Get out of NAFTA!

Nationalize Bombardier: Stop the Giveaway

- page 2 -

Canadian Peace Congress acting president Miguel Figueroa was on a western Canada speaking tour during October, warning that the US administration poses a dangerous threat of global war.

"Dangerous times"

1917-2017 Centenary of the Great October Socialist Revolution

Events to mark the greatest political event of the 20th century - see pages 2 & 6 -

1 Canadian labour history

The Great October Socialist Revolution had a huge impact on the working class in Canada, helping radical trade union leaders and anti-war activists to win wide support for socialist ideas.

4 A victim of austerity

After bureaucratic rules cut off the pension he earned by a life of hard work, Billy's rent cheque bounced. He died on Toronto's Danforth, a victim of austerity.

3

"Dangerous times"

INSIDE
2  •  PEOPLE'S VOICE  •  NOVEMBER 1-15, 2017

Nationalize Bombardier: Stop the Giveaway

Conference and celebrations across Canada to mark centenary of Great October

The 100th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution - the outstanding pole of the 20th century will be marked this month by a number of celebrations (see page 6). The November 1-15 weekend theoretical conference, hosted in Toronto with other participation from other cities.

Using web technology and video conferencing, the conference will speak on a wide range of topics, beginning with the background to the Revolution and the events of its first days, and the place of “Great October” in the subsequent revolutions which rocked capitalism and imperialism for decades. Other speakers will examine the struggle to create and defend the first socialist state, the Soviet approach to the rights of women and oppressed nations, the contrast between planned socialist development versus the profit-driven and crisis-ridden capitalist system, the role of the USSR in the international struggles for peace and national liberation, and the historic case for socialism and communism on a global scale.

Sessions and speakers will include the following

Kevin Caron on “The Process of Revolution” will present a historical synopsis focusing on the historical question of the new type,” the revolution of 1905, the collapse of the First International, angst in the emerging Russia - the “weakest link” in the imperialist chain. Speakers will include People’s Voice editor Kimball Caron, and Nova Scotia communist activist and academic Jim Sacouman.

In a session on “creating and defending the socialist state – the early years of the revolution”, retired Hamiton labour activist Sam Hammond and former Ryerson University sociology instructor Jeanne McGuire will describe the new Soviet socialist state, and the factors of mass involvement and political leadership in the building of socialism. Former CPC leader Miguel Figueroa will speak on the factors which contributed to the defeat of socialism in the early 1990s, and lessons to be drawn from this experience.

The third session will focus on “Class and Democratic Development”, with speakers including long-time women’s movement activist Jane Bousey on the Soviet approach to women and gender issues, YCL leader Adrienn Welsh on the revolution and youth, and a US right-wing to-work state. Speaker Pierre Fontaine on the national question, and BC communist leader George Gidora on alliances of the working class and other forces.

The final session of the conference is titled “Two Alternative Histories – Socialism and Capitalism”. BC communist activist Hanne Gidora will compare the record of planned socialist development versus profit-driven capitalist “development”. Ontario Communist leader Dave McKeever will contrast the international foreign policy of the Soviet Union to the inability of social democratic governments to change imperialist foreign policies. Finally, Communist Party of Canada leader Liz Rowley will address the urgent historical necessity of socialism to tackle the environmental crisis, and to meet human needs on a global scale.

Because of the four and a half hour time zone difference across the country, the meetings will take place at different times: from 10 am to 4 pm on both days in British Columbia; 11 am to 5 pm in Alberta; 12 noon to 6 pm in Manitoba; 1:30 pm in Ontario and Quebec; 2:30 pm in Nova Scotia or 3:30 pm in Newfoundland & Labrador.

For more of locations in your province, call the following numbers: 604-254-9836 in British Columbia; 780-934-7890 in Alberta; 1-416-469-2446 in Ontario; 902-542-7981 in Nova Scotia or 1-306-830-8100 in Manitoba; 1-416-469-2446 in Newfoundland & Labrador.

For more information and updates are available at the union’s strike page, www.collegefafa.org.

Ontario college faculty on strike against precarious work

PV Ontario Bureau

On October 16, 12,000 college faculty went on strike at Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATs) across Ontario. The faculty are members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU).

The strike began after the College Employer Council (CEC) rejected a streamlined final offer from the union and walked away from the table. OPSEU negotiators described the offer as “bar renewable minimum wage, unaffordable seniority, and no longer period notice for teaching contracts and work assignments. The offer also included the union’s key demand for a 50-50 ratio of full-time to full-time faculty. Ontario colleges have steadily and deliberately increased the number and proportion of part-time and contract teaching positions, which currently outnumber full-time positions by nearly three times.

The strike is also about the faculty’s desire to enhance the quality of education they provide to students. The union has argued that precarious employment for faculty directly erodes their ability to properly prepare and present courses.

As with many other public services and institutions in Ontario, CAATs have increasingly adopted corporate and privatized labour practices. In all of these cases this trend has undermined the quality and accessibility of those services, and it has sharply eroded working conditions and union strength.

Ontario Communist Party leader, Dave McKeever, observes that, “One of the underlying issues to this dispute is the provincial government’s ongoing underfunding of our institutions of learning. While colleges have expanded their mandates, provincial funding has dropped by nearly 20%, and continues to fall.” OPSEU has noted that Ontario ranks tenth out of ten provinces when it comes to college funding on a per-student basis, with the government committing to a pitiful 0.2% increase for the 2017-18 year, and zero increase for 2018/19.

McKeever said that pressure from underfunding has led colleges to make up the difference through a combination of increased student fees and increasingly precarious employment conditions for faculty. “Instead of standing up for public education at the college level and demanding adequate funding, the colleges have used government underfunding as an excuse to increase precarious employment for faculty, to pursue different forms of privatization, and to diminish education for 300,000 college students in Ontario.”

The Communist Party is demanding that the College Employer Council return immediately to the bargaining table and negotiate a fair contract with faculty. The Party is also calling on the provincial government to increase college funding now, so that faculty can provide students with the education they need and deserve.

“At Ontario colleges for faculty, the Party is demanding a fair contract,” says McKeever, “we will push hard for an immediate halt to the government’s privatization strategy, and for the reversal of two decades of corporate tax cuts that currently cost the people of Ontario over $10 billion in revenue every year. The working class in Ontario needs that revenue to adequately fund more, not less, public services and institutions.”

College faculty members have set up picket lines at each of Ontario’s 24 CAATs, and have already received strong support from other labour and community organizations.

More information and updates are available at the union’s strike page, www.collegefafa.org.
PV Vancouver Bureau

The October 14 Vancouver civic bylection for one city council seat and seven school board trustees was an interesting test of political winds heading towards the municipal elections next year. The results were mixed, with strong votes for progressive candidates and mixed results for left-wing and developer parties, which we said could allow the NPA to win the council seat and as little as thirty percent of the vote. The projection was remarkably close to the final result. The one thing we did not predict was that One City had dropped its nomination of Graves, all of her votes would have gone to the Greens. Some would have gone to the Greens, for example. The final result was not an unexpected close victory, and it seems possible that the Greens could have won. On the other hand, we estimate that the voter turn-out was just 11 percent, we caution against reading too much into the bylection figures.”

“We also note that bylections are not always an indication of future results. In 1985, for example, COPE won all nine positions in a special VSB bylection, after the trustees elected the previous year were undermined without the Social Credit provincial government. At the same time, Bruce Yorke, a well-known Communist Party member, won a runoff by-election as a COPE candidate against the NPA’s Phillip Owen. These results led COPE to believe it could win substantial gains in the 1986 campaign, and its highest profile City Council member, Ralf Rankin, was nominated for mayor. Instead, the NPA’s Helen Stentor won the seat, with an overall tally of 27,637, just over the total, hardly an overwhelming victory. Jean Swanson, on the other hand, won a tight race for council, took 21.2% and second place, after mobilizing hundreds of volunteers in the final runoff, and winning a strong campaign around demands for a rent freeze and a “mansion tax.” After the NPA provoked a bylection, failed to win the backing of the Vancouver & District Labour Council, in part due to its policies taking jobs out of the scope of collective agreements with CUPE and other civil unions, the loss of a labour back-up, and wide public anger over the housing crisis, left Vision’s Diego Cardona fifth among nine council candidates, taking just 11.3%.

Not surprisingly, the right-wing NPA’s Hector Reiman won the seat in the school board race, winning over 28,000 votes, with a 75% turnout of voters. The NPA platform was based on the Green Party’s, with a focus on income security, working people and even professionals finding it increasingly difficult to find a affordable housing. Vision won a majority in 2008 with the support of the organized working community. The NPA, in contrast, had a much more “mainstream” platform, appealing to middle-class and working-class voters.

The council campaign focused almost entirely on the housing crisis in Vancouver. The two parties which have dominated City Council since 2005, Vision and the NPA, have consistently advocated market-driven policies to build condo units. But while increased supply was supposed to drive down prices, rents and housing prices have instead skyrocketed. Community workers and even professional workers find it increasingly difficult to find affordable housing.

Vision won a majority in 2008 with the support of the organized working community. The NPA, in contrast, had a much more “mainstream” platform, appealing to middle-class and working-class voters.

“Most dangerous period since 1962” warns Figueroa

By Ed Leonhman

Miguel Figueroa, Acting President of the Canadian Peace Congress, addressed a well-attended public meeting in Regina on October 16, the last stop on the western part of his full speaking tour. Referring to the monuments honouring war veterans in nearby Regina, Figueroa pointed out how the international media are a reminder of war, and that millions of people died in both World War 1 and World War 2. He observed that we are in the “most dangerous period since 1962.”

Figueroa discussed key hot spots in the world and mentioned that many conflicts are under the radar. He singled out Yemen as an example because the U.S. refuses to sign. Referring to the monuments honouring war veterans in nearby Regina, Figueroa pointed out how the international media are a reminder of war, and that millions of people died in both World War 1 and World War 2. He observed that we are in the “most dangerous period since 1962.”

Figueroa explained that the conflict in that country is not a civil war; it is a shift away from support for agenda of the big monopolies. He believes it needs a deterrent, after living without a peace treaty since 1953 because the U.S. refuses to sign.

Having recently returned from a solidarity conference in Syria, Figueroa observed that the conflict in that country is not a civil war; it is a shift away from support for agenda of the big monopolies. He believes it needs a deterrent, after living without a peace treaty since 1953 because the U.S. refuses to sign.

Carrie Bercic became the first elected One City candidate, as a new school trustee.

CUPW urges Wynne to strengthen Bill 148

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) is calling on the Ontario government to strengthen Bill 148, The Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act.

In a letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne, the union, which represents 20,695 workers in Ontario, says it supports many of the proposed changes in the Bill 148, particularly the $15 minimum wage, faster scheduling expanded, emergency leave protections, and the provisions on equal pay for equal work.

“In order to address the needs of all the community organizations, workers, and unions who fought tirelessly to win the changes in this important changes,” says the letter, signed by CUPW/National President Marc Hancock.

“Immediately following the announcement of the legislation, big business and corporate CEOs — came out in force, declaring publicly just how much they benefited from these proposed changes to provide decent wages and working conditions. Their outcry expressed their desire to keep working people in this province have always known: big business makes huge profits off exploiting workers in low-wage and precarious jobs.

“While Bill 148 takes us in the right direction, it falls short in some vital ways. We are especially concerned with some of the amendments that were made after the legislation was announced. We call on this government to strengthen, not weaken, Bill 148.

“CUPW has over 3000 members living in Peel Region and working at facilities like Gateway Mail Processing Plant, one of the Canada Post network’s largest distribution centers, that are home to many large distribution and logistics companies that profit from precarious and bad working conditions. Too many workers in this area are stuck in the vicious cycle of temporary work, exploited by both the temp agencies and the client companies. Others are forced to work in precarious contracts in roles that should be categorized as full-time, permanent positions. These are often permanent jobs are often part-time, struggling with unpredictable workloads and living, unsure knowing week-to-week if they will make ends meet, and hard-pressed to plan for the future.

We know that temporary, contract and part-time workers are some of the most vulnerable workers and those with precarious contracts, such as temporary, part-time, and contract workers should be paid the same as permanent workers doing the same job, deserve fair and advanced scheduling, and genuine protections if they become ill or injured on the job. We are very concerned with how these changes to improve protections that have been introduced to the Bill that will allow employers to avoid paying the minimum wage and equal pay provisions. Workers will be unable to meaningfully enforce these protections that they have the right to refuse shifts and last minute cancellations of shifts if they do not want to work. Defining seniority by number of hours worked, as opposed to date of employment, creates an inequality between part-time and full-time workers and undermine the intent of Bill 148.”

Carrie Bercic became the first elected One City candidate, as a new school trustee.

Jean Swanson’s dynamic campaign saw her place second in the city council vote.

The council campaign focused almost entirely on the housing crisis in Vancouver. The two parties which have dominated City Council since 2005, Vision and the NPA, have consistently advocated market-driven policies to build condo units. But while increased supply was supposed to drive down prices, rents and housing prices have instead skyrocketed. Community workers and even professional workers find it increasingly difficult to find affordable housing.

Vision won a majority in 2008 with the support of the organized working community. The NPA, in contrast, had a much more “mainstream” platform, appealing to middle-class and working-class voters.

“Most dangerous period since 1962” warns Figueroa

By Ed Leonhman

Miguel Figueroa, Acting President of the Canadian Peace Congress, addressed a well-attended public meeting in Regina on October 16, the last stop on the western part of his full speaking tour. Referring to the monuments honouring war veterans in nearby Regina, Figueroa pointed out how the international media are a reminder of war, and that millions of people died in both World War 1 and World War 2. He observed that we are in the “most dangerous period since 1962.”

Figueroa discussed key hot spots in the world and mentioned that many conflicts are under the radar. He singled out Yemen as an example because the U.S. refuses to sign. Referring to the monuments honouring war veterans in nearby Regina, Figueroa pointed out how the international media are a reminder of war, and that millions of people died in both World War 1 and World War 2. He observed that we are in the “most dangerous period since 1962.”

Figueroa explained that the conflict in that country is not a civil war; it is a shift away from support for agenda of the big monopolies. He believes it needs a deterrent, after living without a peace treaty since 1953 because the U.S. refuses to sign.

Having recently returned from a solidarity conference in Syria, Figueroa observed that the conflict in that country is not a civil war; it is a shift away from support for agenda of the big monopolies. He believes it needs a deterrent, after living without a peace treaty since 1953 because the U.S. refuses to sign.

Carrie Bercic became the first elected One City candidate, as a new school trustee.

CUPW urges Wynne to strengthen Bill 148

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) is calling on the Ontario government to strengthen Bill 148, The Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act.

In a letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne, the union, which represents 20,695 workers in Ontario, says it supports many of the proposed changes in the Bill 148, particularly the $15 minimum wage, faster scheduling expanded, emergency leave protections, and the provisions on equal pay for equal work.

“In order to address the needs of all the community organizations, workers, and unions who fought tirelessly to win the changes in this important changes,” says the letter, signed by CUPW/National President Marc Hancock.

“Immediately following the announcement of the legislation, big business and corporate CEOs — came out in force, declaring publicly just how much they benefited from these proposed changes to provide decent wages and working conditions. Their outcry expressed their desire to keep working people in this province have always known: big business makes huge profits off exploiting workers in low-wage and precarious jobs.

“While Bill 148 takes us in the right direction, it falls short in some vital ways. We are especially concerned with some of the amendments that were made after the legislation was announced. We call on this government to strengthen, not weaken, Bill 148.

“CUPW has over 3000 members living in Peel Region and working at facilities like Gateway Mail Processing Plant, one of the Canada Post network’s largest distribution centers, that are home to many large distribution and logistics companies that profit from precarious and bad working conditions. Too many workers in this area are stuck in the vicious cycle of temporary work, exploited by both the temp agencies and the client companies. Others are forced to work in precarious contracts in roles that should be categorized as full-time, permanent positions. These are often permanent jobs are often part-time, struggling with unpredictable workloads and living, unsure knowing week-to-week if they will make ends meet, and hard-pressed to plan for the future.

We know that temporary, contract and part-time workers are some of the most vulnerable workers and those with precarious contracts, such as temporary, part-time, and contract workers should be paid the same as permanent workers doing the same job, deserve fair and advanced scheduling, and genuine protections if they become ill or injured on the job. We are very concerned with how these changes to improve protections that have been introduced to the Bill that will allow employers to avoid paying the minimum wage and equal pay provisions. Workers will be unable to meaningfully enforce these protections that they have the right to refuse shifts and last minute cancellations of shifts if they do not want to work. Defining seniority by number of hours worked, as opposed to date of employment, creates an inequality between part-time and full-time workers and undermine the intent of Bill 148.”

Carrie Bercic became the first elected One City candidate, as a new school trustee.
Oppose divisive Bill 62

Bill 62, Quebec’s legislation requiring those who access public services to remove their face coverings, is an attempt to further stigmatize the flames of anti-immigrant hatred, under the false claim of promoting “secularism.” The law was adopted in the National Assembly, literally under a Catholic crucifix which symbolized the unity of church and state at a time when criticism of religion was virtually illegal. Like its predecessor, the Quebec Charter of Values, which was defeated by public opposition, Bill 62 is full of contradictions. For example, what constitutes a face covering, in a province where people wear scarves for months during winter?

The law is intended to harass a small number of women who practise certain Muslim beliefs – those who wear the niqab, or likely even the hijab which does not actually obscure one’s face. The aim is to vilify Islamic religion which is deeply rooted in so-called “western values”. In a country founded on the “values” of genocide against indigenous peoples, and brutal racialism against immigrants of Asian origin, the excuse that Bill 62 “protects secularism” is an utterly shameful version of the lie that Canada is a “white man’s country.”

Of course, this newspaper does not defend religion - we believe that public institutions must display neutrality towards religions. We seek to unite the working class against the attacks of the capitalists and to fight for socialism. But we also support the working class in their battles against the attacks of the state. If Chrystia Freeland and Justin Trudeau have answered the letter. How’s your question, we asked: he has no phone, he has no email, and he had no money for envelopes and stamps. And who’s going to fix this mess we’re in, caused by your department’s decision to just cut him off? We’re not in the habit of paying other people’s bills, he said. They reinstated Billy’s benefits that day, though it would be two or three days before the funds arrived in the bank. Two days later Billy died on the street. He was in his usual spot on the Danforth selling People’s Voice. He suffered heart failure, brought on by stress they said. No kidding.

Capitalism kills. Austerity kills. Justice for Billy means an end to arbitrary cutoffs of pensions and assistance to vulnerable people. It means increasing pensions and incomes to livable levels. It means affordable housing that’s not on the edge of town. It means dignity and respect for human rights, and the enforcement of these economic and social rights.

A million seniors in Canada are in the same vulnerable position that Billy was in. Just one cheque away from complete disaster. Billy died on the street, most die at home. It’s time for the labour and peoples’ movements to demand real action on pensions and incomes now. Pensions need to rise substantially and the age needs to be lowered. And pensions need to be locked into defined benefit plans like the CPP, not just compressed RRSP plans that leave penniless seniors after retirement. Government-cum-jumps when big corporations make their demands. No more cap in hand – the public must fight to force action on pensions and incomes. And labour must lead. People’s needs, not corporate greed.

PV seller dies on the Danforth – a victim of austerity
To the Population

Comrades—workers, soldiers, peasants and all working people!

The workers' and peasants' revolution has definitely triumphed in Petrograd, having dispelled or arrested the last remnants of the small number of Cossacks deceived by Kerensky. The revolution has triumphed in Moscow too. Even before the arrival of a number of troop trains dispatched from Petrograd, the officer cadets and other Komilovites in Moscow signed peace terms—the disarming of the cadets and the dissolution of the Committee of Salvation.[see footnote]

Daily and hourly reports are coming in from the front and from the villages announcing the support of the overwhelming majority of the soldiers in the trenches and the peasants in the uyezds [administrative districts - Ed.] for the new government and its decrees on peace and the immediate transfer of the land to the peasants. The victory of the workers' and peasants' revolution is assured because the majority of the people have already sided with it.

We now understand that the landowners and capitalists, and the top groups of employees and civil servants are closely linked with the bourgeoisie, in a word, all the wealthy and those who profited from the old order will resist this new revolution with hostility, resist its victory, threaten to close the banks and bring to a standstill the work of the different establishments, and hamper the revolution in every way, openly or covertly. Every politically-conscious worker was well aware that we would inevitably encounter resistance of this kind. The entire Party press of the Bolsheviks has written about this on numerous occasions. Not for a single minute will the working classes be accounting and control, apart from levying the set taxes in full the government has no intention of introducing any other measure. In support of these just demands the vast majority of the people have rallied round the Provisional Workers' and Peasants' Government.

One of Rosa Luxemburg's most famous quotes, from "The Junius Pamphlet" (1916)

"German bayonets in German fists." as the Neue Zeit under Kratovsky's editorship once promised in an editorial. They show, on the contrary, that the freeing of Russia had its roots deep in the soil of its own land and was fully matured internally.

Excerpts from "The Russian Revolution," written in 1918 by German revolutionary leader Rosa Luxemburg, months before her assassination in Berlin.

The Russian Revolution is the mightiest event of the World War. Its outbreak, its unprecedented radicalism, its enduring consequences, constitute the clearest condemnation of the lying phrases which official Social-Democracy so zealously supplied at the beginning of the war as an ideological cover for German imperialism's campaign of conquest. I refer to the phrases concerning the mission of German bayonets, which were to overthrow Russian Czarism and free its oppressed millions.

The mighty sweep of the revolution in Russia, the profound reasons which have transformed all class relationships, raised all social and economic problems, and, with them, the catastrophic war which has developed consistently from the first phase of the bourgeois republic to every more advanced stages, finally reducing the fall of Czarism to the status of a mere matter of days. It is not these things I show as plain as day that the freeing of Russia was not an achievement of the war and the military defeat of Czarism, not some service of "German bayonets in German fists." as the Neue Zeit under Kratovsky's editorship once promised in an editorial. They show, on the contrary, that the freeing of Russia had its roots deep in the soil of its own land and was fully matured internally.

"The freeing of Russia was not an achievement of the war and the military defeat of Czarism, not some service of "German bayonets in German fists."

The mighty sweep of the revolution in Russia, the profound reasons which have transformed all class relationships, raised all social and economic problems, and, with them, the catastrophic war which has developed consistently from the first phase of the bourgeois republic to every more advanced stages, finally reducing the fall of Czarism to the status of a mere matter of days. It is not these things I show as plain as day that the freeing of Russia was not an achievement of the war and the military defeat of Czarism, not some service of "German bayonets in German fists." as the Neue Zeit under Kratovsky's editorship once promised in an editorial. They show, on the contrary, that the freeing of Russia had its roots deep in the soil of its own land and was fully matured internally.

One of Rosa Luxemburg's most famous quotes, from "The Junius Pamphlet" (1916)

"Barbarism!"

Rosa Luxemburg

The October uprising was the salvation of international socialism.

Our series marking the 100th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution continues with this message written by Vladimir Lenin in November 1917, calling upon the people of Russia to safeguard the socialist revolution.

Take all power into the hands of your Soviets. Be watchful and guard like the apples of your eye your land, grain, factories, equipment, products, transport—all that from now onwards will be entirely your property, public property. Gradually, with the consent and approval of the majority of the peasants, in keeping with their practical experience and that of the workers, we shall go forward firmly and unswervingly to the victory of socialism—a victory that will be sealed by the advanced workers of the most civilised countries, bring the peoples lasting peace and liberate them from all oppression and exploitation.

V. Ulyanov (Lenin), Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars

(*) The Committee of Salvation, or Committee of Public Safety, was set up on November 7, 1917, by the Moscow City Council to fight the Soviets in Moscow, and led the counter-revolutionary revolted officer cadets which broke up on November 10. The revolt was crushed on November 15, and the Committee capitulated to the Bolsheviks.

The Committee of Salvation, or Committee of Public Safety, was set up on November 7, 1917, by the Moscow City Council to fight the Soviets in Moscow, and led the counter-revolutionary revolted officer cadets which broke up on November 10. The revolt was crushed on November 15, and the Committee capitulated to the Bolsheviks.
The Soviet revolution shook imperialist domination, as it stood on the shoulders of more than one hundred years of working class-led national liberation struggles. Millions of workers had supported the First and Second International, whose goal was world peace and socialism, in sharp contrast to the imperialist strivings of the old order. Despite unremitting imperialist hostility and subversion, the Soviet Union endured for over seven decades, scoring many great achievements in exporting unemployment, illiteracy, and social deprivation. Socialism in the USSR was redefined as an economically and culturally “backyard” country into one of the most powerful and advanced powers, and made great advances in culture and science. It was the Soviet Union which led the heroic struggle against the Nazi-Fascist forces. The defeat of Hitler on the battlefield, creating the conditions for the emergence of other socialist states in Europe. The Soviet Union championed the cause of anti-racism and decolonization, giving material and political support to liberation movements, and prepared aança to the former colonies as they won their independence. In the international balance of forces was a key factor in being able to stave off the US imperialists’ attempt to rebuild a racist world. The USSR’s peace policy also restricted - though it could not completely stop - imperialism’s tendency to military aggression.

The achievements by workers under socialism inspired the working class in the advanced capitalist countries to conquer the ruling class to conduct reforms around labour rights, the 40-hour work week, unemployment insurance, health care, public education, and pensions. The struggle for economic and social equality by women in the USSR was a powerful stimulus to the struggles of women in the capitalist countries for pay and employment equity, and for child care and other social programs which would weaken the patriarchal double burden of capitalist exploitation and unpaid domestic labour.

Ultimately, however, the first workers’ state was overtaken and capitalism restored, due to a combination of interrelated internal and external circumstances and contradictions which culminated in the temporary victory of counter-revolution. The defeat of socialism in the USSR became a powerful ideological weapon in the hands of monopoly capitalism. We categorically reject the bourgeois condemnation of the crisis and defeat of the Soviet Union as the work of the reformers and the “gutsy” liquidation of the state. The realization of this historic setback resulted from the extremely difficult conditions under which the socialist state was built, especially the destructive impact of decades of imperialist pressures and sanctions, and from distortions and departures from Marxist-Leninist theory and practice.

Whatever the failures and mistakes which occurred during that period, the experiment in building a new, higher form of society, these do not detract from the enduring significance of Great October. Socialism’s historical balance-sheet was overwhelmingly positive, not only for the people of the Soviet Union but indeed for all humanity. The misery and impoverishment which have befallen millions of people in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe since the early 1990s (especially women whose equality gains were rolled back), and the massive profiteering by those who were too greedy to allow the restoration of capitalism, is painful evidence of what happens when counter-revolution prevails. Despite its so-called victory, capitalism itself remains in profound systemic crisis. The widening gap between rich and poor, the endless wars and conflicts spawned by imperialism, and the environmental crisis which threatens human civilization, all show that the private property system driven by personal and corporate greed, cannot meet the fundamental needs and interests of the people and the global environment.

As capitalism generates war, austerity, and catastrophic climate change, people everywhere are yearning for freedom. Struggles against imperialist globalization have grown sharper, and in many countries, the working class is mounting fierce resistance against the corporate drive for higher profits. The powerful example of Cuba’s socialist revolution continues to inspire workers, youth and oppressed peoples around the world.

Imperialism is responding with growing reaction, militarism and war. In the US, Canada, Europe, India and other regions, far-right, racist and neo-Nazi forces aim to divide and weaken the working class movement, and to roll back the gains achieved by trade unions, women, LGBTQ people, and immigrants. But the forces of imperialism and reaction cannot hold back the irresistible power of anti-capitalist ideas, the growth of the international working class, and the striving of the vast majority of humanity for social progress, a sustainable environment, and peace.

Not least, the Great October Socialist Revolution proved the importance of creating the “revolutionary party of a new type” - solidly grounded in the working class, and based on the ideology of Marxism-Leninism and the principles of democratic centralism. At a time when working people increasingly reject both the old-line capitalist parties and social democratic opportunism, it is more critical than ever to strengthen the revolutionary political parties which can win the working class for a genuine socialist alternative. Nothing can erase the accomplishments of Great October. The Communist Party of Canada will celebrate Great October for its great achievements, for its historic lessons and for the unqualified inspiration it has created for the future of humanity.

- a socialist future?
One hundred years ago, the October Revolution in Russia became the world’s first socialist revolution. For the first time in history working people took control and set out to build a new society free from exploitation and oppression.

The Great October Socialist Revolution stirred peoples and nations under colonial domination to strive for sovereignty and self-determination, women to fight for equality and emancipation, and it showed workers around the globe that it was possible to end exploitation. It proved another world is possible, and inspired other revolutions like China, Cuba and Vietnam.

Build the struggle! Change the world!

Today, as we continue to struggle against the deepening crises capitalism creates – economic, social and environmental - more and more people are realizing that it’s the system itself that’s the problem. Socialism is more urgently needed today than ever before!

It’s time capitalism was replaced with a democratic, peaceful, equitable and sustainable system: Socialism! Such radical change is possible, but only through collective struggle and organization.

The Communist Party of Canada was formed by workers across Canada inspired by the October Revolution and has over 95 years of experience in fighting for socialism.

Join the Fight – Join the Communist Party of Canada

communist-party.ca – info@cpc-pcc.ca  fb.com/CommunistPartyOfCanada  @compartycanada
Coca-Cola vs. labour rights

Nearly twenty years after Indonesia freed itself from an oppressive military dictatorship, workers and human rights organisations at Coca-Cola Amatil Indonesia are organizing to form independent democratic unions. The company has responded by systematically attacking their members and elected leaders.

Coca-Cola has reacted to the formation of independent unions at two locations by terminating, forcibly transferring and suspending union leaders Atri Narwanto and Luht Arioany to prevent them from carrying out their roles as union presidents. Members of the new, independent unions are systematically harassed. When 150 workers at the Surabaya plant signed a petition to support the Suharto-era worker organization which CCA independently disbanded, they were pressured by management to withdraw their signatures.

The public scene of repressing human rights is the SPSI-RTMM (National Union of Tobacco, Food, and Beverage Employees of Indonesia), an organization descended from the vehicle created by the cigar and tobacco union that was not prevented organizing. In Indonesia, Coca-Cola Amatil retains Suharto-era Collective Bargaining Agreements that are effectively discipline codes to control and manage the workforce. They date from an era when questioning the actions of worker organizations appeared to be a challenge to the military that was legally tantamount to sedition.

The IUF (International Union of Food Workers) has repeatedly brought these violations to the attention of Coca-Cola and CCA. The abuses continue, in violation of internationally recognized human rights instruments. Independent unions at Coca-Cola Amatil Indonesia are fighting to defend the rights of all workers in Indonesia who are standing up to defend human rights and secure the country’s democratic future against the legacy of an authori-
tarian past. The vestiges of lengthy military rule remain firmly imprinted at CCA, which manufactures the widely recognized global brand.

UNITE HERE take action

Hospitality workers who serve guests in the billion-dollar hospitality industry serve their country in the literal sense every day by providing essential services. From making hotbeds, delivering food to planes in 100° heat, or serving meals in the universities and tech companies across the United States. UNITE HERE says these workers make up a larger sense: by fighting for and winning fair union contracts that drive up wages for all workers in their community, union or not; by holding rich and powerful corporations accountable through pickets, boycotts, and strikes against exploitative employers; and by standing up to Trump and his political agenda to organize for racial and gender equity at work and beyond, for all immigrants, all races, and all religions.

On October 19, thousands of hospitality workers across the U.S. and Canada joined together in 40 cities to take action. The union says workers are raising their voice for justice for all under Trump, and holding the richest and most powerful corporations in America accountable. Actions included standoff of new union organizing campaigns, and other forms of workplace action where hospitality workers are organizing. Employers that were targeted included Marriott, Caesars, Google (where thousands of food service workers are employed by a subcontractor), top airline companies, and more.

Aussie teachers challenge private school funding

The Australian Education Union has questioned the government’s decision to considerably increase spending for private schools based on their enrolment numbers of disabled students, while public schools are set to receive much less. The AEU has received information of a Federal disability funding increase of $AU106.8 million across all schools during the 2017-18 academic year, with Victorian private schools to receive AUS $59.6 million, or 55.8 per cent.

The Federal Government’s own figures show that more than half the total funding increase for students with a disability goes to Victorian independent schools, said AEU Federal President Coren Haythorpe. She went on to note that the figures raise questions about why schools viewed as overfunded in 2017 are now projected to be underfunded a year later, and why the government supported such a big funding boost. Across private schools, the percentage of students categorised as having a disability has risen markedly as a proportion of their enrolments (26 per cent).

The government announced a public school (1.5 per cent) and schools in the Catholic sector (13 per cent). The AEU has questioned that the national increase in disability funding of around seven per cent is outweighed by the total increase in students eligible for disability funding, which has increased by 41 per cent, from 212,000 to 470,000. “How can the Federal Government increase funding available for around seven per cent of the total student population when 65 per cent of students eligible for disability funding, which has increased by 41 per cent, from 212,000 to 470,000? How can the Federal Government increase funding available for around seven per cent of the total student population when 65 per cent of students eligible for disability funding, which has increased by 41 per cent, from 212,000 to 470,000? How can the Federal Government increase funding available for around seven per cent of the total student population when 65 per cent of students eligible for disability funding, which has increased by 41 per cent, from 212,000 to 470,000?” Haythorpe asked.

Paris rally hits Macron law

Thousands of protesters took to the streets of Paris on Oct. 19 to protest French President Emmanuel Macron’s proposed strict new labor law passed in early August. Waving flags with images of Che Guevara and the General Confederation of Labor logos, protesters demanded a repeal of the reforms.

In a press release the CGT, along with the French Democratic Federation of Trade Unions, the National Union Lyceenne, French Confederation of Christian Workers and the National Confederation of the Self-Employed promised a new day of mobilization against these new labor laws. “As long as they can present evidence of promises by brokers we will help them to get paid,” said a spokeswoman for U.S.- based Jabil.

Other reports gave a different picture. “About 600 workers went to the factory to get their bonus,” said one worker. Like many of his colleagues, he was promised a bonus of up to 7,000 yuan (US$1,056) if he stayed for 45 days when he signed up for the job through a labor broker. “It has already been over three months but I still haven’t got the money,” he said.

A security guard at the factory said a labour broker promised him 2,000 yuan ($302) a month but he stayed for two months. “I didn’t get it all,” he said. He also said he heard from other workers protests from Apple. “I told them that it was all in good faith and I’m still waiting.” Apple told the media that it was investigating and pledged to ensure that workers got fair compensation.

Apple iphone workers protest

Hundreds of workers blocked an entrance to an Apple iPhone supplier’s facility in Eastern China on Oct. 19, to protest unpaid bonuses and factory assignments. Jabil Inc., which runs a Green Point Factory in Wuxi, maintains that only 20 to 40 employees were involved in the protest and the rest were nightshift workers trying to enter the facility to receive correctiv action over the wage dispute. “As long as they can present evidence of promises by brokers we will help them to get paid,” said a spokeswoman for U.S.- based Jabil.

Other reports gave a different picture. “About 600 workers went to the factory to get their bonus,” said one worker. Like many of his colleagues, he was promised a bonus of up to 7,000 yuan (US$1,056) if he stayed for 45 days when he signed up for the job through a labor broker. “It has already been over three months but I still haven’t got the money,” he said.

A security guard at the factory said a labour broker promised him 2,000 yuan ($302) a month but he stayed for two months. “I didn’t get it all,” he said. He also said he heard from other workers protests from Apple. “I told them that it was all in good faith and I’m still waiting.” Apple told the media that it was investigating and pledged to ensure that workers got fair compensation.
By Larry Wasslen, Ottawa

On July 30, 2017 over 8 million Venezuelans went to the polls to elect a national constituent assembly (Asamblea Nacional Constituyente, ANC) that would rewrite, fundamentally, the Venezuelan constitution and then hand it over to the community. The ANC is currently being called to nullify all actions taken by the National Assembly in the last six years, due to their “illegal nature” and “being contrary to Venezuela’s Constitution.”

The ANC is assembled in Caracas in February 2018. (George Gahamay) (GPP) were sworn in before the former Minister of Popular Power of Indigenous Peoples. Nunez was “contrary to Venezuela’s Constitution.” Mainstream media outlets from the CBC to the Washington Post have relentlessly repeated these accusations and warned that the ANC is another step toward a “dictatorial” Bolivarian Revolution.

Seriously lacking in the capitalist press is a thoughtful discussion of the ANC, the actual struggles that have taken place in Venezuela over the past two decades, the Bolivarian constitution, and the aims and objectives of the 2017 ANC. Hugo Chávez swept into power in the December 1998 election with the explicit objective of building a new Venezuela out of the shambles of the Fourth Republic, a time during which more than 11,000 political disappearances occurred.

The electoral success of the ‘dictatorial’ Bolivarian Revolution is impressive. Of the 21 elections, the revolutionary forces have won 15 elections that new state governors elected for the pro-government Chavista coalition and the secretary for the legislative councils, not before the空间 we have won through this electoral process, the opposition changed tactics to fascista violence and foreign intervention. The ‘dictatorial’ Bolivarian Revolution went from concentrating power into their hands. Maduro confirmed prior to the Oct. 16-19, 2017, in Caracas.)

The ANC is a major step forward in Bolivarian democracy. The ANC is currently being called to nullify all actions taken by the National Assembly in the last six years, due to their “illegal nature” and “being contrary to Venezuela’s Constitution.”

The ANC is called to nullify all actions taken by the National Assembly in the last six years, due to their “illegal nature” and “being contrary to Venezuela’s Constitution.” Mainstream media outlets from the CBC to the Washington Post have relentlessly repeated these accusations and warned that the ANC is another step toward a “dictatorial” Bolivarian Revolution.

Seriously lacking in the capitalist press is a thoughtful discussion of the ANC, the actual struggles that have taken place in Venezuela over the past two decades, the Bolivarian constitution, and the aims and objectives of the 2017 ANC. Hugo Chávez swept into power in the December 1998 election with the explicit objective of building a new Venezuela out of the shambles of the Fourth Republic, a time during which more than 11,000 political disappearances occurred.

The electoral success of the ‘dictatorial’ Bolivarian Revolution is impressive. Of the 21 elections, the revolutionary forces have won 15 elections that new state governors elected for the pro-government Chavista coalition and the secretary for the legislative councils, not before the Constitutional Assembly a major step forward in Bolivarian democracy.
Film review by Karl Stratton

Guerrero, Una Vida, Muchas Batallas (Warrior, One Life Many Battles) is a beautifully crafted movie which covers the life of Manuel Parades, a human rights supporter of the union and Jose Santiago Nattino, a painter and Chile under Pinochet. Along with the head of the Teacher's Union in Antequera). Manuel Guerrero was the son, also called Manuel (Guerrero Batallas (Warrior, One Life Many Battles)). Manuel Guerrero Ceballos, Michael Guerrero and Alex Guerrero, were killed in the conflict. The movie opens with images of a young Manuel happy with his

loving parents in the hopeful days of Allende's Chile. Like many Chileans, they were active in the Communist Youth forming a new and better world for all. Then came the military coup. Manuel's dad was a journalist. Manuel was a vivid image of the artist's life, what he learned from his father. The movie is about how the past and the present are connected, and how the pace of life continues until becoming the man he is now. The story is narrated in the first person, a voice you might present and in the past. The pace is rhythmic and we touch on the important places and people on this journey.

The movie depicts the events of the 1973 coup, the repression and torture of political prisoners, and the subsequent exile of Manuel and his family. Manuel is portrayed as a brave and determined activist, who is willing to risk his life in order to fight for his beliefs. The film also highlights the importance of community and solidarity, as Manuel forms alliances with other activists and organizations in the fight against the regime. The film ends with Manuel returning to Chile after years of exile, determined to continue his fight for justice and freedom.

Get the “Korea Crisis” straight

Get the “Korea Crisis” straight

Editorial from The Guardian, the newspaper of the Communist Party of Australia

The “Korea Crisis” has been manufactured by the United States which has engaged in provocations against the DPRK (North Korea) for decades (ever since the end of WWII), almost to the point of war. It has been a factor in the political instability in the region and has implications for global security.

The United States continues to use military exercises and threats as a means to apply pressure on North Korea. The potential for military action is real and should not be underestimated. The United States, along with its allies, has a history of using military force to achieve its goals. The United States has invaded and occupied countries in the past, and has threatened to do so in the future.

The United States has also engaged in cyber-attacks and other forms of military action against Iran and other countries. The United States has a history of using military force to advance its interests, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has also used military force to maintain its global presence and influence. The United States has military bases and strategic alliances in many parts of the world, and it uses military force to maintain its influence in these areas.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.

The United States has a history of using military force to achieve its goals, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future. The United States has a history of using military force to maintain its global presence and influence, and it is likely to continue to use this approach in the future.
More than 25,000 people from 180 countries travelled to the World Festival of Youth and Students (WFYS) in Sochi, Russia in mid-October, according to official figures. The two-week event has been a regular feature in the global student agenda since 1947, and has been organized jointly since 1947 by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), the World Federation of Youth (WFYS), the World Federation of Scientists (WFS) and the World Union of Communist Students (WUCS). The festival has previously been held in numerous countries, including Moscow, Havana, Pyongyang, the Polish city of Katowice and other cities in the former Soviet Union.

The festival was an opportunity for young people to participate in cultural, political and sports activities. It was also the scene of a number of solidarity events and debates that called on youth around the world to defend the achievements of the October revolution and fight for the future of socialism.

The festival’s closing plenary meeting took place on October 19. The Plenary Meeting of the World Festival of Youth and Students (MWC) issued a closing statement that denounced imperialist wars and policies of aggression that threaten the peace and prosperity of the world.

In his closing address, Nino Pagliccia, WFDY leader and WFYS spokesperson, called on the participants to continue the struggle against imperialism and for the construction of socialism in all countries.

The statement read:

“Διακοπή της τρομοκρατίας και της πανδημίας μειώνει τον αγώνα για τον παγκόσμιο ελεύθερο έναν. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδέα του αυτοκρατορικού κόσμου και την ιδέα του ενεργητικού κόσμου. Οι διεθνείς συνασπισμοί αντικαπιταλιστών απορρίπτουν την ιδε
The October Revolution’s impact on labour and politics in Canada

By Darrell Rankin

The 100th anniversary of Russia’s socialist revolution is on November 7, 2017. The profound impact of this revolution on Canada is forgotten by most people, and deliberately omitted from official histories and the education system.

The socialist revolution animated the politics of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike and about 30 related sympathetic strikes across Canada. Western Canadian trade unionists attended a meeting in March 1919 which sent greetings to Lenin and accepted the dictatorship (rule) of workers as sufficient to transform capitalist to “communal” wealth. When the Borden Conservative government ordered troops to board ships and crush Russia’s Soviet republic, some of the troops protested in Victoria.

A month after the Winnipeg General Strike, Mackenzie King promised free medicare at the Liberal convention where he was elected leader. Across Canada women won the right to vote in federal elections (with the exceptions of indigenous women and those of Chinese, Japanese and Indian origin, who won the right to vote decades later). The revolution inspired the founding of the Communist Party of Canada in 1921.

Here is the text of the resolution submitted by Jack Kavanagh, chair of Canada in 1921.

The October Revolution is one of the most important events in world history because it is the example of a revolutionary movement which successfully overturned capitalist oppression and installed a socialist order which was more humane and humane.

The resolution inspired the founding of the Communist Party of Canada in 1921.

On May 26, 1919, the front page of this Edmonton newspaper reported on a general strike in Alberta’s capital in solidarity with the Winnipeg General Strike.

The Tim Buck quotes in this article are from Forty Years of Great Change, 1917-1957 (1959).

Be it Resolved that this Conference places itself on record expressing its sincere sympathy with the aims and purposes of the Russian Bolshevik and German Spartacist movements.

It is hereby further resolved, that this Conference declares its unqualified support of the policies of the “Proletarian Dictatorship” as being absolute and efficient for the transformation of capitalist private into communal wealth, and that fraternal greetings be sent to the Soviet administration in Russia and to all definite working class bodies throughout Canada.

On May 26, 1919, the front page of this Edmonton newspaper reported on a general strike in Alberta’s capital in solidarity with the Winnipeg General Strike.

The credentials committee reported official representatives present from almost every local union in Western Canada. The British Columbia Federation of Labour, the Alberta Federation of Labour were each represented by their executive officers as were... all the central labor councils between the Great Lakes and the Pacific Coast. With 239 fully accredited delegates it was unquestionably the most representative gathering... of trade unionists west of the lakes that had ever been held up to that time.

The conference also adopted resolutions to support forming industrial unions and for a referendum on a general strike to demand free speech and remove restrictions on working class organizations.

Buck’s book also recorded the text of a resolution adopted unanimously one month earlier at the Alberta Federation of Labour: “Trade Union Support to the Russian Revolution.

The war between opposed imperialists has ceased; the suddenness of its collapse being due to the Social Revolution which, starting in Russia, gradually found its way throughout the world. Those who were expecting at any moment to be called upon to don the khaki and face the ghastly horrors of twentieth century wholesale slaughter, owe a deep debt of gratitude to those splendid Russian revolutionists. Millions of soldiers on the battle fronts of Europe owe allegiance to the glorious victory of the Russian working people. Are we prepared to repay that debt by extending to Russia the hand of fellowship in such a manner as will frustrate the nefarious designs of the organized international capitalists? Throughout the long years of this brutal blood-feast it has been unceasingly proclaimed, from Press, Pulpit, and Platform, that we must crush German despotism and make the world safe for democracy.

Millions of men heard that slogan and believed it and today are noting between the battlefields of France and Flanders. Have those men been betrayed? If not, why are those who are chiefly responsible for the overthrow of the German Junker ruling class being vilified by our government-controlled Press? Why are the governments of England and America leading nations which support counter-revolutionary armies in Russia? Why do our government’s spokesmen mouth much self-determination while using every means at its disposal to undermine and harass the Soviet Administration in Russia? The working class is bewildered by these contradictions. While workers are inclined instinctively to support the social revolution which is developing in Russia, nonetheless they tend to hesitate after reading the poisonous propaganda against this government. This unceasing campaign of calumny can have but one purpose: to undermine working-class support for the decision of the capitalist class to proclaim the socialist republics of Russia and Germany. Hesitation on our part would be fatal! “The aspirations of organized Labor as embodied in the preamble to the Alberta Federation of Labor Constitution; namely the social ownership and control of the means of production, transportation, and distribution, are not falling material shape under the Soviet Administration. We are challenged: ‘The time for Liberalism is past. All Labor parties persist in their attempt to overthrow the Soviet administration in Russia or Germany in any country in which a Soviet form of government is or may be established and it be further resolved, that this convention be forwarded to the Western Labor Conference, to be held in Calgary, Alberta, on May 25th, for endorsation and cooperation.

On May 28, 1919, the Tim Buck quotes in this article are from Forty Years of Great Change, 1917-1957 (1959).

The October Socialist Revolution, and the actions of 19 imperialist states to intervene in Russia to smash it, had a galvanizing impact on organized Canadian workers. Combined with growing post-war unemployment and misery, working class struggles from Vancouver Island to Nova Scotia erupted, most notably the famous Winnipeg General Strike of 1919. At this critical juncture, many radicalized workers began to see the necessity of combining economic struggle with political and ideological struggle. As Tim Buck noted in Canada and the Russian Revolution: In these circumstances, it was inevitable that discussions would spring up among the workers around the question this: “What is next, where do we go from here?” The answer came in a growing call to form a party of a new type, based on the working class and working class internationalism, a party which fights for reforms, but rejects reformism as a substitute for socialist revolution.

In late May of 1919, the Communist Party of Canada was founded as a small party held out the promise of, illegally in a bar on the outskirts of Guelph, Ontario. The Communist Party of Canada, its legal sister party, the Workers’ Party of Canada, adopted a revolutionary program which was endorsed by the Party press, and immediately set about organizing workers.

NEWS FOR PEOPLE, NOT FOR PROFITS!

Every issue of People’s Voice gives you the latest on the fightback from coast to coast. Whether it’s the fightback against neoliberalism and austerity, solidarity with Cuba or workers’ struggles around the world, we’ve got you covered. The corporate media won’t.

And we do more than that—we report and analyze events from a revolutionary perspective, helping to build the movements for justice and equality, and eventually for a socialist order. Read the latest paper that fights for working people on every page—in every issue!

$10 for 1 year $50 for 2 years $15 for 1 year
Low income rate: $50 for 2 years
Outside Canada: $45 US or $50 Cdn for 1 year

Name
Address
Postal Code

Send to: People’s Voice, 706 Clark Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5L 3J1 447-18/2017.

REDS ON THE WEB
www.communist-party.ca
www.ycl-ljc.ca
rebelouth-magazine.blogspot.com
http://solidnet.org