

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

N E W S L E T T E R

#52

April 29, 1992

ELP to walk on the rich

End Legislated Poverty wants to show that some people and corporations are doing very well, thank you.

ELP thinks that we should have fair taxes on the rich and fair incomes for the rest of us.

That's why ELP is having a "Walk on the Rich." It is planned to happen on April 24th. That is after this newsletter goes to print, but before you will get the article. We'll let you know how the walk goes in the next newsletter.

Here are some facts we will be using in the Walk:

Trizec is the company that owns the Royal Centre Mall in downtown Vancouver. Trizec is the largest publicly held real estate company in North America. Last year it made \$62.1 million in profits. Trizec also deferred

\$21.3 million in income taxes. Deferred taxes are taxes that don't get paid in that year and probably never get paid. Corporations don't have to pay interest on deferred taxes.

A working person who earns minimum wage and has a child to support would pay about \$1039 a year in income taxes. This person would not have \$62.1 million in profits. In fact, this person would need over \$8500 just to reach up to the poverty line.

It would take 20,500 people working for a year at minimum wage and paying taxes to pay the \$21.3 million that Trizec didn't pay in 1991.

The business section of the library on Burrard St. has lots of this information.

The People's Law School has some free law classes in May and June. To register for the classes, call the phone number in brackets.

Kerrisdale Centre (266-8331)
Monday June 8, 7 to 9 pm.

Renfrew Centre (434-6688)
Tuesday, May 26th, 7 to 9 pm.

Fraserview Library (327-8371)
Tuesday, June 2nd, 7 to 8:50 pm.

Marpole Centre (327-8371)
Tuesday, May 12th, 7:30 to 9:30
pm.

**Gordon Neighbourhood House
(683-2554) Tuesday June 16th, 7
to 8:50 pm.**

People's Law School (688-2565)
Wednesday, May 27th, 7 to 9 pm.

Kensington Centre (327-9401)
Tuesday, June 9th, 7:30 to 9:30
pm.



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Unemployment Insurance tip

Are you applying for Unemployment Insurance?

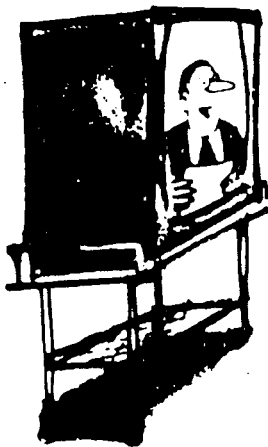
Stephanie Chaytor, an advocate at First United Church, has this tip for you.

When filling in your UI forms be sure to claim your gross earnings, not your net earnings. Gross earnings are all the money you were paid before taxes, UI, and

CPP have been deducted. Net earnings are the amount of your cheque after all the deductions have been taken out.

Your UI cheque is based on the amount of your gross earnings.

Stephanie says that people have been cheated out of their full UI benefits because they only claimed their net earnings.



"Meaningless statistics were up one point five percent this month over last month."

Tell ELP your story about health care

End Legislated Poverty wants **real** universal medicare. That means poor people and everyone should be able to get good health care when we need it.

Are you a person who doesn't have medical insurance? What do you do when you get sick?

Are you a person who needs work done on your teeth but can't afford it? What do you do?

Are you a person who has to buy medicine but can't afford it? What do you do when this happens?

Do you or someone in your family need counseling? Can you afford it? What happens if you can't?

Do you need treatment because you have been abused? Can you afford it? What happens if you can't?

These are the stories ELP would like to hear. We want to take the stories to the government and to the general public. Some people think that everyone is covered for health care when they aren't.

We'll keep your name confidential if you like.

Write about your experience with health care on the next page. Answer some of the questions listed above if they apply to you.

Then cut the page out, fold, staple or tape, put a stamp on it, and send it to ELP.

If we get lots of stories, we will probably make a little booklet out of them. We will send you one if you give us your address.

Thanks for you help to save real universal medicare.



Single Mothers' picnic

Grandview Park
Commercial Drive at Williams

May 10th, 1 to 5 pm

Sponsored by the Vancouver Status
of Women

Write your letter here (use more paper if you need it):

Dear ELP,

Here's my story about not being able to get medical care, dental care, or mental health care that I need:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

My name is _____

My address is

My phone number is _____

(Your story is more important to us than your name. You don't have to fill in this part unless you want to)

Please mail this to End Legislated Poverty. The address is on the back.

(fold here)

From:

Put
Stamp
Here

To:
End Legislated Poverty
#211 456 W. Broadway
Vancouver, B. C, V5Y 1R3

(fold here)

(tape or staple here)

Security deposits: What are your rights?

Last month we had an article about security deposits and what to do when you move into an apartment.

This month we have information about how to get your security deposit back when you move out.

As the tenant, you're responsible for leaving your suite clean and for fixing any damage you do.

When you finish cleaning, make a list of the condition that you leave the place in. If you can, get the landlord to check the place with you before you leave. If the landlord agrees that the place is clean and there's no damage, get him to sign a short letter saying this.

If the landlord says the place is ok, but won't sign anything, get a friend to go through the suite with you. Then get your friend to sign the checklist. If you have a camera, take pictures.

The landlord is supposed to return your security deposit to you within 30 days after you move out. The landlord must also pay you interest on your security deposit. You can call the Tenants Rights Hotline at 255-0546 to find

out how much interest your landlord owes you.

If the landlord keeps any of your security deposit, he must send you a letter within 30 days after you move out saying exactly how much money was kept and what it was for.

If the rug is worn because you've walked on it every day, that is normal use. This kind of damage is called "reasonable wear and tear." The law says that the landlord is responsible for reasonable wear and tear, not the tenant.

The landlord can't make you pay for "professional" cleaning of rugs or drapes.

If the landlord keeps some or all of your security deposit without good reason, you should write a letter asking for the rest of your money. Say that if you don't get your money back, you will be "forced to take further legal action."

If you still don't get your money back, call the Tenant's Rights Coalition at 255-0546. We can try to help you get your money back.

Get help with welfare from these groups

Downtown Eastside Residents' Association

9 E. Hastings St. Phone 682-0931. Open Monday through Friday.

First United Church

320 E. Hastings. Come Monday through Friday, 9 to 11 am.

Vancouver and District Public Housing Tenants' Association

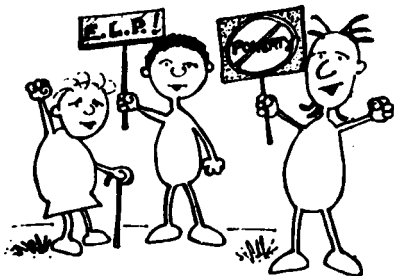
246 E. Broadway. Phone 872-8648. Open 9 to 4 Monday through Friday.

B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities

#204 456 W. Broadway. Phone 872-1278. Open 9 to 5 Monday through Friday.

Little Mountain Tenants' Association

125 E. 37th. Phone 324-0555. Open 10 to 3 Monday through Friday.



**DON'T KNEEL,
APPEAL**



For help with landlord and tenant problems:

Call the Tenants' Rights Coalition Hotline: 255-0546.

For help with welfare, serious criminal problems, urgent family problems related to the law:

Go to the Legal Services Society, 191 Alexander St. Open 9 to 3:30 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Open 12:30 to 3:30 on Wednesday. Legal Services may be able to help with child custody and restraining orders.