

# Boyle McCauley News

FRFF (in Boyle-McCauley)

Dec/Jan1996-97



# **New funding** opens health centre's doors wider

New funding will allow the Boyle-McCauley Health Centre to expand its hours and offer increased services and pro-

Tentative plans call for the health centre to be open evenings and weekends. Currently the health centre closes at 4:30 p.m. and is open for half a day on Saturdays.

The new hours will be introduced early in 1997

"We're delighted with the new funding," said Sharon Thurston, Executive Director of the centre.

" For several years the community has told us we need to do something about the waiting times and that some people can't come to the centre during the

"By opening on weekends and evenings, people who don't

will be able to come to us rather than the Royal Alexandra Hospital. We've been told by some people that they'd rather come here, but we weren't open when they needed help.

"With our new hours, we'll be much more accessible to peo-

The Capital Health Authority has increased its funding to the centre by \$200,000 this fiscal year.

In early 1997, the CHA Board will be reviewing an increase in funding for 1997-98 of \$500,000.

Currently CHA provides about 40 per cent of the centre's annual operating budget of \$1.3 million. Alberta Health provides 37 per cent with dental insurance and fundraising accounting for the balance.

In addition to longer hours,



ing a variety of new services including x-ray services, special women's health programs, a Chinese medicine clinic and a program to deal with youth health issues.

"This increased funding is a recognition of the great staff we have and the high quality of services they provide," said

Board Chair Phil O'Hara.

"The CHA is saying 'you're doing a great job; here's additional funding to expand on the good work you're doing'.'

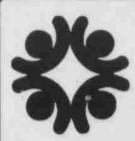
Thurston agreed, adding that "It also reflects a sensitivity on CHA's part to use community agencies when appropriate.

When Sheila Weatherill, the

CEO of the Authority, toured the centre last summer, she said the Authority's partnership with the centre is a model for working with other community agen-

"Our experience working with the CHA has been very positive."

by Phil O'Hara



The Board and Staff of the Boyle McCauley Health Centre wish to extend to all

BEST WISHES FOR A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

Thanks to all for your continued support Over the holiday, we will be open: December 24th 9 am - 1 pm December 25th Closed **December 26th Closed** December 27th 9 am - 4:30 pm December 28th 9 am - 12 noon December 30th 9 am - 4:30 pm January 1st - Closed Janury 2nd 10 am - 4:30 pm



# Value of humans not tied to having a job

Linda Dumont

Last month I was asked to help define indicators for quality of life in poverty.

Unfortunately I can define what it is like to be one of the poor in Alberta in 1996 much better than I can propose ways to deal with the realities of poverty. I stand both as participant and observer, but it is those with more resources than I who must make necessary changes.

Poverty is boring. Poverty is nonproductive. Poverty is not acceptable as a way of life.

Self-worth is hard to maintain for the poor. Little things take on importance. The house becomes darker and darker as light bulbs burn out and you can't afford to replace them.

There is often no toilet tissue. Appliances wear out. The vacuum cleaner quits working and the carpets become progressively more covered with dust and dirt

Clothing is something to be picked up wherever it can be found free of charge. Often it's the wrong colour or style, but it has to make due until something better

During the cold spell, a young man walked out of the Mission clothing room wearing a woman's grey wool coat. It

Are there really people who buy clothing retail?

The food bank experience becomes a necessary, but unpleasant reality

It means being reduced to a faceless statistic in a lineup of faceless poor who sit opposite the intake worker and answer a series of questions to determine eligibility, then pick up a bag of food identical to that of the last 100 or 200 before you. The message is clear: you are no longer an individual with likes and dislikes, but simply grateful to be nutritionally fed inspite of the numbing sameness.

Where then is quality of life in the midst of the day to day struggle to survive? How does one find positive ways to live inspite of the handicap of being poor?

The present government saw employment and getting people off the welfare rolls as a way to end the cycle of poverty. Unfortunately, many cannot find work or are unable to hold jobs due to mental, physical and emotional limitations.

We read the statistics. The welfare rolls are down by 55 per cent since 1992. This is encouraging, except that many of those people are not meaningfully employed and self-sufficient. There are people who have been cut off welfare without a support system, and those in workfor-welfare type employment like the ACE program. After the six month ACE positions end, people often can't find work so they collect unemployment in-

Resumes are big business. Employment agencies have mushroomed. People are being groomed and prepared to find work, but too often those expert resumes end up piled along with dozens of other equally expert resumes on the employment desk.

One job I applied for had over 100 applicants. The Safeway manager told me that he had 500 applications in his

People need jobs, but more important than that, we need to stop feeling guilty if we don't have a job.

Three years ago, I made a decision that I would not be ashamed of what I had to do to survive. If it meant welfare, fine. If it means selling Our Voice, that's O.K.

It's time to stop measuring human value in terms of paid employment and to recognize values that transcend the workplace; these are basic human values, family values, values that are being torn down when we turn prejudicial eyes on

Yet even in the worst of times, there is another side more real than these dark circumstances. There are those small beautiful moments, like gifts, unexpected kindness, inspiring works, friends, family, and the quiet moments when just for a while everything is O. K.

Merry Christmas and special thanks to all of those who contribute towards Christmas vouchers and food hampers and who make this a quality time for others.



## Chris Smith

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# Songs of the Street II a sequel worth repeating

Over 100 people shared a night of companionship, listening to and being entertained by moving poems at Songs of the Street II on November 7 at the Boyle Street Co-op.

Billed as a poetry contest, the night was a testament to the strength of the human spirit. There was also some pretty good poems.

This event was a sequel to the highly successful premiere Songs of the Street celebration last January. From that event, the street newspaper Our Voice produced a book of poems which newspaper vendors have been selling throughout the fall.

This year about 20 local businesses and social service agencies sponsored categories and awarded prizes to winning poets.

Most award winning poets were on hand to read their poems.

Peter Brown, host of Radioactive on CBC Radio, provided humorous stage patter and kept the evening moving

The Boyle McCauley News sponsored a category and awarded \$50, a newspaper subscription, and a promise to publish his poem, to John Zapantis. Here's his poem:

#### MASTER OF THE GAME

A bitterness inside is carried.

An angry man hiding from the

A past memory of injustice done to harm him.

A vengeful law that lingers to bevour, the innocence of this angel running from the law.

The challenger that awaits, is a master of the game.

A man that knows his conscience well and justifies at the sound of the bell.

A one man show, when society pushes him out on the street.

As he dances out loud and jumps back to his feet.

A man who shows the colours of his moral conscience.

Is a master of society. playing the system's silly game.

## Support your community league - it supports you!

Skating Rink

We're happy to announce that the skating rink is available for everyone to enjoy. Please note that volunteers are needed to help maintain the ice and to supervise children.

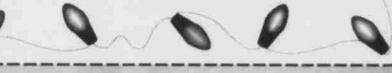
For more information, call Cam at the McCauley Apartments 424-2870.

#### Community Contacts

There are going to be lots of Christmas celebration in the community! Contact Heidi Veluw at Operation Friendship 429-2626 for more information.

If you want to join the McCauley Community League, call Kathy Storm at 421-0070. Kathy has put together an excellent package of useful information for new MCL members.

If your family or business is planning a get-together think about using the McCauley Community League Hall. Contact Diane Jaggarnaut at 425-4936.



#### JOIN THE McCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

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M.L.A.

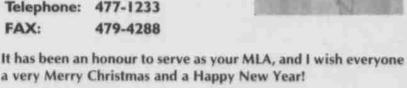
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### Associate MCL memberships created

People who are concerned about McCauley but who don't actually live in the community can now become Associate McCauley Community League members.

At its November meeting, the MCL board created the associate memberships. This will allow people who own local business or who work in the neighbourhood to become active with the league.

Associate members are invited to attend MCL meetings and voice their concerns on issues that concern our community.

As well, the executive positions for the MCL Board for 1996-97 were filled.

The MCL Executive are: Ping Chen and Ele Gibson, Co-Chairs; Susan Wissink, Treasurer; and Cameron McDonald, Secretary. The other members of the board are Chao Shien Chu, Simon Chen, Michelle VanDer Molen and Heidi Veluw.

Thanks to all the boards members for working hard to help make our community a better place to live.



"Looking forward to 1996 and beyond, the Board, staff and members of the **Edmonton Inner City** 

Housing Society wish you and yours

a safe and happy New Year."



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Boyle McCauley News Vol. 10, No. 9

The Boyle McCauley News is a non-profit newspaper published monthly by the Boyle Street McCauley Newspaper Society. The Society is made up of people who live and work in the Boyle Street and McCauley neighbourhoods. Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors. Any submissions may be subject to editing for length and suitability.

Board of Directors: John Pater, John Gee, Phil O'Hara, Tuggy Curran, An Mui Cheong, Erwin Seeger, Kate Quinn

The office of the Boyle McCauley News is located at 10631 - 96 Street, Edmonton, AB T5H 2J1. Phone 424-6117, Fax 424-0796.

For advertising, call 424-0185.

#### **BMNews Notices**

Board Mtg. - Monday, Jan. 13, 7:00 p.m. at #304, 9356 - 92 St. Writer's Meeting - call 426-2514

Next issue: February/97 - Please deliver all stories on paper and on 3%" diskettes to Phil's, 9317 - 108 Avenue. Call 426-2514 for info.

### OUR VOLUNTEERS

Editor: Phil O'Hara Writers: Kate Quinn, Linda Dumont, Phil O'Hara, Tom Hind

Photography: Kate Quinn, Mary Gallivan, Phil O'Hara

Layout & Design: Black Cat Press Paste-up: John Pater, Black Cat Press Accounting: John Gee

Advertising: Giselle LeBlanc DISTRIBUTION

McCauley Coordinator: Richard Au-Boyle Street Coordinator: Gordon Bland Bundling and Mailing: Richard Auclair Bundle Deliv-

ery: Richard Auclair, Block Carriers: Bonnie Watt, Lyle Grant, Phil O'Hara, Diane Jeffery, Shari Mati, Alice Rodrigue, Kathleen Quinn, Glenna Roper, Rosalie Gelderman, Sr. Christina Marie, Gallivan-Smith family, Brent McDonough, Richard Auclair, Ele Gibson, Aline Roulston, Walle Deering, Jack Serge, Caroline Stuart, Margaret Lammeren, Ewen Nelson, Mery Knapp, Rick Warren, Barb Johnson, Tuggy Curran, Sandra Barnes, Pedro Schultz, Jason Brown, Mary Amerongen, Phil Koning, The Sisters,

### Your Community League needs you!

Dear McCauley Residents:

Our community league needs has a wonder-

A new board of directors nity Hall on 96 have volunteered and were elected to address the concerns and needs of our community. They invite you to get involved to make McCauley a safe place

Be proud of your community, become an active member to strengthen the present and future for our children.

Your annual membership fee is only \$3 for singles, or \$5 for the whole family.

I would also encourage you to voice your concerns and take action on any issues from crime and safety, property re-zoning, to community celebrations, and soccer for the kids.

The league ful Commu-

Street and 108 Avenue which is available for rent for meetings, basketball, volleyball, or parties and celebrations.

The league also has a Community Skating Rink available free to the community. You could play an important part in programming as well as enjoying using it.

My term as President of the League has ended. However, I look forward to working with the new board of the league and I invite you, one and all to support your league.

Sincerely, Kimo Trent

#### No to drinker's park

To the Editor:

On behalf of the McCauley Citizen's Committee for Public Safety. we would like to join the students and teachers of Sacred Heart School in opposing the drinkers' park next to the Bissell Centre Day Care playground. The park would also contravene the Alberta Liquor Control Board.

The park would be unsafe as there will be no security on site and the community will go further down the drain

Why should we have to put up with this drinking park, when other communities are successful in their opposition to gambling casions and pawn shops? Or is it the fact that our community carries no clout?

Let's have a community vegetable garden on this site, which would be a benefit to all - and also a therapeutic benefit for those less fortunate. Instead of a beer garden. Sincerely,

Erwin A. Seeger

## **BM** News Considers Casino

A year ago, it was that the Boyle-McCauley Newspaper should apply for a casino licence as a way to fund its operations. The high cost of newsprint in the last few years has made it impossible to fund the paper solely through advertising revenue. A successful fundraising drive last spring got the newspaper out of debt and gave us some breathing room. But the newspaper continues to operate on a tight month-bymonth operations budget with no money for long term capital funding such as the purchase of up-to-date computers and print-

The board of the Boyle-McCauley Newspaper Society is now considering whether to

proceed with the casino application or find other ways of raising money.

We want to know what you our readers and members think. Should the Boyle-McCauley News use casino monies to fund its operations? Respond by writing brief letters to the edi-We will print your responses in an upcoming issue.

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## Legacy of Christmas in the giving

by Tom Hind

November.

The skies have gone flaky. White snow feathers the air in an endless procession. Already six inches of the downy crystals have crept up in mounds on top of the blue picket gate and fence outside my bedroom window.

Mr. Winter has turned on his considerable charms. The cool air refreshes my lungs and my sinuses are clear. The debris of fall has vanished under the antiseptic white snow-coat.

Down the alley to the north a familiar winter noise resounds ... tires spinning and whirling on glare ice, becoming a furious high-pitched hum as the driver tramps the gas pedal in frustration. Traction in unsanded alleys is scarce.

Hot chocolate is synonymous with winter. I brew a pot of the foaming brown sweet liquid and settle down with a cup, tantalizing my taste buds.

I light two sticks of Chinese incense, and decide to focus my

thinking on good things. I light a candle and wait until it stops flickering before directing my gaze into its centre.

I start breathing deeply until I feel totally calm.

Then I do a 10 minute period of relaxed, energizing concentration.

Now I am braced for the day. My mind is clear. My thoughts potent. Clarity of thought is important to me. I am in an unrestrictive creative mode.

Christmas comes soon. In the inner city, churches and social agencies gear up for the turkey and ham suppers, their gift to the community between now and New Year's Day.

Considerate parents already roam the Army and Navy store on 97 Street, scouting out the toy and clothing bins for gifts. They dodge snow piles and flakes to get away from the store, arms loaded with gifts, pocket books bare, going home with smiles in their hearts for their children.

Good old Red Suit will be

ho-ho-hoing soon in the malls, on tv, in the streets, in parades, splattered out in white and green and red, the traditional Christmas colours.

The mercenaries "out there" in the business community are starting to rub their hands together in a greed frenzy, not unmindful of a gang of piranha awaiting a feeding.

Capitalism is the largest wool-fleecer in our system. Consumers are defenceless against the technology employed to program them to buy products that only make the producers richer.

But I guess this is part and parcel of westernized Christ-

Turkey stuffed with wild rice and onions. Yum. I contemplate my Christmas. I plan to invite two street people in for a meal and cordials.

Street people know how to enjoy a good time since they aren't able to afford any themselves.

That's my gift to Christmas, the Christmas gift to me, in that in giving, I am also receiving the grand legacy of Christmas. There's a smile in that somewhere

Have a pleasant Yuletide folks! You too Bob, who lives at 96 Street and 107 Avenue.



# Steep learning curve for rookie representative

by Ward 4 Councillor Jim Taylor

I can't believe a year has passed since I was elected to represent Ward 4 on City Council!

In reflection, there are certainly some issues in the last year that obviously stand out...the closure of Keillor Road, the de-

cision to go ahead with the Trans Alta Composter, the consolidation of the airports, and the rejection of the proposed truck routes.

But I have also been involved in lesser known issues which have been, in many ways, more satisfying.

Immediately after the election, I brought forth an idea from my campaign which involved bringing together all the stakeholders who had an interest in contributing to the revitalization of the downtown core by converting unused office space to alternate uses.

My initiative culminated in the Creative Conversions Symposium at the Edmonton Convention Centre in September which attracted participants from many different areas of businesses both locally and from other cities.

I have also learned a great deal from, and I think been able to contribute to, the various Area Redevelopment Plans (ARPs) I sit on in Ward 4. I see a great potential for neighbourhood enhancement in Ward 4 through these ARPs.

I recently made a Committee Inquiry requesting the formation of a team made up of all the city departments and provincial authorities involved in regulation and enforcement of drinking establishments. The purpose of this team is to take immediate and joint

action against bars which continually cause problems in their neighbourhoods.

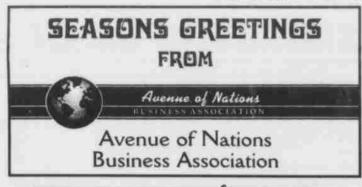
This is a concern not only in Ward 4, but in several other areas of the city as well. My inquiry appears to have met with success and the city administration is in the process of forming such a team.

A serious situation exists in Edmonton's inner city regarding the potential spread of T. B. among residents. We have formed a committee which has been successful in initiating not only procedures to deal with the immediate health problems, but also long term strategies to hopefully contain and control future concerns.

This year council confirmed the long term existence of the Edmonton Arts Council. This is certainly a positive step in the process of recognizing and supporting the important "business" of arts and culture in our "City of Festivals".

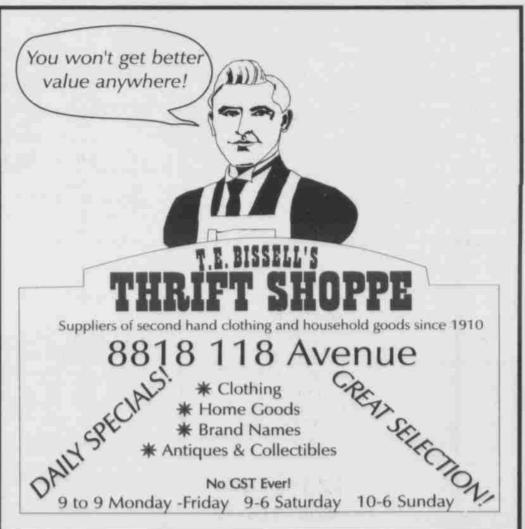
These are just a few of the things that come to mind as I look back over what has cer-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6









## **Parent Support Group** open to all parents

by Reny L. Clericuzio, Principal St. Michael School

Children are the only future the human race has; teach them well.

The above quote speaks of the importance of children in our lives and how we must prepare them for the future.

One of the most important concepts in education is the collaboration and cooperation between parents and teachers. It is in working together that we accomplish what is best for children.

The staff of St. Michael School have initiated a Parent Support Group to help meet the needs of parents in the commu-

This initiative is part of the Early Intervention Project that the school developed and received funding for. This parents group is being designed by parents to help meet their specific goals.

This is being done with the help of the school social worker, Mrs. Paulette Touw, the school counsellor Mr. Richard Bereznicki. and Ms. Bernadette Otto from the City of Edmonton Children and Family Services Department.

With input from all participants, they are establishing workshops that deal with the real concerns of parents.

Many parents have commented on how this group is helping them with issues. This group is open to all parents in the inner city community. Many of the parents in the group have children in schools such as Sacred Heart, Norwood, St. Alphonsus and McCauley

This interesting and informative group meets every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Michael School (10545 - 92

Free child care is available and all parents are welcome. For more information, please contact Paulette or Richard at

We look forward to working with all parents to make this work a brighter place for our children to live. Let us remember that "Together We Are Strong"

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please note that submissions for the Community Calendar should be received by the last Wednesday of each month. The McCauley Apartments Project is coordinating the community calendar on behalf of the Boyle McCauley News. Please contact us at 424-2870 or fax information to 424-2868.

Boyle McCauley Health Centre 10628 -96 Street Clinic hours: Man to Fri 9-4:30 pm (Thursday 10-4:30pm) Immunization Clinic for Children: Mon. 1-3 pm Foot Clinic (Wed. 1-3 pm) Clinic Dental Streetworks: open during clinic hours

St. Michael School 10545 -92 Street Parent group for parents of children with behavioral difficulties.

Free child-care and refreshments. Call 429-2556 for more information.

McCauley LETSystem Trading event 4th Monday of every month (except in December) McCauley Community Hall, 10750-96 Street 7:00 pm

McCauley Community 2nd Monday of every month Community Hall, 10750-96 Street

Rentals? call Dianne at 425-4936

Operation Friendship 9526 -106 Avenue McCauley Seniors Drop in. Christmas Dinner 55+ Seniors

December 20 - 12:30 December 23 - noon

Ukrainian National Federation Hall 10629-98 Street Sunday, 15 December 2:00 pm Invites all children to celebrate. Call Irene at 473-6645

Wecan Food Coop Mem-Pick up food on the 3rd Friday of the month December 20, 10116-105 Avenue

Christmas Celebration: **Progressive Supper** Thursday, December 19th, 4:00pm Start from Boyle McCauley Health Centre (10628-

96St.)

Bissell Centre's New Year's Dinner **Boyle Street Community** League 9515-104 Avenue 1997,

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5**

11:30am-3:00pm

tainly been a whirlwind first year with an incredibly step learning curve.

As I continue to gain knowledge and confidence, I look forward to the upcoming challenges in the next two years.

Under the leadership of our new city manager, I know we can look forward to many positive changes and a continuation of the general enthusiasm and growth we now seem to be experiencing in Edmonton.

### Pam Barrett Leader, Alberta **New Democrats**

Merry Christmas and A Happy 1997. Let's all work together for a better future.

If you have any questions or concerns, or want to get involved, please call 474-2415.



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#### KIDS AGAINST A COAL MINE!

(Last month we provided a sampling of letters from grade 5 students from Sacred Heart School writing Mayor Bill Smith about a proposed 'Drinkers' Park' in the community. This month, the grade 6 students from Sacred Heart take on Alberta Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Tourism R. J. King about a proposal to build a coal mine near the Jasper National Park. Here are a few of their letters: )

#### Dear Deputy Minister R. J. King:

There is a coal mine in Jasper and I think that the Cheviot Company should not open it because the animals are in danger. In addition, it will pollute the air and water.

I know the coal will go to places such as China and Japan, so money and jobs can be provided. However, I think wildlife is more important than coal, as Bill Clinton suggested in a similar case concerning Yellowstone Park and a gold mine. You and I

know the animals go in and out of the park and will face many dangers if the mine is built. They are saying the mine would leave around 26 holes and only some could be filled with water. These lakes may be polluted over

time

As a grade 6 student, I hope that you will make a decision based on what is good for the environment. Quan L. Nguyen

#### Dear Deputy Minister King:

There is a coal mine in Jasper National Park, and a larger one may be built soon. I think mining in Jasper National Park is wrong because of heavy machinery, animals and their habitat are being killed or destroyed, so more and more species are vanishing at the park.

Jasper naturalist Ben Gadd is concerned this mine will be an environmental catastrophe. I agree with Mr. Gadd because mining is going to ruin Jasper National Park. So animals like grizzly bears, wolves, wolverines, and mountain lions are all at risk.

Of the 26 open pits planned, 12 will be made into lakes, the rest will be filled with rocks. It's so unfair that there used to be 500 species, but now there is only 50 species in Jasper

> National Park. So in my opinion, the mining should be kept to a minimum in order to conserve our environment and wild life. Gabriel Penedo

> > MORE LETTERS PAGE 8

Wishing all a happy and blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year From everyone at



C.A.P. Headstart

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Best wishes for a Happy Holiday season

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# Schmitz Denture Centre 10538 - 97 Street

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Denturists
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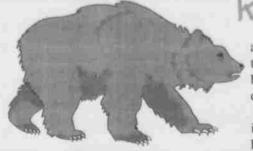


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Dear Deputy Minister R. J. King:

In my opinion, I think the Cheviot mine shouldn't go through because it could kill wildlife in the area and affect people living near the proposed mine

Drilling holes in the ground may hurt underground animals if the trees are cut down, the good soil will be taken away, and it may never recover.

Gadd, an environmentalist, is concerned that the local animals would lose their homes and possible food.

The Cheviot mine would scare away wildlife, pollute the rivers, and bring in a lot more traffic.

As a grade six student, I think that you should take some time and think about the possible problems that the Cheviot mine will cause in the future. Yours truly, Deanna Sawan

Dear Deputy Minister R. J. King:

The Luscar company is going to open a coal mine on the outskirts of Jasper National Park, and in my opinion. I don't think this mine should be

KIDS AGAINST A COAL MINE!

approved because there are no trees to hold down the topsoil it will be blown away so not very many plants can grow there.

After you've mined, all you'll have is an unsightly patch of dirt with a hole full of water sitting beside a beautifully forested park. It's not only plants that are at risk, animals are also in danger because they don't stay in the park at all times. They might wander into the mining field and be injured or killed.

Well, even if no animals are hurt, you have to remember animals, especially herbivores, are losing a source of food and forested habit. So I think the Cheviot mine should not go through as you opinionated.

Cynthia Chung

Dear Deputy Minister King:

Near Jasper National Park they want to build a coal mine. There are 900 jobs that people could have. Four hundred and fifty of these jobs are permanent, but on the other hand, animal and plant life are in great danger. In my opinion, it should be stopped. It would be a mess. Grizzly bears, wolves, wolverines, and mountain lions will all be affected by this disastrous coal mine.

Risvold, the Hinton mayor, disagrees, and says the human side of the issue can't be ignored. I say that the animal and plant life can't be ignored.

The population of our wild life will disappear and/or will be polluted. Many animals will probably die if this project advances. This mine would be an environmental catastrophe. Instead of using that land for a coal mine, they could use it for something that doesn't destroy the forest. They could use that land for recreation.

For example: picnicking, campsites, or they could even extend Jasper National Park. Those things would all create more jobs and bringmore tourists in that area. They don't seem to see much of that side of the story.

They say the Cheviot coal mine will probably last about 10 years, maybe more. So for 10 years about 26 holes will be opened and that means many animals could fall down them and die. Only 14 holes out of the 26 will be filled, and the 12 other holes will be made into lakes.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

The proposed coal mine near Jasper National Park will be a disastrous project if it goes through. It is a danger to all wild life in that area. I think it should be stopped.

Ruth Gallivan-Smith



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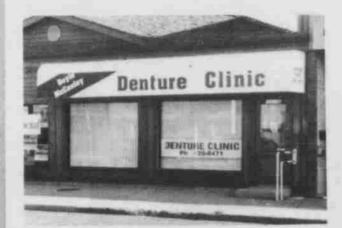
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