

# Issues & Actions

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMUNITY

FORUM ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

## FEDERAL BUDGET '85 — OLD RECIPES OR NEW DIRECTIONS?

Will the upcoming Federal budget be one more example of government backing into the desensitizing, obsolescent growth cycle which clearly isn't working anymore, except for the powerful? Will the budget continue to promote a system which inherently promotes the domination of capital and technology over persons? Are you willing to be judged

on how our society treats its weakest members? Are those who have completed their ascribed productivity and those with no marketable skills to be handed more illusory programs and promises that lead nowhere? Or will the budget give us the tools and resources to promote housing, conservation, co-op training programs.

full employment and other socially useful objectives?

You be the judge!

Please post March's Action of the Month in a prominent place. For more information on how Federal budget '85 could be the same old recipe.....

**See page 3**

## Viewpoint

### Some are Heard More than Others

by Dennis Howlett of GATT-Fly

The new Conservative government in Ottawa has launched a major public relations campaign designed to make it appear that they are consulting with all sectors of the population about the direction government policy should take in the future. In November Finance Minister Michael Wilson unveiled a policy statement entitled "A New Direction for Canada" and invited response. In the New Year discussion papers on housing, trade and elderly and child benefits came out and discussion papers on defense and foreign policy are expected soon. A major media event will be orchestrated soon when the government meets with leaders from business, labour and community groups at the National Economic Conference on March 21-23.

What should we make of all these discussion papers and other gestures the government is making to consult the people? Are they acting in good faith? Do they really want to know what the people think? Or even if some of us may suspect the government's true motives - do these gestures represent opportunities for popular groups, such as labour unions, poor people's organizations or community groups, to make their views heard?

Using the discussion papers or other consultation events as a way to get media coverage may be a worthwhile strategy for certain groups to pursue. But we should be under no illusions. Simply informing the government of our views will not result in any significant changes.

We need to be aware of the various ways in which the cards have been stacked against the interests of the marginalized in the so-called consultation process.

The first thing to be wary of is how the government attempts to set the agenda in the way it frames the questions. For example, posing the issue of universality of social benefits as a question of affordability or the fairness of handouts to bank presidents earning \$500,000 a year is an attempt to avoid debate on the need for fundamental tax reform or whether or not cutbacks on government spending is necessary. We must not let ourselves be confined to debating only what is the government wants us to debate.

Continued on page 2

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY — ORGANIZED BUT NOT SATISFIED

International Women's Day was successfully kicked off this year with a support picket for the workers on strike at Eaton's Yonge and Eglinton store. The strike, a major focus of this year's International Women's Day activities, has been going on since last November. Over 400 strikers and supporters of the workers gathered to listen to spokeswomen from the labour movement and to actively show solidarity with the strikers, 80% of whom are women. Because of this the strike is a concrete example in our Toronto community of women's continuing struggle to gain fair and equitable working conditions. The picketers chanted, "What do we want? A contract! -When do we want it? Now!" as they spontaneously entered the shopping mall forcing Eaton's to shut its doors for over 20 minutes.

As "Issues & Actions" goes to press, it seems that the high energy of the picket will be carried throughout the week's activities of educational and cultural events. Plans for the week include a forum on "Strategies for Reproductive Rights; a multi-cultural women's evening as well as an appearance by well-known activist and feminist Angela Davis.

Scheduled to culminate the week's activities is a mass rally and a feminist walking tour of downtown Toronto. The tour will point out different institutions in Toronto which uphold or enforce policies detrimental to women. The role of the Ontario legislature on abortion clinics and not making affirmative action programs a priority; the hospitals on University Avenue as institutions representing a male-dominated medical profession; City Hall's choice to fund the dome stadium vs. much needed daycare centres and the pornography shops on Yonge St. are but a few of the places which will be pointed out. To show further support for the Eaton's strike, a special stop is planned at the Eaton's Centre.

All in all, the week's activities were important in highlighting the struggle and achievements of women around issues of racial and economic equality.



*Still Aint Satisfied!*

## Issues & Actions

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMUNITY

FORUM ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Viewpoint	page 1
Counterpoint	page 2
Action of the Month	page 3
Federal Budget '85 — Old Recipes or New Directions?	
Issues	pages 4-5
Profiles	page 6
Focus on...	page 7
Calendar	page 8



**ISSUES & ACTIONS**  
March 1985

Editor: Brian Grebow

Published by the Community Forum on Shared Responsibility, Third Floor, 49 Wellington Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5E 1C9. Phone number is (416) 361-0466. March circulation: 19,000.

The Steering Committee of the Community Forum — Monica Armour, Kevin Best, Enrique Briebe, Peter Davies, Charles Diamond, Robert Doyle, Colleen Heffren, John Hockin, Kenise Murphy Kilbride, Juan Pablo Liriano, Alanna Quinn, Jay Scott and David Walsh.

The Community Forum is a network of organizations and individuals who share a commitment to social justice and a concern for those who fall outside the mainstream of power. We want to encourage co-operative action, support others working for change and provide a forum for discussion of the broad spectrum of issues relating to social change. We realize whatever our single issue politics, that only through joining together can we deal with our concerns and move from analysis to action.

We hope to overcome the fragmentation, powerlessness and skepticism which our times evoke by welcoming people from diverse backgrounds to participate. Although we have neither absolute answers to the problems, nor a clear blueprint for the future, we are encouraged by the many people and groups whose efforts are beginning to provide a foothold for a more just and humane future.

Other contributors to this issue: Barb Bator, Inga Belge, Andy McKay, Leslie Robinson and Erna Stultz.

Material for and comments on this publication should be addressed to the Editor in care of the Community Forum. We welcome advertisements that would complement our objectives. Call (416) 361-0466 for more information.

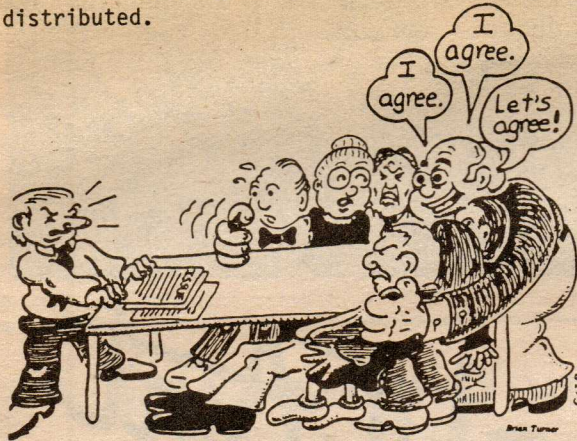
This publication is available by subscription by sending \$10 to the Community Forum at the above address.

Second class permit pending.

Deadlines for March: Copy - March 26; Advertising - March 27; Calendar - March 29. Publication date - April 5.

From page 1

Secondly, we must be critical of the consultative process itself. Who actually gets a chance to meet with government ministers? Who gets invited to events such as the National Economic Conference? Certain groups, mostly notable, business people, get consulted far out of proportion to the percentage of the population they represent. The resources necessary to prepare briefs, lobby government, do the research, and so on are also unequally distributed.



Perhaps the most serious handicap of all is the ideological orientation of the government which predisposes them to give more weight to views from business which confirm with their own. The "New Directions for Canada" document provides a valuable insight into some of the articles of faith which act to filter the government's perception of reality.

It all adds up to a system of unequal representation. We may be a democracy, but some people in effect have more voting power than others.

In the end the proof of the pudding is in the eating. The remarkable similarity between the brief presented by the Business Council on National Issues (perhaps the most influential business lobby) and the government's "New Directions for Canada" statement is one indication of what the final results of the consultative process will be. This does not mean that the outcome is predetermined and there is nothing ordinary people can do about it. Public defence of universality has forced the government to back off its original plans. Other victories are possible. But we should not be naive about the consultative P.R. game. And we must be prepared to go beyond the narrow bounds the government would have us confined to.

# Counterpoint

By Francis Lopez and Michael Meraw. Francis Lopez was instrumental in starting the Edmonton Food Bank and the first French food bank in Paris. He has acted as a catalyst to people starting the World Food Bank. Michael Meraw, responsible for distribution of Bridgehead Trading products in Toronto, is active as a volunteer for a variety of Christian social service agencies in Toronto.

(Note: This is in response to a Viewpoint by Maria Ociepka of Mother's Action Group in February's "Issues & Actions". She felt that the poor needed the finances and resources to organize on their own behalf and that poverty will be their motivation.)

There is a growing body of thought among senior management of several of Toronto's "skid row" social agencies that holds that any increased efforts on their parts will take pressure off governments who are responsible for the level of unemployment and inadequacy of social service payments. This thought has become so widespread that it seems to be becoming "conventional wisdom".

Like much conventional wisdom, it is subject to serious questioning (or complete revision) when examined from a New Testament point of view.

We are all prone to blame the other guy and this may be what is happening.

We are in the early stages of the greatest technological changes that have occurred in history. With quantum leaps in productivity accompanying a proliferation of breakthroughs in electronic technology, employment dislocation is certain to increase. The fundamental economics of every industry have changed and no one (including governments) can alter that. If the new economic enterprises made possible by this same new technology do not blossom quickly enough, unemployment will rise from present levels.

The bewildering "grab bag" of aid and incentive programs launched by governments have been costly, ineffective and neglected by most of the private sector. The financial restraints affecting social welfare programs are, among other things,:

- admission that government involvement in the social sector has been costly and inefficient (the problems are still with us despite horrendously high expenditure levels) and
- opportunity for the agencies and individuals of good will to do the job right - on a person-to-person basis with love being the essential ingredient.

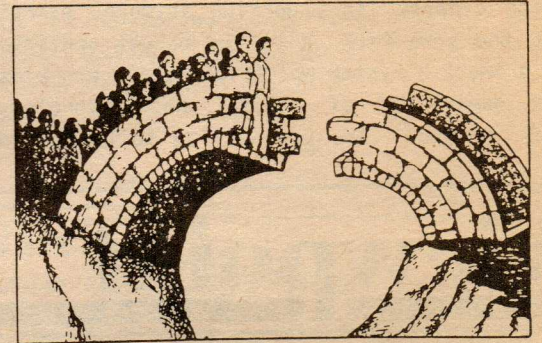
Many of the agencies whose leaders decry the inaction of governments are located in facilities that are rundown and badly in need of repairs and renovation. Many bemoan the costs of operating these facilities, particularly the costs of energy (heat, light).

Yet, they are loathe to pick up the gauntlets that have been placed before them by various levels of government. There have been and are programs available to renovate, enlarge and modernize these facilities, largely at government expense. Some, like energy retrofit, are designed specifically for churches. These can be employment creators and present opportunities for training people in various skills. (One skill that is in constant short supply is apartment superintendant - we could be providing training in the required skills at the same time maintaining and renovating

our own premises.)

Many of the available programs are being and have been utilized on a piecemeal basis by various churches and agencies. But much more extensive use of them can be made. Dixon Hall has set a good example by developing, financing and offering diverse programs reflecting the needs of its community.

There is an urgent need for a central, comprehensive source of information on these various programs. Also, ongoing information (freely available) on programs in action - which organizations have used them, what the effects have been, and so on.



But we have to start at the beginning. Of the most basic needs, food, shelter and clothing, food is the most fundamental. We believe that the food bank concept is a concrete tool never before available to fight and eliminate hunger by doing it first at home.

The mechanism and spirit of the food bank concept facilitate change in the system by asking everyone to get involved.

Why are people hungry? Is it because of a lack of food? No! Enough grain is produced on Earth to supply two loaves of bread daily for everyone on the globe.

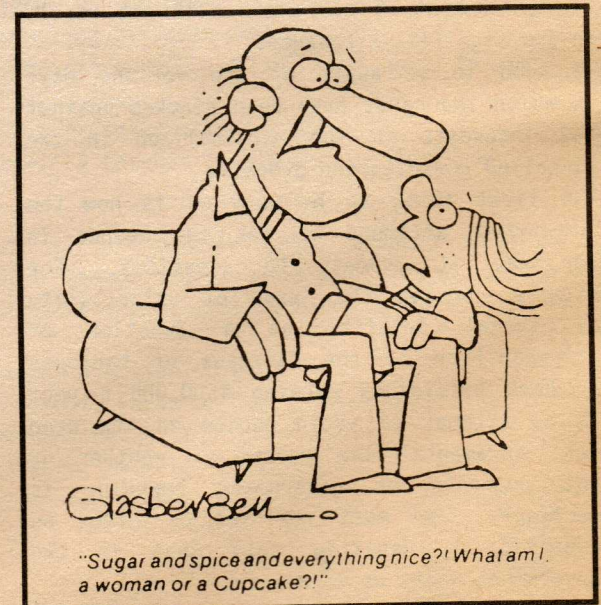
It is because of lack of money? No! The world in 1983 spent \$550 billion on arms - twice as much as was spent on food!

Technologically, we can send men to the Moon and return safely.

Why are people hungry? Because we are expecting others to be our brother's keeper. As every one of us has part of the solution, it is a must that we join together to eliminate the problem.

What is needed? We must ALERT the people of the City to the problem. We who are members of the poor and those of us who work in the agencies are aware of the problems. The people of Toronto are ready, willing and able - look at the response to the Ethiopian crisis where public reponse pushed governments to increase their activities. Look what Dr. Simone is doing... Here at home, people can get directly involved. We must follow the ALERT with the vehicle for them to get involved. The food bank is such a vehicle.

"...Give us this day our daily bread..." or give me this day my daily bread.



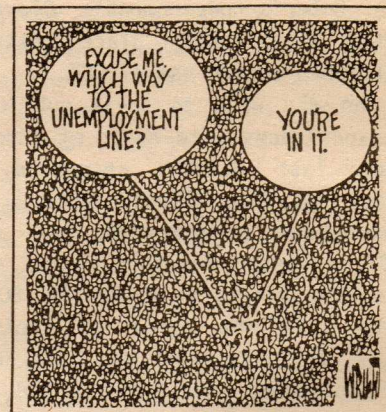
"Sugar and spice and everything nice? What am I, a woman or a Cupcake?!"



## Action of the Month

### MARCH ACTION

# Is there any concern for the unemployed in the upcoming Federal budget?



Poverty is getting worse in Canada. The P.C. Government promises that the May Federal budget will set a "New Direction" for Canada: jobs, economic recovery and a reduced deficit. But the outline and agenda for the "New Direction" announced in November 1984 made no mention of improving the support available to the increasing numbers of Canadians below the poverty line. To move in this so-called "new direction", the government will rely on the private sector to create jobs with increased grants, reduced regulations and lower tax rates.

This strategy is far from a new direction: it is the same Liberal policy of past years shifted into high gear. And the results have been disastrous for low-income Canadians primarily because instead of investing extra money to create jobs in Canada, the corporate sector has invested outside of Canada to increase profits. Middle and lower income Canadians have been taxed at higher rates to partially compensate for the corporate welfare programs. If the government moves in its May budget to implement the strategy of job creation by putting more money into corporate hands, the likely outcome will be a larger deficit, more unemployed, more Canadians in need of welfare and increasing pressure to dismantle the welfare system as the deficit increases.

Instead, **Citizens for Public Justice** believes the government should be urged to:

- Reduce public funding available to the corporate sector and high income Canadians so that government will collect more revenue.
- Increase direct job creation funding for low-income categories. In addition to providing more adequate incomes, this will contribute to economic recovery, as the poor spend close to 100% of their income.
- Announce direct job creation projects in areas where social objectives will also be met: preventive medicine, day care, public transportation, education, culture, environmental enhancement and native self-reliance. Expenditures in these areas are job intensive, socially responsible and contribute to an economic recovery which will reduce the deficit.

Growing poverty and persistent high unemployment are just two elements of an economy, and a society, in deep trouble. All indications are that the P.C.s want to take us further down that road in their budget — a road that is unjust and bound to fail in its economic goals because it has no sense of purpose other than more materialistic growth for the few.

**Citizens for Public Justice** (CPJ) believes that a radically different strategy is needed. CPJ is an ecumenical Christian citizen's movement with promotes just social and political policies for Canada. Native people's issues, the environment and Canadian social policy are just a few of the areas which CPJ's 1500 members are involved with. CPJ also publishes its own newspaper, **Catalyst**, focusing on Canadian social justice issues.

**For more information call  
Citizens for Public Justice at 979-2443.**

The P.C. Government is talking about limiting social benefits at a time when Canada's social crisis is deepening.

**Consider these realities:**

- Since 1981 the number of Canadians below the poverty line has increased 23% in two years.
- Unemployment has increased from 7.1% in 1976 to 11.2% in 1984 and real unemployment is estimated at 20%.
- All this is happening while there has been a tremendous growth in the after tax profits of banks: from \$278.3 million in 1971 to \$1.894 billion in 1983.

The P.C.'s blame the Liberal government for the economic crisis, but their proposals are essentially Liberal policies in high gear. If implemented in May, they will deepen the social and economic crisis for most Canadians while transferring more tax dollars to corporations.

**Consider:**

- From 1960 to 1974 major initiatives were launched in social spending such as the Canada Assistance program, Medicare and post-secondary education. After that period, Canada had no deficit.
- Corporate taxes as a percentage of total government revenue have dropped from 21.4% in 1950 to 6.4% in 1982. In that same time period, personal taxes as a percent of the same revenue have increased from 19.7% to 39.2%.

In initiating their review of social security programs, the P.C.'s say they want "to help ensure that our safety net remains one of the most comprehensive and fair in the world as well as efficient and well directed."

**Consider** that Canada rates very low (12th of 18 countries) in social spending to other western countries.

Prime Minister Mulroney:

Yes, I agree with Citizens for Public Justice that the government should give immediate priority to programs which benefit the unemployed!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Prime Minister Brian Mulroney  
c/o Citizens for Public Justice  
229 College Street  
Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4

This coupon will be formally presented to the Prime Minister and other appropriate government officials.



# Issues

## ECT Not Always the Answer

A big step forward has been taken for electroshock survivors: ECT (electroshock therapy) has become an issue. The next steps will be small but important ones as the Ontario government's Clark Review Committee will likely place restrictions, but not a ban on the use of ECT.

Those who did wish to speak publicly about their experiences were heard at three public hearings last October sponsored by the Coalition to Stop Electroshock. All but one recipient recommended the abolition of ECT. These hearings were scheduled because the Ministry of Health ECT Review committee did not agree to include this type of participation as part of their review procedure. The Ministry did, however, receive a 200-page documentation from the hearings and will respond this fall.



Shirley Johnson, one shock recipient, says a self-help group sped up her recovery after she had begun to take care of herself. She is also concerned that doctors research the medical history of the patient before relying on drugs and shock. She says, "It [shock] made me worse. I wouldn't encourage anyone to use it. But I would encourage them to seek alternatives...We had no control over the situation...I've lost memories and the treatment triggered physical imbalances where my physical state was already sensitive."

Coalition Co-chairperson Dr. Bonnie Burstow views ECT as a strange way to go about helping people deal with problems. "In terms of what human beings are about and how they go about working things through, ECT, as a "therapy" which destroys brain cells, is open to criticism."

There is little follow-up done on ECT recipients when they re-enter the community. They have a difficult time at best piecing their lives together because many thoughts and details of their lives are gone and problem solving is not easy for them.

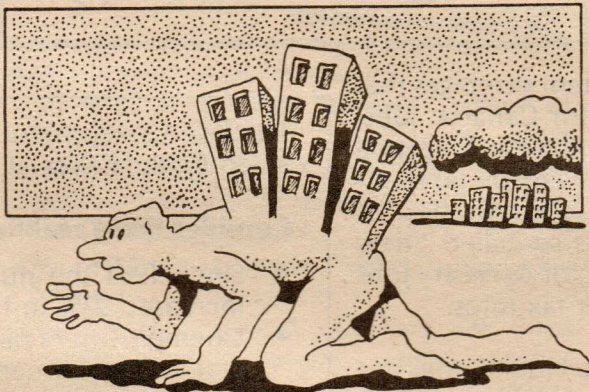
## In Search of Housing Policy

The new Federal Government has very quietly released a "Consultation Paper on Housing", which is intended to be an opening discussion paper in the development of federal housing policy. While tenants in Metro Toronto are facing a crisis situation characterized by all-time low vacancy rates, deteriorating maintenance and rising rents (notwithstanding so-called "rent controls"), while Municipal non-profit housing programs, such as Toronto's CityHome, and non-profit Co-op Development groups are ready and able to build thousands of affordable housing units, but are starved for funds, the "Consultation Paper on Housing" is preoccupied with unleashing the private sector. This would reduce government expenditures and, at the same times, provide supply side (the private developer) stimulation.

Using the Minister of Finances' Economic Statement as an agenda for housing responsibility, the consultation paper bases its discussions on four economic issues:

- government fiscal responsibility;
- ways of removing obstacles to growth for the private sector;
- ways of encouraging entrepreneurship and risk-taking; and
- ways of targetting social support to those genuinely in need.

The discussion paper makes some questionable premises. It puts forward that the private rental market, if unimpeded, can work will on its own, that "there is (in Canada) an adequate supply of suitable accomodation at prices most people can afford", and that rent controls are a major factor contributing to the lack of activity in the housing development market. The paper then goes on to suggest that freeing the private market will create more housing for those who need it.



The paper makes a not-too-veiled threat to provinces with rent control programs: "Government assistance has been provided because investment in rental accomodation has become uneconomic...If the problems arise from matters under provincial jurisdiction, such as rent controls, then the appropriateness of federal assistance must be questioned."

Groups representing the interests of tenants have not been included in the long list of those with whom the Federal Government intends to consult about housing. Obviously omitted are groups representing Natives, handicapped and the elderly. Some national social organizations are also missing as is any consumer balance in the consultation process.

Those wishing to receive a copy of the consultation paper should call the local CMHC office (781-2451 in Toronto), and are encouraged to write and submit a response by March 8. Even after this deadline, we must actively encourage the new minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Bill McKnight, that consumers of housing must be consulted about their needs and opinions. If the private market has been unable to provide housing to date, why are they singled out as being the target of providing appropriate housing in the future? We must support co-operative and municipal non-profit groups who are willing to build affordable housing. The Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations will have its response to the consultation paper available by March 8 for any groups or individuals who wish to read and/or endorse it. For more information on this issue call the Federation of Metro Tenants's Associations at 364-1564.



## Exploring U.S. Intervention

A week of activities, from April 13 to 20, is being planned for all individuals and groups concerned about the situation in Central America and the Caribbean and in support of the following demands:

- Self-determination for the people of Central America and the Caribbean: Stop U.S. military and economic intervention.
- End Canadian government complicity with U.S. military and economic intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.
- Money for jobs and human needs, not war: No more Canadian weapons testing and production for the U.S. military.
- End Canadian aid to Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras and increase aid to Nicaragua.

This week is supported by over 130 activists representing 40 anti-war, solidarity, church and community groups who gathered in December at the Toronto Anti-Intervention Conference. Among events scheduled for the week are

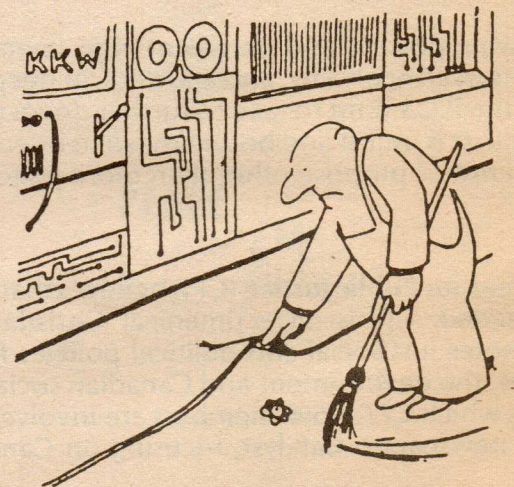
- A fast at Litton Systems to help make visible the connection between Canada's ongoing support of U.S. militarism and consequent complicity with U.S. military intervention.
- A Cultural Day of Resistance featuring a benefit show at the Rivoli Cafe on April 19. If you can perform, contribute or loan artwork for that day, call Scott at 537-8022 or 532-6720.
- A march and rally on April 20 at Moss Park arena at noon ending at Convocation Hall.
- Other groups planning events are Development and Peace, Centre for Caribbean Dialogue, Youth Corps, Canadian Action for Nicaragua, ArtNica and Witness for Justice and Peace.

This has been a traumatic time for Central Americans. The deteriorating situation in the region, the growing toll in peoples' lives and national sovereignty, demand that we show our solidarity and move into action now!

For more information call Ann at 537-3520.

## Nuclear Inquiry Needed Now!

During his election campaign, Tory leader Brian Mulroney promised, if elected, to hold a national inquiry into Canada's nuclear industry. Now, six months after Mulroney's successful election campaign, the promised inquiry has yet to materialize.



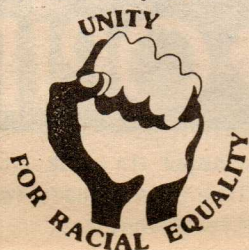
Federal Energy Minister Pat Carney says that other priorities have precluded the government from addressing the question of whether a national inquiry would be advantageous at this time. Carney says she is "considering" some form of public inquiry, but says she wants to consult with the provincial governments and the industry itself, first, to get their views on whether an inquiry is needed.



Norm Rubin of Energy Probe says that the much-needed inquiry would, in fact, "be deciding the fate of some of Ottawa's most sacred cows--and its most expensive ones--including Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. and the Atomic Energy Board." Rubin says that as it stands now, any consultation with the industry would be largely kept secret. He wants Energy Probe, among others, to be a part of any consultation. Because of the proposed inquiry will be the first national examination in the 40-year history of Canada's growing commitment to nuclear energy, the committee's composition must include both pro and con viewpoints. Rubin is disappointed with the lack of progress on the inquiry, but he's still optimistic. He says all levels of government are potential targets for the public to address letters of concern and urges people to "ask their M.P.'s, 'What gives?'" For more information, Norm Rubin can be reached at 978-7014.

### Day Planned Against Racism

March 21 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Day for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. CIDER, the Committee for the International Day for the Elimination of Racism, was formed three days ago to hold a public event each year.



March 21 also marks the 25th anniversary of the Sharpsville massacre in South Africa and the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. The celebration now being planned will "act as a symbol of the ongoing struggle against apartheid and support the international movement against racism--towards justice and equality for the peoples of the world."

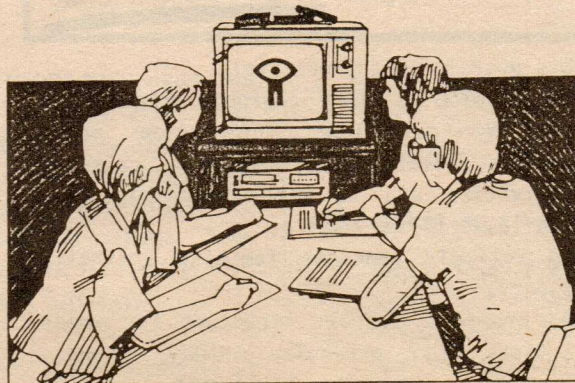
Activities for this year's event are scheduled for March 23. Featured speaker will be Louis Valencia Rodriguez, Chairperson of the United Nations Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination as well as Yusef Saloojee, the Canadian representative of the African National Congress and Lil Laforte, Quinte Labour Council and Native Women's Oriented Association. Cultural performers will include Kitchen Jam, a reggae band, and others. The place is Harbord Collegiate and the starting time is 2 pm.

For more information on CIDER, call Dominic Bellissimo at 534-0449 or Lester Green at 461-7033.

### Support a Canadian Youth and Children's Channel

As a result of letters of intervention sent by groups and organizations from across the nation, the CRTC has scheduled Hearings throughout the country to give all those who wish to speak to the question of a new TV channel devoted to children and youth, an opportunity to do so.

After the National public Hearings are completed, the National Film Board is prepared to present its application for licence to the CRTC submissions committee. The NFB is proposing a new channel, to be called Young Canada Television/Tele-Jeunesse Canada, devoted to children and youth (ages 2 to 24), which would contain programs that are non-racist, non-sexist, non-violent, with production and programming input from youth and owned and programmed by a newly created nationally representative independent non-profit foundation.



This is a rare opportunity for you to have a voice in determining alternatives to current TV programs for children and youth, reflecting a Canadian perspective.

The Commission would be impressed by the broadest representation from the community at the hearing and you are invited to attend on Monday, March 25th at 7:30 pm., rooms 103 A & B; Rooms 104 A & B, Metro Convention Centre, 255 Front Street West, Toronto M5V 2W6.

If you wish to speak at the CRTC Hearing, write to the address below and state that you support the need for a predominantly Canadian youth and children's channel and that you would like to address the Commission in order to express your views.

Write to:  
Fernand Belisle  
Secretary General  
CRTC

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2

If you are not in a position to write but would like an opportunity to speak at the Hearing, simply appear an hour prior to the Hearing and register your desire to be heard with the secretary.

For further information call 369-3305.

### INFACT Finds More Violations

A recent review by INFACT (Infant Feeding Action Coalition) Canada found many violations by Mead Johnson, the Canadian subsidiary of Bristol-Myers. This review, based on the World Health Organization's Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, found the following:

- the subtle promotion of infant formula in violation of the spirit and aim of the Code--to promote and protect breastfeeding--in Mead Johnson booklets for new mothers. The books imply over and over that breast milk and infant formula are equal.
- Brand names of infant formula occurred 123 times in the six booklets reviewed.
- Dissonance-saying that breast milk is superior but showing the opposite in photographs.
- Coupons for formula attached to booklets. The WHO Code prohibits the use of promotion devices to induce sales of infant formula.



These booklets are distributed through prenatal classes, hospitals and doctors' offices in Toronto and across Canada. "Clearly, our health care systems are being used to promote sales of infant formula," says Margaret Bennet-Alder, National Coordinator of INFACT Canada. INFACT is planning an in-depth review of the activities of other companies in the infant feeding field in Canada. This is in keeping with INFACT's goal to work in solidarity with Third World groups for social justice for infants. For further information contact Margaret Bennet-Alder at 595-9819 or 488-3368.

### NFB NEWS

March 1985

The free screening series **THIRD WORLD, OUR WORLD** continues Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. this month at the NFB Theatre (1 Lombard Street), featuring **DREAM OF A FREE COUNTRY: A MESSAGE FROM NICARAGUAN WOMEN**, **ABORTION: STORIES FROM NORTH AND SOUTH** and other films.

The NFB has proposed a new TV channel to be called **YOUNG CANADA TELEVISION/TELE-JEUNESSE CANADA**, devoted to children and youth and containing programmes that are non-racist, non-sexist, non-violent with production and programming input from young people. The channel would be owned and programmed by a newly-created, nationally representative independent non-profit Foundation. If you wish to support this initiative, please attend the CRTC hearing scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 25 at the Metro Convention Centre. Call 369-3305 for more information.

**IT'S HARD TO GET IT HERE**, a new film from the NFB's Winnipeg Production Studio will soon be available from our library. This moving documentary, filmed over a period of a year, traces the movements of three Native Canadians and their families as they cope with urban life. It makes apparent the white system's indifference to the native reality.

For general information on NFB events and services, pick up a free copy of **NFB FILM CLIPS**, or call 369-4094. To borrow films, call 369-4093.



National Film Board of Canada

Office national du film du Canada

### QUASI-POLITICALLY CORRECT by ERNA STULTZ

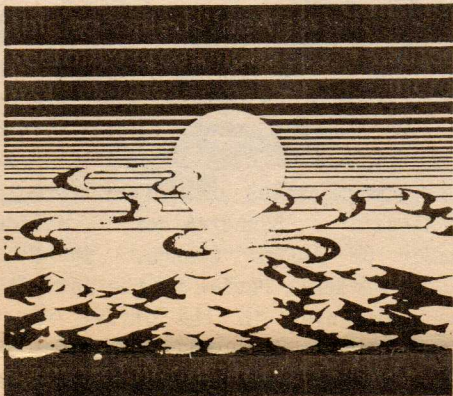




# Profiles

## Environmental Network Encourages Public Pressure

The Ontario Environmental Network serves as a clearing house for information among various environmental organizations in Ontario. Previously known as the Ontario ENGO Network (Environmental Non-Government Organizations) the new title reflects a name change at the national level. With regular contact between 170 environmental organizations in Ontario, the importance of the network becomes evident in the diversity of work which groups cover while still being able to support each other. Some groups were formed to work on one specific issue such as toxic waste disposal in their area. Others have both human and material resources to deal with a wide variety of issues from acid rain to energy conservation. There is usually more of a focus on research and advocacy in the latter groups while the former spend a lot of time familiarizing themselves with sets of documents so they can defend themselves against government and industry.



At a recent provincial meeting in Toronto was an example of the Network's ability to share information and to initiate co-operative action in the fight for environmental protection. One topic discussed was forestry, one of importance, but one without a high profile. Discussing this issue fostered support and co-operation between northern and southern groups, a welcome element in the Network. Some groups are co-operating to secure "intervenor funding" from government for participation in court cases.

The meeting also saw the birth of the Ontario Pesticides Action Coalition (OPAC) and beginning discussions for the Project for Environmental Priorities whereby candidates will be canvassed on a riding by riding basis to both teach them more about environmental concerns and provide for the electorate more information about where candidates stand on environmental issues. For more information, contact David Orfald at 978-3032.

TWP THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH

NEPHESE THEATRE COMPANY  
PRESENTS

# EINSTEIN

BY GABRIEL EMANUEL

STARRING PETER BORETSKI

PREVIEWS MARCH 19 AND 20

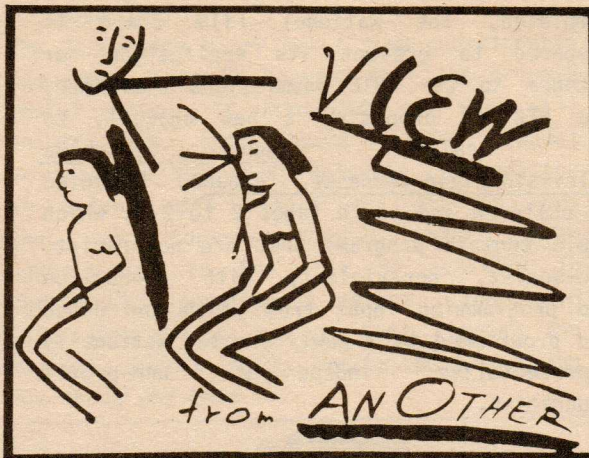
OPENS MARCH 21

TWP THEATRE 12 ALEXANDER STREET

925-8640

## WARC for Women's Art

The Women's Art Resource Centre (WARC) is a new organization that began out of the need to document women's cultural work and to actively generate feminist aesthetic theory in Canada. The centre will publicize women's art and feminist art criticism in the art world, the women's community and the general community. They are funded by an Explorations Grant from Canada Council.



WARC's overall objectives are:

- to develop a more thorough history of art by collecting information about women artists and women's cultural activities and to make these resources available to the public;
- to actively generate feminist aesthetic theory;
- to create a support structure for women artists by arranging study groups, lectures, artists' visits and a skills exchange;
- to facilitate debate and discussion about feminist art practice; and
- to encourage contact between women's art groups and other community organizations thus educating and expanding an audience for women artists.

Central to their function is a registry of slides and other types of documentation of women artists' work. (They are asking for donations of slides, photographs, cassettes, and so on.) Another service will be a skills exchange which will assist women in finding freelance, art-related employment. They are also sponsoring public talks by artists, reading groups and a networking group.

For further information please call 593-0058, 10 am to 5 pm, Mondays and Tuesdays. WARC is located at 455 Spadina, Room 215.

## Working Group Explores Economic Links

The Canada-Asia Working Group is an inter-church coalition for Asian concerns and is interested in working for human rights and social justice. In showing the economic links between Canada and Asia, they try to discover whether Canada is helping development or actually propping up exploitative systems.

Their work includes:

- human rights advocacy;
- research and documentation;
- support of groups in Asia and those in Canada organizing campaigns;
- a quarterly publication, Canada-Asia Currents; and
- presentation of briefs to government and international bodies such as the UN Committee on Human Rights in Geneva.

They recently submitted a brief to External Affairs on Korea, containing section on Sri Lanka and East Timor.

For more information contact Rubin Cuisapag at 924-9351.

## OPIRG Student Awareness and Links with the Community

Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs) were originally founded by consumer advocate Ralph Nader in New York. They are intended to provide students of the university community with a socially meaningful outlet for their research skills and a hands-on lesson in participatory democracy.

Public interest research, such as the kind conducted by OPIRG Toronto, seeks to break the "knowledge monopoly" of the academic, government and business communities through:

- Exposition - bringing into the open information which otherwise might remain hidden or partially revealed.
- Documentation - compiling and presenting evidence gathered from facts, figures and human experience always maintaining a high degree of integrity and reliability.
- Analysis - placing information in an analytical framework, examining underlying political, economic and power relationships.
- Motivation - uniting research and action allowing individuals to become actively involved in issues which affect their lives.



OPIRG Toronto began in 1982. Its current projects include an investigation into the pharmaceutical industry, a study into Toronto's urban sprawl, work within a Coalition to establish a Women's Centre at U of T and a survey of Niagra Falls residences regarding the placing of a toxic waste dump in their community. All projects contain a strategy to include research, education and action. They are always open to new project ideas. Please contact OPIRG for more information at 978-3032 or write them at 2 Sussex Avenue, Room 302, Innis College, U of T, Toronto, M5S 1J5.





# FOCUS ON...

## Events

### From Social Planning Council...

THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS: RIGHTS TO SERVICES is an April 19 working conference designed to consider the effects of the Charter on human services and the access to these services. It will cite case experiences with the Charter and opportunities and limitations on its use. How the Charter may be used in practical ways for the human services will also be discussed. Featured luncheon speaker will be Jean Chretien, M.P. and former Minister of Justice, Government of Canada. Registration fee including lunch is \$50. Deadline is April 4. For more information contact Robert Doyle or Suzanne Olson at 961-9831.

### From Physicians for Social Responsibility and University of Toronto and McMaster Faculties of Medicine...

WAGING PEACE IN THE NUCLEAR AGE: A Family and Community Affair is the subject of a national PSR conference on April 12 and 13. The occasion will provide medical and non-medical people an opportunity to participate in a dialogue encouraging "a mutual move away from the insanity of nuclear confrontation toward co-operation that will ensure a future for humankind." For more information contact Physicians for Social Responsibility at 593-6628.

### From Energy Probe...

SPOKESPEOPLE: A Conference on Bicycle Advocacy is an event scheduled for April 26 and 27. Keynote speaker June Jacobs will explore the common interest in the quality of city life shared by cyclists and other activist groups. Workshops on such topics as the Auto/bike Relationship, Wooing the Media, What's Being Done Elsewhere, Bicycles and City Hall and Lobbying will offer an opportunity to learn from experts and to exchange information and share strategies. Registration fee is \$10. For more information contact Kate Sutherland at 978-7014.

### From Social Planning Councils of Metropolitan Toronto, Ottawa/Carleton, Ajax/Pickering, Brant, Kitchener/Waterloo, Oshawa/Whitby, Peel...

CHILD POVERTY IN ONTARIO will focus on the timely and important issue that some 400,000 children in the province are living in poverty. Organizers feel that there is a pressing need to make child poverty a public issue; identify needed policy and program changes; and plan a program of advocacy and action at the local level. The conference dates are March 29 and 30 and will cost \$35. Some out-of-town travel subsidies will be available. For more information call 961-9831.

### From the Ontario Federation of Labour...

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION - a conference sponsored by the OFL will take place on April 25, 26 and 27. This conference for trade unionists will help build necessary skills to achieve affirmative action in such areas as equal pay, universal childcare and skills training at the bargaining table, in the political arena and in the community. Registration fee is only \$30. For more information call Janis Sarra at 441-2731.

## Interchange

### New Directions at the Trojan Horse

Beginning in March, on Friday evenings, the Trojan Horse will offer a new program of community-based culture around four main themes of interest:

1st Friday--Third World Solidarity

2nd Friday--Women's Issues

3rd Friday--Canadian Social Issues

4th Friday--Peace and the Environment

Each month will see a different focus with the four areas, (depending upon actual circumstances at the time) much like "Action of the Month". This program will involve many people already active in the social change community; and, hopefully, will encourage others to become involved, as well.

Saturdays, the Trojan Horse will continue to stage a wide variety of excellent social change artists.

Also at the Horse, the Toronto Union of Unemployed Workers holds a drop-in centre every Wednesday from 1-6 pm. Beginning in March, the Emily Stowe organization will operate a cultural program on the third Thursday of every month.

Want to get involved? Want more information? Call 461-8367. The Trojan Horse is located at 179 Danforth Avenue.

### Einstein — Now a play

Nephesh Theatre Company, in association with Toronto Workshop Productions, presents Einstein, a new play by Gabriel Emanuel at the TWP Theatre, 12 Alexander St. Starting March 21, performances are Tuesday through Thursday at 8:30 pm; Sunday at 2:30 pm.

Einstein traces the life of this century's greatest scientist, from his early childhood through the years in which his genius was to make its mark upon the world. The play examines the conflict between Einstein's own responsibility in the development of the first atomic bomb and his subsequent dedication to preserving a world free of nuclear weapons.

Einstein is being directed by Jack Blum and stars Peter Boretski who was recently seen in the role of "Paul Trefius", the diamond merchant in Charlie Grant's War.

For ticket prices and information, call TWP at 925-8640 or Nephesh Theatre Company at 927-7804.

### WOMEN AND DISABILITY/ LES FEMMES HANDICAPÉES

a special issue of

### Resources for Feminist Research/ Documentation sur la recherche féministe

articles, reviews, bibliography, filmography  
contributions by

Pat Israel, Cathy McPherson, Maureen Moore,  
Ladia Patricia Falta, Frances Rooney, Jill Weiss

\$6.00 per copy. Available from  
RFR/DRF 252 Bloor St. West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1V6.

Also available in spiral binding  
and on cassette (please specify).

## Resources

### From Quaker Committee on Jails & Justice...

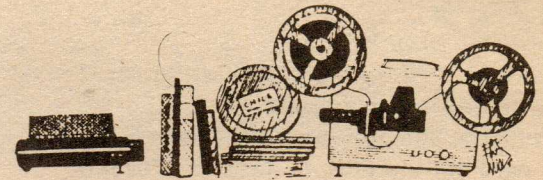
Policing, Punishment and Prisons is a one-day film festival on March 30 from 10 am to 10 pm. It hopes to provide people with an accurate understanding of the workings of the so-called criminal justice system and its effects on people of colour, Natives, women and people in mental health units and prisons. Films will be followed by discussion sessions and be shown at Friend's House, 60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto. For more information call Jake Friesen at 922-6128.

### From Physicians for Social Responsibility...

Curing Nuclear Madness by Dr. Frank Sommers and Tana Dineen is a prescription for personal action. It offers a way out of individual paralysis and, in that process, offers a direction for taking the first steps toward the psychological and social transition required to bring about a collective change of mind. It is available for \$9.95 through the PSR office, 100 College St., 5th floor, Toronto or call 593-6828.

### From DEC Books...

Gift of the Devil: a History of Guatemala is the first full history of Guatemala to appear in several decades. It traces the sharp contrasts and violent conflict between an oppressive elite and the majority Indian population. Gift of the Devil reveals that Guatemala's current traumas are bitter, but logical expressions of its past. The book is available for \$12.95 in paperback or \$25.95 in cloth from DEC Bookroom, 427 Bloor West or at bookstores around Toronto.



## Action Training Events

### for Community Workers and Social Activists

The Action Training Network of Ontario, a centre of the Canadian Urban Training Project will offer 2+1 training events beginning April 15-26 and Oct. 28-Nov. 8. They will consist of a residential two weeks regular meetings over a three month period around participant back home projects and a final week. Action training is an experiential learning process designed to increase the abilities and satisfaction of people involved in planned social change and service for a more just and humane society. Methods used include simulations, direct encounters with social actors, plunges into unfamiliar subcultures and group planning and values clarification. Taking place in groups of about seven, skills in social issue analysis, organizations and systems are enhanced. Attention is given to developing and integrating personal and social change goals.

For further information on 2+1 contact Wally Brant at 481-7574 or 51 Bond St., Toronto M5B 1X1. A Summer Student Training program using Action Training methods will be offered. Contact Andrew Murray at same address or call 469-2399.



# Calendar

## March 13

**NAME**-Benefit for North York Women's Shelter  
Limelight Dinner Theatre, 2026 Yonge St.,  
\$35/person, dinner at 6 pm, show at 8:15  
For more information -- 635-9630

## March 16

**COFFEE HOUSE**  
Guests scheduled to date --Nancy White,  
Izalco  
Sponsored by Committee of Solidarity with  
the People of El Salvador  
Cafe 414, 414 College St., 8 pm., \$5/\$3  
students  
For more information -- Pippa at 651-6068

**COMMUNITY VIGIL** marking U.S. President  
Reagan's visit to Quebec City  
U.S. Consulate (at 6 pm) and then march  
to Peace Gardens  
Sponsored by Emergency Reponse Committee  
of Toronto Anti-Intervention Coalition  
For more information -- 537-3520

## March 19

**THE PERSON BY THE PERSON** - a videotape  
dealing with the gap between immigrants's  
expectations and the Canadian reality  
by Shalhevet Goldhar and Meg Thorton  
Sponsored by A Space  
204 Spadina Ave., 8 pm, \$4/\$2 members  
For more information -- 364-3227

**NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN CANADA: WHO DECIDES?**  
Speaker: William Arkin, Nuclear weapons  
analyst  
Sponsored by Toronto Disarmament Network  
Trinity St. Paul's Church, 427 Bloor St.  
W., 7:30 pm., \$3 at door

**ANSWERING EINSTEIN'S CHALLENGE: IMAGES  
FOR SURVIVAL**  
Speaker: Andrew Pakula  
Sponsored by Psychologists for Social  
Responsibility  
University College, Room 85, 7:30 pm.  
For more information -- Tana at 929-5737

## March 23

**WHAT THE SYSTEM DOES TO WOMEN'S HEALTH-**  
a forum  
Panelists: Joan Bodger, Gestalt therapist;  
Anne Brunelle, socialist-feminist; Nikki  
Colodny, socialist-feminist; Vickie Van  
Wagner, practicing midwife  
Sponsored by Socialist Workers Collective  
International Student Ctr., 33 St. George  
St., 7:30 pm., \$2 donation  
For more information -- 535-8779

## March 24

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL  
AMERICA:** on the 5th Anniversary of Oscar  
Romero's Assassination  
Sponsored by Christian Committee of COSPES  
Trinity St. Paul's Church, 427 Bloor St.  
W., 7 pm., free  
For more information -- Andrew at 469-2399

**STOPPING THE GROWING WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN**-A Panel discussion  
(Panelists unconfirmed at press time)  
Sponsored by University of Toronto  
Anti-Intervention Coalition  
OISE, 252 Bloor St. W., 8 pm.  
For more information -- 979-9629

**LATIN AMERICAN CULTURAL AFTERNOON** to  
commemorate the anniversary of the death  
of Camilo Torres  
Featuring Grupo Taller, Grupo Izalco and  
others  
Sponsored by Columbian Committee  
Loretto College gymnasium, 387 Brunswick  
Ave., 4 pm., \$3 donation  
For more information -- 964-1347

## March 26

**FROM SHARPVILLE TO NOW**-audio/visual  
presentation  
by Norman "Otis" Richmond  
Sponsored by Toronto Public Library  
Parkdale Library, 1303 Queen St. W.  
For more information -- 532-6548

**SELLING THINGS TO RAISE MONEY**  
Sponsored by Brown Bag Forum  
519 Church St., noon, bring your lunch

## March 27

**SHOULD WE HAVE MANDATORY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION?**  
Speakers at press time, Francis Henry,  
author of "Who Gets the Work?"  
Sponsored by Urban Alliance on Race Relations  
and CentreStage Forum  
St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. E., Free,  
8 pm  
For more information -- 362-7041

## March 28

**FEMINIST FILM SERIES**  
Sponsored by Ryerson Women's Centre --  
Benefit for University of Toronto's Women's  
Centre  
March 28--"Awakening of Christina Klaus"  
April 4--"Balance of Happiness"  
April 11--"Marianna & Julianna"  
Location to be confirmed, 8 pm., \$4 or  
3/\$10  
For more information -- Paula at 978-3032

## March 29

**CANADIAN ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND THIRD WORLD  
DEVELOPMENT**  
Speakers: Gerald Helleiner and Abraham  
Rotstein, Dept. of Economics, U of T  
Croft Chapter House, U of T, 2 pm.

**POETRY ABOUT WORK**  
Tom Waymon and others  
New Trojan Horse Cafe, 179 Danforth Ave.,  
8 pm., \$4  
For more information -- 461-8367

## March 30

**PEÑA**-Latin American music, dancing and  
food  
Benefit for tuberculin for political  
prisoners in Peru  
Sponsored by Peru Support Group  
24 Cecil St., \$3 donation, 7 pm.  
For more information -- Diane at 255-5622

## April 12

**DR. HELEN CALDICOTT**  
Sponsored by Toronto Disarmament Network  
and Toronto Nuclear Awareness  
Convocation Hall, U of T, 7:30 pm.,  
\$5/advance or \$6/door  
For more information -- 537-0438

## April 13

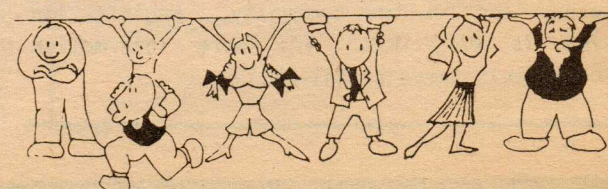
**LATIN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL**  
Films by and about Latin America including  
Guatemalan film, "When the Mountains Tremble"  
Sponsored by Newman Centre, Development  
and Peace  
Faculty of Education Auditorium, U of T,  
Bloor and Spadina  
\$3.50/advance and \$4.50/door  
For more information -- 537-0445

## April 14

**CIRCUS OF THE HEART** with Dom Helder Camera  
Sponsored by Youth Corps  
Convocation Hall, U of T, 7 pm., \$5/youth  
& \$7/adults  
For more information -- 863-6702  
Note: A retreat is planned for April 13.

Any social justice group wishing to have  
their event listed in this Calendar should  
send the information by March 30 to:

Issues & Action Calendar  
Community Forum on Shared Responsibility  
49 Wellington St. East  
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1C9



## Information You Want Every Month:

### Issues & Actions

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMUNITY FORUM ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

**ISSUES & ACTIONS** speaks about your concerns  
with poverty and injustice, and how you can **find  
ways to work with others** and share responsibility.

You can help us communicate **by model and exam-  
ple**, to highlight the vitality and hope expressed by  
your commitment to social change.

You can help us point to **the links between appar-  
ently diverse issues** — for example, to make the  
connection between high unemployment — with  
the consistent lack of political priorities for impor-  
tant human needs such as housing, jobs and envir-  
onmental concerns.

You can help us examine **how the social and eco-  
nomic structures of our society contribute to injus-  
tice**. Will our institutions continue to be part of the  
problem or can they be a part of a new vision?

You can help us **encourage discussion and find  
new ways of looking at problems** — there has to be  
fluidity and openness in the process of social  
change.

You can become more aware of community groups  
which are at the forefront of social change and  
**become involved** in an area that matches your  
interests.

#### Yes, I support ISSUES & ACTIONS: an important way to get information fast!

- I support your efforts and have enclosed a donation of:  
 \$15     \$25     \$50     \$100     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I would like to subscribe to **Issues & Actions**. Enclosed is \$10 (payable to Community Forum)  
for a year's subscription.  
 I am willing to help with this project. Please call me!  
 I am interested in the following issue and would like to connect with a group sharing my  
concerns. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_