

Issues & Actions

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMUNITY

FORUM ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

"HOMES BEFORE DOMES" PROTEST PLANNED FOR MAY 18

All three levels of government have agreed to fund the proposed dome stadium. These same people have made substantial cuts to funding for co-operative and non-profit housing programs. What does this action

say about government priorities? Whose "public interest" are they upholding? If you believe that these priorities are backwards, then join the People's Action Coalition on May 18 and protest the

connection of public funding for a dome instead of homes.

For more information on May's **Action of the Month...**

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HUNGER BECOMES MAJOR CONCERN



Being poor and hungry is not yet a political issue. Photo by David Smiley

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 17 and 18, the forum and workshop sponsored by the Food Advocacy Coalition Toronto (FACT) provided the first major opportunities for public discussion of accessibility to food in Toronto.

At the CentreStage Forum, St. Lawrence Centre, after presentations on governmental responsibilities, emergency food depots, food industry concerns and the problems of low-income people, two major issues rose out of questions from the public:

- Does the food industry dump high-quality food banks? (The answer from the food industry spokesperson was that they supply food with superficial flaws or overruns.)

- How do we make poverty a political issue?

At the all-day workshop, small discussions covered such areas as income levels, ethnic and refugee needs, the churches and emergency food distribution, research, food industry responsibilities, community initiatives, disappearing agricultural land and nutrition education. The results of these events has been a raising of public consciousness about the problems and causes of food distribution, and the establishment of some new and exciting agenda items for FACT including:

- lobbying for government-guaranteed annual income where a person would be guaranteed 50% of the average Canadian income;

- suggested formation of an umbrella group on food with a safety "trampoline" that would enable the catching and bouncing back of people needing assistance in this area; and

- establishment of more alternative shopping outlets such as food co-ops in neighbourhoods.

If anyone would like to follow up on these issues, you can call Lorna Seeman at 947-7451 or Bob Alexander at 656-0013.

Viewpoint

Some Lessons for Canada from the U.K.

by Tim Rees

This article is drawn from the experiences of many of the organizations that the author visited on a recent two-week study tour of the U.K.

The prevailing perception of the British economy is that it is terminally sick. Why would anyone from Canada be so foolish to visit Britain in search of economic development initiatives? Why should we be tempted with catching the British disease? In this context, community economic development is not being regarded as a romantic carry-over from the social activism of the '60's; it is not being treated as an irrelevant and marginal concept borrowing heavily on the theory and experiences of the U.S. a decade or so ago. Rather, community economic development in the U.K. has become an increasing focus of attention for all levels of government, the business and corporate sector, and the voluntary sector.

Although certainly much of the activity is a reactive crisis response to high unemployment, a badly declining economy, and the severe cut-backs of central government, many activities are also pro-active initiatives that have the direct support and encouragement from the same central government.

Coming from Canada, it was rather enlightening to be told on several occasions that in the North of England and in Scotland, they are part of colonial economies controlled by the demands of London.

The analysis of the major problem hindering the development of a vibrant indigenous economy in these disadvantaged regions, was felt to be the lack of an entrepreneurial spirit. Not only was the climate not supportive of enterprise, but it was actively working against it.


It was in this light that one sees the major thrusts in community economic development initiatives in the U.K. being directed as "climate-shaping". This included a whole array of educational, research and curriculum development initiatives, such as the "education for enterprise" movement, a number of programs operating on a national scale providing training and support for youth enterprises, and a myriad of organizations providing small business support in the form of training, technical assistance, counselling, and the provision of premises.

This extensive level of activity is in sharp contrast to Canada where we falsely presume that the entrepreneurial climate and the entrepreneurial skills are in plentiful supply. As a consequence the tendency in Canada is to perceive the major problem hindering local economic development as merely the lack of accessible finance, whereas, in the U.K., the lack of capital is seen as the last and least difficulty.

In encouraging and supporting a more entrepreneurial environment at the local level in the U.K., the degree of co-operation between central government, local government, the business and corporate community, and the voluntary sector is evident. The private sector is providing support in the form of financial and technical assistance, in the provision of buildings and equipment, in renovating redundant factories, in calling on skills of executives, in providing training facilities and working with other local "enabling" agencies in fostering local enterprise development.

The diversity of activities being provided by local governments in the U.K. represents perhaps the richest source of innovative ideas for community economic development that exists anywhere. Motivated by the desire to develop alternative job creation strategies, the over 200 "Local Enterprise Agencies", the numerous "Local Co-operative Development Agencies", the Community Enterprise Development agencies, the Enterprise Centres, the Enterprise Boards, and the multiplicity of other local government initiatives in support of community economic development is impressive. An underlying thread to almost all these activities is that they are being pursued through and with community agencies and the active involvement of the business sector.

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ISSUES & ACTIONS
May 1985

Editor: Brian Grebow

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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 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.

The articles in *Issues & Actions* are contributed by individuals and groups associated with the Community Forum. The views expressed may not necessarily be those of all the members. This publication does, however, represent the voice of many organizations working together for social change.

Other contributors to this issue: Erma 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 June: Copy - May 22; Advertising - May 22; Calendar - May 24; Publication date - May 31.



To the Editor

I was interested to read the article on the forming of a Canadian peace alliance in the April edition of "Issues & Actions". The rosy picture presented by the article reminds one of the press statements from the State Department. The article failed to mention some very important things. A Canadian peace coalition or alliance on the surface seems like a good idea, but the reality of the situation makes you wonder.

What's being created is a very centralized top-heavy organization with close ties to the Canadian government. Clearly, the strength of the peace movement in Canada is in its diversity and decentralized nature. This could all change with the forming of the peace alliance. The movers and shakers behind the alliance are mostly from hierarchical organizations, some of them urban coalitions and some from so-called national organizations that really aren't national at all. It would be a misconception to say they represent the grassroots of the peace movement, or all the different views and tactics that the Canadian peace movement holds. The fear of having national spokespeople is a real one. Already the media focuses on a few people who they feel represent the views of the peace movement, which certainly is not the case, and this could be further exacerbated by the coalition.

The November conference was supposed to be the major decision-making body, but apparently that will just be a media event with all the decisions made beforehand. One major decision that should have been left for the coalition to decide was the decision to accept \$25,000 from External Affairs. There was much dissent over this issue, but that was ignored by the elite decision-making apparatus that has been set up, and the money was accepted. The political implications of this are far reaching, and in a sense, the politics

of the alliance or coalition have already been decided. The money guarantees this. Some people involved in setting up the coalition already have close ties to the Canadian government and some have even been known to cooperate with the state to hamper the work of other peace groups. Is this the type of national peace body we want in Canada?

It was mentioned in the article that the creation of the peace alliance follows on the success of the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign. Clearly, the P2C2 was not a big success. 400,000 signatures and a snub by Mulroney to me doesn't signify success. It was interesting to note that the article didn't mention the dissent and debate that is going on in the peace movement right now over this, that is the alliance. We have had enough hype. We need action. The peace movement needs to have a meeting where serious strategies and tactics are debated. The Canadian government is complicit in escalating the arms race, and it shows no signs that it is interested in disarmament. We shouldn't be taking their money or meeting with them, but clearly presenting alternatives and resistance to government policy. We don't need another national lobby group in Ottawa. The politicians just laugh us off. It's time we brought the power back to the peace movement and to the people of this country.

Andrew VanVelzen
Committee for a Democratic Peace Movement

TOWARDS CIVILIZATION

Organizer's Notes

According to a recent *Globe and Mail* story, organizing has once again paid off in a significant reform benefiting a disadvantaged group. As of April 1st, 75,000 Ontario domestic workers will be eligible for Workers Compensation benefits if they are injured on the job.

Employers hiring a domestic labourer for more than 24 hours per week will pay an annual assessment of \$2.15 for every \$100 of salary and benefits. Workers working less than 24 hours per week may register and pay their own premiums to the Workers

Compensation Board and get coverage. INTERCEDE (The International Coalition to End Domestic's Exploitation) and many other groups and individuals who have organized and pressured for this reform deserve thanks and congratulations. Reforms are always partial and it's important to know that what employers get out of this not negligible: injured workers covered by Workers Compensation cannot sue their employers for damages. For the employer, Workers Compensation is cheap, iron-clad liability protection arranged by government. But workers everywhere have struggled for some form of guaranteed benefits to the injured because suing is expensive and unreliable and the courts are generally more sympathetic to bosses than to workers. Eligibility for Workers Compensation benefits is therefore a major breakthrough for a group of workers who have often been treated as if they and their work were invisible and suffered from combined oppressions based on class, gender, race, isolation, legal status and age. Don't Agonize; Organize!

Bob Luker

from page 1

Rather than "community businesses" being operated by people with no experience outside the social development field, these new public-private partnerships indicate the development of a strong local intergrated process taking place: local participation,



co-operation, and co-ordination. What one is seeing in the U.K. is a process towards local empowerment in addressing local development issues in a far more comprehensive fashion than has ever been attempted before. Community economic development initiatives in the U.K. are demonstrating the potential of bringing together new coalitions with new alliances of skills, technologies and interests.



STUDIO D



DOCUMENTARY ON WOMEN AND PEACE TO BE LAUNCHED

SPEAKING OUR PEACE, a new hour-long documentary produced by Studio D of the National Film Board of Canada, will have its Toronto premiere at the Bloor Cinema on Sunday, June 2 at 2:30 p.m. The free screening is being organized in co-operation with the Voice of Women, Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament and the Community Forum on Shared Responsibility.

Filmed in Canada, Britain and the U.S.S.R., **SPEAKING OUR PEACE** explores the concept of peace as more than simply the absence of war, from the unique perspective of women who are passionately committed, both in their lives and in their work, to attaining world peace.

The women in the film explore the connection between the arms race and poverty and repression in the Third World. They trace the path of nuclear weapons production to show the damage caused by nuclear testing in Micronesia, uranium mining in Canada's North, and cancer-causing radioactive pollution in our own backyards. Despite the overwhelming complexities of the situation, these women speak simply, articulately, and with compelling conviction. Together, they express a courageous personal and global vision that, if heeded, might one day render war obsolete.

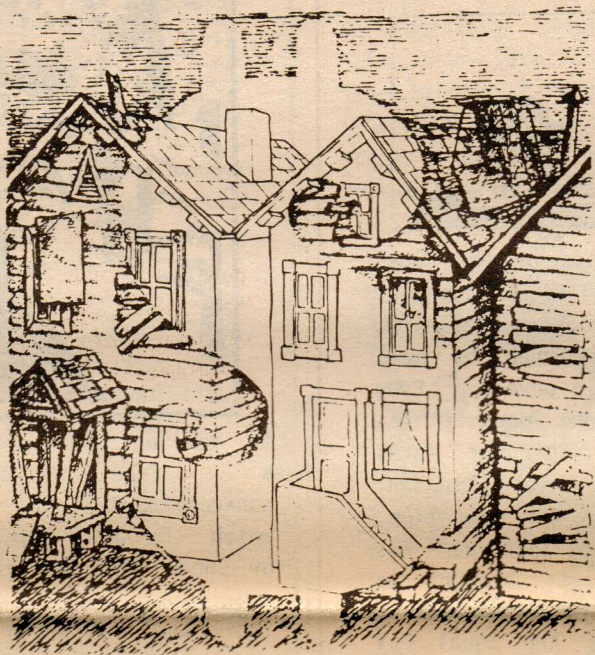
Narrated by Margot Kidder, **SPEAKING OUR PEACE** is co-directed by Bonnie Sherr Klein and Terri Nash, both well-known for their previous films. Klein's **NOT A LOVE STORY** received international acclaim for its powerful indictment of the multi-billion dollar porn industry in North America, while Nash's **IF YOU LOVE THIS PLANET** won an Academy Award in 1983 for its powerful disarmament message. Both Klein and Nash are expected to attend the Toronto premiere.

For more information on the screening, call the NFB at 369-4094.

Action of the Month

MAY ACTION

HOMES BEFORE DOMES!



The **People's Action Coalition** (PAC) is a coalition of groups in Toronto, acting together against unemployment and poverty. On May 18, we are planning a "Homes Before Domes" day of protest of Metro Council's financing of \$30 million for a domed stadium, when about 175,000 households in Metro Toronto need financial assistance in paying their shelter costs. The housing needs of our citizens should be a priority which far exceeds that of building luxurious sports facilities on the part of our government. Between 60,000 and 75,000 affordable family housing units, including rent-geared-to-income housing need to be built. While municipal non-profit co-op development groups are ready and able to build thousands of affordable housing units, they are starved for funds. We are appalled that Metro Council would lavish \$30 million on a domed stadium in view of this huge need for affordable housing.

Questionable Priorities

While even housing industry analysts concede that the various private market assistance programs have generally failed to produce affordable units, the construction of private market units, including direct and indirect support, received nearly three times the level of financial assistance that the mixed-income non-profit programs received between 1974 and 1983. The underfunded non-profit programs house almost exclusively low and moderate income households. The *Toronto Star* reports that more than 6,000 families are waiting for accommodation in Metro alone.

Our provincial and municipal governments should be committed rather, to a program of building 5,000 affordable co-operative housing units per annum over the next twelve to fifteen years. Not only would such a program have significant social effects, it would also have a major impact on job creation.

In many ways the burden of economic mismanagement by government is placed on children. Over 400,000 children in Ontario live in poverty. The Catholic Children's Aid Society has reported that some children are in the Society's care, simply because their parents don't have a decent place to live. Poverty affects every aspect of the lives of poor children. It undermines their health, their educational development and their confidence in themselves and in their future. It is a major barrier to poor children growing up to fulfill their potential as producers and citizens of the future.

The problem of affordable housing is only one facet of the larger issue of unemployment and poverty which is demoralizing citizens of our nation on a massive scale. Unemployment has increased from 7.1% in 1976 to 11.2% in 1984, and real unemployment is estimated at 20%. The U.S. Bishops' Statement says "... poverty is not merely the lack of adequate resource, ... to be poor entails a more profound kind of deprivation, for it means being denied full participation in the economic, social and political life of society.... It means being without sufficient control over and access to, the decisions that affect your life. It means being marginalized and powerless in a way that assaults not only your pocketbook but also your fundamental human dignity."

Our government's priority of financing a domed stadium represents a monetary value-system completely gone awry, where wealth is worshipped, and the poor are ignored. We believe that all citizens are entitled to be properly housed, clothed, fed and employed in order to build a sound fabric for a sustainable democratic future.

Please join us on May 18 at City Hall at 2:00 p.m. where we will gather and protest the municipal connection to the public funding for a dome instead of homes. We will march to Queen's Park at 2:45 and demand that the provincial government take responsibility for this problem. A soup kitchen will be provided.

**For more information please contact
Colleen Heffren, 537-3646.**

Issues

Charter's Impact on Civil Rights Questioned

Thousands of Canadians become disenfranchised when they are committed involuntarily to psychiatric institutions. On Our Own, the Ontario Patients Self-Help Association, is concerned about how the equality clause (section 15) of the Charter which became effective on April 17, will affect their lives. New questions are now surfacing such as:

- Will other provinces follow the example of Ontario in December 1984 and restore the psychiatricized right to vote?
- Will forced shock treatment be thrown out if challenged under section 12 ("the right not to be subjected to cruel and unusual treatment or punishment")?

Psychiatric inmates have, at present, virtually no civil rights: sections 7 ("the right to life, liberty and security of the person") and 9 ("the right not to be arbitrarily detained or imprisoned") address their situation directly. Key issues such as the Warrant of the Lieutenant Governor, involuntary committal, forced treatment, the right to refuse treatment, and review boards are now being examined in light of The Charter.

On Our Own feels that the rights of the institutionalized is perhaps the most volatile moral issue that will test and shape The Charter. Phoenix Rising, the rights advocacy magazine for the psychiatricized, will be publishing in its July 1985 issue an important first major analysis of The Charter's potential impact on psychiatric inmates. Contributors include prominent lawyers and rights advocates such as Michael Berman, Carla McKague, Elaine Newman and Harvey Savage. Kathleen Ruff, Editor of the Canadian Human Rights Advocate, will discuss the rights of the "mentally retarded" and psychiatric inmates. For more information call the Phoenix Rising collective at 699-3194.

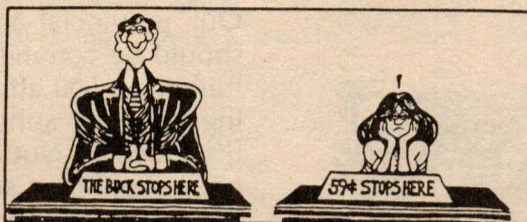
Week to Focus on Rape Awareness

Throughout the week of May 4th to 10th, the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre will be sponsoring and/or co-sponsoring a number of events as part of Rape Awareness Week. The purpose of the week is education; especially around important issues often not addressed in general discussion of violence against women. A panel discussion will be held May 5 on sexual assault and disabled women (sponsored by Disabled People Working Together and PUSH Central). A film night on May 6th will address the links between racism, classism, homophobia and violence against women. Since violence is an issue for all women, it is important to understand the different ways it affects women with varied economic, ethnic and racial histories, physical abilities and sexual preference.

Other events include a women-only dance on May 4; a community forum on organizing right-wing Ontario on May 8th; a men's discussion group on masculinity and male violence on May 9 and an open house at their offices on May 10th. Go and meet the members of the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre collective and find out what they do. For details of times and places for these events, see the Calendar on page 8 or call the TRCC office at 964-7477, 10 to 5 p.m.

Equal Pay: A Disappearing Act in Ontario

More than forty women, including representatives of the YWCA of Metropolitan Toronto, presented Dennis Timbrell, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, with a special award at an emergency protest rally held recently and organized by the Equal Pay Coalition. The award, for "Best Performance as a Magician" was the result of Timbrell's decision to ignore a resolution that the legislature passed unanimously in 1983 supporting the principle of equal pay for work of equal value. In a report released to the Ontario Federation of Labour Affirmative Action coalition, Timbrell said laws giving equal pay for work of equal value would be too "rigidly interventionist". The award assailed Timbrell for his starring role in the government's "disappearing equal pay act".



In a press statement release by the Equal Pay Coalition, some examples of inequity were cited: women on average make \$14,000 compared to the \$23,000 earned by men; 36% of Ontario women live in poverty. Even the government as employer doesn't pay fair wages: a telephone operator earns \$2,900 less than a parking lot attendant even though her job requires more education, skills and responsibility. That gap has grown by \$1,000 since first brought to the government's attention five years ago. For more information about the Equal Pay Coalition, call Laurel Ritchie at 654-9128.

"It's our shared environment."

The Toronto Recycling Action Committee (TRAC) has received some recognition for its environmental work. After a decade of "tokenism", the City of Toronto has finally allocated enough financial resources to show a serious interest in recycling. TRAC's budget has been doubled for 1985, and so with some professional assistance, recycling should be soon catching on.

In many environmental issues which require social change, people often feel they cannot make a difference. Here are several ways your daily efforts can help the environment:

- Reject overpackaged goods.
- Re-use plastic containers, donate old clothing.
- Return pop bottles, aluminum beer cans.
- Recycle newspapers and glass bottles.
- Remind others that all resources are limited.
- Remember: I make a difference every day! (one way or the other).

For information on various municipal environmental efforts, phone the Recycling Council of Ontario at 593-1756.



GENEVA PARK YMCA CONFERENCE CENTRE
ORILLIA, ONTARIO
JUNE 7-9, 1985

SHARING APPROACHES THAT WORK

ONTARIO LOCAL INITIATIVES
MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS Tel: (416) 961-2989
L'INSTITUT DES AFFAIRES CULTURELLES

ECT Comments Under Review

The Ontario Government's ECT Review Committee is now taking a close look at all the written submissions sent to them during the last few months. The Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock sent in its big anti-shock brief last November; its one the top 20 which the committee is seriously considering. The Coalition is also preparing a rebuttal to some pro-shock submissions including those from the Ontario Psychiatric Association, Ontario Medical Association and the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry. The ECT Committee will probably complete its final report and recommendations by next fall, which will undoubtedly call for tighter legal restrictions on electroshock not its abolition. So the fight against shock will continue.



If you or your group wishes to receive a free copy of any non-confidential/non-personal submission which the ECT Committee has, just write or phone them and ask for a list of these submissions, which are listed by name of individual and group only. The committee's address and phone number are:

Charles J. Clark, Q.C.
Chairman, ECT Review Committee
101 Bloor St. West, 14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1P7
(416)965-1006

Interested people are most welcome to come to the Coalition's monthly meetings held on the last Wednesday of the month. Their next meeting is on May 29 at 7:30 at Bathurst St. United Church. For more information on the Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock, call 461-7909 or 536-4120.

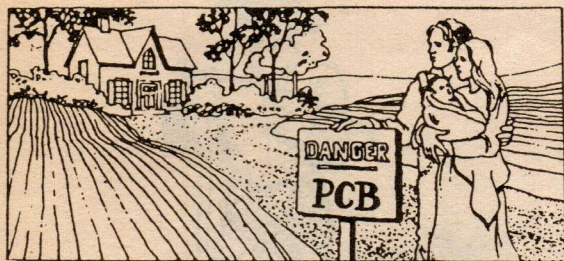


Photo by David Smiley

Police issued a ticket for littering to an ACT member, who was leafletting outside the Eaton Centre. The police apparently reasoned that because some people who were given the leaflets throw them away, the leafletters were leaf-littering. Instead of viewing the cop's actions as harrassment, we should distribute tickets for littering to the beer and soft drink companies when we find their bottles and cans on our roadsides, to the Toronto Sun when it is lying about messing our streetcars and to the parking authority when tags are left littering our cars.

"Spills Bill" Proclamation Long Overdue

"The spill of PCBs along the TransCanada Highway near Kenora has once again demonstrated the need for proclamation of the Spills Bill Part IX of the Environmental Protection Act", states Frank Giorno, Director of Research, Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA). According to CELA, in Ontario there are about 1,000 spills of hazardous waste occurring annually. About one-third occur when hazardous material is being transported. The remaining two-thirds are from non-transportation sources such as faulty storage tanks or industrial processes.



In 1979, the Ontario Legislature passed the "Spills Bill". Almost six years later, it has not been proclaimed! This means the Ontario Cabinet has decided to reject the wishes of the representatives of the people of province by not establishing a date for when the legislation will take effect, and by not developing the regulations required to give teeth to the legislation. The "Spills Bill" provides:

- a mechanism for quick action to clean up a spill;
- incentives for better handling of hazardous chemicals and prevention of spills; and
- an environmental compensation to make up for those who suffer physically or financially as a result of a spill.

Industry lobbying has so far successfully delayed the proclamation of the Spills Bill. In light of recent events in Kenora, CELA feels its time to make government aware of the public's concerns about spills and the need for the immediate implementation of the Spills Bill.

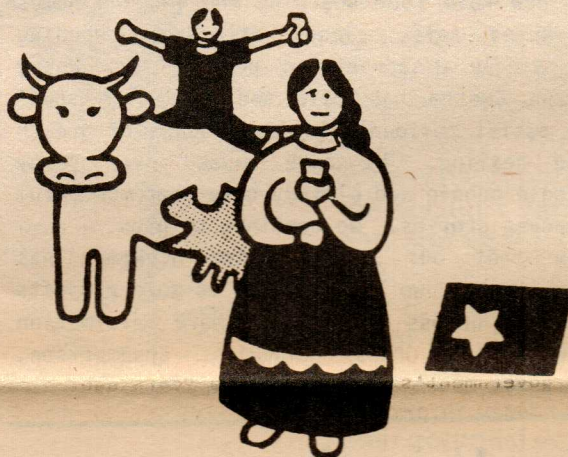
If you are interested in seeing the Spills Bill proclaimed, Giorno suggests a letter to that effect to the new Ontario Premier. If you are a member of a community group or you are concerned enough to organize a group on this issue, he suggests you ask to meet the Premier, the leaders of the opposition, the Minister of the Environment, or your local MPP to express your views supporting the proclamation of the Spills Bill.

For more information contact Frank Giorno at the CELA at 977-2410.

Irreplaceable? Not Necessarily in El Salvador

"A Glass of Milk Everyday for Every Child and Pregnant Women", a new campaign undertaken by the Silvia Platoon, is very important as it is concerned with the very elementary needs of life. In addition, it is a difficult campaign, as it involves raising large sums of money.

The purpose of the campaign is to help develop the dairy industry in the zones nearby or under the control of the FMLN-FDR in El Salvador. For example, the "Cerros de San Pedro" zone, which is 50 kilometres northeast of San Salvador, has been isolated because of the war and government repression. This zone is situated at the centre of a rich agricultural area; because of this it was subjected to military and political control by the government and its para-military troops. The residents of this area have organized themselves into the National Union of Community of the Liberation Front with the aim of implementing projects and programs to benefit the whole population.



One of these projects includes the distribution of one glass of milk to every child and pregnant women and the production of cheese and cream to feed a population of at least 3,000. The project requires \$41,760 if it is to be successful.

The Silvia Platoon appeals to all individuals and organizations to donate generously to the milk campaign. With international support, this goal can be achieved. If you are interested in helping the Silvia Platoon (Toronto) to raise money for the Milk Campaign or in helping with any other campaign, you can phone 537-4623 or write Silvia Platoon (Toronto), P.O. Box 374, Adelaide St. Station, Toronto M5C 2J5.



Canadian Foreign Policy Review Past Due

Prime Minister Mulroney was elected with a mandate for change, and with promises of a more open, consultative political process for Canadians. The Canadian Council for International Cooperation is concerned that a major foreign policy review promised has not begun and several target dates for initiating it have passed. Yet, the government is making significant commitments on foreign and defense questions. The group feels a full foreign policy review is essential now, as promised before the government commits itself to policy positions such as involvement in the U.S. Star Wars plan.

However, the review process seems to be mired in an internal political struggle among the various departments and individuals within the government. The political battle itself threatens to fractionalize the review process and undermine its integrity, which may be exactly the objective.

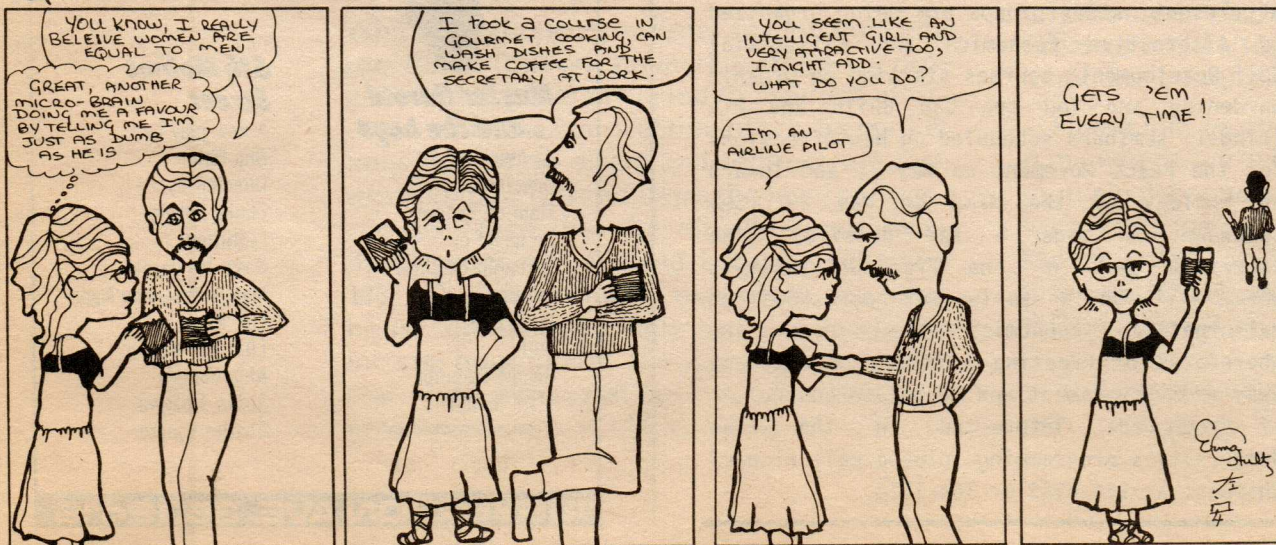
In this situation, there is a very real danger that development and disarmament issues will get the short shrift, if they are not submerged altogether. Whoever wins the political confrontation within the government will determine which issues are addressed and which ones are conveniently dropped.

There are several actions at this point:

- Immediately: inform you MP, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark and the Prime Minister's office, that you are watching the situation, that you think a foreign policy review by External Affairs is important, and that you want development and disarmament issues to have a prominent place on the agenda.
- When the government publishes the Green Paper (a document that outlines the issues to be reviewed and the process for doing it) to initiate the foreign policy review, respond to it quickly, indicating its shortcomings if the relevant issues have been left out. Then, after careful study, you or your organization may wish to officially intervene. Written briefs, meetings with MPs, letters and public education are all appropriate.
- An Ad Hoc committee has been struck to organize a one-day "Seminar on Government Relations", to develop an overall strategy for response. This will be an opportunity to gather together interested people to discuss and decide upon a strategy for the next several months. Representation on this committee is needed. The seminar date has been set for June 14 in Toronto.

June 15 will be a strategy session to plan responses from peace, development and community organizations. Details on these events and on the issue are available by calling Dwight Burkhardt at 921-2360.

QUASI-POLITICALLY CORRECT by ERMA STULTZ



GRINDSTONE
ISLAND CENTRE

OFFENSE/DEFENSE-LEGAL SURVIVAL FOR ACTIVISTS
June 7-9

CELEBRATION: A WOMEN'S RETREAT
June 7-9

ALTERNATIVE CAMP FOR YOUNGER KIDS
July 7-20

ALTERNATIVE CAMP FOR OLDER KIDS
July 23-Aug

RAISING KIDS FOR A BETTER WORLD
August 8-11

CO-OP MOVEMENT STRATEGY
August 11-16

MEN: CHANGING OURSELVES/CHALLENGING PATRIARCHY
August 23-25

ISLAND RETREAT
August 30-Sept. 2

CITIZEN'S INITIATIVES FOR PEACE
SEPT 13-15

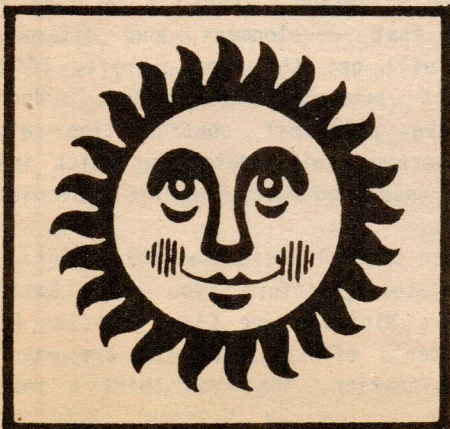
ORGANIZING IN A CONSERVATIVE AGE
Sept 20-23

P.O. BOX 564, STATION P
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5S 2T1 923-4215

Profiles

Grindstone Island: Sun, Water and Social Change

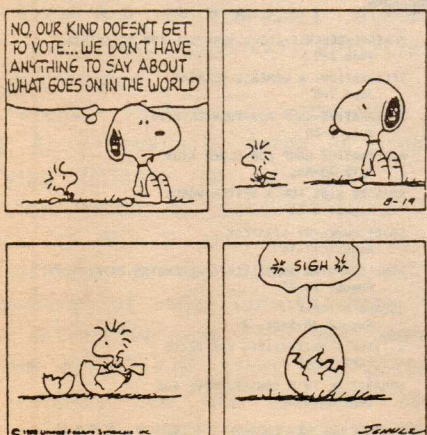
The number of threats to the environment, peace and civil liberties is rapidly growing, and because of the complexity of the issues it is a challenge simply to keep informed, let alone take action. What's more, the energy we spend fighting for social change can quickly burn us out. Grindstone Co-op's summer conferences provide a chance to both analyze issues and relax - swimming, canoeing, playing volleyball. Grindstone is a 450-member co-op which runs Grindstone Island Centre, a twelve-acre wooded island on Big Rideau Lake near Kingston. From May to September each year, the co-op runs a series of conferences on peace and social change issues; the co-op also rents the island to groups who bring their own workshops or conferences.



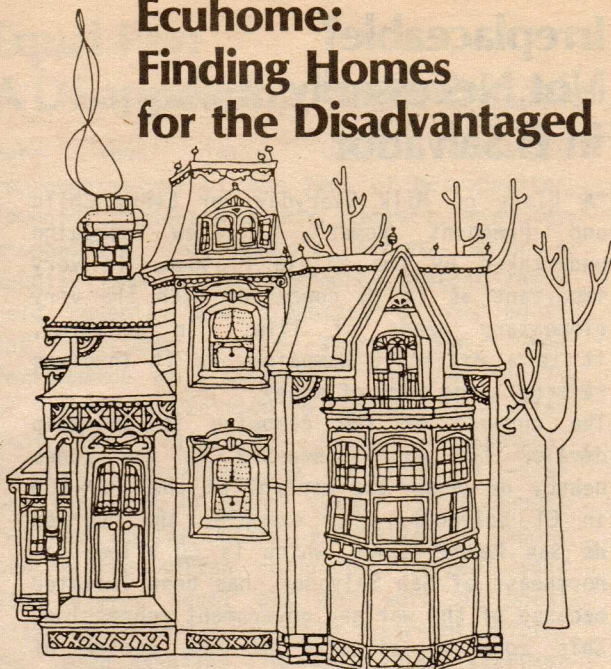
They are the only educational co-op in Canada, and during Grindstone Island's twenty-two year history, thousands of people have attended a wide range of conferences. The tranquility of the island has fostered the birth of a number of organizations. Goodwin's magazine was first conceived at a "Media and Social Change" conference; the Trojan Horse Cafe grew out of a "Music for Social Change" program; and Women's Action for Peace formed after a "Women and Militarism" conference.

Two of this year's conferences are of particular interest, given the swing to the right politically. Members of the Law Union are running "Offense/Defense: A Survival Seminar for Activists" which will provide a forum for discussing politics and the law as well as giving information on legal issues of immediate concern to activists. The "Organizing in a Conservative Age" conference will offer participants a chance to look at past and current economic and political trends to help in analyzing issues and developing strategies for fighting back.

For more information about their conferences or information on how your group can rent their facility, please contact Grindstone Co-op, P. O. Box 564, Station P, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2T1 or call 923-4215.



Ecuhome: Finding Homes for the Disadvantaged



Parkdale. Toronto's Third World neighbourhood. Changing. Gentrification everywhere. Homes that once held forty people now house a family of four. Where do the former residents go?

The Parkdale Pilot Project is an attempt to answer that need. We are a coalition of community groups, churches and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. We now have four boarding and lodging homes offering safe, clean, affordable housing to single disadvantaged people. Our Nancy Brown Centre has paid and volunteer staff to assist residents in the process of growth and healing. We have housed over forty single people and already have some wonderful success stories. We continue to grow. Now that our parent body, Ecuhome, has been formed, we look forward to more projects opening across Metro. For more information please call Gus Sandusky, Chairperson, Parkdale Pilot Project at 535-5278.

Free University: An Alternative Learning Network

The Free University is a community of learning open to the public where the only costs are operating ones. No fees are paid to resource people or charged to students over and above incidental expenses. The environment is also free. There are no rigid formats or course requirements, and people are encouraged both to air their views, as well as to put in proposals for courses and seminars.

The Free University grew out of a conference on Alternative Futures held in January, 1985. The purpose of the conference was to examine the history and lessons of social change efforts in Canada, and the obstacles and prospects for building a better world. It was felt an intellectual and skill-sharing community was needed to facilitate this effort, and thus the idea of the Free University was born.

At present, study groups are being organized on Alternative Economics and Existential Self Development; courses starting on Organic Gardening and You too Can Build and Fix Things!; seminars scheduled on New Directions for the Peace Movement on May 7, and Toward an Ecology of the Mind on May 29 (See Calendar on page 8 for details). An important part of the Free University's work will be a series of workshops on "alternative economics"--the whys and wherefores of creating a sphere of autonomy away from government and corporate control. If you are interested in the Free University's programming, please call Richard Shapcott at 964-6969 or 364-1076.

Tolpuddle Farm Labourers Commemorated by Group

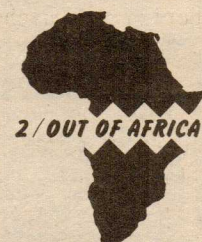
1984 was the 150th anniversary of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, a group of farm labourers who were exiled from Britain for trying to organize farmworkers. Since these people eventually settled and died in Middlesex, Ontario, it was felt that the historical significance of the activities of the Tolpuddle Martyrs would be appropriate in naming a group of people concerned with the issues of concern to farmworkers here in Ontario. Thus was born the Tolpuddle Farm Labour Information Committee out of the former Ontario Farm Labour Information Committee. The group carries out the following activities:



- Publishing written materials and producing audio-visual resources that can be used by communities and educational groups for educational purposes;
- Collecting materials relating to farmworkers, such as health and safety conditions, working conditions, crops in specific areas, workers in those areas, workers' rights, studies of work carried out in the United States;
- Liaison and networking with other individuals, groups and organizations for mutual aid and support;
- Carrying out research to gain better understanding of farmworkers in Ontario in order to develop and promote educational programs on farm labour.

Among the projects presently being worked on by Tolpuddle is one involving farmworkers in the Niagara Peninsula. Issues will be defined and developed over the summer. The other project is a new video, "To Pick is Not to Choose", about Ontario's farm workers. It has been produced by Tolpuddle and will be for sale or rent in early June. For more information call Erma Stultz at 967-3277.

THEATRE PASSE MURAILLE



**OPENS
APRIL 25**

Master Harold ...and the boys

By Athol Fugard
Directed by Maurice Podbrey
Designed by Katherine Mathewson
Starring Errol Slue
With George Seremba
Mark Saunders
A Centaur & Citadel Theatres Co-presentation.

5th Molimo Street

A new play by Ben Halm
Directed by Clarke Rogers
Featuring Basie Mahlasela
Mxolisi Welcome Ngozi
Eric Khati
Elizabeth Koaho
Afua Margus
Susan Tibagwa
Charles Kyazze

16 RYERSON AVE. 363 2416

FOCUS ON...

Events

From Multicultural History Society of Ontario and Ethnic and Immigration Studies Program (U of T)...

IMMIGRATION AND ETHNICITY IN ONTARIO: An Exploration in Women's History is a May 8-10 conference at St. Michael's College. Its purpose is to explore the role of women as immigrants and as members of ethnic groups in the history of Ontario. Sessions include Women and Migration; Women and Ethnic Associations; Women and Strategies of the Work Place; Women and Work; Women and Ethnic Persistence; and Ethnic Women and Education. Registration is \$25; students/seniors \$15. For further information call 979-2973.

From Centre for Christian Studies and Anglican Church of Canada...

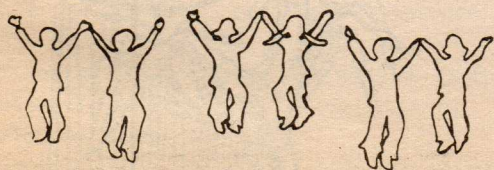
IS THERE ANY HOPE? is a three-day (May 23-25) spiritual exploration of the city. Its purpose is to search out "a concrete spirituality that energizes responsible living in a broken world." It is designed for persons who wish to explore their spiritual understanding in the context of urban issues of crisis. For more information, contact the Centre for Christian Studies at 923-1168. Enrollment is limited.

From Organized Working Women...

UNION WOMEN 1975-1985: A DECADE OF STRUGGLE-A DECADE OF CHANGE! is a May 11 conference. Designed to evaluate and celebrate the past decade of union women's activities, the conference has two parts. An afternoon session of panelists and workshops will evaluate the gains and lessons of the past decade and consider the priorities for the future. The second part is an evening social hour, dinner and entertainment. Keynote address will be by Grace Hartmann, former President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the National Action Committee on the Status of Women. Registration is \$35. For more information call 364-2161.

From Canadian Institute of Cultural Affairs...

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER: Sharing Approaches that Work is a June 7-9 conference highlighting breakthroughs in all forms of community activity, both urban and rural. The intent is to develop leadership skills which enhance participation and thus strengthen an organization's capacity to actually share responsibility and to design innovative actions. Costing \$160 including registration, materials, lodging and all meals, the conference will be held at Geneva Park YWCA Conference Centre, Orillia. More information is available by calling 961-2989 or 929-3024.



Interchange

George Brown College Community Worker Program Expanding

George Brown College is doubling the size of its Community Worker Program to 75 full-time students in September of 1985. This two-year diploma program is offered to individuals with a strong commitment to social justice and community development. The program's expansion is based on the College's estimate that employment opportunities (albeit at relatively low wages) are expanding with community-based agencies, information and rights organizations, and resource groups. In addition, the economic recession has created an even greater need for skilled grassroots organizers.

Courses emphasize learning to work with community groups as an organizer, an advocate, a facilitator and a popular educator. Activists who would like to improve their organizing skills might consider taking this innovative community college program.

Offered in both full and part-time formats, more information is available by calling 967-1212 ext. 4220.

Network Sheet Being Updated

The Community Forum publishes a Toronto Social Justice Network sheet bi-annually. It lists over 200 contacts for over 30 issue categories from Women's issues to Third World Solidarity to the Peace Movement to Housing/Urban Affairs. Anyone who wishes to be listed on a updated sheet should call the Community Forum at 361-0466 before May 15. Organizations listed on the sheet are for purposes of identification of the individual's area of involvement and are not intended to imply any formal association with the Community Forum. The revised sheet will be available free to subscribers with their June "Issues & Actions" and for \$2 per sheet to others after June 1.

A WORKERS' COOPERATIVE FOR REFUGEES

The problems of finding employment for refugees in Toronto are enormous. There are linguistic, cultural and social barriers. Often refugees have to be resigned to be unemployed or to do the most menial tasks at exploitive wages.

A group of Central American refugees has decided to tackle the employment problem and has formed a workers' cooperative which seeks work for their members in the cleaning business. They count on the support of the large Toronto community interested in social justice.

No cleaning job is too small or too large. Houses, offices, studios, apartments, industrial buildings can all be cleaned professionally at very reasonable rates.

Please call Jose Daniel Cubias at 534-5194, Miguel Amaya at 535-3386 or Jorge Cornejo after 5 p.m. at 663-9289.

Resources

From Cross Cultural Communications Centre...

Letters to Marcia: A Teacher's Guide to Anti-Racist Education is a manual that speaks directly about the ways racism seeps into the cracks of everyday school life. It provides anti-racist activities for use in teacher's professional development sessions in elementary and secondary school classrooms. The book is available by sending \$9 to the CCCC, 965 Bloor St. West, Toronto M6H 1L7.

From Energy Probe and Doubleday Canada...

Energy Probe's Statistical Handbook: The Other Energy Pie is a comprehensive new book that carefully documents and analyzes energy use by fuel type from 1977 to 1983. It also contains forecasts and indicates and clarifies trends for Canada's energy use picture. The book is available from Energy Probe, 100 College Street, Toronto M5G 1L5 or from your local bookstore for \$5.95.

From On Our Own...

Phoenix Rising is a quarterly magazine published by a group of present and former psychiatric inmates. Controlled by an editorial collective, the magazine is outspokenly critical of institutional psychiatry. It advocates for inmates' rights and a wide range of alternatives to traditional psychiatry. Individual subscriptions are available by sending \$8 per year to Phoenix Rising, Box 7251, Station A, Toronto M5W 1X9. For more information call 699-3194.

Community Forum Financial Report

The following is the 1984 Financial Statement for the Community Forum outlining our revenue and expense for the year ending December 31, 1984. The cost of publishing "Issues & Actions" amounts to approximately 85% of our total expenses.

1984 Income and Expenses

Income (Credits)	Total
Membership	\$ 1,667.50
Media kit sales	663.56
Donations	31,749.00
Other Income	<u>1,062.20</u>
Total:	34,142.26
Expenses (Debits)	
Printing	3,136.50
Postage	1,980.00
Bell Canada	1,370.20
Office Supplies	421.38
Copier	1,296.13
Courier	225.00
Secretarial (Donation)	5,500.00
Office Space (Donation)	6,000.00
Other	117.08
Salaries	<u>14,465.00</u>
Total:	34,511.79
Net Income:	630.47

Calendar

Rape Awareness Week

Sponsored by
Toronto Rape Crisis Centre

May 6

TRCC FILM NIGHT

Films: "A Wife's Tale"; "You Have Struck a Rock"; and "Pink Triangles"
519 Church Community Centre, 7:30
Films followed by discussion period.
Childcare provided. Pay what you can at door.

May 8

STAYING ALIVE: PUBLIC FORUM ON COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

519 Church Community Centre, Pine Room, 8 pm.
Childcare provided, free

May 9

A SLIDE SHOW ON MASCULINITY AND MALE VIOLENCE

A forum facilitated by and for men on effects of masculinity and violence on women and children
Location to be announced (7:30)..call 964-7477.

May 10

OPEN HOUSE at Toronto Rape Crisis Centre

3-7 pm.-- for location call 964-7477

May 1-29

FEM FEST 85

A multi-disciplinary festival of women's art at Gallery 940, Pauline McGibbon Cultural Centre, Black Perspectives and Pages Bookstore. Other attractions include a quilting bee, musical performances and discussions with artists about works exhibited.

Sponsored by Gallery 940

For information and schedule of events -- 466-2030

May 7

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR THE PEACE MOVEMENT

Panelists: Paula Rochman, Cruise Missile Conversion Project; Bob Penner, Toronto Disarmament Network; Angela Browning, Against Cruise Testing Coalition; Gary Moffat, Author and Editor, Network
Sponsored by the Free University
519 Church Community Centre, 7:30
For more information -- 532-3430

May 9

TOWARDS AN INDEPENDENT CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

Speakers: Pauline Jewitt, General Leonard Johnson and others
Sponsored by NDP Anti-War Committee
OISE Auditorium, 252 Bloor St. West, 7:30

May 11

PLAYING FOR PEACE: A Musical Demonstration

Featured guest pianist William Aide
Sponsored by Hillcrest for Peace and Toronto Disarmament Network
St. Matthew's United Church, 729 St. Clair Ave. W.
\$5 adults; \$3 seniors, students and unemployed
For more information -- 654-2599 or 656-5434

AUCTION OF ART, JEWELRY AND SERVICES

Benefit for delegation going to the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students this summer in Moscow, USSR
427 Bloor St. West, 12-5 pm.
For more information -- Vicky Holloway at 461-7300

May 13

CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS workshop

Speakers: Beth Symes, Lawyer practicing in employment law and William Black, Lawyer working on systemic discrimination
City Hall Council Chamber, 7 pm.



May 15-19

LADIES AGAINST WOMEN! with the Plutonium Players

An evening of consciousness lowering
Sponsored by Womynly Way in association with Nightwood Theatre
May 15-18 -- Theatre Centre: 296 Brunswick Ave., 8:30
May 19 -- Trinity St. Paul's Church: 8:30
For more information or reservations -- 927-8998

May 25

AFRICA LIBERATION DAY

March and cultural evening celebrating liberation and opposing apartheid
Sponsored by Africa Liberation Day Coalition
Gathering 1:30 at South African Consulate (King & Bay)--3:00 rally at City Hall
For more information -- Joanne at 656-6068.

May 29

TOWARDS AN ECOLOGY OF MIND

Speaker: Don Alexander of Alternative Futures Institute
Sponsored by the Free University
519 Church Community Centre, 7:30 pm.
For more information -- 532-3430

June 1

TORONTO ANTI-INTERVENTION COALITION: Evaluation and Planning Conference

427 Bloor St. W., 9-6 pm.
For more information -- 928-1338 (days) or 535-8779 (eves)

June 7

FOCUS ON FAMILIES: DEVELOPING AN ACTION PLAN FOR METROPOLITAN TORONTO

All day conference sponsored by Family Life Initiatives Project
The Park Plaza Hotel, 4 Avenue Road, 9-5 pm., \$35 including lunch
For more information -- 961-9831

June 8

WALK-A-THON

Sponsored by Committee of Solidarity with the People of El Salvador
Starts at 10 am. at St. James Cathedral, Church and King
For more information -- 651-6068

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL DAY 1985 CELEBRATION

Sponsored by Philippine National Day Alliance
Seton Park, 10-6 pm
For more information -- 535-8550

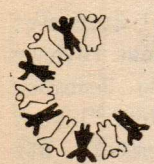
June 9

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CONCERT for the right of all children to friendship, peace and happiness

Sponsored by International Children's Day Harbourfront, 1 to 3:30

Any social justice group wishing to have their event listed in this **Calendar** should send the information by May 24 to:

Issues & Actions 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 example**, to highlight the vitality and hope expressed by your commitment to social change.

You can help us point to **the links between apparently diverse issues** — for example, to make the connection between high unemployment — with the consistent lack of political priorities for important human needs such as housing, jobs and environmental concerns.

You can help us examine **how the social and economic structures of our society contribute to injustice**. 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: _____

COMMUNITY FORUM ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY
3rd Floor, 49 Wellington St. E., Toronto, M5E 1C9 (416) 361-0466

