

Anti-Poverty Committee News

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#19

Stan Hagen Runs from APC Welcoming Committee

Stan Hagen, the BC Liberals' Minister of Human Resources, was chased out of the Downtown Eastside today by the APC Welcoming Committee, made up of residents and supporters. Shouts of 'STAN GO HOME!!!' and 'SHAME!' filled the streets as the crowd which surrounded Hagen as he left the First United Church chased him into a cab with his tail



between his legs. The police presence was no deterrent for the angry crowd whose power could be seen in their faces and felt in the volume of their chants.

This is truly a victory for all! The message to Hagen and all other Liberals today was clear –

YOU ARE NOT WELCOME IN THE DTES!!! Under NO circumstances will there be peace for any Liberal who deigns to step foot in the neighbourhood that has become notorious for the poverty they have created. We will not stand by as the thugs who are killing our brothers and sisters try and walk on our streets!

The Liberals are cowards who wage their attacks from behind desks and closed doors. We will not do them the same courtesy: we will fight them tooth and nail face to face! We promise to continue our fight against the BC Liberals wherever and whenever they show up! United We Will Win! For more information on on-going campaigns against the BC Liberals, including organizing against Lorne Mayencourt's Safe Streets Act, visit apc.resist.ca, e-mail apc@resist.ca or call 604-682-2726.

Stop Ministry's Racist Review

The Ministry of Human Resources (MHR) is at it again. The constant assault waged from Victoria has targeted community after community. The Liberals' have attacked everyone: from people living with disabilities to single mothers to recipients receiving income assistance for 2 years, just to name a few. Now persons and families who are not considered Canadian citizens have been caught in their crosshairs.

Fortunately communities have joined together with countless organizations to fight back! The Liberal attacks have not been allowed to succeed. This is not because the government realized what they were doing was wrong but because the people stood together and defended each other.

We must stand together again and stop the MHR's racist review. The ministry plans to investigate all files coded as non-citizens. They will work with and receive documents from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) without the prior consent or knowledge of the individual. At this time there has been no summary outlining the purpose and process of the review. Many communities fear that this is another attempt to further persecute immigrants. People who are not Canadian citizens are subjected to constant bureaucratic harassment and surveillance. By increasing this mistreatment there is the

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APC Struggles Alongside Refugees Against Racial Profiling

Refugees and supporters have recently formed a new organization, Refugees Against Racial Profiling (RARP) to protest against the Canadian government's continuing policy of detention and deportations of asylum seekers. Formed amidst an intensifying campaign of persecution, RARP has been fighting back despite the increased powers given to law enforcement agencies and mass arrests and interrogations of refugees. The struggle of RARP and their supporters is gaining momentum and achieving victories.

In the case of Mourad Kinneche, RARP called a demonstration the day before his scheduled deportation back to Algeria. RARP demanded that Mourad be allowed a stay of deportation on compassionate grounds while he and his Canadian wife's application for sponsorship is in process.

The demonstration that was made up mostly of Algerians who also face deportation and so understand how dire Mourad's circumstances are. Over the last ten years of civil war and state terrorism in Algeria over 300,000 people have been killed and close to a million have disappeared. Mourad courageously spoke out against the atrocities being committed in Algeria and because of this he has sought political refuge in Canada.

APC joined the demonstration because we believe the struggle for life and death should no longer only be pitched behind closed doors. Joining the growing campaign for the rights and dignity of immigrants and refugees we have taken the fight to the streets, offices and the communities that are under attack. Shortly after threatening physical confrontation within the bureaucracy of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) a temporary stay of deportation was given to Mourad. This will give us time to work on legal defense as well we must fight to have the federal government acknowledge that Algeria

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refuse to retreat!

Racist Review con't from front page

threat that people in need of income assistance will not be willing to put themselves in a situation where the government can further violate their rights.

It is no coincidence that the MHR is conducting this racist review at a time of racist hysteria. Federal and provincial governments are passing policies, laws and bills that are creating a climate of fear and intimidation. People of colour are increasingly under attack from all fronts. Now is the time to strengthen our solidarity and stop the MHRs racist review!

UNITED WE STAND, DIVERSE WE ADVANCE!



Deportation con't from front page

is not a safe country and a deportation order to Algeria is really a death penalty.

APC will continue working closely with RARP in the battles of day-to-day survival that are being waged in every community in this province. In a country that has deported over 50,000 people in the last five years the struggle must become a mass movement led by the people who's lives balance on it.

What is APC?



The Anti-Poverty Committee is an organization of poor and working people, who fight for poor people,

their rights, and an end to poverty by any means necessary. The poor face constant attack under the capitalist system and these attacks have only intensified under the BC Liberal government.

The BC Liberal's brutal policies - the cuts to welfare, the six dollar training wage, the privatization of public services, the cuts to social programs, the restriction of democratic and human rights - all are designed to transfer wealth from poor and working people to the rich and powerful.

APC is committed to fighting the brutal policies of the BC Liberals through direct action, mass mobilization, and case-work. We oppose racism, sexism, homophobia, and all other forms of oppression. APC is an independent and democratic organization open to anyone who agrees with our basis of unity. We are committed to working in solidarity with the struggles of other progressive movements, locally, nationally, and internationally, to end poverty and injustice.

Get Involved in APC

APC General Meetings

Every Tuesday, 6pm, 327 Carrall in the DTES beside Pigeon Park Childcare and coffee provided

Donate

APC relies on donations from individuals & organizations. You can make a cheque out to the Anti-Poverty Committee.

Another New APC Office

APC has moved again. Our new office is in the DERA office at: 332 Carrall Vancouver, BC
Office hours are by appointment Mon-Fri 1-4

APC website:

<http://apc.resist.ca>

SAFE STREETS A DEAD END



**11 AM
Thursday
JUNE 24
Vancouver
Art Gallery
(Robson St. Side)**

Business groups, unions, and the BC Liberals are looking for a "safe streets" bill that will make the streets decidedly unsafe for homeless people, workers, and the homeless. The purpose of the proposed "Safe Streets" Act is to expand the use of force in BC and to divert attention from the real cause of poverty and homelessness in BC - The BC Liberals.

Vancouver and other cities in BC already have anti-homeless bylaws. Every day security forces and rent forces and individual landlords and business groups on the streets of Vancouver homeless encampments are regularly broken up by the police. All the while the BC Liberals have cut thousands of people off welfare and pushed through new measures that allow evictions and repossessions and more evictions in the real world in the City of Vancouver.

On Thursday June 24th, the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association is holding its Annual General Meeting. They are making the push for this legislation. They are also planning for a large "International Day of the Worker" gathering in September that will bring anti-work and homeless business groups from around North America to Vancouver, to challenge how well BC Liberals, politicians, and parasites the poor and homeless, let's unite and let them be back off!

No Safe Streets Act!

Open the anti-homeless by-law!
Hands of politicians, remove people a the homeless!

APC

Anti-Poverty Committee

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For help with by-law notices contact our new office at 332 Carrall St across from Pigeon Park.

no justice on stolen native land!