

# Rally Against Racism

The Coalition to Fight City Racism (CFCR) was formed in response to a crisis situation provoked by the City of Halifax with respect to the protest of two individuals in Seaview Park, formerly Africville.

In March of this year the City passed legislation (ordinance 188) to render illegal a peaceful protest that had taken place in Seaview Park since late last summer. On Wednesday, May 3, 1995, Mayor Walter Fitzgerald announced that the City was **"losing its patience"** and would give the protestors, Eddie and Victor Carvery, two weeks to vacate the park. This blatant act of provocation did not go unchallenged and soon led to the formation of a coalition of trade unionists, community activists and individuals determined to defend a fundamental democratic right, the right to protest, and to expose the racist intent of ordinance 188.

Ordinance 188 is fundamentally undemocratic and racist. It is undemocratic in that it suspends a basic liberty for two individuals in Seaview Park, the right to peacefully dissent, and can thus be seen as a threat to our collective right to disagree with government and work for social change. It is racist simply because the legislation was drawn up to silence an ongoing protest aimed at bringing to light the injustice associated with the expropriation of Africville and the enduring reality of racism in our society.

The City's actions since March are inexcusable. It appears that the City today is no more willing to address in a substantial way the ongoing concerns of the black community than they were in the 1960's. The City's approach to the **"eyesore"** at Seaview Park is the same pretext for institutional neglect and racism which paved the way for the expropriation of Africville decades before.

It's time to inject some fairness into the process. We stand with the Carvery brothers against **"more of the same"** from the City of Halifax. An injury to one is an injury to all.

This is a struggle that can only be won with the widest possible unity. We encourage anyone who is sincere about fighting City racism to join the Coalition and build the campaign.

Remember, **"An Injury Against One is An Injury to All"**

## Demonstration

**When: Thursday May 11, 1995, at 8.00pm**

**Where: Halifax, City Hall**

For more information please call Denise at 455-2985 or fax us at 835-6965.

## PETITION

**WHEREAS:** The issues of the expropriation of land and the relocation of the residents of the former Africville have not been addressed to the satisfaction of the former residents and descendants of Africville; and

**WHEREAS:** Racism was a major factor leading up to and throughout the period of the expropriation and relocation; and

**WHEREAS:** There is evidence that racism plays a significant role in the continued lack of progress in bringing this situation to a just conclusion; and

**WHEREAS:** Alderman Blumenthal has presented a motion to City Council (proposed Ordinance 188), with the ulterior motive of removing peaceful demonstrators who are protesting against the injustice and racism which has been directed at former Africville residents; and

**WHEREAS:** This motion adds further insult to the injuries of the people of Africville;

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED DO HEREBY STATE OUR TOTAL OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE #188, AND OUR STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE DEMONSTRATORS AT SEAVIEW PARK, WHO ARE STRUGGLING FOR A PEACEFUL AND FAIR RESOLUTION TO AN HISTORICAL INJUSTICE.**

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Please return completed petitions **PRIOR TO MARCH 22/95** to:  
Halifax Metro Welfare Rights - 2085 Gottingen Street, Halifax