

What is APC?

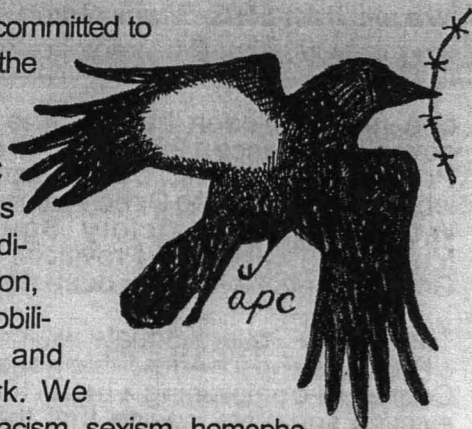
The Anti-Poverty Committee is an organization of poor and working people, who fight for poor people, their rights and an end to poverty by any means necessary. The poor face constant attack under the capitalist system and these attacks have only intensified under the BC Liberal government.

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.

8



Get Involved in APC

APC General Meetings

Every Tuesday, 6pm, 327 Carrall in the Downtown Eastside beside Pigeon Park. Please phone ahead if you need Childcare.

APC Office

The APC Office is located in the Shelly Building at 119 W. Pender st, Suite 108 Vancouver, "BC" Coast Salish Ter. V6B 1S5
Phone: (604) 682-2726
Email: apc@resist.ca
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10-5

Donate

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

Take The Streets !

Friday February 20th 6:pm At Victory Sq
(Corner of Hastings and Cambie)

Join the APC and allies for a march & rally demanding an end to the 2-year Time Limit On Welfare. Participate in the strengthening the united front of organizations fightingback!

Upcomming: Refuse To

Retreat To Retreat Confrence

A conference will be held February 21-22 where we will strategize the defeat of this government! Workshops will include: Labor struggle, Anti-imperialism, Indigenous sovereignty, Women's liberation, Refugee / immigrants fight back, and Welfare rights. If your group or organization wants to participate please contact the APC by February 10th.

Anti-Poverty Committee News

#108 119 W. Pender Shelly Building Vancouver BC
604-682-2726 apc@resist.ca <http://apc.resist.ca>

Jan 2004 #15

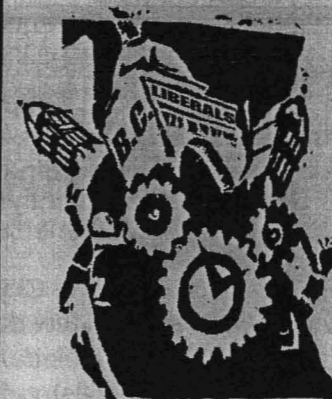
The Active Community Presence Campaign

The Anti-Poverty Committee, working with a diverse group of organizations calling itself "End the Two Year Time Limit Coalition," has initiated a campaign that will assist in ~~Resisting~~ the welfare cuts and inevitably defeating this government.

The Active Community Presence campaign is a collective force that is taking to the streets and welfare offices, to the front lines where our battles will be fought and won. Every Monday until the cuts are scrapped we coordinate groups to visit welfare offices across the Lower Mainland at the same time. Working with advocates we have stormed welfare offices with welfare recipients and succeeded in mass casework. Every person with us in the office who was staring down the barrel of the two-year time limit is now exempted from the cuts, for now.

This is not because we asked politely for our rights and dignity to be respected, we are winning because we are fighting! When the APC, allied with HAC (the Housing Action Committee), first participated in the Community Active Presence we were met at the three offices we went to by legions of police cars, police on horses, undercover cops and secu-

**CRUSH
THE 2-YEAR
TIME LIMIT**



urity guards. Offices across Vancouver were closed down in fear that welfare recipients were organizing to demand their rights. Although management inside the offices say the buildings are closed due to bomb threats or staff safety, the BCGEU workers know that we are fighting in solidarity with their struggle. Fifteen offices are to be closed if the cuts are allowed to happen and thousands of BCGEU workers are being cast aside.

Our common enemies are waging this attack, both working class and

the unemployed working poor are under assault from the BC Liberals and their financial supporters. Unless we can join together in militant solidarity everything the people have historically fought for and won will be destroyed by our government.

This is a government that must be defeated by every means available. We refuse to retreat and give up hope. We will fight tooth and nail. United we will win!

-David Cunningham

1

Elk Creek Update:

Press Release from "The Elk Creek Action Group"

CONTACT

James 604 682-2726 Or
www.elkcreekaction.org

PRESS RELEASE: 008 The Elk Creek
Conservation Coalition – "E C3" Dec 29/03

The deliberate destruction in the "Forest Protectors" area at the base of Elk Mountain, was a cowardly and reckless act. The Coalition is disappointed, but not surprised by Cattermole Timber's recent antics. (Elk Creek Action Group Press Release – Dec 23/03). As "Forest Protectors"



Forest Protector and APC Member, protest peacefully in Gandhi style, Cattermole Timber continues to take the hard-handed approach.

This area of recent destruction that the "Forest Protectors" have called home for several weeks is the same area designated for a road under Cattermole's "cutting permit amendment proposal". As of Dec 23/03, this proposal was not confirmed to be approved by the Ministry of Forests, and this recent falling incident could constitute a trespass against the Crown. The road right-of-way was NOT included

in the original controversial "Grozier Rationale" and the recent destruction has raised considerable concern in the community. Our members are scrutinizing these new developments closely.

As for the Nixon Road access to the same area, The City of Chilliwack made Cattermole aware there was no zoning for private property to be used for a log-staging area. Cattermole knew they were in violation of these Municipal zoning laws, but proceeded to use a private property for log-staging activity anyway. This latest infraction is indicative of the attitude portrayed by this company over and over again in regards to the Elk Creek issue.

Verna Pigou of the Elk Creek Conservation Coalition met with officials at City Hall regarding the infractions. City Hall consequently put a halt to the Heli-logging activity immediately.

The City then generously gave Cattermole a few days grace to get the staged logs to their dry-land sort yard, provided they used pilot cars to escort the log trucks up and down Nixon Road. The City will host a public hearing Jan 19/04 to discuss the issuance of a temporary industrial use permit for that private property at the top of Nixon Road, and/or perhaps the private property on the Marble Hill side owned by Randy Martin.

While these political issues and laws are a nuisance to Cattermole Timber to work

Continued on pg 6

City Raids Creekside Squat !

After spending nearly five months living outside, squatters at Creek-Side Park were forced to leave. On Friday Nov. 21st police and city workers conducted two separate raids at the squat. The first at 1:00 pm and another at 10:00 pm. Police and City Workers arrived at Creek-Side Park telling squatters if they did not leave immediately their stuff would be thrown away.

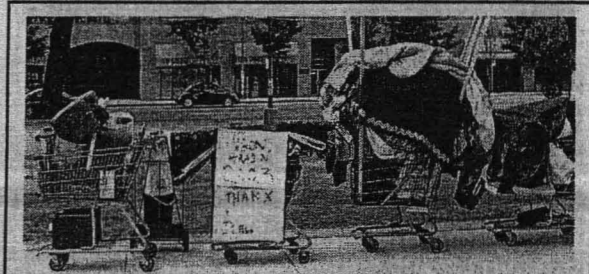
The Squat at Creek-Side Park was part of an action started by the APC and Housing Action Committee on July 2nd at Victory Square. We demand that the BC Liberals build **Social Housing** and end the **Two-Year Time Limit On Welfare**. The City passed bylaws forcing the squat to move from Victory to Thorton and finally Creek-Side Park.

The 60-odd homeless at Creek-Side Park were not evicted quickly like the unpopular take down at Woodward's Squat. Throughout the month of November, Police and City Workers would show up in the early morning to throw unoccupied tents in the garbage. Many people at Tent City who relied on charities in the Downtown EastSide for food or showers, or who worked at temporary job agencies during the day, would come back to find their tent, clothes and few personal belongings had been thrown away. Judy Graves, a city worker who was also involved in the dismantling of Woodward's squat, was hired to come down and offer people an emergency grant and refer them to a shelter or S.R.O hotel. The city's solution was at best temporary and gave no guarantee of where people would be in a couple weeks or month's time.

Members of APC and supporters of the squat would come down in the mornings and video-tape the scene: Police standing around looking bored, parks board officials waking people up and telling them to leave,

and union paid city engineers waiting around for an empty tent to throw in the trash. Many City workers were ashamed of their role in evicting homeless from the park and complained of having to do the mayor's dirty work.

Although twenty-five percent of Vancouver's population qualifies for Social Housing, not



Wagon Train 2003, Thanx Gordo.
August 2003 Tent City is forced to move

one unit has been built by the federal government since 1993 and none by the Provincial Liberals. Despite protests, lobbying, and ongoing Direct Action(s) of the Woodward's and Victory Squats the Municipal (COPE) and Provincial (Liberal) Governments have so far done nothing.

The Victory Square Squats will not be our city's last stand for Affordable housing. City Council is complaining about the cost of evicting squatters, saying that the APC is responsible for hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs. Hopefully they will learn from their mistakes and choose to use their money and resources to actually help homeless people instead of further silencing them.

-Trevor Mckilligan