

# Anti-Poverty Committee News

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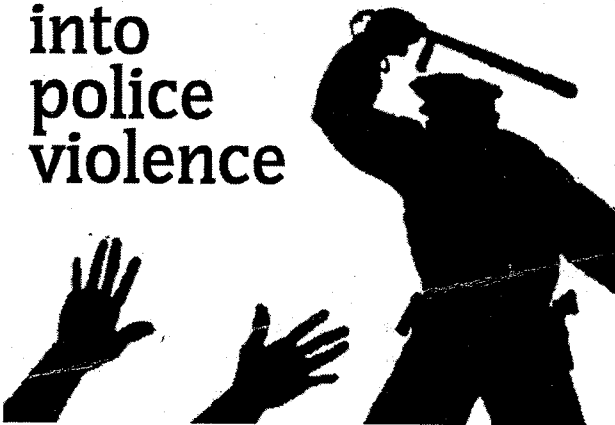
Feb 2005 #22

## People's Inquiry into Police Violence

The Vancouver Police Department (VPD) ended the year with a bang, 18 bangs to be precise. The VPD shot an aboriginal homeless man 18 times in a back alley. Although the two rookie officers have changed their stories the truth remains the same, police violence and murder is the brutal reality of policing poverty.

### PEOPLE'S INQUIRY

into police violence



brutal reality of policing poverty.

APC has launched the 'Peoples Inquiry into Police Violence' as an ongoing forum to discuss and analyze the methods and consequences of police brutality. We will present our findings at all the upcoming Police board meetings and demand immediate change. We know that under this system of wealth inequality we will never see justice but it is necessary to defend ourselves by all means available.

The murders of Frank Paul and Jeff Berg demand that the people respond to police violence. The courts and their Inquires expose the fact that the justice system is in place to serve and protect the police who violate the law. The blood of so many poor people and the hands of the police has drowned any notion that the VPD have just a 'few bad apples.' Real change will come when the people succeed in securing economic human rights.

Currently the APC is under physical attack from the VPD for acting on such principles. Most APC organizers have been brutalized by the police and remain on unreasonable probations. The most recent act of brutality against our membership was inflicted upon Jagdeep Mangat who was arrested on a year old warrant while attending a demonstration. With a false charge pending he is not allowed to participate in public demonstrations as his only condition. This is an obvious attempt by Crown to suppress the work the APC has done and continues to do. Our own investigation has shown us the extensive surveillance and brutal tactics the police have deployed against our organization. But in the name of those who have been murdered and tortured by this system and the police who enforce it we will always fight back!

### DEMO the LEGISLATURE!



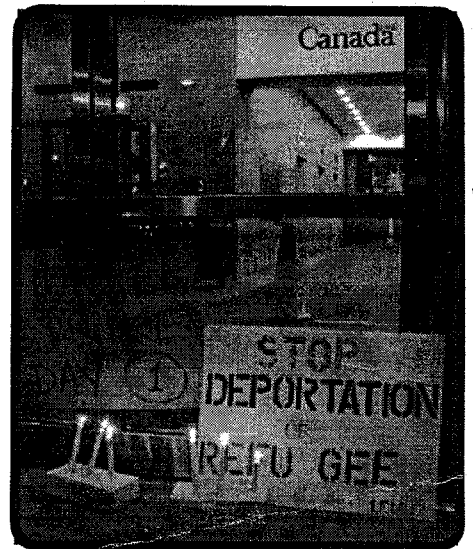
**Tuesday Feb. 15th**  
**9:30am at Victory Square Park**

raise the rates

**FREE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM VICTORIA**

Join APC in Victoria where we will bring the war on the poor to the front steps of the legislature.

## Stop Deportations to Iran



On January 7, 2005, Ali Reza Monemi received a deportation order to go back to Iran on January 11. He pleaded with Immigration officials to receive more time to arrange his affairs before his deportation but his request was refused and he was promptly detained.

Ali Reza, like many other Iranian refugees, was facing deportation to a country despite grave danger to his life. According to medical reports, Mr. Monemi has already suffered sixty lashes at the hand of the Morality Police and he has been sentenced to 85 more lashings, imprisonment and ex-communication within Iran. He also faces the possibility of death for fleeing the country in 1999 before his punishment could be carried out and for making a refugee claim in Canada.

His family, friends, supporters, members of the Iranian Federation of Refugees, No One Is Illegal and a number of other refugees from Iran, Turkey, and the Middle East staged a four-day hunger strike and protest outside of the Canadian Immigration office in downtown Vancouver.

Less than twelve hours prior to his deportation Ali was given a stay of deportation due to the massive support and mobilization and the ongoing hunger

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**we'll only get what we organize to take!**

## Stop Deportations to Iran con't

strike. Even the judges commented on the public support as evidence that this was an unjust deportation. During the weekend, over 300-400 supporters dropped by to offer solidarity and support for the hunger strike, to the family, and to the campaign demands.

Immigration Canada in the past has claimed that they have no evidence of any danger inflicted upon anyone who was deported to Iran, but the recent highly-publicized case of Haleh Sahba (a women's rights activist deported from Vancouver on Dec 7) has proven otherwise. It has been widely reported that Haleh was detained for 26 hours. Like Haleh Sahba, Ali is being sent back to Iran without adequate travel documents.

On November 5, 2004 Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced that Canada tabled a resolution at the 59th session of the UN General Assembly, on the deteriorating human rights situation in Iran and the Canadian government maintains a travel advisory to Iran for Canadians. Meanwhile, Immigration Canada is sending Iranians back to serious danger

The "safe third country" agreement, implemented on December 29, 2004, will allow the immediate removal of any refugee claimant who enters Canada via the United States. This accounts for up to 40% of all refugee claimants. The Anti-Terrorism Act provides unprecedented powers to police and government officials, including detention without trial and secret evidence. Instead of providing a fair hearing to refugee claimants, the IRB acts as a confrontational tribunal, populated by judges notorious and even charged for their incompetence, political partisanship, and in many cases, corruption.

### WE DEMAND:

1. Canada implement the Refugee Appeal Division as promised; and accordingly, re-open all previously refused cases, including for those underground with no legal status, and allow them a fair and full merit-based appeal.
2. Canada implements a moratorium on deportations to Iran.
3. The release of refugees being detained.

Iranian Federation of Refugees; Coalition to Defend Iranian Refugees from Deportation; No One is Illegal-Vancouver

For more info: <http://noii-van-resist.ca>



## THE CANADIAN REFUGEE CAMP

**Saturday, Feb. 5th - Rally @ 1 pm**  
**Vancouver Art Gallery (Georgia & Howe)**

noii-van@resist.ca  
 (604)682-3269 x 7149  
 noii-van.resist.ca



**no one is illegal**  
 vancouver

## 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 casework. 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.

## RESIST 2010 OLYMPICS

**Rally & March**  
**Saturday**  
**Feb. 12 1pm**  
**Victory Square**  
(Hastings of Cambie)



### Boycott Delta Hotels

3 years before the beginning of the Olympics, we are calling for a boycott of Delta Hotels. The 2010 Olympics are already causing rapid development on protected Native Land. Multi-national like Delta are major players as seen at Sun Peaks. A sorry development that is destroying traditional Secwep'ens territory.

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 Land, Fra  
 (604) 728-552-8088

**APC Community Meetings, 6pm, 1st Tues of every month**  
**251 Union Street, buzz #900**