

Anti-Poverty Committee News

332 Carrall, Vancouver BC, Coast Salish Territory
604-682-2726 apc@resist.ca <http://apc.resist.ca>

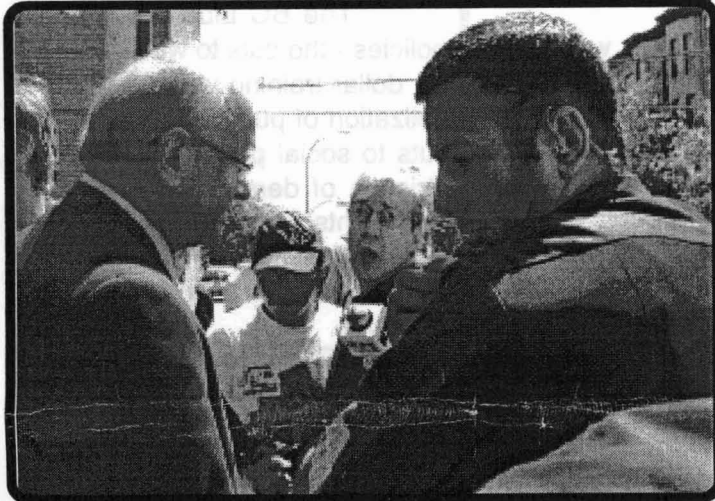
June 2004

#19

Stan Hagen Runs from APC Welcoming Committee

APC Struggles Alongside Refugees Against Racial Profiling

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.

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

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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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!

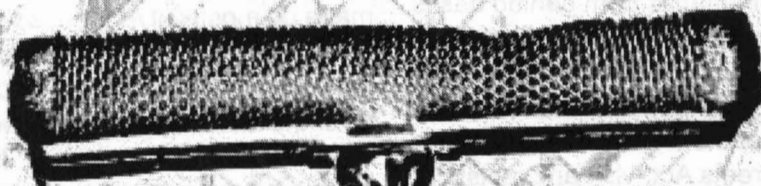


Deportation con't from front page

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.

SAFE STREETS A DEAD END



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

Business growth, shopping, and the BC Liberal are making for a "Safe Streets" Act that will make the streets, especially around the downtown core, sidewalks, and the sidewalks. The purpose of the proposed "Safe Streets" Act is to ensure the safety of the public in BC and to ensure that the streets are safe for all people and businesses in BC.

Business and other cases in BC already have anti-subsidy laws. They are already paying and their taxes and property taxes and business taxes on the streets of Vancouver. Business and other cases are already broken up by the state. All the state the BC Liberal has for thousands of people off streets and parked through the streets that will make them safe. The state will also be in the streets in the streets.

In Thursday June 24th, the Vancouver Business Improvement Association is holding its annual general meeting. They are making the plan for the legislation. They are also planning for a large international business association gathering in Vancouver that will bring anti-subsidy anti-business business groups from around the world to Vancouver. In Vancouver they will be business, business, and business the plan and business. The state will be in the streets.

No Safe Streets Act!
 Demand the anti-parkway by-law
 made of parkway, business people in the business

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For help with the banner please come to our office at 327 Carrall St. across from Pigeon Park.

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>

no justice on stolen native land!