

# DOWNTOWN EAST

ATT: Dave Morgan  
Health Dept  
453 West 12 Ave  
Vancouver

RECEIVED  
VANCOUVER HEALTH DEPT.  
APR 9 1975  
ANS'D  
REF'D TO

APRIL 1975

☆☆☆

NUMBER 9

## Committee favors spending \$2.7 million for sites

By RANDY GLOVER

A joint committee of council has recommended that \$2.7 million be spent on acquiring sites for housing in the downtown eastside area.

The motion to spend \$2.7 million for housing was passed 4-3 in the committee, with Aldermen Jack Volrich, Ed Sweeney and Hugh Bird opposed.

The motion was supported by Aldermen Harry Rankin, Mike Harcourt, Art Cowie and Helen Boyce.

The \$2.7 million is a portion of the \$6 million the provincial government paid for the courthouse next to the police station on Main.

## Phillips to Oppose Housing Dollars for Downtown East side

By JEAN SWANSON L.E.A.P.

Mayor Phillips will oppose the recommendation of a joint committee of council to use \$2.7 million for housing in the downtown eastside.

The joint committee recommendation came after a meeting February 1st, 1975 at the Salvation Army Temple with representatives of 40 downtown eastside organizat-

ions and Aldermen Rankin and Harcourt. It was noted that over 1,000 housing units had been lost in the downtown eastside in 1974-75. Some participants reported that displaced residents were living in the streets, rather than pay high rents at available places.

The Mayor wants to use the \$2.7 million to build a gym-

nasium and parking lot for policemen. Alderman Harcourt said he would like to use the money for a skating rink. \$2.7 million is the money left over from the sale of the provincial courts building, after \$3.3 million is used to renovate the police building.

## Local Groups Urge Eriksen to Reconsider

BRUCE ERIKSEN, Mar. 14/75.

RE: YOUR RESIGNATION - We, the undersigned ask you to reconsider your decision; maybe not for yourself, because we understand the pressures on you, but on behalf of the people of the district.

We have had an unanimous vote this morning to back you, and if you are agreeable, we would like to send a letter to City Hall requesting them to reconsider the Appeal. We believe they will.

We will await your reply.

Letter received from the Downtown Eastside Community Organisations:  
K. O'Shanneceny, Lookout; M. Chisholm, New Hope Centre; Sister Mary Beata, Franciscan Sisters; V. Obedkoff, 1st United Church; L. Davies, DERA; Father Richard Brugger, St. Paul's Parish; Bill Hennessy, 1st United Church; Tanis Cornwall, DERP; Mary Segal, City Centre Youth Resources; Rita LeClair, 1st United Church; Ray Schon, DERA; Mrs. May Gutteridge, St. James' Social Service; Mr. R. Gutteridge, Central City Mission; Mr. B. Ross, Central City Mission.



HOUSING IS MORE ESSENTIAL THAN GYMS AND PARKING LOTS FOR POLICEMEN !!!!!!!!!!!

## Rentalsman Obliges Slumlord

MAR. 27, 1975, ORDERS to the 14 elderly tenants of the King Edward Apt's. at 420 E. Hastings street were issued by RENTALSMAN OFFICER L.R. TUB-MAN and SENIOR DEPUTY, PETER, B. SMITH. The ORDERS which were on behalf of WONG YING SLUMLORD, commanded the 14 tenants, to deliver full and peaceable vacant possession and occupation of the King Edward Apt's., by 5pm April 1, 1975, to the said WONG YING. The orders gave these 14 old people exactly five days to find alternate accommodation. [Good Friday, Saturday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday and to 5PM: Tues. April first 1975.] The events leading up to the ORDER for possession, are JULY 3, 1974, tenants complain

to Standing Committee on Social Services and to the Offices of the RENTALSMAN that the SLUMLORD was attempting to charge them an illegal 58% rent increase plus a further \$150.00 each to repair and decorate their rooms. The 14 tenants refused to pay the \$150.00, but stated at the time that they would be more than willing to pay the 58% rent increase if WONG YING would bring the premises up to the standards required under the Lodging house By-Laws. July 9, 1974, reply from PETER B. SMITH, SENIOR DEPUTY RENTALSMAN, A.G. DEPT VICTORIA, B.C. "As you are aware, the relevant sections of the NEW LANDLORD and TENANT ACT,

confering certain authority and responsibility upon the RENTALSMAN, have yet to be proclaimed; meanwhile, be assured of our interest until the more active participation of the RENTALSMAN in such matters." Oct. 18, 1974, tenants make application under repair section, 34.(1). of the NEW ACT, which has recently been proclaimed. Oct. 25, 1974, seven days later, City Health Dept decides to enforce By-Laws, orders WONG YING SLUMLORD, to close premises for deliberate refusal to comply with health By-Laws, despite the fact that the DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, DAVE MORGAN, is fully aware of the tenants application to the office of the RENTALSMAN requesting repairs

under section 34. (1). of the ACT. NOV. 4, 1974, tenants get notice to vacate from WONG YING dated Oct. 31, 1974. NOV 5, 1974 tenants file notice of dispute with RENTALSMAN DEC. 16, 1974, RENTALSMAN says that issues raised will be attended to shortly. MARCH 20 1975, SENIOR DEPUTY, PETER B. SMITH, advises tenants that ACTION ON APPLICATIONS FOR REDIRECTION OF RENTS DUE TO LACK OF REPAIRS ARE INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME IN VIEW OF THE CLOSURE ORDER and that he was declaring the notices of the SLUMLORD valid because of the City closure order due to LACK OF REPAIRS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

# Kennedy bid fails to halt False Creek housing

By Nate Smith City Hall Reporter

An attempt to kill the housing development planned on the south shore of False Creek was rejected Thursday by city council's planning and development committee.

Ald. Warnett Kennedy proposed that the development be stopped, describing it as "madness" and a "naive idea."

... Kennedy said plans for a mix of income groups in the development are naive. "This is a social experiment that has never succeeded when it's been tried."

... City finance director Peter Leckie said if the False Creek project were killed at this stage, it would cost the city \$21.5 million and "the city can't afford it."

... Kennedy said ... the project would be a "subsidized ghetto."

... Kennedy's was the lone vote to kill the project,...

EXCERPT FROM ARTICLE IN THE VANCOUVER PROVINCE DATED FEBRUARY 14, 1975.

# N. O. P. O. O. R. A. N. Y. M. O. R. E!

BY CALVIN SANDBORN

N.P.A. believes that False Creek land is too valuable to be wasted on low-cost housing -- news item.

The Downtown East was able to secure an exclusive interview with Worn - Out Bilgebrain, renowned social critic, political commentator, and leading light of the NPA [No Poor, Anymore] political party.

Q. Mr. Bilgebrain, I understand that your party has an alternative to building low - cost housing in the False Creek basin?

A. Ha-rrumph, why yes of course we do. First of all, we think it's totally ridiculous to ever house poor people near the water. We all know that traditionally the rich have lived near the water, and for a very good reason -- the rich have an artistic sense, they can appreciate the water. Now, don't get me wrong, the poor can understand some kinds of water -- simple kinds, they understand toilets and kitchen sinks [some of the best dishwashers and plumbers I've known have been poor], but we're talking about appreciation of beauty. Besides, since the rich don't work, they have much more time to devote to water-watching.

Q. Didn't poor people used to live in the False Creek area?

A. Of course, but that's before we started to move industry out of the basin. The poor were given the opportunity to live there so they could be near their jobs. Besides, we couldn't convince any rich people to move in next to a sewer. But now False Creek is going to be cleaned up and turned

into a park -- and the situation changes. A beautiful False Creek is going to be far too valuable for poor people to inhabit. I mean, beauty is getting scarcer all the time, and therefore more valuable. It just can't be wasted on poor people. It's a matter of simple economics.

Q. Where do you suggest that poor people live?

A. Now, humph, humph, that's a very difficult question. We used to send the poor to Gastown, but that area is now a popular tourist spot, and is far too valuable to be used by poor people.

That's where our master plan comes in; the plan that will not only solve that particular problem, but totally eliminate the poverty problem in Vancouver.

Q. How's that?

A. Well, it's very simple. Just think about it. What causes poverty? Poor people

## Hot Plate

### CHILI

½ lb. ground beef  
1 cup kidney beans [canned or cooked]

1 cup stewed tomatoes  
chopped onion  
green pepper [optional]  
1 tbsp. chili powder  
salt, bay leaf

Brown ground beef. Add other ingredients, bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, covered 10 minutes. Serve with a tossed salad and/or garlic bread.

NOTE: Make soup with the leftover kidney beans and/or tomatoes by adding a tsp. oil or margarine and a bouillon cube.

MONDAY MARCH 24 1975

The Vancouver Sun

Ho hum

Does anyone really give a hoot whether Mayor Art Phillips fires city planner Ray Spaxman, whether Mr. Spaxman fires Mr. Phillips, or whether both are seized by urban guerrillas and exchanged for all the city planners of the past, now in limbo lost, and a bag of Gravy Train? We doubt it. There's a curse on planning in Vancouver. What is accomplished or threatened in its name, from the Granville Mall to the False Creek pueblo, is political pot-shooting, not planning, and, asked to make a choice between the two eternally warring factions the taxpayer might wearily evoke a curse on both their houses. Why is it, at city hall, that the people who never would be missed never go on strike?

SPAXMAN we'd miss!

## Open Letter

Dear Members of D.E.R.A.

I am writing to urge you not to accept the resignation of our President, Bruce Eriksen on April 14th, 1975.

If you feel, as I do, that Mr. Eriksen has created and initiated many changes in the downtown eastside that have greatly benefitted us all, attend the meeting on April 14th, and tell him so.

I believe that we need a person such as Mr. Eriksen, to fight for us and represent the 700 members of DERA. He is one person who has proved to City Council, the media and the general public that the people of the downtown eastside, you and I together, have the capabilities and the interest to change our community for the better.

Having worked with Mr. Eriksen for the past year, I know that he is a dedicated man, who believes in what he is fighting for.

It is absurd and unnecessary for him to resign because he feels that he must take it upon himself to dispel the myth that DERA is Bruce Eriksen, a one-man operation.

We, the 700 members of DERA, not our president must prove that this is a dangerous, unfounded idea.

Therefore, as members of DERA and residents of the area, we must stand up and be counted. Come to the meeting on April 14th at St. James Church, lower Gymn, at 7:00 p.m., and show your support for your Association and your President, Bruce Eriksen.

See you there!

Yours Sincerely,  
Libby Davies --  
Member at Large.

### NEXT VANCOUVER ELECTION NOVEMBER 1976!

The real challenge to the new establishment is emerging from such citizens' groups as the COPE-oriented Vancouver Tenants' Council and such insurgent community organizations as the Downtown East Side Residents' Association and the West Broadway Citizens' Committee. Each of these groups and others too numerous to mention are organizing from the base to build a politics of real issues in Vancouver. In the long run they pose the best hope of giving content to West Coast civic politics and restoring democracy in Vancouver.

EXCERPT FROM THE LAST POST - OCT-NOV 1974, VOL. 4, NO. 3.

reprinted from Vol. 1, #4, Aug. 1-15, 1973, DOWNTOWN EAST.



Last year's community garden in 300 block East Cordova Street is the site of Cordova Lodge.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF D.E.R.A.

≡ special meeting ≡

RE: election of new Officers -

date: APRIL 14th 1975

place: St. James Church  
Cordova and Gore

time: 7.30 p.m.



# Downtown Eastside Residential Facility

## A Time for Decision

By Ray Guttridge Central City Mission

Many community people recently have become concerned about this project. Having been involved since 1972 in changing the original concept of a hostel where the rooms could be hosed down, to a point where a desirable building is to be built, I felt it was about time that facts as I know them were placed before you. But a word of warning - Do not lose sight of the priorities or the critical housing need if you intend to prolong the agony of achieving a desirable goal by more talk. At this time we need action, not more committees.

When one considers that it was a report from the Vancouver Medical Health Officer to City Planning Department dated August 11th, 1972 that initiated the concept of a facility to accommodate the so-called "difficult to house" from the Downtown Eastside, it is somewhat distressing to find that to date Vancouver Social Planning has not deemed it necessary to acquaint the local residents and workers on what format this facility is to be operated.

From the date of the initial report on August 11th 1972 it was not until January 16th 1973 that the community workers under the leadership of Peter Davies had the opportunity to discuss this project. At that time a local representation was appointed

to the Steering Committee of the Vancouver Social Planning Department from the Downtown Eastside community workers. This component, which eventually became known as the "Committee of Six" was comprised of Pat Canning, Jim Erb, J.A. Murray, Linda Ragona, Andy Wolitski and the writer. The first meeting of the

Steering Committee was called on March 14th 1973 at City Hall and was chaired by Tony Geach, the Assistant Director of Community Planning. This was the start of the long struggle which saw the original members of the Committee of Six become frustrated to the point where they failed to show up for the meetings. In May of 1973 Maureen Sanderson and Linda Ragona put out a questionnaire concerning the qualities of the proposed facility and this was submitted to the Steering Committee as a whole. Walter Boyd, who at the time was the Director of Welfare and Rehabilitation for the City of Vancouver, and Dr. Bonham, the Medical Health Officer, endorsed the recommendations in memorandums to Tony Geach on July 13th 1973. Also on that date the planning department submitted their report to Council. The contents of this report appeared to be in line with the physical facility envisioned by the Committee of Six but the report did not contain recommendations in regard to management or social services.

It should also be pointed out that based on the reports from the City Social Welfare Department there was no indication that there was a need to serve women in this facility at that time. Following the May 1973 meeting there was silence from City Hall and the writer took up the initiative to resolve the cancellation of the June and July meetings and it appeared that there were problems in respect to management of this facility that were being discussed between the City, CMHC and the Provincial Government. To force action, the Central

City Mission offered to provide management and direct the Social Services as it had long experience in this field. On September 12th 1973 this proposal was received by the Steering Committee. At the next meeting on November 21st 1973 the writer was the only remaining member of the original Committee of Six, and at this time many important decisions were pushed through.

January 9th 1974 brought forth the architect's drawings and plans. The design and flexibility met with approval of the committee and my own. The point of management was again raised, and Mr. Geach informed the Central City Mission that action on this proposal could be expected in two to three weeks. On February 1st 1974 Central City Mission again asked for clarification on the management problem and to date no satisfactory answer has been received.

To end this chronological document it was on the 4th of July 1974 (the date is not significant) that the author was advised that the Council had approved the recommendations of the Steering Committee on the 23rd of April 1974 (it took two and a half months to let me know) and the letter closed with a brief thank-you for your help, but still no word on management. But the frustration had not ended. On September 24th 1974 I was asked to attend a meeting with members of the Alcohol and Drug Commission, Dr. Bonham, representative from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and a representative from the Greater Vancouver Regional District. The architect was also present. At this meeting it was felt that further input was necessary by the Alcohol and Drug Commission and other community groups, but that

the design need not change. It was at this point I gave up also. Here we were, over two years of work and now more talk of postponement.

Let us first consider the priorities. They are many, but in this case the desperate need is for housing in the Downtown Eastside area. That is the only priority in this instance. Whether it is called a "hard to house facility", "difficult to house" or the "Downtown Eastside Residence Facility" has no real bearing on the issue. But we must not lose sight of the need which is clearly indicated by the many homeless people who become difficult to house for many reasons. The criteria for residence in such a facility must never be allowed to be brought down to a point of labelling a person.

Having put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to this project I would hate to have us fall into the trap of verbalizing ourselves out of the possibility of having 75 additional beds in the area. And if at this time there is indicated a need for housing for women, let us prove the point and make change. The flexibility of the design allows for change. The other questions we should be asking are what is the management concept, and how much social service input is required to help 75 people through a difficult time to a better quality of life that is everyone's right and not just a privilege?

## Tenants Sue Slumlord

Fourteen of the tenants in the King Edward Apartments have followed the lead of the East Hotel tenants, and are suing their landlord for breach of contract in the sum of \$1,000.00 each, for a total of \$14,000.00.

# LEAP ON THE GO

By Don Montgomery ☆ D.E.R.A. - L.E.A.P. Foreman

The DERA - LEAP project's first year of operation has drawn to a close with a most productive record behind it. The year started off slowly with the usual growing pains. This period of staff turmoil was quickly resolved. We then began the demanding job of working towards the Association's objectives.

Throughout the summer and fall, a core of devoted staff members was established, who then started to produce an impressive array of statistics. These include the Eastside Story, our very popular display on neighbourhood Improvement in Oppenheimer; the Downtown East, our monthly newsletter was produced...the past year, has seen the circulation increase by 50% and the beginnings of a professional looking paper.

We have established a comprehensive and thorough community information centre. Within this centre, we have many of the various forms and applications with which the public comes into contact. These include Renters Resource Grant, Income Tax, Bus Pass, etc. [We also assist in their completion]. We also have a wide range of information from Landlord and Tenant matters to Legal Aid problems. The job of maintaining our comprehensive information centre is one taking an extensive amount of time and energy and is unceasing, as we keep abreast of the very latest information available.

One of our accomplishments of which we are most proud, is the publishing of our own Downtown Eastside Catalogue; all the services included we felt would be useful to our residents. (5,000 copies were distributed).

Our staff is presently working on a survey of all the hotels and rooming houses in the area. In this project, we are gathering information on the present rent and vacancy rates.

We have also completed a food store cost survey [in this issue]. In this survey, we have revealed the most economical stores in which to shop.

The success of the LEAP is witnessed by the popularity of our offices. From October 8th, 1974 to February 28th, 1975 (a five month period), 1,051 residents have utilized our offices. This breaks

down to 292 persons for assistance of Renters Resource Grant forms and 265 residents approached us on Landlord and Tenant matters. An additional 494 members came to us under the classification -- 'Other'; this included every other reason residents came to our office -s, i.e., Community Information, Job Application, etc.

The LEAP staff is also involved in the renovation of the Carnegie Library into a Community Recreation Centre. We are also fighting hard to get construction with Antoinette Lodge and the Multi-Use Centre (44 East Cordova) begun in the immediate future.

In reviewing the LEAP, it is easy to see that it is working, and is a valuable asset to the community in that it is both productive and useful.

# D.E.R.A. Lays it on the line

Civic Grant appeal fails Elizabeth Davies

When dealing with Civic Grant requests in February, City Council approved the suggestion of Alderman Bird to limit the grant request of DERA for two Community Organizers' salaries to \$14,250.00, which was the amount received the year before. In effect, the cut of \$5,250.00 meant a decrease in the two salaries of 16.6%.

Really, the Mayor, and Aldermen Bowers, Volrich and Bird should be above such tactics of appearing to support a Community Organization such as DERA, when they are actually penalizing it by chopping salaries indiscriminately and throwing in criticisms of irresponsibility and questionable tactics. Had DERA really been irresponsible, Council would not have awarded one cent of the grant request.

It puts the Mayor and the three Aldermen who voted against the appeal in a sticky position. While on the one hand they are on record as committing themselves to cleaning up Skid Road, [and cannot help, but acknowledge, that it is being done very successfully by DERA]; on the other hand, they have stooped to an all time low; scorned the support of 89 petitioner -s representing many community organizations in the downtown eastside, to avoid funding an active, dedicated community group.

The President of DERA, Bruce Eriksen, who ran for Alderman in 1974, thus posing a threat to TEAM, was more than they could take, and they are willing to penalize a whole community of over 7,000 residents for it.

As always --- TEAM & NPA politics at the expense of community development.

# Rooming House Operator Protests Against Slumlord

Dear Mr. Eriksen: I would like to have your suggestions for the situation I am now in. This may be important to you, as a leader of this area, because it might affect about 37 residents.

This is the situation: We [excluding me, because I work full time somewhere else], operate the Wonder Rooms. As you probably already know, we have been getting very bad reports from the city health inspector. This place is not up to standards of the Lodging House By-laws. The main complaints of the report were there was no heat, leaking ceilings, infestation of insects, and no water pressure.

We, the operators have to face all these charges, while the rich slum landlord [Quon Wong] sits back and counts his huge rent money.

Your probable solutions to these, would be to fix the roof, switch to gas from sawdust, repair all the cracks [nests of insects] in the walls and send the whole bill to the landlord. No, it's

not that easy. Realistically, Quon Wong will say, "That's your problem. Fix it or close down." This will leave us no choice, but to dish out the money. Furthermore, concerning this sprinkler system for control.....it appears that the operators [us] will end up paying for it. He has already told us that the more it cost to install, the higher the rent increases. Up to the present date, no action has been taken regarding to this.

How long will our tiny savings last? Sooner or later, we will have to close down, because we are already poor enough. Our furniture, food and living conditions are no better than the tenants.

This letter is also to inform you that some operators are very dedicated to their job. Some are addicted to rooming house operation and will not leave even if they make a net loss or just break even. I hope that in the future, the city will buy up all the slum rooming houses, repair them, and provide a small income for those who truly want to operate a rooming house. Sidney Wong.

## SPECIAL NOTICE!

ALL MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL; MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES OF DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS; AND MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA:

Are invited to attend a special election meeting of the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association, as observers.

ON: APRIL 14TH, 1975.  
AT: ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH --- LOWER GYM. [GORE AVE. & CORDOVA ST.]  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

## Readers:

Do you have something to say about living in the downtown eastside?

We need to hear from you! Write us a letter!

D.E.R.A.

616 East Cordova Vancouver



The DOWNTOWN EAST is a community newsletter published by the DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, 616 E. Cordova St., Vancouver, BC. Layout, editing, reporting-- D.E.R.A. - L.E.A.P. staff. Feature articles by members of active community groups. All typing by Chris Gray. The newsletter is published monthly and distributed to local residents free of charge. Circulation is 3,000.



JULIUS CAESAR  
MARK ANTHONY  
CHICANERY

Friends, Mayor, Fellow Aldermen, lend me your ears. I come to praise the D.E.R.A., not to bury them! Forget your differences, forget that they have referred to Alderman Volrich as a slum landlord, forget Maurice Egan's report in which he describes the motives of D.E.R.A., as questionable, their irresponsibility and abrasive tactics. If you work down there, you have to be kinky.

# SHOPPING IN THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

By Sharon MacDonald

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association - L.E.A.P. workers have compiled the following information as a shopping guide for residents in the downtown eastside.

Although a total of 21 stores were listed for comparison only 14 were actually surveyed; the remaining nine refused to allow workers to price articles. We can only conclude that publication of their prices would be bad for business!

44 of the most commonly used food items were selected and include perishables, canned foods, vegetables, and meats. Wherever possible, brands that were inexpensive and popular were compared. Comparisons do not include --- "specials".

Once the food items had been checked and charted, each store was listed in order of the highest number of lowest priced items.

### LIST OF 21 STORES SURVEYED:

- Downtown Community Health Society
- Payless Meats
- Western Salvage
- Woodwards
- Pay & Save
- Save On Meats
- Produce City
- Sunrise Market
- Moonlight
- Maggies--refused admittance
- Sunkist--refused admittance
- Cozy Corner---refused admittance

- B.C. Grocery--refused admittance
- Bill's Grocery
- O.K. Grocery
- John's Grocery
- Queen's Grocery--refused admittance
- Park's Grocery
- New World Grocery
- York's Grocery--refused admittance

D.C.H.S.	14
Payless Meat	11
Western Salvage	6
Woodwards	4
Pay & Save	3
Save On Meats	2

Downtown Community Health Society Foodstore, 373 East Cordova Street.  
 Date: March 10th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 14

Margarine \$ .45¢- 1 lb.  
 Sugar .85¢- 1 lb.  
 Instant Coffee 1.72¢-10 oz.  
 Canned Milk .29¢-large.  
 Orange Juice .18¢-10 oz.

Mac&Ch. Dinner .20¢-7 1/2 oz.  
 Rice .31¢- 1 lb.  
 Tuna-canned .55¢- 6 oz.  
 Creamed Corn-can .25¢-14 oz.  
 Pork & Beans .27¢-14 oz.

Payless Meats, 469 Powell St.  
 Date: March 13th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 11

Lettuce \$ .20¢- 1 lb.  
 Cabbage .10¢- 1 lb.

- Carrots .18¢- 1 lb.
- Potatoes .09¢- 1 lb.
- Bologna-fresh .59¢- 1 lb.
- Eggs-Grade A .89¢- 1 dz.
- Orange Juice-can .18¢-10 oz.
- Sausages .89¢- 1 lb.
- Liver .58¢- 1 lb.
- Pork Chops 1.39¢- 1 lb.
- Bacon .89¢- 1 lb.

Western Salvage, 627 Powell Street.  
 Date: March 13th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 6

- Bread \$ .25¢-16 oz.
- Eggs-Grade B .73¢- 1 dz.
- Cheddar Cheese .69¢- 1 lb.
- Tea Bags .59¢- 1 lb.
- Ground Coffee .93¢- 1 lb.

Woodwards, Abbott&Hastings St.  
 Date: March 12th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 4

- Bologna-package \$ .55¢- 1 pk.
- Milk-quart .58¢- 1 qt.
- Butter 1.00¢- 1 lb.
- Edam Cheese .68¢- 1 lb.

Pay & Save Meat, 16 W. Hastings St.  
 Date: March 20th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 3

- Pork Chops \$1.39¢- 1 lb.
- Stewing Beef .75¢- 1 lb.
- Weiners-package .79¢- 1 pk.

Save On Meat, 43 W. Hastings Street.  
 Date: March 13th, 1975.  
 Number of lowest prices: 2

- Onions-medium \$ .13¢- 1 lb.
- Hamburger .69¢- 1 lb.

Produce City is excellent for vegetables, and variety.

Note that the 6 stores do not include the notoriously high priced corner groceries. For example: In the D.C.H.S. Food Store 100 tea bags cost .60¢ compared to \$.2.64 in Park's Grocery; 10 oz. of Sun Rye Orange Juice in Bill's Grocery cost .30¢ --- whereas, in the D.C.H.S. food store it only cost .18¢. Corner groceries, open as late as 11:00 pm, can afford to charge exorbitant prices since most of their business is done after 5:00 pm, when more reasonably priced stores close.

Warning -- If you want to save money, stay away from corner groceries in the downtown eastside! They're expensive, often dirty, and sell old stock.

Since the D.C.H.S. food store is the only non-profit low cost store in the neighbourhood, it would seem logical to greatly expand their services, so that residents can get a fair deal.

Forming food co-operatives, and/or moving the D.C.H.S. food store to a store front, would be alternatives to not only the high priced grocery stores, but the large super market chains like Safeway & Woodwards. The only drawback is that, if a food co-operative is to be successful, it needs commitment and work from its members. Are we prepared to do that?

## 'Please may we have a swimming pool?'

Jan., 1973 -- A letter was sent to Mr. R. Young, Social Planning Department, requesting that Lot C & D [the vacant ground in front of Strathcona School] would make an excellent site for a recreation area, swimming pool, etc. Two mothers of the area had collected signatures to support the proposal. This area has more children than most, but the facilities are almost nil.

Feb. 5 -- A reply, referring us to Alderman Volrich and the Community Development Committee. [But Social Planning favoured housing].

March 22 -- We sent a letter to Mayor and Council, with the same request.

April 9 -- A letter to Alderman Rankin, inquiring if there had been any development re Lots C & D.

April 18 -- We received a copy of a memorandum to Alderman Rankin from Deputy Director of Planning, they favoured housing-but suggested other organizations may have other proposals.

June 14 -- A meeting was held at Strathcona School to hear proposals.

A large number of children attended, about 24 carrying placards they had made -- "Please may we have a swimming pool!" etc. They were terrific - and well mannered as well. They were put in the balcony, and they waited quietly until it was time for their presentation, at that point they gave a spontaneous cheer. After the presentation they filed out. We feel they were ignored. The Sun did not report on their efforts - I wondered if they had put a brick through one of the windows, would it have been reported?

Dec. 6 -- Our request was tabled with Council.

Feb. 6 -- The Sun reported in a 2" by 2" insert - an agreement had been reached. Housing - who can knock it - it's the sacred cow - but I predict it will not rehouse any from this area, but that's another war....

Nov. 27 -- Delinquency is rising, more housing won't help without recreational facilities for the area.

Dec. 21 -- Another letter requesting a reply from Alderman Harcourt.

Jan. 11, 1974 -- We received a reply, at last, telling us that Council had voted for housing - "As you are aware, Council is taking significant steps to increase recreational opportunities in the downtown east side area".

Jan. 22 -- We reminded Alderman Harcourt of the quote and asked what was planned.

Feb. 1 -- A reply saying he would be in touch re recreational facilities.

Feb. 20 -- A letter referring us to Tanis Cornwall, Parks Board representative - "I am advised that the programmes she has helped to get going with the residents involve such things as swimming pool, bingo, drama, crafts, trips, etc." Bingo maybe, a Swimming Pool never, unless it's the flooded Oppenheimer Park.

March 26 -- We telephoned Mr. Little, City Clerk, complaining that we had not been notified when the committees met regarding C & D. He sent us copies of all the meetings. It's easy to get things passed, when you get rid of the opposition. -- We were stymied.

By May Gutteridge  
St. James Social Service



The children's weekly meetings continued, during the summer many trips were arranged, overnight camping, etc. But again summer is over, where can we take the kids for exercise to run off that energy?

Sept. 6 -- A letter to Premier Barrett [copies to the rest] comparing recreational facilities at Strathcona School area with the same at Lord Byng. Wasn't his government for the poor?

Sept. 17 -- A letter from G. Lauk saying his assistant, Mr. Albert Melul, would investigate Lots C & D - he came - said he would be back in a couple of days -- poor man, I think he fell in a hole in the rough ground [it's been dug for about 7 years] - he never returned.

Oct. 16 -- We received from Mr. Lorne Nicolson a letter - stating he would certainly not be prepared to interfere with the decision to use the land for housing, but, Mr. David Davies would be asked to review recreation facilities in the area.

# The developer's TEAM: Vancouver's 'reform' party in power

By DONALD GUTSTEIN

By kind permission of the publishers of CITY MAGAZINE, December 1974 January 1975, Vol. 1, No. 2.

Urban reform came to Vancouver in a big way in 1972 when a young, progressive political party called TEAM swept out of office the pro-developer aldermen of the NPA, the party which had controlled Vancouver City Hall for 35 straight years.

Fed up with the constant assault on citizen interests mounted by the NPA politicians led by millionaire-developer mayor Tom Campbell, Vancouver's citizenry turned to the most visible, most publicized and least threatening alternative. It was called TEAM, for the Electors' Action Movement.

In spite of all the attention devoted to TEAM before and after it won the 1972 elections, little was done to investigate and publicize the party's roots to see whom it really represented. Now, with two years' experience of TEAM's version of municipal reform, its roots and background are of even more interest. For TEAM in office has proven to be a newer version of the same old kind of city politics, pro-developer, pro-business interests, unconcerned about proper citizen representation or legitimate citizen interests. And it turns out that this new party is directly connected to the same establishment business interests which previously ruled Vancouver through the NPA.

In this year's Vancouver elections, TEAM has been challenged by an informal alliance of the NDP, citizen-oriented groups and long-time political radicals. But the task of this opposition has been rendered very difficult by TEAM's success at appropriating the image of change at the same time as it staunchly refuses to adopt any policy---even policies it included in its 1972 election platform---which make fundamental changes in the civic status quo.

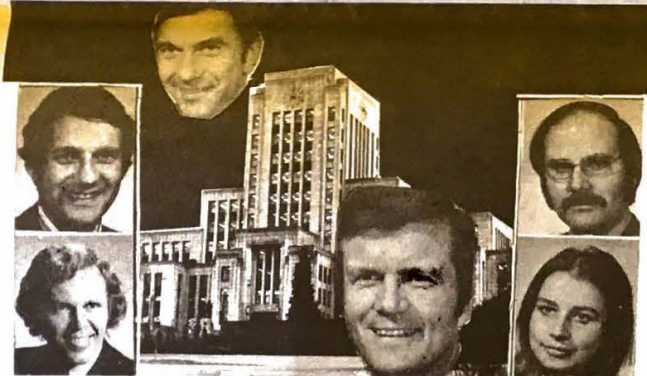
People in Vancouver seem to feel that TEAM is doing a good job. But the reality belies that feeling. In fact, it could be argued that Vancouver's citizens would have been better off if TEAM had never been elected, and if the reactionary NPA had remained in power.

To cite one example, as long as the NPA was in power

, there was never any development of the Four Seasons site, at the entrance to Stanley Park. Granted, the NPA was going to give the developers everything they wanted. But the issue was clear to the citizens of Vancouver. They bitterly opposed the development at every stage, and would have gone on opposing it for as long as necessary. When TEAM came into power, the opposition let up. TEAM was going to give the people what they wanted. Very soon, TEAM became unclear and fuzzy on the issue. Various proposals were publicized. A referendum held on the question further confused the citizenry, who voted to buy the first block, but not the second. The net result was that there would be no development on the first block, but there would be fairly substantial development permitted on the next block, something that never would have occurred under the NPA. And the developers won again

far to the right. Alderman Walter Hardwick, TEAM's "guru of urban affairs" is the extreme example of the trend. Hardwick was first elected to council in 1968, the year TEAM was formed. He spent the next four years as a strong opposition spokesman. James Lorimer, in a Citizens Guide to City Politics, tabulated the Vancouver City Council voting record for 1971-72 and showed Hardwick, along with COPE Alderman Harry Rankin, to be the most consistent anti-development voice on council, with an almost perfect record of voting for the people's interests. A similar tabulation of council's voting record for 1974 shows that Hardwick had done a complete reversal in his voting pattern, now being one of the most consistent pro-development voices on council.

Who is TEAM and why are they doing this to Vancouver? For the answer to this question, we have to look at the party's origins in the



TEAM's record on other major issues has been just as doubtful.

\*There still is no local area representation, no ward system on city council

\*Downtown development is more rampant than ever, though slightly more spread out

\*The CPR is getting everything it wants on its False Creek property, and will probably get the same for its extensive waterfront holdings

\*The inner residential neighborhoods are still being destroyed

\*Although Vancouver will get some form of rapid transit, it is not clear who will benefit the most---the citizens or the downtown property owners.

While TEAM was in opposition, its policies had the ring of reform. Since coming into power, it has shifted

collapse of the last political group to dominate city hall, the Non-Partisan Association (NPA).

NEXT ISSUE: THE FALL OF NPA AND THE RISE OF TEAM.

## Antoinette Lodge

By Karen O'Shannocery

Antoinette Lodge will be the second new single persons' dwelling to be built in the Downtown-Eastside with funds from all three levels of government. It will be in the 500 block East Cordova, half a block from Oppenheimer Lodge.

Since mid August, local residents interested in tenanting the building have been meeting weekly or bi-weekly, to work with the architect to aid, plan, design, and develop the Lodge for the future tenants. Our priorit

-ies include decent room sizes, and tenancy by local residents, and the development of a residents' committee which will have a strong role in the management.

Of course our top priority is to have the Lodge built as quickly as possible. At present the expected completion date is May 1976.

The design includes 78 rooms, of approximately ten by twenty feet. All are house-keeping units, and contain two piece washrooms, the bath-tubs being shared. Handicapped units are also included, and are larger than the above for wheelchair access.

Lounge spaces, elevator, television room, meeting or multi-purpose room, workshop (which shall include carpentry equipment) are all included to make a building hospitable to its tenants, and are therefore a necessity.

We are just now developing our role in management. If you are interested in Antoinette, please attend our meetings, held every second Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. at First United Church. Contact Karen at Lookout 412 East Hastings, for dates, or leave your name as a person interested in moving in. Since this is a subsidized project, only those with low incomes will be accepted.

## Swimming

From Page 5.

We sent a telegram to Mr. Nicolson and Premier Barrett. Without adequate recreational facilities more housing creates more problems.

Nov. 20 -- Mr. David Davies sent a letter reporting on a recreational review. The latter part of the letter states - "Strathcona Community Centre is situated near Maclean and has four meeting rooms and a gym which is available for volleyball, floor hockey and basketball. The project itself is equipped with swings and slides and in two buildings for seniors there are televisions, card tables and a pool table." What a confession ---

The matter came up again at a Community Workers meeting at the Salvation Army Temple and, consequently, at the Housing Committee meeting at City Hall. Mr. Rankin, the Chairman, said although Lots C & D were committed for housing, they did not dispute the fact that RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WERE BADLY NEEDED and we could propose another site and bring the proposal before Council.

March, 1975 -- We are regrouping to make the proposal for a new site. PHEW!!

FROM

# Don't Rest In Peace: ORGANIZE!

PUBLISHED BY  
N.S.A.



## Downtown Eastside Residents' Association

The area designated as the "downtown eastside" stretches along the harbour from Clark Drive to Burrard Street (except for the Strathcona neighbourhood which maintains its separate identity). It contains downtown businesses, waterfront industries and a newly developed Gastown commercial-entertainment area which has pushed Vancouver's Skid Road eastward. The residents of the area include many single people who live in rundown hotels and rooming houses, the most visible of whom are the transients, alcoholics and social outcasts on the streets. However, the majority are permanent residents who have lived downtown for many years and include a number of Japanese and Chinese families in the eastern section.

Derelect, dangerous accommodation and a deteriorating "slum" environment are major problems, along with a high rate of alcoholism and drug use, and increasing crime and violence. Paternalistic services for the "down and out" often destroy initiative and self respect.

### ORGANIZATION

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association was formed in 1973 largely by the efforts of two determined socialists, Bruce Eriksen and Peter Davies. Eriksen, a vocal resident of the area and chairman of DERA, objected to attitudes of social workers, LIP projects, and social planners who "go down to help the poor" with soup kitchens and other band-aid services. He was determined to expose the issues and make changes. He blamed skid road conditions on the hotel owners that pushed beer, the merchants and pushers who sold drugs, the slum landlords, and the governments who did not enforce their own laws.

Assisted by personnel from First United Church and a Peoples Aide project, he and a few other residents organized DERA in 1973 "to protect the residents of the area from slum landlords, the City of Vancouver and anyone else who wants to take advantage of the area--and to clean up the image: not all residents are derelicts and most are not transients". Although he took the strong lead and was the spokesman, he began to involve others.

"We went out on the streets and dragged people in and insisted on their being involved. We raised hell with City Council if we didn't get what we wanted."

People began to participate through petitions, public meetings, demonstrations and delegations that often went to City Hall. DERA constitution required no Board and members met weekly to give ideas and instruct the four officers.



Bruce Eriksen became a familiar face at City Council and in the press as a spokesman and watch-dog for downtown residents. Despite antagonism of some aldermen and officials, who objected to his personal criticism and political biases, city funds were allocated for one year to employ two DERA organizers, provided that NSA administered the salaries. Bruce was hired as the highly visible "outside" organizer while remaining president of DERA.

A second CD worker helped on the "inside" to research issues, build the membership, produce a newspaper, and organize a day care centre. Eight downtown residents were also employed and trained on a Manpower LEAP project to assist with many of these tasks. A Japanese and a Chinese worker assisted people with immigration and interpretation problems.



LIBBY DAVIES inside organizer

Constant pressure, publicity and political action included frequent protests against social planners, health inspectors, police and Liquor Control Board employees who were accused of not doing their jobs. A petition was launched by DERA supporting the need for more police and demanding a ban on sale of knives after several bad "mugging" incidents. Merchants who sold bayrum and cafes that were hangouts for drugs were exposed and the city was pressured to take action.

A crackdown on skid road hotels and rooming houses was the first step in the fight for better housing. Bruce Eriksen named six hotels and two cafes that eventually were given a city ultimatum that they would be closed down if improvements weren't made in two months. A major fire that killed three and injured seven people gave impetus to the city's new by-law that required sprinkler systems in hotels and rooming houses.

DERA pressed for extension of Oppenheimer Lodge and for more housing in False Creek for single people and opposed evictions from East Hotel

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In November 1974, Bruce Eriksen .... ran as a candidate for alderman. He continued to stage demonstrations at City Hall and along with a few DERA members occupied the empty Bridge "Y" Hotel to demonstrate the need for housing. Despite considerable publicity he was not elected but vowed to continue his watch dog role by attending all City Council meetings.

Libby Davies, the "inside organizer" (paid through NSA), has continued to work with LEAP staff and DERA members on long term planning issues and programs, including a recent proposal to convert the former Carnegie Library building into a multi service centre run by and for downtown residents. She summarized DERA accomplishments as follows:

- "(1) We helped to make people from the area realize they don't have to sit back and can organize and stick together and change things. Over 550 people are registered DERA members.
- (2) DERA worked on upgrading the whole community -- rooming houses, changing beer parlours, pressuring the government for more housing.
- (3) The next aim is to try and have the downtown area declared a NIP area with rezoning (to protect residential development from industry). More recreation centres (other than the pubs and missions) are needed and the Carnegie Library building will be an ideal location."

BY  
MARGARET A. MITCHELL

# LOW INCOME RENTERS TO BENEFIT

B.C.'s renters grant is being overhauled this year.

The 1974 formula of outright grants to all tenants is being replaced with a sliding scale of benefits based on a tax credit system applied to gross income.

The maximum benefit will be \$100 this year. However, renters over age 65 will receive a double benefit in 1975 in order to phase in the new system with minimal economic disruption.

The \$80 elderly citizens renters resource grant will be distributed as was done last year. Later in the year, senior citizen tenants will also receive the new grant on the tax credit system.

The principle behind the new system is to scale the greatest benefits to those with the greatest needs.

Tenants with gross incomes of \$5,000 or less will receive the full \$100 benefit. When income is between \$5,000 and \$6,000, the benefit is \$96.

This formula works progressively to reduce the benefit as gross income rises. When income reaches \$10,000, the benefit is \$47. The benefits stop when income reaches the \$15,000 level.

B.C. GOVERNMENT NEWS



## 36 Tenants

### Sueing Landlord

東方旅店補償訴訟案

前東方旅店的三十六位住客現正等待四月八號那天訴訟前業

主以往沒有履行他的義務，適當地供應各住戶暖氣及熱水等問題

現今每一住戶要求業主補償金約一千大元。屆時將傳訊雲華市長

德菲亞斯、市參事美奇克、市參事哈利藍堅及省政府租金公証人布

利卡克等出庭作證。解釋為何下令封閉東方旅店。市衛生醫務官員加

邦坎及市環境衛生主任夫摩根等亦將同時傳訊問話。第一教堂的表

示經理司及雲華市下埠東區居民協會主席布魯斯依力遜亦是案中主

要証人。敬請各住戶於四月八日上午十時，駕臨理案街八二四號二

樓禮堂那小錢債案的结果，以免自誤為荷。

The hearing of tenants' actions, re: King Edward Apt's, will be held on the 21st day of May, 1975 in the Small Claims Court at 814 Richards Street at 10:30 in the forenoon.

## recreation ~ preview

### SALTSPRING ISLAND CAMP TRIP

June 20th-27th. Room for 22 people.

LEAVE: 1:00 p.m.---616 East Cordova, Friday, June 20th.

RETURN: From Saltspring Is. --Friday, June 27th --11:00 a.m.

COST: \$17.00 per person--- includes transportation, food and camp rental.

Money refundable only if the camp trip is cancelled.

Payment is due no later than Wednesday, June 11th at--- D.E.R.P.--616 E. Cordova St.

Accommodation---cabins---with showers and washrooms, dining hall, kitchen, lounge area. Close to water---swimming, boating, fishing. Trails for hiking.

Must bring your own sleeping bag or blankets, towels, bathing suit, etc.

For further information--- phone 2534744--Tuesday-Friday 9 am-4 pm or 6816858--Monday -Friday-1 pm-3 pm; 7 pm-11pm.

### TRIP TO THE VANCOUVER PUBLIC

#### AQUARIUM

Tuesday - April 22nd.

LEAVE: 616 E. Cordova 1:15 pm.

RETURN: From the Aquarium--- --3:45 p.m.

Room for 40 people. COST-- 25¢ per person.

Deadline for registration -- April 17th, Thursday at D.E.R.P. - 616 E. Cordova.

For information call 2534744 --Tues.-Fri., 9 am - 4 pm.

SUNDAY FILMS--373 E. Cordova at 7:30 pm.

近日溫哥華華人社區發現有些不良華人份子，以推銷員名義來欺騙一些無知良民及年老同胞，他們以推銷一些物品，如熱水器、暖爐、舊汽車以至房屋出賃。當然起初是用甜言蜜語來騙取你的金錢說明暫時沒有現貨，然後訂明在某月某日交貨，保證滿意及十全十美。但當到交貨之時，他已逃之夭夭，因騙徒是沒有代表任何公司或社團而虛報地址，因此非常難於找尋他的下落。甚至當閣下能找不到他時，你也很難有充份證據來表明他是全心的欺騙，因他往往是有沒有給你正式收據，多數是利用你一時的疏忽或不識英文字

的種種弱點，到你發現被騙之時已是太遲了。所以請大家特別留意，有此戒備，樣樣小心一點，以免招致無謂損失。如閣下遇到困難或無從投訴的話，歡迎駕臨本會，我們是有華籍職員，免費為各僑胞服務。地址：東區居民協會，六一六號東葛都華街

電話：253-8235 BY ANNA MONG L.E.A.P.

## 老人ホームに関する経過報告

かねより建設準備が進められていた市東部の中高層者用住宅の一つであるアントネットロッジはこのほど市議会の報告によると来る四月十七日迄に用地接收が完了する。ロッジ建設委員会の予定では今年三月中旬着工の計画であったので、現在のところ、約一ヶ月遅れているが先ず順調。この分では、今年中か来年一月には新たに七十六室のホームが完成する見込み。なおこのロッジの運営委員会には隣組の浜田ジュンさんか加わっており、日系人の為の住宅提供に尽力している。

By TAKEO YAMASHIRO L.E.A.P.

## レントース・グラント(賃借住宅居住者の補助金)

このほど B.C. 政府新南三月号の発表によれば、本年度のレントース・グラントの方式が改められて、所得税基準方式が採用される。これは従来のペンシヨナー 80ドル一般住民 30ドルの固定一律方式が改良されるもので、特に低所得者には有利、一般の最高額は 100ドルに上り、ペンシヨナーは先ず例年通り 80ドルを下賜され、年度末に再び所得基準のグラントを受けることになる。

<提供> 隣組 TEL. 254-4323

## notice !

IN SMALL CLAIMS COURT AT 814 RICHARDS ST., 10 A.M., APRIL 8th, 1975.

The thirty-six former tenants of the East Hotel are suing their landlords for breach of contract and damages in the sum of \$1,000.00 each.

Legal counsel for the claimants are Stuart Rush and Allan Maclean.

The claimants have summoned the following as witnesses on their behalf: Mayor Art Phillips, Rentalsman Barry Clark, Ald. Harry Rankin, Ald. Mike Harcourt, Dave Morgan-Health Dept., Dr. Bonham, City-Health Dept.

Other witnesses on behalf of the claimants are Bill Hennessey of the First United Church, Bruce Eriksen - President of DERA, and of course the 36 claimants.

Be there to support these residents! By GRACE L. GRAY