

PRESS RELEASE FROM VICTORY SQUATTERS AND SUPPORTERS

July 22, 2003

Now that we have your attention Canada, salutations. First we acknowledge that we are on unceded Coast Salish land. 'Oh Canada, our home on Native land,' means that we are all deserving of a good home as we who live in Canada. For us the homeless people here where do we go day and night? We have to come together as a Canadian family to be noticed together at a safe and public place.

As homeless people we make two demands of public policy makers in both the government and private sectors controlling this country.

1. Affordable, livable stable housing conditions for all in need
2. End the two year, or any other, time limit on BC welfare rates.

Please read the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights in particular article 25 regarding the right to housing.

Without following our two demands and the above UN declaration we will be called upon to further unite to fight war against the controlling class in Canada. We will not tolerate such antagonists and will arise as protagonists. The modern capital, imperial, global-economic system continues to intensify poverty in BC, Canada, and throughout the world.

We as homeless are inviting the media today at 11:30 AM for a press conference at Victory Square. The concerns of the veterans are acknowledged by us and we will act accordingly on our own time schedule. However our main concern is the epidemic of homelessness and poverty. We will continue to act accordingly for our interests and needs. With ever increasing cutbacks to social welfare rights we will grow in strength and numbers. This is our only hope.

If the Queen were homeless in Canada she would be able to squat almost anywhere. All public/government land is Crown land, stolen from the Indigenous peoples. Yet we as Canadians are denied this right of squatting off the land because we are just Canadians, not Royalty.

We thank all the people who donated: tents, supplies, time, food, energy, to the tent city since July 2nd 2003. Thank you for listening.