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NEWSLETTER REFORMETRO

AUGUST, 1978

Campaign school attracts 70

by Brian Conway

Representatives of progressive municipal campaigns throughout Metro Toronto met at the 519 Church Street Community Centre on the evening of August 2 to discuss strategy for the November 13 municipal election.

Approximately 70 candidates, campaign managers and organizers from campaigns which are either endorsed by ReforMetro or seeking the movement's endorsement, discussed general strategy as well as 'nuts and bolts' campaign techniques.

Discussion centred around the release of an extensively researched and comprehensive document, entitled "How to Run a Municipal Election Campaign and Win", which was researched and edited by Susan Sparrow.

The broadly based nature of the meeting with so many campaigns represented is just another of the many signs of the unity which exists among the reform movement in Metro and bodes well for the success of progressive campaigns in the November election.

More Candidate Schools will be held to instruct

campaign committee members in a more detailed way. Watch for them.

The ReforMetro booklet is available to endorsed

candidates and their campaign workers. Suggested donation is \$3. Contact Sue Sparrow for copies at 367-7914.



"Get off your butts!"

24 candidates endorsed

by Barbara Hurd

At the 2nd Delegate Assembly to endorse aldermen and trustee candidates for the November 13 municipal election, ReforMetro members approved 16 people (8 trustees and 8 aldermen) and referred two candidates to the August 15 Assembly.

This brings the total of endorsed candidates to 16 aldermen and 8 trustees.

ReforMetro has taken on an immense responsibility

in electoral organizing in Metro Toronto.

Endorsement of candidates is only the tip of the iceberg. We are committed to giving support of various kinds to them, mostly around campaign organization.

ReforMetro held its first candidate school on August 2nd and will be holding another towards the end of August (tentatively Tues. August 22 at 7pm, 519 Church Street). If required, a third school

(Continued p. 2)



SCANDAL!

by Frances Kelly

Police investigations into the case of the missing building department files continue at Toronto City Hall.

A scandal erupted in late July over missing files concerning the illegal conversion of a Keele St. apartment house to bachelorettes.

Mayor David Crombie finally called in police to investigate after receiving approval from the City Executive Committee.

Crombie became aware of the disappearance six weeks earlier when city solicitor William Callow submitted a report, June 12.

The report noted the absence of important documents and inspector's field notes from department files, concerning the illegal building conversion at 410 Keele St.

Ib Amosen, president of the Bloor-High Park Residents' Association submitted a report in March containing allegations

(Continued page 6)

...Candidates need help

(Continued from pg. 1)
will be held in September.

A Metro Forum is being planned for the City Council Chamber where a critique will be made of Metro Council members and their work against communities.

A fundraising boat ride on the historic Trillium featuring the Climax Jazz Band and Joe Hall and an alternate tour of the harbour by Toronto Island Residents will be held September 8 (see ad).

But the most important thing is for RM members to get involved in an election

campaign. All campaigns need CANVASSERS, SIGN MAKERS, FUNDRAISERS, OFFICE HELP ETC. ReformMetro expects every member to offer to help on at least one campaign.

We have some excellent candidates that have been endorsed and many others will be coming forward for endorsement at the August 15 Delegate Assembly (see notice on page 3). But we're going to have to fight to get these aldermen and trustees elected so they can begin reforming Metropolitan Toronto.

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN ENDORSED BY REFORM METRO. MORE WILL BE ENDORSED ON AUGUST 15 AND IN SEPTEMBER. Contact Liz White at 367-7903 for telephone numbers and information on these candidates.

EAST YORK

Ward 1: Mike Labbé, alderman Ruth Goldhar, p.s. trustee

Ward 2: Marg Reilly, alderman

Ward 3: Gordon Crann, alderman

ETOBICOKE

Ward 5: Dora Stewart, p.s. trustee

NORTH YORK

Ward 2: Guido Loseto, alderman

Ward 4: Howard Moscoe, alderman

Ward 5: Marilyn Meshberg, alderman

Ward 6: Gerrie Bearg, alderman

Ward 9: Morry Smith, alderman Harold Koehler, p.s. trustee

TORONTO

Ward 1: Diana Fancher, alderman David White, alderman

Ward 2: Susan Atkinson, alderman

Ward 4: João Medeiros, alderman

Ward 6: Allan Sparrow, alderman Joan Doiron, trustee
Frank Nagle, trustee Lorenzo Colle, trustee

Ward 11: Anne Johnston, alderman

Stephenson: Injury to Labour

On May 29, six injured workers and one case worker were arrested at the Ministry of Labour during a demonstration of the Union of Injured Workers.

This demonstration was calling for changes in the Workmens Compensation Act. Nine days later, the Union's provincial president was charged as a result of the demonstration.

The Minister of Labour Dr. Bette Stephenson, finally responded in the provincial legislature by proposing the first changes to the Workmens Compensation Act in three-and-one-half years.

It is unfortunate that injured workers had to be beaten and arrested to effect changes in the Act. However, this is the reality of conditions in Ontario today.

The arrest of the eight members of the Union is of concern to all people of Ontario. It is another example of the present provincial government's attempt to stifle the legitimate protest of the people who have been unjustly treated by current government policy.

The UIW has established a defence committee at 37 Madison Avenue and asks for your support, both with donation to help pay for the legal defence and with your attendance at the trials which will begin on Sept. 21 at Old City Hall, Court Room #31 at 10 am. The second trial will be on Sept. 26 in the same courtroom at the same time. All the others will be in November.

For more information, contact the Union of Injured Workers at 536-7224



BACHELOTTES (FROM PG. 2)

concerning the Keele St. building, a Globe and Mail report said.

Shortly afterward, Callow discovered that the relevant files were missing.

Amosen said in a Toronto Sun report, "It reeks of corruption and I won't rest until the whole thing is out in the open."

Ward 2 Aldermanic candidate Barbara Adams said: "The implications are there that some politicians are on the take in some of these illegal conversions but it's hard to say to what extent."

Adams heads a working group on bachelorettes which pressures City Hall to take action against illegal building conversions.

David White, junior alderman for Ward 1, said

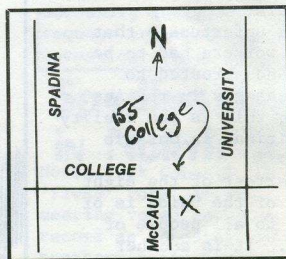
"Bachelorettes are very substandard forms of accommodation in terms of space and expense," White said.

In the Keele Street case, the former 24-room Junction Hotel, which once rented for \$1.25 per night, is now a 45-unit building renting for \$45 to \$60 per week.

Candidate Endorsements

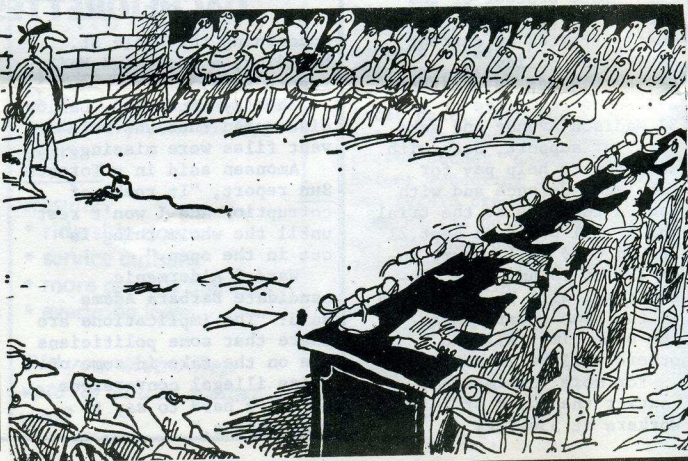
Tuesday, Aug. 15, 7p.m.

Education Centre
155 College Street.
6th floor Auditorium



fee: \$2(regular)
\$1(student
& unemployed)
for more info call
Liz White 367-7903

welcome members
and friends



ZERO AUTO GROWTH!

by Joan Doiron

ReforMetro (and, for that matter, other Metro progressive groups such as the NDP and the Labour Council) is suffering from a tragic irony in one of its most important areas of municipal policy--transportation.

Along with many other political and community groups, we condemn auto use in the city for most trips, call for a moratorium on expressways and, in contrast, support public transit and cycling and trains.

Yet many (maybe even most) of our supporters regularly and frivolously use the auto as their chief means of transportation in the city.

General Motors and Co. have done a fantastic job of turning each one of us into a promoter of their international ripoff of cities and people.

Some of us in ReforMetro are trying to make this whole matter an election issue. We've started a Zero Auto Growth Committee.

A series of plans have begun for the fall. Contact: Joan Doiron, 929-5483; Rick Phillips, 367-7611; Brian Conway, 367-7913.



NORTH YORK CLAMPS DOWN ON REFORM

BY PHIL "PERSONA NON GRATA" LIBMAN

Ever get the feeling you're not wanted or that your presence makes people uncomfortable?

Well, you would if you were a Research Assistant for one of the reform aldermen in the Borough of North York.

I am the only Research Assistant (paid by reform aldermen) around the Aldermen's offices. It's flattering to think that a City by-law has been passed especially for me.

Recently, the Borough of North York passed a bylaw severely limiting access to the offices by researchers.

Under the bylaw, the alderman must be present with the assistant. It's not enough to have the alderman's permission to be there.

The reactionaries led by Clarke and Chapley are out to get us, but still we move forward undaunted and only slightly annoyed. November 13 isn't long!

TTC TRANSFER TRAGEDY NO. 1

ReforMetro began a major campaign to "Reform the TTC" through a six part transfer message drop.

10,000 transfers were distributed at 10 subway stations during late July entitled Transit Tragedy No. 1.

The transfer format is attractive to TTC riders and the messages on all six transfers are eye-catching.

Transfer Tragedy No. 2 will be dropped near subway stations in mid-August.

If you can volunteer one hour to help distribute these messages, contact Barbara Hurd at 862-1548.

WHEN DISTRIBUTING TRANSFERS KNOW YOUR RIGHTS...

You cannot hand out leaflets on TTC property but you can stand outside stations. You have every right to hand leaflets to people as long as you don't stand in their way and prevent them from passing.

The TTC has security guards who will try to get you to stop distributing information about the TTC which is politically embarrassing to management.

Here's one example of this from Ann Coops...

Gordon Hurlburt
Chairman TTC
1900 Yonge Street
July 28, 1978

Dear Mr. Hurlburt:

"The following incident occurred on July 27 outside the entrance to the subway at the south-east corner of Yonge and Queen Sts.

While I was handing out information leaflets for ReforMetro regarding TTC

fare increases, two TTC security workers approached me and identified themselves by quickly showing their identification. They asked whether I knew that I had one foot on TTC property and I responded by saying that I was unaware of this and moved my foot. They then proceeded to tell me that if I did not move from where I was standing, they would call the police because I was violating the Criminal Code by impeding traffic. I then stated that I was not impeding traffic in any way and that no individuals receiving the leaflets complained about this.

I suggested to these persons that their actions

were in response to the political nature of the leaflets. To this, they indicated agreement and again stated that I was violating the Criminal Code.

Following this incident I investigated the matter personally. My actions were in no way contrary to the Criminal Code. Furthermore, the Chief of Police has stated, in relation to a similar incident, that leafletting near TTC property is not a violation of the Criminal Code.

My impression of this incident leads me to believe that I was subject to unnecessary intimidation. I request that you undertake to investigate this matter."

REFORM THE



TRANSIT
TRAGEDY
No. 1

TTC UNFARE!

Metro Council voted in November, 1977 to raise fares every year for five years.

Result?

- * ridership down
- * service cutback
- * more cars on the road
- * everyone loses

Did your Metro Rep vote for you or against you?

Spadina chokes in North York

North York Council, on a 'fluke' vote, at its July meeting voted to go on record as opposing the southern extension of the Spadina Expressway.

The 6 to 5 vote against the long controversial proposal occurred at 1:10am with eight Pro-Spadina members absent. Because of this, the matter will most certainly be re-opened at a later date. For the time being, the vote has crazed Esther "Go-Spadiner" Shiner wondering how she can retain credibility as head of the Go-Spadina group now that her own council won't support the extension.

Voting against the extension were: ReforMetro Aldermen Marilyn Meshberg and Pat O'Neill plus Controllers Barbara Greene and Ron Summers and Aldermen Milt Berger and Marie Labatte.

LOBBY TO KEEP MERRENS

by DIETER HOHENBERGER

Roy Merrens is not exactly a household name, but he may be on the way to becoming a cause celebre for reformers.

Merrens, a geography professor at York University, is a harbor commissioner, one of the city's three appointees to the five-man Toronto Board of Harbor Commissioners (the other two are federal appointments). Merrens is considered to be the spokesman on the TBHC for the public/user viewpoint on matters affecting the waterfront. He has distinguished himself to reformers by his opposition to the STOL port and by his conservationist stance on the future of the spit.

It came as a jolt, therefore, when the city's executive recommended recently that Merrens be replaced on the TBHC by one Robert V.

Doty, a man whose corporate pedigree is flawless.

Doty's name was put to the executive committee by Fred Beavis and supported by would-be mayor David Smith and once-would-be mayor John Bosley. With David Crombie absent, the only voice of opposition was Art Eggleton.

Doty is by occupation Canadian National Railways' regional manager of governmental and community relations (CN propogandist). He is also chairman of the Planning and Urban Affairs committee of the Metropolitan Board of Trade, and is the board's representative on, and co-chairman of, the City of Toronto's Central Waterfront Planning Committee. The CWPC is currently considering the future development of Toronto's most vital piece of realstate: the railway

lands, in which CN naturally has considerable interest. CN, of course, would like to see some heavy fiscal action on its property. One of Doty's most recent contributions to the debate on the future of the lands was to oppose the creation of a linear park connecting the downtown with Harborfront Park. Doty argued in favor of using the land for "large developments."

Now the city executive wants him as their harbor commissioner in place of Merrens, thus extending Doty's influence on the waterfront even further while at the same time shutting up a voice of criticism.

Fortunately, City Council balked and sent the recommendation back to the executive committee for further consideration. What the committee will do next, only the Board of Trade knows for sure.

LAKE CRUISE FUNDRAISER

**BOAT RIDE
on the historic
TRILLIUM**



\$10.00 or more
per person

- Music & Dancing
- Refreshments
- Social atmosphere
- Cash Bar

Friday, Sept. 8, 1978
Boat Leaves 7:30 p.m. Sharp
From: Queens Quay, Foot of Bay Street

Sponsored by **REFORMETRO**
and the Committee to Re-Elect
MARILYN MESHBERG

For tickets contact Marilyn Meshberg, 224-6017; or Liz White, 367-7903.

CALENDAR

Wed. AUGUST 9 7:30pm	WARD 6 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, candidate endorsements, 519 Church St.
Thurs. AUGUST 10 6pm	COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING, City Hall, Committee Room 4.
Thurs. AUGUST 10 7pm	ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING, City Hall, Committee Room 4.
Thurs. AUGUST 10 8pm	AGENDA REVIEW of City Council Agenda, City Hall, Committee Room 4.
Mon. AUGUST 14 9am	ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING, City Hall, Room 5, 2nd floor.
Mon. AUGUST 14 6pm	COORDINATING COMMITTEE, City Hall, Aldermen's Lounge, 2nd floor.
Tues. AUGUST 15 7pm sharp *****	DELEGATE ASSEMBLY TO ENDORSE CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION, Education Centre, 6th Floor, 155 College Street.
Mon. AUGUST 21 9am	ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING, City Hall, Room 5, 2nd floor.
Mon. AUGUST 21 6pm	COORDINATING COMMITTEE, City Hall Aldermen's Lounge, 2nd floor.
Tues. AUGUST 22 7pm ***	2nd CANDIDATE SCHOOL, 519 Church Street (room tba).
Thurs. AUGUST 24 6:30pm	ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, City Hall Aldermen's Lounge, 2nd floor
Mon. AUGUST 28 9am	ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING, City Hall, Room 5, 2nd floor.
Fri. SEPTEMBER 8 7:30pm	TRILLIUM HARBOUR CRUISE, a fundraiser for Alderman Marilyn Meshberg's election campaign and ReforMetro. (see ad for cost and where to get tickets.)

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Ex-Officio aldermen
MARILYN MESHBERG
ALLAN SPARROW

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
LIZ WHITE, 367-7903

The ReforMetro NEWSLETTER is published every two months for its membership. Items for publication should be sent to Editor, Susan Sparrow, Box 54, Station F, Toronto, M4Y 2L4.
Telephone: 367-7914.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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