

REFORM
May/June 1980



METRO NEWS
Box 54, Stn F, Toronto M4Y 2L4

NEW ATTEMPT TO SAVE ISLAND HOMES!

By Beth O'Neil

Mayor John Sewell has revised his original proposal to Metro with regards to saving the Toronto Island Community.

On May 14 the City Executive passed the amended proposal which dealt with some of the criticisms raised on the previous proposal. It is hoped that the recommendations will be endorsed by City Council, ending the long-standing battle.

In the event that Metro does not endorse the proposal the City will ask Metro to jointly request the province to appoint an arbitrator. Such an arbitrator would be confined to resolving the remaining differences should Metro accept the proposal in part or in principle. If Metro rejects the proposal entirely the arbitrator would then consider any aspect of the future of the Island homes.

In the event that Metro neither endorses the proposal or agrees to an arbitrator, the City would make a unilateral request to the province to appoint an arbitrator.

Alderman Art Eggleton had put forward a motion to the province to defer introduction of the legislation pertaining to the Islands for a period of

1 year. But after meeting with approximately 150 Islanders he withdrew his motion and now supports the current proposal.

The proposals objectives include protecting and enhancing the sensitive environmental areas, parkland, and recreational facilities. The proposal would allow for the retention and renovation of existing housing and also to provide new housing in keeping with the Island setting.

Another objective of the plan is to upgrade the public services such as water, sewage, fire, transportation and security.

The proposal also calls for the development of a lodge for use of residents who may be sponsored by Social Agencies for short vacations, the general public on an economic basis, and small meetings and conferences.

Some of the recommendations include providing a mixture of private, co-operative and non-profit housing.

Private ownership, which was one of Alderman Eggleton's concerns, would be made available only to those leasing land and would be subject to 5-year

renewals. These renewals would be automatic providing the leasee wanted to stay.

Another key objective would be to attempt to see that the capital outlay balanced with the capital receipts. As the figures stand now the City's taxpayers net deficit would be approximately \$44,000. The entire transaction will cost the City approximately \$4 million, more than three-quarters of which would be returned through the leases.

UPCOMING COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All ReforMetro members are encouraged to attend meetings of the Coordinating Committee which are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month, in the aldermen's lounge, 2nd floor, Toronto City Hall.

The May-June dates are:

WED. MAY 21, 7:30 pm

WED. JUNE 4, 7:30 pm

WED. JUNE 18, 7:30pm*

For information on the agendas of these meetings, call Liz White, 367-7903.

coordinating committee

- CHAIRPERSON:** Liz White
367-7903 (W)
- VICE-CHAIR:** Marc Brien
362-1170
- SECRETARY:** Brynne Teall
367-7903 (W)
- TREASURER:** Sue Atkinson
364-1486
- EDUCATION:** Rick DeGrass
465-7262
- PUBLICITY:** Jo-Anne McNamara
537-5878
- NEWSLETTER:** Beth O'Neil
923-1326
- ORGANIZING:** Barb Hurd
534-3149
- FUNDRAISING:** Rosemarie Dickson
531-8492
- MEMBERSHIP:** Sue Sparrow
367-7914 (W)
- ELECTED REP:** Pat Case
598-4931 (W)
- MEMBER-AT-LARGE:**
Brian Conway
534-3149
Ann Coops
535-0914
Maureen Harris
244-4546
Dudley Laws
656-8401 (W)
Owen Leech
532-7040
Sri Skanda Rajah
622-2804

The ReforMetro NEWS is produced every 2 months for members. Editor: Beth O'Neil. Items for publication should be sent to Beth at 1 Homewood Avenue, Apt. 109, Toronto, M4Y 2J8. Volunteers are welcome to help edit, type, write, paste-up the paper. Call Beth at 923-1326 or leave a message for her at 367-7914 if you want to volunteer.

FEE HIKE PROPOSED

NOTICE OF MOTION: moved by Sue Sparrow that ReforMetro raise its membership fee to \$10 (regular) and \$2.50 for unemployed."

This motion will be discussed at the May 21 Co-ordinating Committee Meeting, at 7:30pm, Aldermen's Lounge, City Hall. All ReforMetro members welcome. The increase in fees will

permit regular issues of the Newsletter to be produced and mailed and other special mailings dealing with key issues which we are organizing around.

The current membership fee is \$5 regular and \$2.50 for unemployed. The proposed increase does not affect the unemployed rate.

Deluxe Traditional Japanese Dinner Friday May 30th ...at 7:30 pm Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre

123 Wynford Drive (Don Mills/Eglinton)

SAKE
SHRIMP & VEGETABLE TEMPURA
KAKI TAMA SOUP
KANI SUNOMONO
(CRAB MEAT SALAD)
BEEF TERIYAKI
with RICE & VEGETABLES
GREEN TEA ICE CREAM
with MANDARIN ORANGES
JAPANESE TEA

prepared by KANUI SATO, Sous-Chef, Prince Hotel

\$25 per person

RESERVATIONS. . . call Marc Brien, 367-7914
proceeds to **Allan Sparrow defense fund**

Daycare Is A Right!

by Brynne Teall.

At the May 7 meeting of ReforMetro's new coordinating committee, daycare was re-affirmed as one of the major issues that we will organize around in 1980. At this point, there will not be a formal ReforMetro committee established but instead, Pat Davies, Sue Collieran and I will work with Action Daycare and will act as liaisons.

In February, a survey was jointly published by Action Daycare and the Social Planning Council. The survey looked at the effect of cutbacks on the quality and quantity of daycare in Metro and not surprisingly, the results of the survey are not encouraging. Since that time, Action Daycare has been holding educationals, based on the survey, in numerous daycare centres in Metro so that workers would be aware of the situation and could have input into the strategy for halting cutbacks in this necessary service. In addition, Action Daycare held three public forums during April and the first part of May which included "A History of Daycare", Action Daycare's perspective on the future of Daycare in Ontario", and

"Proposals for concrete political action". A fourth forum is being planned for June on the topic of organizing daycare workers. Representatives from Ottawa's CUPE Local 2204 will be speaking on the problems and successes that their 150-member local had in organizing non-municipal daycare workers in Ottawa.

We hope that our main contribution to Action Daycare and to our own membership will be to organize around the issue of daycare in various Ontario Housing projects in Metro. To accomplish this, we will work closely with members of the Social Housing Action Coalition (SHAC) and the Metro Tenants' Council (OHC). In addition, we plan to help organize daycare workers and establish a strong network of contacts for the Lobby Day which is being planned by Action Daycare for the fall.

If you have suggestions or would like to be involved in the daycare issue, contact me at 367-7903.

ReforMetro believes that daycare is the right of every mother...not a privilege for the few.

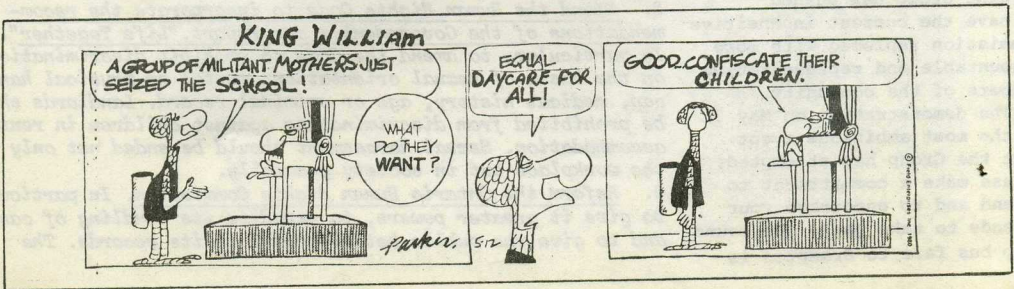
Using schools for daycare

In January, 1980, the Toronto Board of Education passed a report on "Co-operative Learning Centres". It would allow co-operative daycare groups free use of schools.

A "Co-operative Learning Centre is defined by the Board as an organization which involves students in its day-to-day activities and has a formal, ongoing curriculum liaison with the school that the children attend.

A daycare group wishing to use a school, must approach an appropriate school, arrive at a structure with that school so that the children will be able to achieve educational goals and then apply to the Alternative and Community Programs Committee for acceptance. Once accepted, the group, along with the school involved, must submit an annual report to the Alternative and Community Programs Committee documenting the progress of the program.

If you want more information, call the Toronto Board at 598-4931.



RM moves on human RIGHTS

by Allan Sparrow
Alderman, Ward 6

At noon on Sat. May 31, buses will leave City Hall for Brampton and a visit to Bill Davis. The event is a human rights demonstration to highlight the inadequacies of the Davis Government and to demand immediate reforms. The full text of the human rights declaration accompanies this article.

This rally is the latest initiative of the Working Group on Minority-Police Relations, a group in which Reform Metro members have been active since its inception more than a year ago.

The rally is designed to strip away the insulating layers of Paul Godfrey, Metro Council, the Police Commission and the Solicitor & Attorney General's offices from the Conservative Government and Premier Bill Davis.

Over the past year, the Working Group has challenged the Police Association and bigoted and racist views in the publication News & Views. The group has successfully pushed for the elimination of height and weight requirements to ensure the force represents Toronto's population, it has lobbied for an independent civilian investigation of complaints against the police, and for local control of the Police Commission. As well, the Working Group has pushed to have the current insensitive Commission replaced with more accountable and representative members of the community.

The demonstration on May 31 is the most ambitious event that the Group has attempted. Please make a commitment to attend and to encourage your friends to take part. The round trip bus fare to Brampton is

only \$2.50. For tickets, contact Liz White, 367-7903. Groups are encouraged to book a bus (49 passengers)... this can be arranged through Liz. If you can volunteer as a marshal or can do any phoning before May 31, call Liz as soon as possible.

HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION

We, the people of Ontario, have come to the hometown of the Premier of Ontario to express our intense displeasure and frustration at his government's cynical neglect of human rights.

We are concerned that, as the economic crisis worsens, Bill Davis and his government will attempt to expand their destructive policies to distract attention from their inept handling of the economy and the deterioration of social services.

We believe that Bill Davis and his government have tried to cater to what they view as the male-dominated, middle class, white, heterosexual majority at the expense of all other groups which constitute our society. We believe, as well, that Bill Davis and his government have attempted to play on the fears of this so-called "majority" and have not only attempted to isolate various groups from each other but have tried to "pit" them against one another.

We believe that Bill Davis and his government are responsible for perpetuating and reinforcing the expression of racism, bigotry and intolerance in the Province of Ontario.

Consequently, we request the Premier and his government to take the following actions immediately:

1. Fire from the government or any of its boards, commissions or agencies, any public official who exhibits insensitivity or intolerance towards minorities. In particular, Conservative MPP Ed Havrot should be expelled from the Government Caucus for his derogatory remarks towards Native People and Italians. Mr. Winfield McKay, the Davis appointee to the Toronto Police Commission, should be fired for his derogatory remarks towards Blacks and Gays. The other members of the Police Commission, including Chairman Phil Givens, should be removed for their implicit support of Mr. McKay and for their overall insensitivity to minorities within Metro. Two agencies which are notorious for their mistreatment of people they are supposed to serve, the Ontario Housing Corporation and the Workmen's Compensation Board, should be completely overhauled and reformed.

2. Amend the Human Rights Code to incorporate the recommendations of the Government's own report, "Life Together". In particular, to amend the Code to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, mental or physical handicap, medical history, age or criminal record. Landlords should be prohibited from discriminating against children in rental accommodation. Sexual harassment should be ended not only in the workplace but in society generally.

3. Reform the Ontario Human Rights Commission. In particular, to give it greater powers, to expedite its handling of cases, and to give the public better access to its records. The

Human Rights Code must be amended to give it primacy over all other provincial legislation. More full-time commissioners are required who are more representative of our society and who are strong advocates of human rights.

4. Improve the administration of justice, with emphasis on improvements to large city police forces. In particular, the Attorney-General should ensure that the police respect the law and are treated the same as anyone else. Murder charges should be laid against the officers responsible for the Albert Johnson shooting. The police function should be removed from provincial control and given to municipalities. The Attorney-General should provide for independent civilian investigation of police misconduct and police interference in labour matters should be prohibited by law. Recruitment and advancement practices for police officers should ensure adequate representation at all levels for women and minorities.

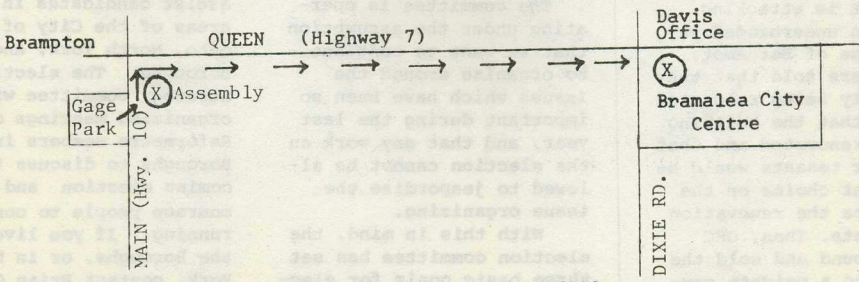
BUS TO BRAMPTON FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Saturday, May 31 noon



* BUS WITH US TO PREMIER BILL DAVIS' HOMETOWN, BRAMPTON, "THE CITY OF FLOWERS" AND LAY A FLOWER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AT HIS CONSTITUENCY OFFICE.

AGENDA

- Noon -- Buses leave Toronto City Hall (100 Queen St. W.)
- 1 PM -- Buses arrive at Gage Park, Brampton [Main St. (Hwy. 10), one block south of Queen (Hwy. 7)]
- 2 PM -- March to Bill Davis' Office at Bramalea Town Centre (Hwy. 7 and Dixie Road)
- 3 PM -- Speeches at Davis' Office
- 4 PM -- Buses leave from Davis' Office for Toronto



* RESERVE A SEAT NOW! Call Liz White, 367-7903
 FARE: \$2.50 per person (bring a lunch)
 GROUPS wanting to rent a 50-passenger bus should call
 Liz White, 367-7903

TENANTS DEMONSTRATE AS THE SALE OF OHC BEGINS

by Jack Layton

Tenants from all over Metro gathered on Sat. May 10 at the site of Bergamot, an OHC project recently sold to a private developer.

The demonstration was called by the Metro Tenants' Council Working Committee, a group which Reformetro has been instrumental in organizing. The tenants and their supporters are opposing the proposed dismantling of OHC in Metro, a scheme which was originally advanced by Metro and Provincial officials. After initial opposition to the proposed dismantling reached a peak at a public meeting of the Metro Social Services and Housing Committee in March, attended by over 1200 tenants, Metro Council decided to reject the idea. But Queen's Park seems bent on proceeding with this attack on public housing tenants in Metro. The sale of the Bergamot project in Rexdale, which housed some 112 families, is clear evidence of the Government's intentions.

Not only are tenants being denied the housing which they need, the Davis Government is attacking them in an underhanded way. In the case of Bergamot, tenants were told that they were merely being relocated in order that the building could be renovated and that the former tenants would be given first choice on the units, once the renovation was complete. Then, OHC turned around and sold the building to a private company, insuring that needed public housing would be denied to those who need it.

OHC tenants in Metro, with the help of the Social Housing Action Coalition (SHAC), are organizing against the government's plans by working to establish organizations in all OHC projects in Metro. This is a massive undertaking and Reformetro is giving all the assistance it can. We are making this a major focus of our organizing efforts this year and we urge Reformetro members to give us a hand. For more information, call Liz White, 367-7903.



Election Strategy Evolves

By Liz White

With the 1980 municipal election less than 6 months away, Reformetro is working on a strategy for involvement in the campaign.

An election strategy committee has been established to determine the ways in which Reformetro will participate in this important contest.

The committee is operating under the assumption that we want to continue to organize around the issues which have been so important during the last year, and that any work on the election cannot be allowed to jeopardize the issue organizing.

With this in mind, the election committee has set three basic goals for election work: first, to raise the issues which have concerned Reformetro members

in the election (police-minority relations, public housing, transportation issues, day care, etc.).

Second, to encourage the many people who have been involved in these issues to participate in the election of progressive candidates in their areas.

Third, to encourage and assist candidates in certain areas of the City of Toronto, North York, and the Boroughs. The election strategy committee will be organizing meetings of Reformetro members in the Boroughs to discuss the upcoming election and to encourage people to consider running. If you live in the Boroughs, or in North York, contact Brian Conroy at 534-3149 to find out about the meetings in your area.

'Fair weather' air service Toronto Island — Ottawa

by Marc Brien

In a move that is difficult to interpret, the Canadian Transport Commission has granted Attonabee Airlines a license to operate a commercial air service between the Toronto Island Airport and Ottawa.

However this is not the STOL service which ReformMetro has been opposing.

Attonabee will not be using STOL aircraft such as DeHavilland's Dash 7, but a Saunders 20-passenger plane. They will begin by operating four return flights each day.

Nor will Attonabee have the Island Airport upgraded with systems that would allow for instrument landing. As a result, they will only operate the route in fair weather. This will not allow them to promise regularity and will greatly detract from the service's marketability.

Attonabee plans to charge \$99 return for a flight which will take 1 hour and five minutes from Toronto Island to Ottawa International Airport. Air Canada charges \$118 return and the one-way flight from Toronto International to Ottawa International takes 50 minutes. Air Canada operates a service every hour.

According to Attonabee, passengers will only "save a few minutes, a few dollars but won't have to go through the hassle of the main Toronto Airport."

Attonabee has previously run flights out of the Island airport with this particular plane. Their

previous license required them to fly to Kingston en route to Ottawa. Now they may fly direct.

The license as granted meets the requirements of Toronto's Central Area Plan, the intent of which was to prevent STOL.

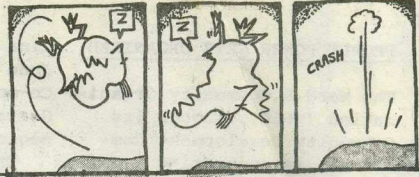
The quick granting of this license may be a good omen. Having established a route from the Island Airport to Ottawa, the CTC will have difficulty granting a competing license to the companies that have to run the more passenger-intensive STOL service.

However, there is a danger that it may be the thin edge of the wedge. The CTC may be trying to legitimize commercial service from the Island Airport before letting the other shoe drop.

For this reason the group of people fighting the STOL issue plans to encourage the various tenenvors against STOL to write to the CTC saying it would strongly oppose the granting of licenses to run anything more intensive than this service.

Strong opposition will not be made against this particular license for fear of damaging our credibility in opposing STOL, particularly since the Attonabee application meets the requirements of the City's official plan.

REFORM METRO MEMBERS INTERESTED
IN TRANSPORTATION ISSUES...
SHOULD CALL MARC BRIEN,
367-7914.



Calendar

WED. MAY 21, 7:30pm

ReformMetro Coordinating Committee, 2nd floor, aldermen's lounge, Toronto City Hall.

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 8:30pm

Benefit performance of Cheryl Cashman's hit play "Turning 30" at the Adelaide Court Theatre, 57 Adelaide St. E., \$8.50 per person. Call Sue Sparrow, 367-7914 for tickets. Proceeds to Wards 1 & 6 election debts.

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 7:30pm

Deluxe Traditional Japanese Dinner at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, 123 Wynford Dr. \$25 per person includes Sake. Proceeds to Allan Sparrow Defence Fund. Tickets..call Marc Brien, 367-7914.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, noon

Bus to Brampton for Human Rights. Buses leave Toronto City Hall at noon, return at 5pm. Fare: \$2.50 return. Sponsored by the Working Group on Minority-Police Relations. For a seat on a bus call Liz White, 367-7903.

MONDAY, JUNE 2-SUN. JUNE 8

Bike Week...for more information, call the City Cycling Committee, 367-7913.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 7:30pm

ReformMetro Coordinating Committee, 2nd floor, aldermen's lounge, City Hall

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 7pm

Ward 6 Community Organization Hislop Campaign Committee meeting, 519 Church St. All welcome who wish to work on the election campaign. †

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 7:30pm

ReformMetro coordinating committee, 2nd fl., City Hall.

PEOPLE POWER GETS ORGANIZED

The Ward 6 Community Organization (W6CO), through its Community Development Committee, is sponsoring a one-day workshop on community organizing. The workshop is being run in cooperation with community organizer

Lina Chartrand on Sunday, June 15 at Neill Wycik Co-operative College, 96 Gerrard St. East and will begin at 12:30.

The workshop is being offered to anyone in Metro who wants to know more about community organizing and is in response to a growing

demand by activists who want to become more effective.

The cost for the day is \$10 or \$5 if you are unemployed. Registration is limited and is on a first-come basis. To be ensured of a place, call Hank Einarson, 977-0925 or Sue Sparrow, 367-7914.

community organizing workshops

Sun. June 15

Neill Wycik Cooperative



96 GERRARD STREET EAST (just east of Church St.)

- 12:30PM: Registration, Steamer Lounge, Neill Wycik Co-op
- 1:00PM: KEYNOTE SPEAKER..steps to follow in community organizing
- 2:15PM: Five ORGANIZING WORKSHOPS with experienced group leaders...1. Residents' Associations
2. Tenants' Associations 3. Minority Rights 4. Daycare 5. Local control of neighbourhood services..schools, libraries, community centres, clinics.
- 3:45PM: Five more ORGANIZING WORKSHOPS...6. Non-profit,co-op,OHC housing 7. Job creation
8. Provincial cutbacks to education and social services 9. Adequate incomes and services for sole-support parents,disabled,unemployed 10. City election campaigns
- 5:00PM: REPORTS FROM WORKSHOPS AND SUMMING UP
- 6:00PM: POT-LUCK DINNER

FEES: \$10 (regular) or \$5 (unemployed)...includes all workshop materials

SPONSORED BY THE WARD 6 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION...for info. call Hank Einarson, 977-0925.

-----tear off and return before Tues, June 10/80-----

REGISTRATION FORM

Enroll me in the W6CO Community Organizing Workshops on Sun. June 15 at Neill Wycik College.

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: (home) _____ (work) _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

I enclose a cheque payable to "Ward 6 Community Organization" for \$10 or \$5 (unemployed)

I plan to stay for the pot-luck dinner (6pm-8pm) YES NO

I rate my preferences for workshops as follows (rate each group from 1-5.."1" is 1st choice)

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS at 2:15pm

- Residents' Associations
- Tenants' Associations
- Minority Rights
- Daycare
- Neighbourhood Services

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS at 3:45pm

- Affordable Housing
- Job Creation
- Provincial Cutbacks
- Income and service maintenance for sole support parents,disabled,unemployed
- Municipal Election Campaigns

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Hank Einarson, 96 Gerrard St. East,#21-A-2,Toronto, M5B 1G7

EDUCATION CORNER

by PAT CASE
Trustee, Ward 4
Toronto Board of Education

WHAT'S WITH ETHNIC SCHOOLS?

Recently the Toronto Board of Education had before it requests from several communities to establish Third Language Schools or ethnic schools. It also had before it, from members of the Black community, requests to establish a multicultural school and at a public meeting of Toronto's Pakistani community, their desire for a Moslem Women's Academy was stated. All four of these proposals fall into the same category; they propose fully segregated minority schools.

The Board of Education has a policy allowing communities to apply for and establish alternative community schools and it was in accordance with these policies that these communities put forward their proposals.

It is somewhat ironic that after many years and many sharp battles for desegregation of schools in the United States of America, we in Toronto communities should attempt to segregate in the name of freedom of choice. The obvious question that comes to mind with regard to the Black school community proposal, in particular, is this; and it is very simple: Blacks in Toronto have no political power, very little economic power, and in this respect, are in the same position as our brothers and sisters were below the border in the United States prior to the '60s. What would prevent a right-wing and/or racist school board from treating a separate Black community school any differently than the segregated schools were treated in the United States of America?

One of the main arguments for desegregation, we must remember, was the need to equalize, both in terms of quantity of materials and teaching staff and in quality, the standard of education. Segregated schools are certainly still within living memory for many Ontarians. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking that it couldn't happen again and that these schools wouldn't be just as disadvantaged as they were in the past.

There is, however, a central theme which is repeated in all the requests that have been made, and that theme can in no way be ignored; that is the legitimate desire on the part of minority communities to maintain strong identification with the language and culture of their home countries. The communities feel that this applies particularly to the youth.

Schools in Toronto, although boasting about their multicultural nature, most certainly have light years to go in terms of understanding the social and cultural alienation felt by many of their clients -- the Black students who don't know where they are going to because they don't know where they have come from culturally; South European youngsters who are Anglicized by a system beyond the control of themselves or the control of their parents; Moslem communities who see many of the fine values of Islam negated. We can add to that dozens of other cultures which are ignored by the still Anglo-Canadian-dominated education system. That system still attempts to make the datum line for understanding literature Shakespeare, and that for understanding music, Wagner or Beethoven.

Schools in the system must take up the major question of applying, across the curriculum, the many diverse heritages that make up Toronto and that means in history Blacks, Chinese, Japanese have to find their proper place as builders of Canada, because we have all had a place. In art and music, can anyone say our communities have made no contributions and that it is legitimate that every year the elementary school concert at Massey Hall features Chinese kids, Black kids and everyone else's kids doing the same old school songs of Anglo Canada fifty years ago?

The solution is to place cultural heritage in the main stream of the school system, not to segregate!

DUKE OF YORK SCHOOL

Many school trustees, during the 1978 election campaign, ran on a platform of saving the inner-city school. The small school, we said, fosters and nurtures the feeling of community among parents and kids. After the election, as trustees we spent much time in the community listening to parents of youngsters in these same small schools and could understand their desire to keep what they had.

Some of these same trustees have reneged on this most fundamental idea; they voted to close the Duke of York School in Ward 6 and re-open it as the Ecole Publique Gabrielle Roy. It is proposed that the Duke of York School move, lock, stock and barrel; to Regent Park School on the other side of Moss Park. People familiar with the area will realize that the hop from Duke of York to Regent Park is no small hop for kindergarten children and their parents, who will now have to travel that distance four times a day. In fact, it is felt that many of these youngsters will end up going instead to Lord Dufferin, a school that they will have to pass on the way to Regent Park from the Duke of York community. Trustees voted to close one small inner-city school, dump it in with a medium-sized inner-city school, thereby creating a large one. Any idea that Duke of York will maintain its identity as an alternative school within Regent Park School, is just sugar coating to gloss over the fact that this progressive inner-city school will be assimilated and will no longer exist in two years. How callous and cynical!

We know the disadvantages of large schools in the inner-city; the lack of real contact between students and staff; the lack of encouragement for parent involvement in the school and consequently, the whole absence of programs that speak to the existence of youngsters whose lives, in this case, are spent in bleak Moss Park apartment buildings or Regent Park, with its incredible unemployment and social problems.

Very little can be done now about the ending of the Duke of York School, but it should be remembered by all progressive-minded people that, even after all the philosophizing is done and the parent delegations have had their say, there are still those among us who would take steps against working people of the inner-city and their communities for what amounts to expedient and opportunistic reasons.

REFORM METRO

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____ Postal code: _____

Enclosed find a cheque payable to REFORM METRO for one year's membership:
 \$5, regular \$2.50, seniors, students, unemployed

I am interested in being involved in Reform Metro around the following issues:

Housing _____ Police Reform _____ Cutbacks in social services, education
 Fundraising, membership _____ Newsletter production _____ Election work _____

RETURN TO: REFORM METRO, BOX 54. STN. "F", TORONTO, ONTARIO.

Reform Metro is a Metro Toronto-wide political movement of residents concerned about the quality of life in their city.

Reform Metro was founded in 1975 as a vehicle for bringing together people interested in presenting a progressive alternative to the many problems affecting our communities. To name just a few: the need to preserve local neighborhoods, the lack of affordable housing, the lack of rights for tenants, rising TTC fares, racism, unfair property taxation and unemployment.

Reform Metro is not just an electoral machine. We do endorse candidates at election time who we believe will represent the best interests of communities. But we see a real need for grass-roots community organizing around issues to build strong peoples' organizations to give people the power to control what is happening to them and their communities.

Reform Metro has played a leading role in many campaigns to improve quality of life in Metro Toronto. We have also played a leading role in electing to City and Borough councils and Boards of Education progressive politicians who see their first priority as representing and fighting for the interests of working people and their community.

* initiated the founding of the Social Housing Action Coalition to organize OHC tenants to fight the proposed sale of OHC.

* supported tenants in organizing for rent control, security of tenure and the enforcement of housing standard by-laws.

* supported the preservation of local neighborhoods

* organized the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations to oppose racism, sexism and bigotry in the Police Commission

* opposed adoption of the Emergency Measures By-law at Metro Council

* opposed provincial government cutbacks in health, education and social services

* called for job creation to bring down Metro's high unemployment

* supported equal pay for work of equal value and other measures for women's equality

* opposed Stopport on the Islands and supported the rights of the Islanders to keep their homes

* called for a new financial deal for municipalities to take the burden off homeowners and tenants through unconditional grants from the senior levels of government.

* supported the election of reform candidates to councils and school boards

* organized community organizations in the City, North York, York and East York.

EDUCATION...

In municipal politics education issues are almost always relegated to the back burner. A good indication of this is the near absence of progressive school trustees in North York, the boroughs and the Catholic school board. The school system has been unresponsive to the needs of this city's children. The school boards continue to act as administrators of provincial government cutbacks and have been grossly irresponsible in meeting the needs of people.

Reform Metro has committed itself to building a strong education committee to raise issues, organize communities and develop policies around education. Join us in fighting for:

- * an end to cutbacks in education programs, teacher lay-offs and the closing of community schools.
- * giving parents, teachers and students a real voice in decision-making around education.
- * making our schools real community centres.
- * gearing special education programs to meeting real needs.
- * anti streaming and oppose racism, sexism and bigotry in the classroom and the schoolboard.
- * defend public employees' right to strike and to collective bargaining.
- * elect progressive school trustees.

GET INVOLVED

Membership in Reform Metro is open to anyone in Metro Toronto who is supportive of our program and policies. Reform Metro is a democratically structured membership organization. Annually a convention is held to elect our 18 member co-ordinating committee which co-ordinates the movement's work from week to week. The meetings of the co-ordinating committee are open to all members. Between 2 and 4 meetings of our members or 'delegate assemblies' are held each year to keep the membership informed and the co-ordinating committee accountable.

Members are Reform Metro are encouraged to join sub-committees such as those which produce our newsletter, do our fundraising, assist in organizing local borough and community groups. Members are also encouraged to be active in coalitions such as SHAC (the Social Housing Action Coalition) and the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations.

Membership in Reform Metro entitles you to participate in making decisions on the direction and activities of the movement. Our newsletter is published several times a year and regular phoneings are done regarding meetings, demonstrations and fundraising events.

To join Reform Metro call Liz White or Bayne Teall at 367-7903.

REFORM METRO

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