobs.



Active participation of organized labour boosted attendance at Hiroshima day commemoration at Litton.

Demonstrators gathered at the Litton management office and marched north, past the plant, to the rallying point just north of the weapons producer. Speakers came from the peace and labour movements and entertainment was provided by Arlene Mantle and Tish McSorley.

Election continued

The peace movement election activities were focused primarily on candidates at the riding level. This strategy seems to have paid off, causing a great deal of response and public dissension from candidates whose positions do not correspond to their parties' policy. These breaks with policy are in turn affecting future discussions within those parties and in the country at large.

In Toronto this riding-focused strategy saw lobbying, independent peace campaigning and all-candidates disarmament meetings organized on a large scale. TDN member and supporting groups had a great deal of success organizing these meetings. Groups participating included the Spadina Peace Group, Trinity Peace Association, Markham Concerned Citizens for Disarmament, North York Action for Disarmament, York North Peace Group and the East York Peace Committee.

All meetings were extremely successful some attracting up to 400 people with local, and in some cases national, media attention.

Other TDN activities focused on highlighting the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign and promoting the Election Priorities Project.

Two public PPCC protests organized by Brian Mulroney steps in Toronto, let the new Prime minister and voting public know the Peace movement was concerned by his lack of discussion of the issue.

The peace movement proved during the election that it is definitely a force to be reckoned with in Canadian political life. It did not elect a pro-disarmament parliament but this was never on the agenda for this election. The plans were to influence and educate candidates, and raise effectively disarmament issues for public debate in this key period of political activity.

It is no exaggeration to say that the goals the peace movement set itself were far surpassed, with peace becoming one of the major issues and one of the few to receive international attention.

The task before the movement now is to continue to build its parliamentary and extra-parliamentary strength. The peace movement has proved it wields considerable political influence. With continued organizing it can translate that support to where it can move beyond being influential to become, in fact, decisive in Canadian political life.

National Coalition, PPCC evaluation to be highlighted in strategy meetings

In the late fall there will be an important series of strategy meetings to evaluate this year's work and to plan for the future.

OCTOBER 21:

Peace Petition Caravan Campaign evaluation in Ottawa.

NOVEMBER 17-18:

Ontario-wide strategy meeting in Kitchener or Guelph.

DECEMBER 1-2:

Toronto Disarmament Network annual conference.

Discussions will also take place in TDN general and committee meetings which are always open. Contact us for details: 535-8005.

Keep informed!

Support the peace movement!

The **Networker** will be published 6 times a year with reports and information on peace movement activities. Free subscriptions are offered to Toronto Disarmament Network **Supporting Members*** (Contributors of at least \$15 a year, \$10 for low income).

Your contribution helps the TDN produce literature and organize peace movement activities and campaigns throughout the year.

Yes I want to be part of a growing movement for peace!

Enclosed is my contribution of:
 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 (sustaining members)* Other _____
 My contribution is postdated No. of cheques _____ Amount _____
 Charge my Mastercard Visa Account No. _____
 Valid from _____ to _____ Signature _____
 I would like to volunteer
 Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 Postal Code _____

*Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst St., Toronto M5S 2R4 535-8005
 As a coalition TDN decisions are made by member groups and standing committees. Individuals are represented through the TDN group or standing committee in which they are active. "Supporting" and "Sustaining Members" refers to the important role contributors play in keeping the TDN active.

GET INVOLVED!

Mass Phone Tree underway

The TDN is now organizing a phone tree system designed to inform thousands of people every month about major activities of the peace movement in Toronto. While we have already recruited hundreds of people to work on the phone tree we hope to increase its size dramatically in the months ahead.

The phone tree works very simply: the TDN office will call the Co-ordinators with information to be relayed. Each Co-ordinator will relay this information to 5 callers who in turn relay the message to 5 Receivers.

This phone tree differs from others because of its size, and its attempt to reach beyond the core of the movement, and its follow up system to ensure its proper functioning.

The phone tree will operate no more than once a month and will be used only to relay information about major events and emergency responses. We will be recruiting people for this task by distributing phone tree cards at our major events. If you are interested in participating please contact the TDN.



The peace movement needs you!

Volunteers are needed for:

• **October 20!**

The major peace event of the year! Hundreds are needed to poster leaflet, help in the office and at the event.

• **Office staffing**

Volunteers are needed to staff the TDN office on a regular basis for a few hours each week to answer phones and help with general office duties.

• **Posting and leafletting co-ordinators**

To organize mass posting and leafletting campaigns before special events.

• **Volunteers co-ordinator**

We need someone to encourage and introduce new volunteers to the TDN.

• **Committees**

The TDN needs help on our committees which plan our events. Current committees are: Finance/Fundraising, Media, Education, Mobilization, and October 20 Days Events. Outreach committees are Youth, Women and Labour. Please contact us for more information and meeting times. **WE NEED YOU!**

Volunteers are the peace movement's lifeblood. These jobs and many others could use your input. Please contact us at 535-8005 or 534-5762 if you think you might be interested.

Peace and Solidarity movements find common ground

During the summer, some very important meetings took place between the TDN and members of the solidarity community in Toronto. The worsening situation in countries such as Nicaragua and the threat of increased intervention by the United States prompted the discussions. It has become apparent in the course of the meetings that the two movements share other concerns and that it would be beneficial for both communities to integrate some activities.

The first discussions centered on political analysis. While opinions differed, it was apparent that there was much common ground.

There was an agreement that joint activities should be planned with out a formal coalition.

Specific discussion for common action in the near future has centered on activities planned for United Nations Disarmament Week (October 21-28). A dance on the night of the October 20 Walk for Peace will be organized by the solidarity groups and supported by the TDN. An educational night highlighting the connection between the peace and intervention issues is being planned for October 25. Future meetings are planned and are open to all who are interested.

Newsletter continued

tion of so many new groups each organizing its own individual activities, as well as the major events of the TDN, it is almost impossible to keep track of everything which is going on.

This newsletter hopes to rectify this situation. As a supplement to existing journals such as the Peace Calendar, we plan to feature short concise information and reports on the many activities of the TDN and its groups. We feel that a regular bulletin of our plans and activities is now necessary to keep the TDN groups, their members, and the thousands of TDN supporters up-to-date on the campaigns of the Toronto peace movement.

This newsletter is a symbol of the continued growth and commitment in the disarmament movement.

It will be an important tool in our work to build the movement which will eventually remove the threat of nuclear war forever from our lives.

 **Peace Dove Pins**
 \$3 Silver and Gold plated
 Call 535-8005

Attention consignees!
 Please return extra pins and money from sales. We need both.

The **Networker** is published 6 times a year by the Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst St., Toronto M5S 2R4 (416) 535-8005. The TDN is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of 70 groups supporting nuclear disarmament. Group membership is \$50 and is open to all organizations which support our aims and objectives. Associate (non voting) membership is open to groups for \$25 per year. Individuals are represented through TDN standing committees which vote as groups at TDN general meetings.

This issue of the **Networker** was produced by: Kevin Best, Matthew Clark, Lynn Connell, Vera deJong, Ron Krueger, David Martin, Elizabeth Nuttal, Robert Penner, Ann Rowan, Len Seeds, Steve Shulbourn, Sarah Winterton, Gideon Forman.

Layout by volunteers. Printed in a union shop.