

dialogue

Canada's Independent Voices

MAGAZINE

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If not me,
who?
If not now,
when?



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June-July 2008

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Gordon F. Hartman, in Nanaimo, shares his ideas on the need for new responses to ecological crises, p.13



Roberta Hisked, in L'Original, Ontario, shown here with some of her smocking, discusses the economic philosophy behind the Fraser Institute and its report on Education, p.20



Peter Sauvé reports from Montreal, in his "Quebec Notebook," on Equalization, national unity, Education, Bill 101 and more, p.18

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[PLEASE NOTE THAT PAGE NUMBERS REFER TO THE FULL PRINTED MAGAZINE ISSUE]

A word from the publisher and editor...



Welcome to Issue No. One of Volume 22.

Many of us have a “burning issue” that we feel is the most important at this time in human history... something that, in our hearts, we know is critical to our shared future on this planet. This month’s cover asks what each of us is willing to do – or *not* do! – in order to “*be the change we want to see in the world*” as Mahatma Gandhi counselled us many

decades ago. In this issue of *Dialogue*, you will find a number of inspiring stories about what some people are doing to make the world a better place.

Among our new writers in this issue is **Gordon Hartman**, 82, of Nanaimo, sharing his in-depth analysis of the converging ecological crises and the need for a “long-term brain” to address them (p.13). We also welcome 14-year-old **Kristin McCullough** of Lindsay, Ont., who shares a story – and an exposé – concerning her rescued racehorse, “*Second Chance*,” (p.35). And we also hear from **Louise Gouëffic** of Lakefield, Ont., who has written an important book, “*The Mind is Not a Plaything*,” which looks at the ‘identity theft’ of half the species, ‘fem,’ since 2400 BCE, and the impact that this has had on the mind and our world. And she offers answers! (p.52)

While there are, as always, many concerns raised, there are also many intriguing solutions suggested. An interesting approach – with implications for many problems – is found in the book, “*The Open-Focus Brain*,” which provides a way out of the narrow-focus attention (and chronic stress) that is rampant in today’s society (p.40). [This book (with a CD) can be ordered from *Dialogue* for \$22.95 (plus GST & postage = \$26.88)].

Another wide-ranging solution is something called “**Permaculture**,” an ecological design system for sustainability in all aspects of human endeavour (p.42). In fact, you will surely find potential “solutions” in many places!

We are looking forward to seeing Donna Dillman and Mike Nickerson on June 30th. You can read about their cross-country “*Living on Earth as if we want to stay*” Tour (p. 5), to see if they are visiting near you this summer.

Many of the books mentioned in this issue are listed in our Amazon.ca “store” on our website – www.dialogue.ca [We make a small commission if you purchase from amazon.ca [through our website!](http://www.dialogue.ca)]

And if you are not yet receiving our monthly “**e-mail newsletter**” (prepared by Maurice), send an e-mail – to maurice.king@dialogue.ca – and we will add you to our e-newsletter list. [Please note: the e-mail address for submissions to the printed magazine is still: dialogue@dialogue.ca. We experienced some difficulty with this e-mail address in May; please call and let us know if you have any trouble with messages bouncing back.]

Thank you for your letters, encouragement, subscriptions, gift subscriptions and donations! Without your support and your voice, there would be no *Dialogue*! Your help in finding new readers is so vital – and greatly valued.

We will leave you with the words of Connie Fogal, (retiring) leader of the Canadian Action Party: “*Look at life around you. Breathe in the earth. It is rich in its gifts of life. Think of the best you would like to see it be and work towards that end. Focus on the good of what can be, not the bad of what is.*”

We take this opportunity thank Connie for her tremendous contributions to the effort to awaken Canadians to the threats to Canadian sovereignty (p.9-10)

Maurice, volunteer publisher *Janet*, volunteer editor
...and Penny, of course!

P.S. We have developed a bookmark as a way of introducing new readers to our magazine. If you would like some, let us know, (250) 758-9877. (Photo on p.59)

dialogue is...

...an independent, not-for-profit Canadian magazine, written and supported by its readers - empowering their voices and the sharing of ideas.

Dialogue, for over 21 years, has been providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and an antidote to political correctness. We encourage readers to share with others – including our politicians – the ideas and issues gleaned from these pages.

If this is your first issue, please let us know what you think of it. If you would like to share your ideas and become a writer in dialogue magazine consider this your invitation!

We also need your support as a subscriber, to help us continue
(See P. 58 for details)

Dialogue was founded in 1987 and is published six times a year.

Maurice J. King, President-Publisher
Janet K. Hicks, Volunteer Editor

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Concerns about Bill C-51

Reducing drug approval safety

Council of Canadians: May 22 08 - As recently noted by the National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE), "The Harper government has introduced Bill C-51, an Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act, which dramatically reduces safety requirements for drug approval. The current system of drug approval requires prior evidence of a minimum of safety and efficacy. However, C-51 reverses existing process by bringing 'promising' new drugs onto the market and then monitoring their effectiveness. This practice will expose Canadians to new drugs before their potential dangers are known. C-51 would permit the speedy marketing of expensive new drugs – many of which have no therapeutic advantage over safer, cheaper drugs – before research on effectiveness and safety is completed."

They add, "Even post-marketing 'surveillance' to be done after new drugs are marketed will be carried out by the drug manufacturer involved, and thus will be biased in favour of the product being reviewed. For patients with rare diseases, who require access to groundbreaking new medications and can't wait for a long approval process, a special access program already exists, one that does not include a general

Bill C-51 and the Health Minister's Conflict of Interest

E.R. Coster, Westbank BC

On April 8th, 2008, The Canadian Minister of Health introduced Bill C-51 into the House of Commons. This bill proposes significant changes to the current Food and Drug Act, that will affect most Canadians. They intend to bypass elected officials and vote in bureaucratic laws from other countries, without our consent. They intend to remove 60% of Natural Health Products presently available, in our health stores, and make them available, only by prescription. More than 70% of the people in Canada use Natural Health Products. The new Enforced Powers intend to allow Inspectors....

- Enter private property without a warrant.
- Take your property, at their discretion.
- Dispose of your property at will.
- Seize your bank accounts.
- Charge owners shipping & storage for seized property.
- Be empowered to store your property indefinitely and not reimburse you for your losses.

If you disobey these new regulations, you can be fined up to 5 Million dollars, and or 2 years in jail, or both. Bill C-51 is designed to bankrupt and silence the people.

This is reminiscent of what took place in Nazi Germany during the Hitler regime, when the laws of the land were changed. However in Germany they attacked only the Jews, but in Canada they intend to attack "all" Canadians. If the health foods are removed from the counters, you can expect the cost of prescriptions, will increase, dramatically. The mark-up on some of our prescription drugs today, is

lowering of standards." [...] The Harper government's Bill C-51 would introduce the 'progressive licensing' of new pharmaceutical products in Canada. Progressive licensing means an increased reliance on research conducted by the drug manufacturers themselves, fast-tracking the drug approval process, and the appraisal of the safety of drugs once they are on the market, again primarily by the drug companies themselves.

[...] Additionally, the CBC recently reported that, "Critics feel the bill will outlaw up to 60 per cent of natural health products currently sold in Canada, making many natural health products that have been sold in Canada for decades unavailable for purchase and penalizing parents who give herbs or supplements to their children. They also argue that the government could designate any natural health product a prescription drug, making it available by prescription only. They say these types of provisions will force small companies out of the market." To read the Council of Canadians fact sheet on C-51, please go to:

<http://canadians.org/integratethis/backgrounders/C51andtheSPP.pdf/> ♣

absolutely unconscionable. Between what it cost to produce a drug, and what the consumer has to pay, is absolutely ridiculous. The cost to the consumer (based on drugs sold at Costco, USA) have shown markups (over the cost of the active ingredient) of 224%(PROZAC) or 569%(ZANAX) or even 4000% (ZOCOR). So is it any wonder why the pharmaceuticals are raking in billions of dollars, year after year, and they still wish to deny senior citizens, living on fixed incomes, the privilege of buying reasonably priced Health Foods & Supplements, they so desperately need for survival.

And there is no guarantee, when purchasing prescription drugs, that they won't be detrimental to your system! For years doctors have been prescribing prescriptions that have created serious side effects, leading to ill health and in some cases, even death. Maybe it's about time doctors were being investigated too.

Tony Clement, Federal Health Minister, is an all powerful prohibitionist pharmaceutical mogul, who owns 25% equity of Prudential Chem. Inc., a Toronto manufacturer of pharmaceutical chemicals. If this is not a blatant conflict of interest, then I don't know what is. Clement has breached the public's trust, and should be removed as Federal Minister of Health, immediately, if not sooner. I have followed the movement of governments for a number of years, and must consider this as one of the most shameful examples of how undemocratic, our federal governments really are. It's time to act now, and take the federal government to task over this most discriminating issue. ♣

MORE ON C-51. "The Bill from Hell" on P.10-11

EXTRACT

www.dialogue.ca

The "Living on Earth as if we want to stay" Tour

From Mike Nickerson, Donna Dillman, Lanark ON

Across Canada and into the US, mid June through October 2008 [Sponsors wanted]

"Living on Earth as if we want to stay" is an international speaking tour drawing attention to the challenge of the day. Lanark, ON residents, author Mike Nickerson and uranium activist Donna Dillman, are facilitating discussions around the theme of Nickerson's latest book, *Life, Money & Illusion*. They will visit communities across Canada and in the USA, beginning in North Bay on June 18th, travelling to the west coast and ending in Ann Arbor, Michigan on July 15th; re-summing the tour in September through Quebec, NB, NS and PEI and into southern Ontario in October.

You can participate and help!

Though some events have already been organized, they are looking for venues along the way. If you'd like to join the discussion or organize one in your community, please see:

www.SustainWellBeing.net/LMI/tour_to_come.html

for details.

Getting to the root of the problem...

"Cures do not result from treating symptoms. The cause must be addressed. While Climate Change has captured public attention, it is a symptom of a greater challenge. That challenge is that the human species has grown to fill its planet," says Nickerson from his home in rural Lanark, ON.

"It is odd," he continues, "at a time when our biggest problems are the result of our size, that our leaders maintain that more growth is the solution. Like adolescents approaching

adulthood, our society clings to its carefree past. Since most adults have been able to make that transformation successfully, there is good reason to believe that our society will also accept its maturity."

Nickerson's latest book, *Life, Money & Illusion: Living on Earth as if we want to stay*, details the differing views on how to be successful in our changing times. One view, the "Life" perspective, says we need to preserve and enhance ecosystems and communities; the other, the "Money" perspective, says we need to continuously expand production and consumption. These two approaches differ significantly on how they would deal with today's most serious problems.

Life, Money & Illusion, a 2007 Nautilus Book Award finalist, suggests a way forward, offering up new ways of organizing mutual provision (the economy) and a change in priorities that can lead to a long and joyous future. New Society Publishing has recently taken over distributorship.

During their discussions, while Nickerson looks at the big picture, Dillman, the Lanark area grandmother who went 68 days without eating last fall, to protest uranium exploration and mining in eastern Ontario, speaks to an 'on the ground' example of what needs changing. She says, "Toilet train we must, if we are to assure an un-soiled world for our grandchildren."

For more information, see:

www.SustainWellBeing.net/LMI/Welcome.html

www.ccamu.ca/

www.uraniumcitizensinquiry.com

In Nanaimo: June 30, 2008 at Malaspina U-C, now called Vancouver Island University, room 109 in building 356, 7:00 pm

P.S. Dialogue has available some of Mike's book, *Life, Money & Illusion*, \$20 (plus postage): (250) 758-9877. ♣

PARTIAL TOUR SCHEDULE

Elliot Lake, ON: June 19
Sault Ste Marie, ON: June 20
Thunder Bay, ON: June 21
Winnipeg, MN: June 22
Regina, SK: June 23 (eve.)
Craik, SK: June 23 (p.m.)
Saskatoon, SK: June 24
Edmonton, AB: June 25
Calgary, AB: June 26
Nelson, BC: June 27
Vancouver, BC: June 28
Saltspring Island, BC: June 29
Nanaimo, BC: June 30

From Don Parker

Schmeiser pleased with victory over Monsanto

In an out of court settlement finalized on March 19, 2008, Percy Schmeiser has settled his lawsuit with Monsanto. Monsanto has agreed to pay all the clean-up costs of the Roundup Ready canola that contaminated Schmeiser's fields.

Also part of the agreement was that there was no gag-order on the settlement and that Monsanto could be sued again if further contamination occurred. Schmeiser believes this precedent-setting agreement ensures that farmers will be entitled to reimbursement when their fields become contaminated with unwanted Roundup Ready canola or any other unwanted GMO plants.

Percy and Louise Schmeiser have celebrated over 55 years of marriage. In addition to operating a farm equipment



Percy with his canola

dealership in Bruno, Saskatchewan Canada, they have farmed for close to 60 years. Almost on the verge of retirement, they decided to not back down to Monsanto's threats and intimidation....

Because of the wide-ranging scope of this issue, and the ramifications of the case, there have been many articles and stories written on the issue and the court decisions. Check out the archives section

– www.percyschmeiser.com:80/Archives.htm

– which has stories from Percy's speaking engagements, past awards, videos and recommended reading, judgments of all of the courts and more....

Fight Genetically Altered Food Fund Inc.

Box 3743, Humboldt, Saskatchewan, S0K 2A0 ♣

ELECTORAL REFORM & GOVERNMENT ETHICS

Fair Vote Canada

Larry Gordon [larry.gordon@fairvote.ca]

BC referendum legislation tabled, but issues remain (March 6, 2008)

Fair Vote Canada congratulated BC Premier Gordon Campbell for tabling legislation to enable the May 2009 referendum on the proposed BC-STV voting system.

“The BC government has honoured its commitment to hold a second referendum in conjunction with the next provincial election,” said FVC President Stephen Broscoe. “However, we are concerned that the referendum question will be determined by an order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. In the 2005 referendum, the question was set by the Citizens' Assembly. We call upon the government to use the same referendum question from 2005, making it free from political interference.”

FVC also criticized the retention of the undemocratic 60% threshold for the next referendum. “In 2005, nearly 58% of British Columbians voted to switch to BC-STV, which should have been more than adequate for adoption,” said Broscoe. “Now, the 2009 elections will be contested with a voting system that was overwhelmingly rejected in the last referendum. A simple majority voting in favour of BC-STV this time should be sufficient for adoption of the new system.”

First-past-the-post misrepresents AB voters (Mar. 4 08) Ed Stelmach's Progressive Conservatives won 53% of the popular vote, but the voting system rewarded them with 88% of the seats. Almost half of the electorate voted for opposition parties, which now hold only 11 of the 83 seats in the legislature.

Had voters used a fair voting system, the PCs would have won about 44 seats, the Liberals 22, the NDP 7, Wild Rose Alliance 6 and the Green Party 4.

Fair Vote Alberta issued a statement highlighting the inequities for voters: “To put (the) results in perspective, it only took about 7,000 votes province-wide to elect a PC candidate. It took 31,000 votes to elect a Liberal MLA, and 40,000 votes to elect a representative of the NDP. The 64,000 voters who cast ballots for the Wild Rose Alliance were shut out completely, as were the 43,000 supporters of the Alberta Greens. It is no wonder that Albertans are tuning out, on a massive scale, when so few of their votes count.”

Both *Fair Vote Alberta* and *Fair Vote Canada* called on the new government to convene a citizens' assembly on electoral reform, similar to those in BC and Ontario, and let the voters of Alberta decide in a referendum whether to adopt a fairer and more proportional voting system.

Minority government okay with voters

Yet another poll [Jan. 28, 2008] shows that Canadians are increasingly comfortable with minority government, which is good news for proponents of fair voting systems. According to a Canadian Press Harris-Decima telephone poll, conducted during the third week of January, more people would find acceptable either a Conservative or Liberal minority government than a majority government by either party:

- 54% said a Conservative minority would be acceptable, while 49% said the same for a Conservative majority government.

- 59% said a Liberal minority would be acceptable, compared to 50% who said the same for a Liberal majority. [...] www.fairvote.ca ♣

Ethics Commissioner tries to stop Court review of her conflict of interest ruling re PM/cabinet

OTTAWA, May 21 - Democracy Watch released its response to federal Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner Mary Dawson's motion which she filed in the Federal Court of Appeal in April. The motion is an attempt to stop a review by the Court of her ruling issued on Jan. 7, 2008, which concluded that, even when the Prime Minister's and his Cabinet ministers' own actions and the actions of their close associate Brian Mulroney are in question, they are not covered by the Conflict of Interest Act and it is fine for them: to choose whether an inquiry into the Mulroney-Schreiber situation will take place; to set the scope of the inquiry; to choose the inquiry commissioner(s) who will judge them and Mr. Mulroney, and; to control the legal proceedings against Karlheinz Schreiber even though he made allegations about them. [...]

Extraordinarily, Commissioner Dawson's motion claims that she did not even make a ruling concerning the Prime Minister and his Cabinet ministers, even though she sent the ruling in writing to Democracy Watch in response to

the complaint it filed with her on November 26, 2007, and the ruling sets out 12 decisions that lead to Commissioner Dawson's overall conclusion that it was not within her jurisdiction to even investigate the Prime Minister and his Cabinet ministers, let alone find them in a conflict of interest with regard to the Mulroney Schreiber situation. [...]

Even Prime Minister Stephen Harper has acknowledged, and stated publicly, that he and all members of his government are in a conflict of interest concerning the Brian Mulroney-Karlheinz Schreiber situation, given that Mr. Mulroney acted until very recently as an adviser to the Prime Minister, Mr. Schreiber sent documents to the Prime Minister and named him in a court affidavit, and the government was involved in legal proceedings to extradite Mr. Schreiber to Germany. However, despite recognizing their own conflict of interest, Mr. Harper and his Cabinet continue to take part in and make decisions about the situation.

READ IN FULL AT: www.dwatch.ca/camp/RelsMay2108.html ♣

SPP/NAU and Related Topics

Sovereignty in international matters...

From: Alan A. Macdonell

To: Hon. Maxime Bernier, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ottawa Ont. KIA OG2

Dear Sir: Thank you for the letter of Feb. 20th.

This reply is in the interest of re-establishing some semblance of Canadian sovereignty in international matters. As it is now, we've been colonized, to an alarming extent, through U.S.A. unilateral decisions regarding so-called security issues. Our military leaders completely bypass Ottawa and receive their instructions from military points south of the border. In fact, some Canadian generals are insubordinate, and have taken it upon themselves to try to impose the G. W. Bush doctrine on the Canadian governing body.

Most of the N.A.T.O. members are extremely reluctant to put their troops into combat situations. This is possibly because they feel they're being manipulated into an unjust and illegal conflict because no shred of evidence exists to prove that Afghans had anything to do with 9/11. There is also the indisputable fact the Taliban were created, armed, and trained by American Intelligence for guerrilla warfare against the Russians.

Canadian soldiers fighting and dying to protect a burgeoning drug trade in Afghanistan. Canada has a serious problem with illegal drugs. Periodic police raids on both secondary and primary schools have found quantities of illegal potions in classes as low as grade six in the school system, Afghanistan allegedly produces up to ninety percent of the opium and opium derivatives being smuggled worldwide. Canada is one of the recipients. I take violent exception to the thought of my grandchildren being exposed to this sickness.

The last year the Taliban were in power, opium production was practically wiped out. Since Karzai has been in power, opium production and export has risen to more than six thousand tons per annum. So our soldiers are fighting and dying in Afghanistan in order to accommodate the destruction of Canadian children at home.

We need a much stronger military, fully equipped for modern defensive warfare. We do not need them halfway around the world, supporting a losing cause.

More than 4 billion people are closer to the trouble than Canada. Let "them" sort it out.

Our military joined with American and French forces to depose a democratically elected president in Haiti in February 2004. Since then, 8,000 or more Haitians have been murdered, including women and children. It seems, in this corporate-fascist world we now live in, our troops acquired some urban warfare training at the expense of the unfortunate Haitians. I suppose it could come in handy in Toronto one day.

The reason a strong, up-to-date Canadian military is required should be obvious. Canada, with an insignificant population, is blessed with huge territorial areas, which haven't even been explored yet. Unfortunately, our ownership is in dispute from rapacious, expansionist dictatorships on each side. Eventually, Canadians will have to defend our territory. At present we seem focussed on giving it away.

A. Macdonell, Williamstown ON

P.S. Under Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) SPP Overview (Cdn. Gov. website) is the sentence: "There are no plans for the creation of a North America-wide union."

In the last State of the Union address by President Bush, he mentioned the "North American Union" meeting was scheduled for April of this year. ♣

Laws only apply to those who can't afford lawyers!

From Council of Canadians...

As noted in a Canadian Union of Public Employees media release issued (May 21 08), "The Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between British Columbia and Alberta and the B.C. legislation enabling it violate the Canadian constitution by usurping the role of judges and endowing cabinet with too much power, says a leading trade law expert in a legal opinion released today. In the written opinion, Sack Goldblatt Mitchell lawyer Steven Shrybman says that the TILMA and the BC Liberal government's Bill 32 "confront basic constitutional norms, including the rule of law and democracy", by trumping the authority of both judges and parliaments."

The key conclusions of Steven Shrybman's legal opinion on Bill 32/ TILMA are:

- 1.** Because Bill 32 purports to deal with matters of inter-provincial trade, investment and labour mobility, it infringes federal constitutional authority with respect to trade and commerce under 91(2) of the Constitution Act, 1867.
- 2.** By imposing financial penalties and other sanctions on the province for the lawful actions of governments and other public bodies, TILMA and Bill 32 improperly fetter (tie the hands) of the legislature, municipalities and many other public bodies.
- 3.** By empowering ad hoc arbitral tribunals to adjudicate private claims concerning the otherwise lawful actions of government and other public bodies, Bill 32 improperly derogates from the authority and independence of Canadian superior courts, which is protected under s. 96 of the Constitution.
- 4.** By empowering Cabinet the discretionary power to nullify, through regulation, the application of provincial laws, Bill 32 offends constitutional limits on the delegation of legislative power to the executive. The courts have ⇒

named such provisions "King Henry VIII clauses" after the propensity of that monarch to arrogate legislative power by proclamation.

To read the 'Shrybman Opinion on Bill 32 and TILMA' please go to the CUPE website at:

www.cupe.ca/tilma/shrybman_on_bill_32 .

Brent Patterson, Director of Campaigns, Organizing, & the Blue Planet Project

The Council of Canadians

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1-800-387-7177 ext. 291 / bpatterson@canadians.org

www.canadians.org

Received from Stephanie McDowall, stephmcdco@telus.net ♣

War profiteering and the price of gas...

By Greg Palast for TomPaine.com/OurFuture.org

[New York, May 22, 2008.]

I can't make this up:

In a hotel room in Brussels, the chief executives of the world's top oil companies unrolled a huge map of the Middle East, drew a fat, red line around Iraq and signed their names to it.

The map, the red line, the secret signatures. It explains this war. It explains this week's rocketing of the price of oil to \$134 a barrel.

It happened on July 31, 1928, but the bill came due now. Barack Obama knows this. Or, just as important, those crafting his policies seem to know this. Same for Hillary Clinton's team. There could be no more vital difference between the Republican and Democratic candidacies. And you won't learn a thing about it on the news from the Fox-holes.

Let me explain. In 1928, oil company chieftains (from Anglo-Persian Oil, now British Petroleum, from Standard Oil, now Exxon, and their Continental counterparts) were faced with a crisis: falling prices due to rising supplies of oil; the same crisis faced by their successors during the Clinton years, when oil traded at \$22 a barrel.

The solution then, as now: stop the flow of oil, squeeze the market, raise the price. The method: put a red line around Iraq and declare that virtually all the oil under its sands would remain there, untapped. Their plan: choke supply, raise prices rise, boost profits. That was the program for 1928. For 2003. For 2008.

Again and again, year after year, the world price of oil has been boosted artificially by keeping a tight limit on Iraq's oil output. Methods varied. The 1928 "Redline" agreement held, in various forms, for over three decades. It was replaced in 1959 by quotas imposed by President Eisenhower. Then Saudi Arabia and OPEC kept Iraq, capable of producing over 6 million barrels a day, capped at half that, given an export quota equal to Iran's lower output.

In 1991, output was again limited, this time by a new red line: B-52 bombings by Bush Senior's air force. Then came the Oil Embargo followed by the "Food for Oil" program. Not much food for them, not much oil for us.

In 2002, after Bush Junior took power, the top ten oil companies took in a nice \$31 billion in profits. But then, a miracle fell from the sky. Or, more precisely, the 101st Airborne landed. Bush declared, "Bring'm on!" and, as the dogs of war chewed up the world's second largest source of oil, crude

doubled in two years to an astonishing \$40 a barrel and those same oil companies saw their profits triple to \$87 billion.

In response, Senators Obama and Clinton propose something wrongly called a "windfall" profits tax on oil. But oil industry profits didn't blow in on a breeze. It is war, not wind, that fills their coffers. The beastly leap in prices is nothing but war profiteering, hiking prices to take cruel advantage of oil fields shut by bullets and blood.

I wish to hell the Democrats would call their plan what it is: A war profiteering tax. War is profitable business – if you're an oil man. But somehow, the public pays the price, at the pump and at the funerals, and the oil companies reap the benefits.

Indeed, the recent engorgement in oil prices and profits goes right back to the Bush-McCain "surge." The Iraq government attack on a Basra militia was really nothing more than Baghdad's leaping into a gang war over control of Iraq's Southern oil fields and oil-loading docks. Moqtada al-Sadr's gangsters and the government-sponsored greedsters of SCIRI (the Supreme Council For Islamic Revolution In Iraq) are battling over an estimated \$5 billion a year in oil shipment kickbacks, theft and protection fees.

The Wall Street Journal reported that the surge-backed civil warring has cut Iraq's exports by up to a million barrels a day. And that translates to slashing OPEC excess crude capacity by nearly half. Result: ka-BOOM in oil prices and ka-ZOOM in oil profits. For 2007, Exxon recorded the highest annual profit, \$40.6 billion, of any enterprise since the building of the pyramids. And that was BEFORE the war surge and price surge to over \$100 a barrel. It's been a good war for Exxon and friends. Since George Bush began to beat the war-drum for an invasion of Iraq, the value of Exxon's reserves has risen – are you ready for this? – by \$2 trillion. [...]

Full article with links at:

www.ourfuture.org/blog-entry/obamas-secret-war-profiteering-tax ♣

"We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light." – **Plato**

"The state has, in order to control us, introduced division into our thinking, so that we come to distrust others and look to the state for protection! But the roots of our individualism remind us that what we are is inseparable from the source from which all others derive; that coercive practices that threaten our neighbour also threaten us." – **Butler Shaffer**

"The propagandist's purpose is to make one set of people forget that certain other sets of people are human"

[FROM www.InformationClearingHouse.info]

– **Aldous Huxley** ♣

Time to Reject Corporate Global Agenda

Message to Irish Voters re Treaty of Lisbon

from the **Canadian Action Party leader**

Connie Fogal, Vancouver



April 23, 2008

Letter to the Editor, Irish Independent

E-mail: info@independent.ie

re Lisbon Treaty, Kevin Myers, Ap 22, 08

Dear Sirs:

My name is Connie Fogal. I am leader of the Canadian Action Party, one of Canada's federally registered alternative

parties. Our party is dedicated to national sovereignty and freedom.

We recognize the sovereign power that lies in the national control of the creation and issuance of money. We recognize that globalization under the guise of "free trade" steals that power from the citizen and turns it over to administrative control directed by the corporate, financial, military elite to protect and promote their interest all at the expense of the ordinary person, who, under this regime, is being reduced to slavery. This is modern day feudalism.

We recognize that the European Union and, in North America, the current incremental creation of the North American Union are both administrative political instruments which steal from the people their freedom and rights that were hard fought and won, over centuries of sacrifice and struggle, including war. These rights and privileges were incorporated into national constitutions, which were intended to enshrine and protect our personal liberties and national well being from the greed and power of an elite few.

For Europeans, the Lisbon Treaty is the final nail in the coffin of the personal liberty and the right to a fair share of individual prosperity arising from the resources of each respective country: because control of your lives and well-being is being conquered without a war. Your national constitutions are being shredded, and centuries of struggle, suffering and sacrifice are being dismissed and denied.

All of this is happening beyond the control of the will of the people. All of this is the profound violation of national and citizen sovereignty. The shadow rulers of the world have learned that they can easily conquer nations via economics ("free trade" and "globalization") without war. And they are succeeding.

The elected political leaders of Europe and North America have become unwitting fools and willing dupes, complicit players in the transformation into a new world order beyond the control or power of the people, by the people, for the people. Incredibly, they have condemned their own democratic role to irrelevancy and accepted the function of servant to corporate rule.

The fact that no European citizens except the Irish are per-

mitted to vote on the Lisbon Treaty tells you that all those other national European governments have been rendered impotent and useless to protect the interests of the people; (and) that an undemocratic, unelected, unrepresentative, corporate administrative rule is in control, with an agenda that serves not the interest of the ordinary citizen. In effect, national sovereignty has been rendered irrelevant and impotent. The unique Irish culture and identity will not survive the agenda of corporate rule.

It is my hope that the Irish will vote no to the Lisbon Treaty. It is my hope that Ireland with its significant history of struggle for freedom, independence, and sovereignty of the person as well as the state will not betray the sacrifices of its past. It is my hope that Ireland will be the beacon of hope for the world, and the leader in the human rescue from the clutches of corporate rule.

Yours truly,

Constance Fogal, Leader, Canadian Action Party.

conniefogal@telus.net / Tel: 604 872 2128

www.canadianactionparty.ca ✦

Connie announces plan to step down as leader

Memo from Connie Fogal, Leader, Canadian Action Party, May 06, 2008

I write to give you notice that I plan to step down as leader, effective the date of our convention which we will be holding either in August or September of 2008. This means that the convention will include a leadership contest.

It is time for new blood at the helm. I have accomplished the task necessary when I became leader in 2004, which was to re-establish the party.

Under the courageous leadership of our founding leader, Paul Hellyer, every effort was made to unite a number of parties to present one unified front to the voters. That was a correct political effort then, but the valiant efforts were to no avail, and resulted in a weakened CAP organization. Despite that fact, the members at the 2004 convention voted to keep CAP functioning. I was put into the leadership and given that job.

Head office moved from Toronto to Vancouver. Everything had to be reorganized- from bank accounts, to office space, to bookkeepers, to satisfying new Elections Canada requirements to prove that enough of our members wanted CAP to continue to exist. Funding rules had changed, eliminating benefactors and at the same time not allowing the small parties to be paid out of taxpayer dollar. There was no money to pay any staff or to fund anything. All the reorganization was done voluntarily. There was no money to assist the leader or the executive to do its work. ⇒

With the determination of the membership, the party has survived all odds. It is the few generous ones who contribute the maximum allowed, and the many absolutely crucial small contributions that sustain us. The legal challenge to the financial discrimination that deprives the small parties from receiving the \$1.75 per vote was lost. We and the other small parties are stuck fighting our way alone. The Supreme Court of Canada refused to hear our appeal.

The most important success over the last four years is the development of a top notch operations function, such that our computer systems, our website, our entire communications system is highly secure and effective. This did not come easily. Indeed, it was with great difficulty, frustration, agony, and effort. New people to the scene have great difficulty grasping the system or accepting the need for its complexity. I ran a tight ship. It is that great communication system that now brings in some money daily and permits us to hire one full time staff person and some part timers to do the growing work, without which we could not function nor survive.

It is only in the last year and a half that our operations became sophisticated enough and developed enough to permit me, the leader, to get out and about to function more fully as the leader. My presence on the internet, on U tube, on many radio programs, and especially on the circuit of those of the USA escalated the profile of CAP policies with significant success.

I believe the road is now well paved for whomever takes over as leader, provided the operations remains intact. This small brave party is very special and requires very careful

steering. There is no room for egos or power mongering. There is no money to coddle the leader or the leader's work. Whoever takes over will be a special person. You will be pleased to learn that we have acquired very many, very capable special persons well able to lead this very special party.

CAP has always been way out in front, leading in the dissemination of ideas and information that no one else will touch. We have many brave souls capable of carrying that torch. By this letter, I am asking those stalwart leaders to come forward to stand for leader of CAP and let the membership choose from amongst you at our convention this late summer or early fall.

A hefty deposit is required which will be returned to the contenders after the convention. This deposit requirement can only be changed by amending our constitution. (This Fee shall be returned to all candidates who receive more than five (5) percent of the votes cast on the first ballot.) [...] [The CAP executive will be selecting the voting method for the leadership selection process, in accordance with the party constitution: either a mail-in ballot with first and second choices); or a mail-in ballot combined with a National Convention.]

In the meantime, please prepare yourself to choose a new leader. Please impress persons of your choice to stand for leader. If you are willing to put your name forward to stand as leader, please submit your name and contact information and a biography for us to submit to the members.

Submit by e-mail to: capadmin@canadianactionparty.ca or regular mail to: Cap Admin at #385-916 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Z1K7; or fax to: 604 872 1504

Yours truly, Connie Fogal, leader CAP/PAC ♣

The Fraser Institute and the economic philosophy that drives it



Roberta Histed, L'Original ON

I see that the Fraser institute has put out its newest Ontario school rankings that Big Media seems to have no problem with disseminating.

What is the Fraser Institute? It advertises itself as an independent organization that aims to redirect public attention to the role of competitive markets in providing for

the well being of Canadians. Its advisory Board is made up of economists and we need to focus on three important words: independent, redirect and economists.

Since its aim is to redirect society, it is misleading to call itself independent. With this purpose of changing society in its image, its use of the word "independent" can be viewed as propaganda intended to engender trust. In point of fact, it means only that it does not receive government funding. Its corporate members direct them and its advisors are economists.

Economists? The economic philosophy driving Western business and government holds that if barriers that might otherwise interfere in the profits of a corporation or industry are minimized or, better, removed altogether then all in society will benefit. That is why depredation of the most basic means of human life - breathable air, water aquifers, ocean and land wildlife systems, and peoples' capacity to produce - are all ignored in economic models which governments produce. A country's measurement of value is strictly monetary: its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has nothing to do with its peoples' well being or happiness or the country's ability to care for its resources in order to nourish future generations.

The philosophy that once everything is turned over to Business then all will be provided for is a fallacy that deserves the garbage pile. The assets of the world's three richest billionaires are greater than those of the poorest 600 million people, the gap between rich and poor has widened dramatically, and Food Banks are in crisis. The wealthy protest that they support charities but, while the top 2% put

piles of money into charities that meet their requirements, the bottom 90% are caught up in the cultural insanity that, for example, sees small farmers removed from their holdings so that land can be devoted to monoculture for export (like pineapples) with the former landholders now employed for a pittance as laborers.

The corporations have direct access to governments and global financial institutions, help set trade rules, pay little tax, reap hefty subsidies, dump cheap food on the poor thus undermining local production, and have the latest information about markets and new technologies. They outmanoeuvre and impoverish the small independents.

Corporations, seeing the need to have “independent” organizations sweeten their images, have established such with very credible sounding names. Some of these are: the Tobacco Research Institute Council, the American Council on Science and Health, the Alliance for Better Foods, the International Food Information Council, the Industrial Health Foundation and the Fraser Institute.

So what is the Fraser Institute doing judging our education system? There is no question that it has an agenda. The latest ranking shows clearly that it wants to shape society's opinion toward accepting that a school that can groom its students to achieve the highest mark in certain tests is the “best” one, the one that we should all try to get our students into. We are told that great time and attention was put on the grade nine students in Kemptville's St. Michaels, as they were repeatedly drilled on test questions. The students performed admirably and, on the basis of this performance in one grade, the school is ranked at the top of the heap.

What was neglected in the rest of their educational experience in order for this to happen? We are not told this. What the purpose of education might be is buried in the need to achieve a good ranking and attract more students. After all, government grants are based on the number of pupils.

The emphasis on test passing, a lonely, isolated, memory -

focused occupation, develops the left brain, to the detriment of the right brain which is the creative side. The whole person utilizes both; but it is left-brain technocrats that the corporatocracy wants. These are the ones who will passively work away in their cubicles, accepting orders and performing as commanded. Such traits also contribute towards the development of sought-after enforcers. These are the ones the Fraser Institute wants us to turn out. Its masters don't want a lively, creative, questioning populace. One author has written that their role model is China.

Former PR whiz John Stauber with Sheldon Rampton has written a book called “*Toxic Sludge is Good For You.*” In it they lament:

“(W)e are the most conditioned, programmed beings the world has ever known. Not only are our thoughts and attitudes constantly being shaped and moulded, but our very awareness for this process is subtly erased ... It is an exhausting and endless task to keep explaining to people how most issues of conventional wisdom are scientifically implanted in the public consciousness by a thousand media clips a day.”

We fall for the slogans which short-circuit efforts to understand. The corporations invent colourful phrases to attack corporate critics and we go back to our trivial pursuits. We've heard them: “tree-huggers”, “scare-mongers”, “conspiracy theorists”, “junk scientists”, “Luddites”, “nanny states”, “special interest groups”.

Now we have school rankings. What will we let them mean for us? What kind of education do you want for the children who are our hope for the future? What do you want your school to do to their brains? What kind of a world do you hope your children will create? Can we allow ourselves to question the Fraser Institute and other corporate manipulations?

Roberta Histed, L'original ON

jhisted@hawk.igs.net ♣

More on the real reason behind high oil prices

(Part II) By F. William Engdahl [Global Research, May 21 08]

As detailed in an earlier article (at GlobalResearch.ca), a conservative calculation is that at least 60% of today's \$128 per barrel price of crude oil comes from unregulated futures speculation by hedge funds, banks and financial groups using the London ICE Futures and New York NYMEX futures exchanges and uncontrolled inter-bank or Over-The-Counter trading to avoid scrutiny. [...] **The hoax of Peak Oil** – namely the argument that the oil production has hit the point where more than half all reserves have been used and the world is on the downslope of oil at cheap price and abundant quantity – has enabled this costly fraud to continue since the invasion of Iraq in 2003, with the help of key banks, oil traders and big oil majors. Washington is trying to shift blame, as always, to Arab OPEC producers.

The problem is not a lack of crude oil supply. In fact the world is in over-supply now. Yet the price climbs relentlessly higher. Why? The answer lies in what are clearly deliberate US government policies that permit the unbridled oil price manipulations. [Read complete article online at: www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=9042 ♣



Greatness of a nation does not rest in the prowess of its armed forces or the accomplishments of its athletes, but is rather best attested to by the absence of poverty.

dep 98

From Denny Petrik, Clearwater BC

MORE FEEDBACK

An idea for everyone who is upset with a government action

Gerry Masuda, Duncan BC

NEGATIVE BLOCK-VOTING

The Canadian electorate is disillusioned with our electoral system as reflected in the ever decreasing voter turnout. It is time for voters to start voting again. I suggest they start by negative block-voting.

When the government takes action that upsets you, you take action. Draft a pledge among those affected to register to vote and to block-vote against the government's local MP or candidate. The pledge would describe the reason why the signers are displeased. Once completed, a copy would be given to the party's local representative with a copy sent to the Prime Minister.

Negative block-voting is based on the fact that in many electoral ridings, the difference between the winner and the

runner-up is frequently merely hundreds of votes.

Stephen Harper has alienated many with his actions. Examples are his affront to women voters (who constitute 51% of voters) by closing Status of Women Centres, and killing the National Association of Woman and the Law. Harper has alienated parents having trouble finding daycare by derailing the national daycare program developed by the Liberal government and the provinces. He has alienated prairie farmers with his attacks on the Wheat Board. Harper's secret implementation of the Security and Prosperity Partnership Agreement (SPPA) leading to North American Union, has angered those who are aware of it.

The next time the Stephen Harper angers/upsets you, consider drafting a negative block-vote pledge. ♣

An Unpleasant Truth ~ about Retired Racehorses

And you thought they all retired to green pastures...

My 14-year-old grand-daughter wrote the following essay



John & Shirley McCullough with their granddaughter, Kristin & Second Chance.

for a student school project. She loves animals of all kinds and one day hopes to be a veterinary surgeon. I don't know if this would be material for Dialogue, but thought you might like to see it... "And they talk about the cruelty of the seal hunt!"

Blessings, John C. McCullough, Richmond ON

Second Chance

By Kristin McCullough/Grade 8, Lindsay Ont.

Did you know that on average 70% of all race horses are slaughtered after their racing career is over? Almost 98% of those horses are good useful horses for show and pleasure riding and companionship.

I started riding at 10 years of age and have always wanted a horse. I dreamed that I would have the chance to become a horse owner, but I believed it would never happen. Well, one day, my Dad, Mom, my friend Amber and I were at the *Valentia Equestrian and Rescue Center* where I ride. The owners, Jim and Michelle Ward were talking about a horse that they wanted to rescue. The only thing stopping them was money. I started asking about the horse and got more and more interested. They said that the horse was a great horse! He was only 3 years old and they couldn't understand why he was going to the slaughterhouse. Well, that is when I remembered the money I had saved from looking

after my neighbour's dog. Separately we didn't have enough money, but together we could fund the rescue. So, we settled on owning half a horse each!

Before I knew it, I was on my way to pick up a horse that I hadn't even seen yet. Thinking about the fact that I was about to save one of 100,000 horses that go to the slaughter house each year brought a smile to my face.

When we arrived we found out that he was destined to be meat simply because he had a small callous from a cut on his back leg. Believe it or not this slight, physical imperfection was enough to kill him! You can't even see it unless you really know what you are looking for and you're ridiculously fussy!

I took one look at the horse and couldn't believe my eyes! He was stunning. Tall, brown and beautiful! What were they thinking? That is when I thought of the name Second Chance because I was giving him a second chance at life.

Sadly, for the 999,000+ other horses headed for slaughter they are loaded on a two-story meat trailer meant for pigs and cattle. These trailers don't have enough room for the horses to hold their heads in their normal position. They are crammed into the trailer and are not given food or water. They are then driven to their death. Smelling death in the air, they often trample each other, hurting or even killing one another.

When they arrive at the slaughterhouse they are lowered one by one by their hind legs into a room called the kill box. A spike is driven through their skull and into their brain paralyzing them. Their throats are then slit and they are left to bleed. The horses usually don't die for about 10

minutes. In shock and in pain, the horse dies a very agonizing death. They are then lowered onto a conveyer belt where they are cut into pieces.

Many responsible race horse owners don't really understand how the slaughter house works or they would never agree to it. Of course, there are cases where a horse is injured beyond rehabilitation and it's only humane to put them down. But, for other race horses that were not ever born for feed and way too young to die, like my horse Second Chance, there is no legitimate reason for them to be sent for slaughter. Like Chance, most race horses are only two years old or younger. Their bones are not yet fully developed and they are pushed to their limits. Sometimes, like Chance, they have nothing really wrong with them. They are just too slow or haven't lived up to the owner's expectations. So, instead of taking the time to find a home for them, the meat market is a simple, hassle-free solution for an owner who really doesn't care. The race horse industry is known for many acts of inhumanity including drug-ging the horses.

Well, I ask you – if someone was going to sell you, wouldn't you want them to take the time to find a home for you? Horses are wonderful companion animals. Chance is a great family horse. I feel more than happy that I saved him. And, it's like he knows I saved him, because he is the most loving, friendly, affectionate horse you could ask for. He loves every member of my family and he even lowers his head for my six-year-old sister, Kellsie, and holds it there while she squeezes his very sensitive nose.

These magnificent animals should be given the chance to live the life they were born for. Whether they are a ribbon winning show horse or just a gentle companion, no good

horse should ever have to step a hoof into the meat market! I have seen first hand, through the rescue centre, how some of the injured race horses, even with broken bones, can be rehabilitated into excellent riding horses.

My feeling is that if you can't look after a horse and take the time to find a home for them, then you shouldn't have them. God put these animals on the earth to be used, not to

be thrown away and wasted. I'm not saying that there aren't legitimate uses for horse meat products, however, my issue is with young, robust, perfectly healthy animals that were not born for consumption.

My horse Second Chance rides like the wind! When we fly across the field – with his mane blowing in the wind - I know I've done a great thing! And he is already a winner – my 'meat' horse has won multiple ribbons at the local fairs!

Maybe it's just me who sees a problem with this – maybe it's my passionate love for this magnificent animal – but I can't believe that a multi-million dollar industry like horse racing couldn't have a better plan for the creatures that fill their pockets with money!

Thank-you for choosing to publish my 14-year-old daughters' letter regarding the dark side of the horse racing business... I know my daughter's heart was revealed in this letter, but more so, what an absolute crime and tragedy she has exposed. I am sure it will shock many of your readers.

If only more of us could see the world through children's eyes, maybe then, we could start making better decisions as adults. Once again, I thank you.

Jim McCullough, AEMCA

EMS Liaison Officer, Media/ Communications Unit
City of Toronto Emergency Medical Services

Email: jmccull@toronto.ca / website: www.toronto.ca/ems



Kristin & Second Chance

A BOOK AND A WEBSITE ...

The Open-Focus Brain
Harnessing the Power of Attention to Heal
Mind and Body

2007, Trumpeter Books, by Les Fehmi and Jim Robbins

This book presents a disarmingly simple idea: the way we pay attention in daily life can play a critical role in our health and well-being – and in how we treat each other and our planet Earth. Well worth reading! j.h

[This book (with a CD) can be ordered from *Dialogue* for \$22.95 (plus GST & postage = \$26.88); Tel: 250-758-9877; 6227 Groveland Dr., Nanaimo, BC V9V 1B1] dialogue@dialogue.ca / ♣

Freshwater Ecoregions of the World

The results of a 10-year global research project

From the World Wildlife Fund & The Nature Conservancy

Imagine being tasked with creating a comprehensive map and database of the diversity of life in the world's freshwater ecosystems. That's exactly what more than 200 leading conservation scientists have done... and it took them over 10 years to do it. Why? Freshwater habitats support more than 100,000 species and provide humans with critical services such as drinking water and fisheries. Yet--until now--there were no data on global freshwater biodiversity synthesized in a way that was useful to conservation. The Freshwater Ecoregions of the World project... changes all of that. Explore the 426 ecoregions of the map and discover this extensive and easily searchable resource: at www.feow.org where you can click on any region and access a detailed description of the ecological & geographical characteristics and a variety of water-related features. ♣

Canada-Quebec Politics

Private member's bill threatens Canada's Supreme Court

John Gray, Montreal QC

I (have sent) along this message to friends and acquaintances and in particular to those who live outside Quebec and especially to those who live west of Ontario...

Mr. Denis Coderre is a Liberal MP from the Montreal area and has, for many years, been a strong proponent for pushing the French language across Canada. He has now put forward a Private Member's Bill in Ottawa, which would oblige any Supreme Court nominee for this top court in Canada to be fluently bilingual. [A May 15th column by Elizabeth Thompson (in The Gazette), "MP Coderre to table bill requiring top court judges to be bilingual," summarizes this.]

There are several points that all Canadians should be aware of, within the context of the linguistic demographics in Canada, where 97% of the French speakers in the country live in Quebec and 3% in the Rest of Canada

- The French population in Quebec, as a group, do not care one bit about the English population in Canada and especially those who live in Quebec. [One has only to see what has happened since the mid 1970's to the English people (of which I am one) in this province. The rights of English speakers have been eroded to the extent that everyone has to bow down to the French language; English has been virtually eliminated from the public arena in Quebec, which partially explains why about 500,000 English persons have left the province since the mid 1970's. It also helps to explain why 61% of the young English speaking undergraduates from Quebec universities have left or are currently planning to leave Quebec. (A May 16th column by Thompson entitled "Best and brightest Anglos leave Quebec" details this.)
- Of course, as a result of the above, the English population in Quebec has found out that if they wish to live in this province they must no longer fight "against the tide" and as a result the only English newspaper of any size left in Quebec - The Montreal Gazette - now follows the policy of ingratiating itself to the French majority. As a result, The Gazette in a recent editorial supports the view of Mr. Coderre (the May 13th editorial was entitled "High-court bilingualism is supremely desirable").
- An Editorial from Friday's *National Post*, entitled "Denis Coderre's bad idea," expresses ideas – such as "intellectual calibre and bipartisan credibility" being more important than language fluency - with which, I

believe, most thinking Canadians outside Quebec would agree.

- To add a little more perspective to the issue, refer to pages 100 to 104 from Reed Scowen's recent book, "*Time to Say Goodbye – building a better Canada without Quebec*;" the whole book (revised 2nd edition) is well worth reading - it can be bought anywhere for about \$20----but the pages referred to above are germane to the present issue

The thinking of Coderre reminds me of the story of the lifeguard at the swimming pool who, when questioned as to why he had not jumped into the pool to save the drowning swimmer, replied that he could not swim. And when asked the obvious follow up question, "If that were true then how did you get the job?" he replied it was because he was bilingual.

Surely Canadians outside Quebec, sooner or later, have to resolve the issue of bilingualism being a mandatory prerequisite for an increasing number of employment situations.

For those who may read this, who do not personally know me, I have to say that, whatever the outcome is, it won't affect me – I'm far too old; but I do worry about the generation which follows me and the one after that.

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Received from Kim McConnell in Ottawa: a "letter to the Editor in the National Post "(follows) which, while it is just one person expressing this growing sentiment, I find it interesting that the *Post* prints such a letter – I doubt it would have done so a year ago... (John Gray)

National Post: April 18, 2008

Our big mistake: appeasing Quebec

W. H. Joe Watson, Oakville, Ont.

A series on *Canada's biggest mistake* has just concluded on the *Post's* Comment pages. I'd like to offer my own contribution.

I believe Canada's greatest mistake was its hysterical response to the November 1976 election of a separatist government in Quebec. Since then, we have been busy apologizing, placating and bribing Quebec in the hopes we can win her affection.

If the worst thing that could happen was that Quebec would actually leave Canada, how bad is that really? I think a case can be made that a country is better off with a population united in its allegiance. And if Quebec left, it is a distinct possibility that the people there would be happier; it is an absolute certainty that the rest of Canada would be wealthier. ♣

From British Columbia

Understanding the Corporate Agenda in B.C.

The Privatizing of BC Rivers

Sue Stroud, Brentwood Bay

This is the most important and urgent video I have seen. Please pass it on to your friends and neighbours, have house parties, whatever it takes. Our public power is at stake and we must stop the corporate goldrush to privatize our rivers. View the video at:

<http://ashlu.info/video/bcrivers.html>

Sue: Tel. 250-415-3828

<http://centralsaanichnewsviews.blogspot.com/>

Meet Sue at JJ's Coffeeshouse in Brentwood Bay

Every Friday night for a Community Chat, 7 pm to 9 pm ♣

BC connections to US-Mexican Super-Corridors

From Community Action Coalition of Burnaby

Trace the origins of the BC Government's \$14 billion Metro Vancouver Gateway Transportation project: roads, bridges, ports

The New American:

For details on the NAFTA Super-Corridors – for cars, trucks, trains & water gas oil pipelines, Continental Integration–North American Union – Visit:

<http://thenewamerican.com/node/7393>

Pacific Northwest Corridor:

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Compact - www.pnwer.org

PNWER Annual summit in Vancouver July 20 – 24, 08

The Vancouver Summit will bring together private-sector and government leaders to extend and strengthen our collaboration as a region. More at: www.pnwer.org/Portals/0/Sponsorship/summit%20sponsor%20packet.pdf

PNWER FOUNDATION HISTORY:

The articles of ratification were passed in 1991 by similar statutes in the four states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Alaska passed these same articles by action of its legislative council.

British Columbia adopted them by ministerial action, and Alberta passed them by government resolution.

Amendments were passed in 1994, adding the governors and premiers, and updating other positions of the statutes.

PNWER incorporated official private sector participation – including the non-elective public sector, and nonprofit organizations and NGOs in 1994 with that, a private sector council mirroring that of the organization's legislative delegate council was established and private and public sector co-chairs became part of the working group structure. Since then, funding for PNWER has been balanced by the public

and private sector. The organization's (2006) annual budget is U.S. \$900,000, with approximately one third coming from state and provincial dues, one third from private sector sponsorship and dues, and one third from public and private grants.

(Note meetings are not open to public nor proceedings picked up by media, the plans are being implemented without public consultation or knowledge)

Energy (think privatization of power production, private water licenses to produce power on the rivers of BC)

PNWER's energy program is funded in part by the US Department of Energy; the Alberta Ministry of Energy; British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, and various private sector stakeholders. The overall goal of the Bi-National Regional Energy Planning Initiative is to engage regional public and private sector stakeholders in a dialogue about the region's energy future.

Initiatives: To lead this effort, PNWER has convened a Legislative Energy Chairs/Provincial Energy Ministers Task Force, is developing an Energy 101 Project in conjunction with the National Conference of State Legislatures, is disseminating information on the implementation of the corridor provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, is analyzing current and proposed energy infrastructure projects, is engaged in an effort to develop better tools to analyze resource and transmission planning in the bi-national region, and will monitor state and provincial legislative developments on behalf of its stakeholders.

CANAMEX Trade Corridor

<http://www.infratrans.gov.ab.ca/710.htm>

CANAMEX was one of the first north-south corridors designated as a High Priority Corridor under the National Highway Systems Designation Act. Actively pursued by Alberta since the early 1990's, the CANAMEX Trade Corridor links Canada, the United States and Mexico and stretches 6,000 km from Alaska to Mexico, truly a pan-American corridor. The goals of the CANAMEX Trade Corridor are to:

- Improve access for the north-south flow of goods, people and information;
- Increase transport productivity and reduce transport costs;
- Promote a seamless and efficient intermodal transport system;
- and Reduce administration and enforcement costs through harmonized regulations.

From CANAMEX Website: Statistics Did you know?

\$ 0.25 - Average hourly manufacturing wage in India and China

\$ 2.10 - Average hourly manufacturing wage in Mexico

\$17.20 - Average hourly manufacturing wage in US

Information distributed by CACOB

(Community Action Coalition of Burnaby)

<http://www.burnabycoalition.com/>

Received from S. McDowall, Nanaimo BC ♣

Truth about cancer – That everyone should know

From R.K. Moore: *This post has been credited to John Hopkins although I understand they deny it.*

1. Every person has cancer cells in the body. These cancer cells do not show up in the standard tests until they have multiplied to a few billion. When doctors tell cancer patients that there are no more cancer cells in their bodies after treatment, it just means the tests are unable to detect the cancer cells because they have not reached the detectable size.
2. Cancer cells occur between 6 to more than 10 times in a person's lifetime.
3. When the person's immune system is strong, the cancer cells will be destroyed and prevented from multiplying and forming tumours.
4. When a person has cancer it indicates the person has multiple nutritional deficiencies. These could be due to genetic, environmental, food and lifestyle factors.
5. To overcome the multiple nutritional deficiencies, changing diet and including supplements will strengthen the immune system.
6. Chemotherapy involves poisoning the rapidly-growing cancer cells and also destroys rapidly-growing healthy cells in the bone marrow, gastro-intestinal tract etc, and can cause organ damage, like liver, kidneys, heart, lungs, etc.
7. Radiation, while destroying cancer cells, also burns, scars and damages healthy cells, tissues and organs.
8. Initial treatment with chemotherapy and radiation will often reduce tumor size. However, prolonged use of chemotherapy and radiation do not result in more tumor destruction.
9. When the body has too much toxic burden from chemotherapy and radiation, the immune system is either compromised or destroyed, hence the person can succumb to various kinds of infections and complications.
10. Chemotherapy and radiation can cause cancer cells to mutate and become resistant and difficult to destroy. Surgery can also cause cancer cells to spread to other sites.
11. An effective way to battle cancer is to starve the cancer cells by not feeding it with the foods it needs to multiply.

CANCER CELLS FEED ON:

a. Sugar is a cancer-feeder. By cutting off sugar it cuts off one important food supply to the cancer cells. Sugar substitutes like NutraSweet, Equal, Spoonful, etc are made with Aspartame and it is harmful. A better natural substitute would be Manuka honey or molasses but only in very small

amounts. Table salt has a chemical added to make it white in colour. Better alternative is Bragg's aminos or sea salt.

b. Milk causes the body to produce mucus, especially in the gastro-intestinal tract. Cancer feeds on mucus. By cutting off milk and substituting with unsweetened soya (or rice, nut, hemp, etc.) milk cancer cells are being starved.

c. Meat: cancer cells thrive in an acid environment. A meat-based diet is acidic and it is best to eat fish, and a little chicken rather than beef or pork. Meat also contains livestock antibiotics, growth hormones and parasites, which are all harmful, especially to people with cancer.

d. Avoid coffee, tea, and chocolate, which have high caffeine. Green tea is a better alternative and has cancer-fighting properties. Water-best to drink purified water, or filtered, to avoid known toxins and heavy metals in tap water. Distilled water is acidic, avoid it.

12. Meat protein is difficult to digest and requires a lot of digestive enzymes. Undigested meat remaining in the intes-

tines become putrified and leads to more toxic buildup.

13. Cancer cell walls have a tough protein covering. By refraining from or eating less meat it frees more enzymes to attack the protein walls of cancer cells and allows the body's killer cells to destroy the cancer cells.

14. Some supplements build up the immune system (IP6, Flor-ssence, Essiac, anti-oxidants, vitamins, minerals, EFAs, etc.) to enable the body's own killer cells to destroy cancer cells. Other supplements like

vitamin E are known to cause apoptosis, or programmed cell death, the body's normal method of disposing of damaged, unwanted, or unneeded cells.

15. Cancer is a disease of the mind, body, and spirit. A proactive and positive spirit will help the cancer warrior be a survivor. Anger, unforgiveness and bitterness put the body into a stressful and acidic environment. Learn to have a loving and forgiving spirit. Learn to relax and enjoy life.

16. Cancer cells cannot thrive in an oxygenated environment. Exercising daily, and deep breathing help to get more oxygen down to the cellular level. Oxygen therapy is another means employed to destroy cancer cells.

UPDATE FROM JOHN HOPKINS HOSPITAL

In order to avoid the highly toxic Dioxins:

1. No plastic containers in microwave.
2. No water bottles in freezer.
3. No plastic wrap in microwave.

Full article online at:

<http://digitalvillages.org/blogs/announcements/archive/2007/04/19/272.aspx> ♣

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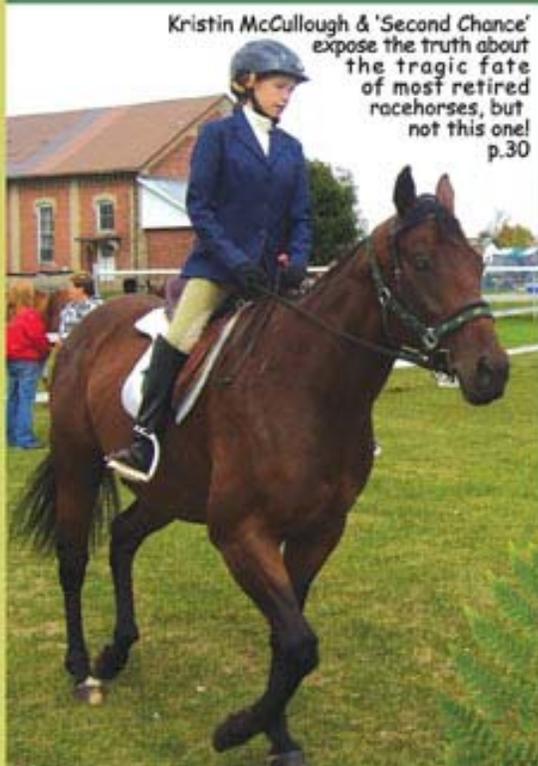
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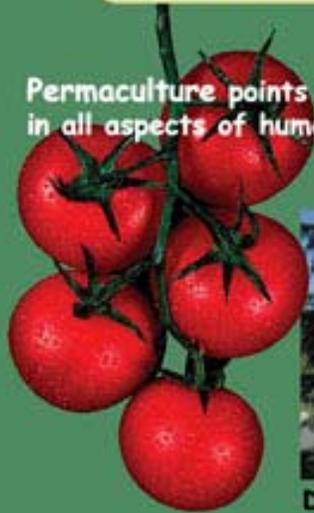
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