

# REGENT PARK COMMUNITY needs

VOL.6 NO.8

MAY 18 1977

## ST. CYRIL'S RECOMMENDED AS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Peter Barnard Associates have completed a survey of Residents and agency groups in Regent Park to determine the need for a Community Centre in Regent Park. They were hired by OHC to conduct this survey.

The majority of agencies and organizations interviewed by Peter Barnard Associates expressed the need for more services than are currently available in Regent Park and not surprisingly, services which they are unable to provide themselves. It was generally felt that a community Centre would help to solve some of the current deficiencies. Teens were seen as the

neediest group in Regent Park and agencies suggested that services such as employment Counselling, Alcohol and drug programs, a teen meeting place and social recreational facilities should be provided. Centre needs five Key ingredients:

1. Facilities, programs, and operating policies specifically related to local needs.
2. Strong professional leadership,
3. Continuity of Core funding,
4. Community involvement in program design,
5. Effective Marketing.

The first two factors- programs and policies related to local needs and strong professional leadership are especially important to teens. Without the presence of these key ingredients it is doubtful whether a community Centre in Regent Park will be successful.

Peter Barnard's basic conclusion was that a community Centre is needed and that it should cater to teens with some facilities and programs for the broader community. The General Regent Park Community currently lacks a focus for its social events and special programs. A Comm. centre with a place for dances, meetings, bingo, an information centre and a drop-in lounge area would provide the type of facilities needed for the general Community. Another conclusion of Peter Barnard Associates was that the Centre could be centrally located to encourage Equal use by residents from North and the South.

Similarly Agencies and residents interviewed commented on the need for a Community Centre which would provide a central focus for activities.

Finally there is overall agreement on the need to develop the Community Centre as soon as possible, discussions and plans for the centre have been underway since the late 1960's and agencies, residents and other organizations are concerned about doing something in the near future.

The location which would best serve the Community is St. Cyril's and Methody



Church. The Church site has an excellent central location with easy access from Dundas Street. It is also the site most preferred by the residents interviewed. The existing building already contains some of the facilities needed and the floor plans show space more than adequate to meet the program requirements. In addition the church is sectioned into active and passive areas with a large room suitable for conversion into a gymnasium.

In addition to the advantages of the building and its location, this option is less time consuming than building a new centre.

The concluding recommendation of Peter Barnard Assoc. is to develop a community Centre with the following characteristics to serve Regent Park Residents:

### Program and Facilities:

Centre with Social Recreational programs and facilities including regulation gym, snack bar, lounge/games room, small meeting and multi-purpose rooms. Building of about 14-18,000 sq. ft. on 1 - 2 storeys.

Location: Preferred location is St. Cyrils church with renovations to accomodate appropriate facilities and programs. Estimate capital costs to be about \$ 750,- 800,000, plus renovations, equipment and legal costs.

Operating costs: Anticipate operating costs to range between \$ 100-150,000 annually. Recommend OHC provide maintenance, heat, light and water costs with remainder of funds provided through other sources, Core fund of \$ 50,000 minimum should be established for 3-5 years.

The Community Centre should be managed by a board of Directors consisting of residents officials and others. Day-to-day operation should be the responsibility of Professional Staff.

The RPCIA was very pleased with Peter Barnard Associates survey and hope plans for the purchase and conversion of St. Cyrils church into a Community Centre will soon be underway.

### O.H.C. RENTAL POLICY

as explained by: Morris Black,  
District Manager-N. Regent  
April 27, 1977

Monthly wages \$192.00 rental, 16%  
on sliding scale to \$500.00 rental, 25%  
Senior citizens up to 7,000 per year, 20%  
EXAMPLE: Man, wife, 4 children earning  
500 a month pays 25% \$125.00

PLUS 6.00

131.00

8.00

less 2.00 per child \$123.00

If wife works, 25% is added to rental.

EXAMPLE: Man, wife, 4 children,  
Man earns \$500.00 a month pays 25%,  
\$125.00, Women earns \$500.00 a month pays  
25% of \$425-\$106.25, less 2.00 per child,  
\$125.00

106.25

231.25

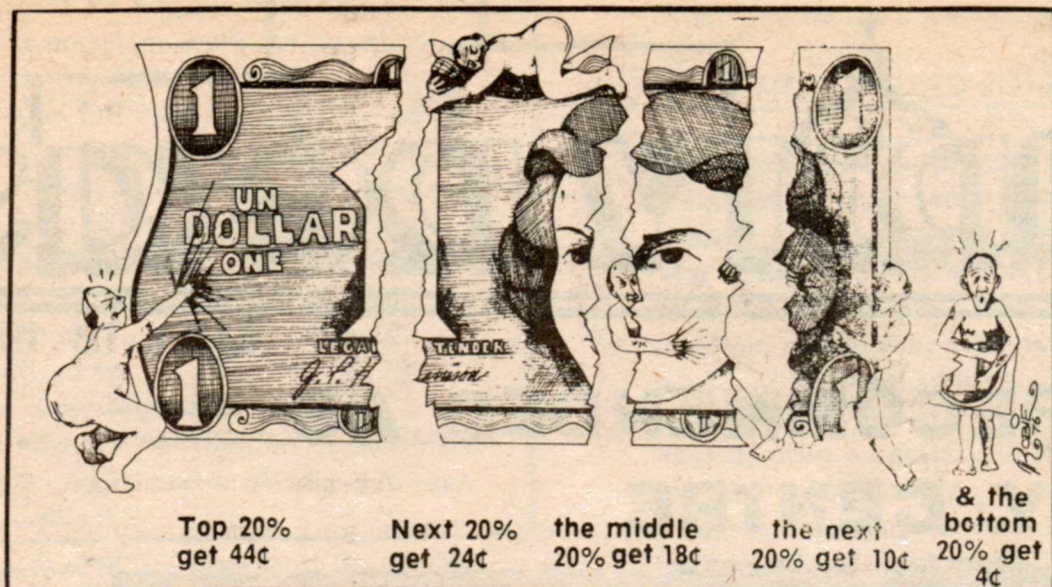
8.00

\$222.25

-Single parent also entitled to \$75.00 deduction on wage.

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## POVERTY

It is becoming increasingly impossible for the Canadian public to have any faith in our governments. And this is especially true for the unemployed and working poor and those on low-fixed incomes who are the real victims of the relentless attack in the form of cutbacks in social services, budget constraints, increased taxes, decreased subsidies and all done piously in the name of controlling inflation and belt-tightening.

Government policy refuses to recognize that those who are hardest hit—the single parents, disabled, aged, the jobless and the working poor—have been pulling in their belts for so long that this new wave of cuts, restraints, growing unemployment and rising living costs finds them with no notches left.

It is easy to lose faith in these times—times when federal government policies hold down wages while prices of food, clothing and rents continue to rise, when unemployment is at its highest, and the unemployed are further victimized through punitive U.I.C. policies.

And these are times which find the provincial government of Ontario reversing its stand of many years, which saw the government not just as a regulatory body, but increasingly more as a provider of social services for the disadvantaged, those whom the private enterprise system have been unable to accommodate or care about. With one great heave of McKeough's hammer, the social conscience and policy of the provincial government is crushed, and poverty becomes officially approved in this wealthy province.

The provincial governments failure to embark on meaningful job-creation programs hits not only at the 150,000 receiving social services benefits who are capable of contributing some productivity, but would also condemn an additional 200,000 to the wasteful and degrading youth welfare culture of pooling meagre benefits, group shackups, and enforced idleness. Those of us who were led to believe that this government would have the foresight and courage to develop policies toward the elimination of poverty in Ontario have been sadly disillusioned.

The governments announcement of an 8 per cent increase in social services benefits still leaves families and individuals existing on incomes of one-half of the poverty level established by the Metro Toronto Social Planning Council (and which was accepted as 'guidelines' by a Federal-Provincial Task Force). With the increase, a

maintain the purchasing power of benefits since the last increase in May, 1975. Since then, food costs have risen 10 per cent, clothing 11½, rents 21 per cent, energy costs 30 per cent, and the overall index 15½ per cent. The poor are being driven deeper into poverty.

While the provincial government tells Ontarians that the 8 per cent increase will cost about \$35.7 million, it neglects to mention that the cost is shared with other levels of government and that Ontario lags far behind other, less wealthy, provinces in the percentage of funds allocated to social services.

But what continues to be most appalling is that less than one-quarter of the amount allocated to social services actually ends up in social services cheques to the recipient—the wasteful and degrading welfare system eats up the balance in administration and operating costs.

Much of the over \$250 million our provincial government just gave in grants and tax incentives to big business—uncalled for when industry is producing at only 80 per cent capacity—would have been better allocated to the poor, who would have stimulated the economy by purchases of necessities.

This government has made its priorities clear. It intends to keep pumping million of tax dollars into the private sector: does not have any plans for large-scale job creation programs; is indifferent to the daily struggle of the poor for physical and mental well-being; and has shelved any plans for low-cost housing. The fact that 30 unemployed are chasing after each job opening, and that we have returned to 6:00 a.m. welfare lineups, are of no great consequence.

Ontario's 2 million poor—the unemployed and working poor and those on low-fixed incomes—cannot be expected to embrace the governments invitation to share 'faith and confidence'.

What we would embrace are policies that would begin to alleviate poverty: a guaranteed adequate annual income providing physical and mental health for all residents; a massive government housing program which would create thousands of jobs and the low-cost shelter needed; control of our natural and energy resources and the development of secondary industries which would create additional thousands of jobs.

Eliminating poverty is a joint Federal-Provincial-Municipal responsibility, and the credibility of each will only be apparent when the cancerous growth of poverty is excised.

Mike Carson  
Provincial Coordinator  
Ontario Anti-Poverty  
Organization/Coalition.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Some members keep a club so strong,  
While others join just to belong.  
Some dig right in, some serve with pride,  
Some go along just for the ride.  
Some volunteer to do their share,  
While some lie back and just don't care.  
Some always pay their dues ahead,  
Some get behind for months instead.  
Some do their best, some build, some make  
Some do nothing, but only take.  
Some lag behind and let things go,  
Some never help their club to grow,  
Some drag, some pull, some don't, some do  
CONSIDER WHICH OF THESE ARE YOU.

Ladies of the Lord will meet Every Thursday at 2 PM. Sewing Club! to recycle used clothing into Soft Toys, pillows etc.  
For anyone who likes to sew.  
All Saints Church - Sherbourne & Dundas

### All City Band

On May 19, 1977, the Music Department of the Toronto Board of Education presents its Annual May Festival in Massey Hall. We are fortunate at Park School to have some excellent musicians who have been chosen to play in the All City Band. This band will play to an estimated audience of 3000 people. Accompaniment for the band will be provided by an 800 voice choir. Congratulations are in order then for Vernon Macumber (tuba), Angela Stoner (French Horn), Tan Nei Lam, (clarinet), Fred Morningstar (tuba), Alison McKeown (flute) and Norma Peterson (clarinet).

Further to our band news we should add that two of our trumpeters Learie Grannum and Gary Prosper played on Easter Day at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, (Dundas and Regent Streets). They played well and their help was much appreciated.

### Get Together Community

Place: Regent Park United Church  
40 Oak St (near Parliament)  
WELCOME - Tenants and Agencies.  
Refreshments, Information Booths,  
Free Babysitting.  
Learn about Summer Recreation,  
Service Agencies, and meet your neighbours.  
For further information please call  
Marion at 363-4234,  
Percy at 863-1768  
7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Wednesday June 8.

### Downtown Boys & Girls Club

Spring Sale- May 28/77  
540 Dundas Basement  
10 am - 2pm.  
Bake Sale models, painting, penny  
carnival crafts.

### D.V.A. Recipients

GLASSES AND FRAMES  
AVAILABLE AT



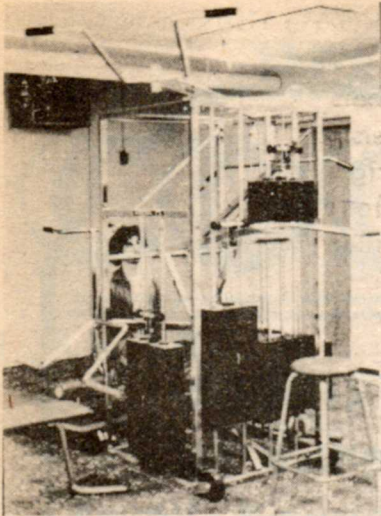
**REGENT OPTICAL**

424 Parliament  
(opposite Woolworths)

**925-5772**

OPEN MON-FRI 1-6 P.M.  
(CLOSED SATURDAY)





## F F F FITNESS OR YOUR FUTURE

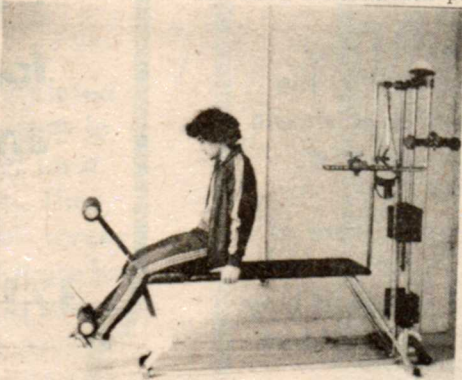
The Salvation Army is now accepting registrations for the Regent Park Fitness Centre. The Centre officially opened on April 13, 1977 and includes:

- Fitness Screen test
- Individualized Programs
- Showers
- Sauna
- Sun Room
- 15 piece Universal Gym
- Rhythmic Calisthenic classes for women
- Jogging Club for men

Members will pay no more than \$30.00 for three months (graded fee scale according to income). All persons must be 18 years of age or over--16 & 17 year olds will be accepted if accompanied by a parent/guardian.

470 DUNDAS ST. EAST  
(BASEMENT)

for more information phone: 864-9364



Sewing - Thursdays 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Regent Park United Church.  
Barbara and her machines are waiting for you. Phone 863-0499. Ages 13 -18 Welcome



## REGENT PARK COMMUNITY NEWS

44 BLEVINS PLACE,  
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5A 3M6

The Regent Park Community News is published twice a Month by the Regent Park Community Improvement Association with the help of a LIP grant. We welcome any letters, comments, poems, photographs, or notices from groups or individuals. All correspondence should be addressed:

EDITOR  
REGENT PARK COMM. NEWS  
44 BLEVINS PLACE  
TORONTO, ONTARIO  
M5A 3M6  
Phone (416-364-2909)

### Provincial Benefit Recipients

GLASSES AND FRAMES  
AVAILABLE AT



**REGENT OPTICAL**

424 Parliament  
(opposite Woolworths)

925-5772

OPEN MON-FRI 1-6 P.M.  
(CLOSED SATURDAY)

**MAYCOURT CLUB**  
**NEARLY NEW CLOTHES**  
**AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**  
**605 WHITESIDE PL.**  
**THURSDAY**  
**10:15 ----- 11 a m**

**ANITA'S HAIRSTYLING**  
**239 CARLTON ST.**  
**922-0478**

Shampoo & Set- \$3.00

Tint-\$8.50

Perm-\$8.99

Rilex Hairstraightening for Afros

Medical Scalp Treatment for psoriasis

Complete line of Beauty Supplies, Wigs and Hairpieces

Ear piercing-\$8.50

Hair Removing

Special unisex style

Ladies and men's cuts

Special uniperm

Facials

Permanent eyelashes and natural nails

Medical Skin Scrub

**Bikoe**

A L.S. ...  
SERVICES AND  
PRODUCT

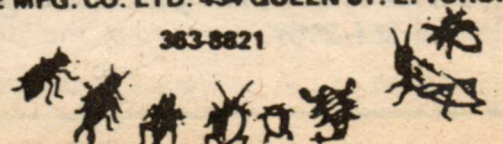
### PEST CONTROL

OUR RETAIL STORE AT 434 QUEEN ST. E. (AT SACKVILLE) CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH THE RIGHT PRODUCTS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO DESTROY ROACHES, FLEAS, BED BUGS, ANTS, SILVERFISH, RATS, MICE AND ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLD PESTS.

IF YOU WISH, WE CAN ARRANGE FOR ONE OF OUR TRAINED AND LICENSED SERVICEMEN TO ELIMINATE THESE PESTS FROM YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS. FREE ESTIMATES - WORK GUARANTEED.

BIKOE MFG. CO. LTD. 434 QUEEN ST. E. TORONTO.

363-8821





**Son or daughter living at home:**

No increase for wages earned while a student either for part-time work during school time or during summer.

If employed full-time, \$75 will be added to father's salary on which rental is based: ie: \$18.75 will be added to rental no matter what the son or daughter earns.

-example if wife earns \$ 500.00  
-rent will go up by 106.25  
-is son earns 500.00  
-rent will go up 18.75

Increase only when lease expires.

90 days advance notification of rent increase. Other additional small amounts vary eg. for Cable T.V.

In answer to the mystery of the Big Red Door. Just what is behind this Door. Well! I'll tell you. There is a lot of God's Children here and Jesus is here with us. There is only one God, and he is everywhere, I have found him, have you?

You are behind this Door is where I work and here I find that God is nearer to me than I am to myself. I have seen wonderful things happen there. Many people have come to know Jesus as their saviour some who never really knew before who Jesus was. So never doubt what is behind this Door. Just come along and see for yourself, like a lot of celebrities have. Those whom Jesus sets free, are free indeed. Come on in behind the red door and be part of God's Family. He will make the difference in your Life, You will see.

The spirit of Jesus is in this place I can see the change he's making on each face

When the power of God is Tapped then! Something good is bound to happen. The spirit of Jesus is in this place.

Eileen Neil

Salvation Army 470 Dundas St. Basement

Robert Hood

Small Appliances Repairs

362-4144

363-6289

325 Gerrard St. E.

Apt. 503

Small deposit required on Repairs

Free Estimate

**Senior Citizens Only**

20% DISCOUNT ON ALL GLASSES AND FRAMES AT



**REGENT OPTICAL**

424 Parliament  
(opposite Woolworths)

**925-5772**

OPEN MON.-FRI. 1-6 P.M.  
(CLOSED SATURDAY)

**JOIN  
THE RPCIA**

Become involved in your community,  
Join the RPCIA. Ask your Unit Rep or  
Phone 364-2909.

**What You should know about your eyes.**

**YOUR MOST VALUED POSSESSION**

It is most important to have an eye examination once every year. If you wear glasses, you would want to know if a change in prescription is necessary to insure better sight. From the Medical standpoint, your eyes should, and must be checked for Glaucoma, Cataracts, or any of the eye problems that do arise especially in middle age and with older people. If discovered early enough, these can be treated and sight saved.

Children should be examined yearly if they wear glasses, or more often if advised by the Oculist or Ophthalmologist. Every child should have an eye examination before they start school for the first time.

There is no reason for neglecting such care as OHIP pays for the examination. Those who are not employed are entitled to eye glasses if they need them through Family Benefits, D.V.A. or Welfare.

To protect your eyes and your vision which can result in other health problems, regular eye examinations are the answer. In this modern world the facilities are there for us to use. Think about the work your eyes do and how important good sight is to you. Negligence is a costly price to pay for sight.

Should you need glasses, it is equally important to insure that your lenses are of the finest quality, not only to the prescription, but to the individual's size and measurement.

**OPEN HOUSE  
RPCIA 44 BLEVINS PL.  
FRIDAY MAY 20th.  
1-8pm**

Phone numbers  
you should  
know!

EMERGENCY -	361-1111
POLICE -	967-2222
FIRE DEPT. -	363-2133
SOCIAL SERVICES	
(general inquiry) -	367-8623
(emerg. service) -	367-8600
(339 George St.) -	925-3131
HEALTH UNIT -	364-2261
DENTAL UNIT -	364-2265
AMBULANCE -	489-2111
REGENT PARK COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION -	364-2909
REGENT PARK SERVICE UNIT -	863-1768
HOSPITALS	
ST. MICHAEL'S -	360-4000
MOUNT SINAI -	596-4200
SICK CHILDREN'S -	597-1500
TORONTO GENERAL -	595-3111
WELLESLEY -	966-6600
DONAL S. MACDONALD - M.P. -	366-2300
MARGARET SCRIVENER M.P.P. -	964-8663
ALDERMEN	
JANET HOWARD -	367-7916
JOHN SEWELL -	367-7910
O.H.C.	
OFFICE NORTH REGENT -	363-5188
OFFICE SOUTH REGENT -	368-1891
EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE -	789-7901
HOME HELP SERVICES -	366-0110
COMMUNITY GUARDIANS -	924-7754
HOMEHELP SERVICE -	366-0110

**TRIGGER-  
Centre for  
Unemployed Youth  
a free service  
for employers  
and employees**

**371 KING ST. W.**

**366-4206**

Contact ROLAND BURNELL for Job  
Counselling at 364-2909.

**JOBS**

L&M Home Improvements, telephone,  
canvassing, phone Mr. Malone,  
694-3560 commission basis.

Towers Food Service, Hourly and or  
commission, 630-1320, food survey.

Cash&Carry Florist, 76 Nelson St.  
362-4729 selling fruit & flowers.

\$15.00 a day for fruit, 20% commission  
for flowers.

Artic House, 651-1963, \$3.00 an hour  
to start, installing insulation, chauffers  
licence required.

Sell advertising for the Regent Park  
Community News, 20% commission all  
ads sold. Phone 364-2909.



**Introducing Your Community Guardians**

Dexter Johnston is the most recent addition to our team in the Park. Dexter spent 2½ years with Metro Police before joining Community Guardians. His great interest and commitment is working with youth, and he was one of the chief organizers of the boys baseball league in his previous project.

A one time resident of O.H.C. Dexter was recently a proud father for the second time. Besides his family, his hobbies include football and basketball. Dexter is a fine athlete.