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**Don't let
the racists
divide us**



Trump, trade wars and working class unity

Tump's latest round of tariffs will result in a huge hit to an already weakened Canadian economy. It is difficult to accurately estimate the impacts, but economists warn of tens of thousands of job losses. Canada was already in a "technical recession" according to Mark Carney and this latest attack will exacerbate the situation significantly.

According to media reports, the concessions that Trump was demanding, including having a veto over trade deals with other countries, control of infrastructure spending and a say in rewriting Quebec's language laws caused Mark Carney and his negotiating team to abandon talks and return to Ottawa.

Carney has since announced that there will be "dollar for dollar" retaliatory tariffs from Canada.

These trade wars – which are becoming commonplace for the Trump administration – will once again impact working people on both sides of the border. US workers will pay more for basics like steel, aluminum, lumber products and vehicles. Canadian workers will suffer higher prices and the broader impacts of an economic downturn.

It is understandable that in the face of these attacks, Canadians would rally behind a nationalist sentiment – calling for an "elbows up" approach to Trump. Most of the premiers and opposition leaders treaded carefully and generally supported Carney's move. Conservatives like Doug Ford and Pierre Polievre denounced Trump despite their previously voiced support for him.

In the face of external threats the people of most countries look to those in positions of political power to save them. The problem for working people in Canada is that Carney and Ford and the others have shown, through their policies while in power, that they have an utter disregard for working people.

If Carney is so worried about

Canadian jobs he would not have opened up his term laying off tens of thousands of public sector workers. He would not have ordered striking Air Canada flight attendants off their picket lines, and he would not be overseeing the largest transfer of wealth from the public sector to the billionaire oil barons and arms industries which provide comparatively fewer jobs.

Ford, likewise, has shown workers nothing but contempt. Yes, he has offered some money for construction projects which may employ people in the building trades, but he has simultaneously gutted the public sector and healthcare resulting in thousands of lost jobs. Many workers can barely keep up with the cost of living.

If he cared about workers he would not be laying off almost 500 WSIB workers across Ontario.

He would not have forced teachers to pay for school supplies from a US multinational rather than simply paying for the supplies needed for a functioning education system. It is

not believable that he is 'standing up for Canada' as he sells the Toronto waterfront and airport to a consortium owned by US financial giant JP Morgan.

Since Trump's first tariffs we have seen Canadian political and business leaders use these threats, not to develop policies that will support workers, but – quite the opposite – as a bludgeon against people and the natural environment.

Carney is calling for billions in tax dollars to be spent on a new pipeline project, which will make the oil bosses rich but will have further severe consequences on the natural world. As the climate crisis worsens, building more fossil fuel infrastructure will have a negative impact on all but the most wealthy.

The attacks on Indigenous sovereignty, wrapped up in the rhetoric of nation-building, will further degrade natural systems and whip up anti-Indigenous racism, which will only benefit the far right.

Carney and all the premiers have shown throughout this fiasco that

they represent the interests of the rich. Canadian workers need substantial supports like price controls on skyrocketing grocery costs. They need affordable housing, while Carney's plans involve giving billions to developers who are partly responsible for the housing crisis in the first place. Workers need EI expansion and extensions to ride out the crisis. Carney is offering none of that. His main interventions in the economy are about maintaining the profits of the billionaires.

Retaliatory tariffs just extend the suffering for US workers who are equally victimized by these squabbles among the rich and powerful. We should find no joy in worsening the lives of people in the US who are also struggling to keep themselves fed and housed. In case after case we see corporate interests on both sides of the border using the crisis of these tariffs to enrich themselves at the expense of workers.

A worker at a steel plant in Hamilton has more in common with a steelworker in Pittsburgh than they

do with Carney or Trump. Postal workers on both sides of the border are fighting to protect and preserve their public service while corporate interests (often the same corporations) try to dismantle the systems.

The only long term solution to the crisis of capitalism is international workers' solidarity. That means uniting to dismantle the system in both countries. Trump represents a US society in decay. He is a symptom of the problem, not the cause. Carney, likewise, represents a politics of corporate control that has characterized the era of neoliberal globalization.

That is why a nationalist response will get us nowhere. Carney's predecessor, Justin Trudeau, oversaw a dramatic deterioration of the living standards of working people. He also did nothing to reign in the cost of living crisis. In the US under Biden workers saw income inequality rise to the highest levels since the Great Depression.

None of the politicians are on the side of working people, be they Republican, Democrat, Liberal or Conservative. We must build the fightback against the bosses and privatizers here and build solidarity with workers' struggles in the US.

We must mobilize to support Indigenous Land Defenders who are under attack by international corporate interests on both sides of the Medicine Line.

Together, these struggles are the only solution.

The border won't save us nor will Carney or Ford. Canada and the US are both states that grew rich off of genocide, slavery and exploitation. Both states belong in the dustbin of history. We need to call for Land Back, Indigenous sovereignty and Socialism. For the unity of First Nations and the working class – against borders and capitalism – for the protection of the natural world and for liberation for all on Turtle Island.



Ford is only protecting himself and his billionaire buddies

by: Brian Champ

This is the worst wildland fire season in Ontario's history. The province's single largest ever wildland fire – named "Thunder Bay 036" – has burnt an area larger than Manitoulin Island and destroyed the communities of Namaygoosisagagun and Whitewater Lake First Nations: their people are among the 2,000 Indigenous people forced to evacuate their communities.

But the Ford government continues to run ads – costing at least \$21 million of public money – under the banner "Protect Ontario". Northern Ontario First Nations certainly do not feel protected: their leaders

have called for an inquiry into the government's inadequate firefighting, communications and rescue

infrastructure in the north.

Ford cut the annual firefighting budget by \$47 million, but has



already invested billions in paving the way for further mining development in the so-called "Ring of Fire". The Ford government refuses to compensate the people of Grassy Narrows for decades of mercury poisoning, while they push further mining, nuclear waste and pipeline destruction.

The ads also promote other policies: banning safe injection sites, increasing police and prison budgets, expanding nuclear energy, protecting Ontario's borders and clearing unhoused people out of parks.

This stokes fear and division in an effort to obscure their agenda: privatizing healthcare, education and community services; letting developers dictate housing policy;

dismantling environmental and workplace protections; and criminalizing poverty.

Ford's "protection" isn't for people and communities – it is for the profit margins of the rich and powerful. Indigenous struggles and striking OPSEU Community Service workers show how we can truly protect our communities and build the solidarity needed to win.

In truth the ads are a desperate attempt by Ford to control the narrative that is increasingly ringing hollow: recent scandals and an aborted jet purchase have contributed to low approval ratings for Ford not seen since before the pandemic. By mobilizing solidarity, we can finish him off.

Defend International students from racist CBSA attacks

by: Kabir R.

On August 12th, the CBSA (Canadian Border Services Agency) conducted a full-scale immigration raid at a peaceful protest site, specifically targeting international students. After numerous international students were asked to produce their papers, a few were forced to report to the CBSA office, where removal orders were issued. This action is an appalling escalation in immigration enforcement in Canada, one that threatens to normalize an ICE-like persecution of immigrants, and one that should raise alarm bells for every person living in so-called Canada, for numerous reasons.

The issue

These students had been seeking clarification and justice from the Federal Government, after the IRCC (Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada) had issued a mass-denial of PGWP (Post Graduate Work Permit) applications, effectively pushing more than 1500 students, graduates from Portage College, towards undocumented status.

This denial was based on a new and arbitrary eligibility criteria disqualifying students enrolled in 'non-credit' programs of study, a criteria that didn't exist when the students had begun (and completed) their program of study. All the applicable rules during their time of study meant that they would be eligible for a PGWP. However, suddenly and overnight, the IRCC quietly edited their webpage, at first adding the new rule, and then proceeding to deny the applications en masse. This is a pattern in Canada now, where blanket denials are issued based on abruptly changing rules and randomly moving targets. But behind every single file, every

single application, is a human being who is very much part of our collective social life on these lands – as a neighbour, a friend, a partner, a classmate or a colleague.

In this case, by retroactively applying a new rule to past applicants, the IRCC has inhumanely pulled the rug out from underneath the feet of young students, exposing them to grave uncertainty and distress. This action is currently under judicial review, with a decision pending. In the meantime, the students have been exercising their right to peaceful assembly and protest, to seek clarification and to spread awareness of their issue to broader Canadian society.

Defend human rights

The right to peaceful assembly is

to all human beings universally.

CBSA coming down to an immigrant protest, to demand papers and to persecute the students who are exercising their rights, is unconscionable in any case. In this instance, it is even more alarming that CBSA officers harassed these international students after being explicitly invited to do so by Calgary Police – and all while their PGWP denials are still pending judicial review. Just the previous day, the protest leaders had met with Liberal MPs Ruby Sahota and Amandeep Sodhi, and had received their reassurances that the issue will be looked into and addressed.

It is apparent that such a coordinated action involving municipal, provincial, and federal agencies, on the very next day, is clearly de-

the de-humanization of international students in Canada, which is constantly peddled and pushed by far-right and fascist hate groups, has now created a dangerous atmosphere which risks de-sensitizing broader Canadian society to the suffering of migrants and international students. By spreading conspiracy theories like the Great Replacement, these groups have tried to normalize racist hatred in society, based on tropes of racial hygiene and reproductive racism. We must challenge these notions everywhere we encounter them, and fight back against anti-migrant racism everywhere.

The absence of widespread popular outrage in response to the CBSA raids is a grim reminder of the work ahead of us to challenge hate, defend the humanity of migrant

much part of an ongoing escalation of anti-migrant racism in Canada, which is now beginning to be enacted with impunity by state agencies and infrastructures.

Every worker in Canada, regardless of where we were born or how long we have lived here, should extend our solidarity with the international students and immigrant workers, because our struggles are inherently connected and intertwined as one.

The ongoing authoritarian push that is forcing so many of our neighbours into undocumented status is very much written into the design of the capitalist political economy. Undocumented workers can be exploited more severely, paid lower wages, and excluded from the ability to organize, and to exercise their legal rights.

When this becomes normalized, even workers with temporary and permanent resident status will be trapped more firmly within the psychological prison of precarity, intimidated into being silent spectators of their own exploitation. If left unchecked, these attacks will subject all workers in Canada to intensifying precarity, systematic erosion of rights, and the heavy-handed use of legal power with impunity – permanently and overnight.

This is the lesson from history: the attack on migrant workers is an attack on all workers, and we must organize and rise together in solidarity. No one left behind! Permanent Status for All!

Those who wish to learn more about the Portage College Protests and the CBSA Raid can visit tinyurl.com/PortageProtestPrimer, and those who are able to support the legal defense of the affected students can contribute at tinyurl.com/PortageLegalFund.



a basic and universal human right that is formally enshrined both in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, as well as in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Needless to say, when a right is 'universal' and 'human', it should be accessible and applicable

signed to strike fear into the hearts of the young students, to intimidate them from exercising their human rights, and to create a public spectacle that further fuels the anti-migrant racism now rampant in Canadian society.

We have to take seriously that

workers, and build a movement for migrant justice. We must organize with all our hearts to reverse that trend.

Hands off our neighbours

What happened in Calgary is not an isolated incident. This is very

Join the cross country day of action for migrant rights

by: J. Griffin

The Canadian government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Mark Carney, has set out ruthless goals to curtail immigration for the country. According to statistics up to June 2026, Canada admitted over 150,000 fewer immigrants into the country, in comparison to the same time period in 2025. With blatant attacks on immigrant communities in Canada, like the passing of Bill C-12 in March of this year, the increase in deportations and direct attacks on protesters – such as the CBPS arrest of 17 international students in Alberta – the current government's approach to immigration sends a clear and unmistakable message: Immigrants Are Not Welcome.

In direct response to this, the Migrant Rights Network has organized a "Cross Country Day of Action for Migrant Rights", on Sunday, September 20th. The rally, scheduled one day before the return

of Parliament, seeks to join people across the country and demand:

Status for all: Permanent resident status for migrants already here, and permanent resident status on arrival for migrants coming in the future.

Renew permits: Automatically renew expired and expiring work

and study permits, restore status, and ensure no one is pushed into exploitation or deportation.

End exploitation: End employer-tied permits. Ensure equal labour rights, safe housing, healthcare, services, and real enforcement against abusive bosses.

Stop deportations: End removals, detention, family separation, and attacks on refugees.

Rallies will be held across the country, and the province of Ontario will see rallies in Toronto, St. Catharines, Owen Sound, Guelph and Sudbury. In Toronto, the rally

will take place at Christie Pits Park, at 750 Bloor West at 2 PM Eastern. In Vancouver the rally will be in Memorial South Park, 5955 Ross Street at 12PM Pacific.

It is of the utmost importance to show up in strength to send a blunt and direct message to the returning Parliament: We are the people, we are standing together in power and solidarity with the immigrant community that has made Canada their home, and we will not allow the government to trample their rights and continue the relentless exploitation of these communities so that the employing class can continue to benefit at the expense of immigrants' hard work, and then discard them when it becomes politically or economically expedient for the ruling class. Let us make our voices heard and march together for migrant rights.

For more information on the rally and other details about the Migrant Rights Network, visit <https://migrantrights.ca/events/sep20/>



Trumpist monsters of late capitalism

by: Chantal Sundaram

“The old world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born; Now is a time of monsters.”

We are living in a time of monsters. That quote is everywhere lately, in reference to the Italian Marxist revolutionary Antonio Gramsci, who wrote about his monstrous times from inside a Fascist jail.

Are governments today becoming more monstrous? Undoubtedly. But there is an important distinction between this and actual fascism. To challenge both the new rise of fascism and authoritarian governments, we need to understand where the distinction lies.

It can be confusing because while not every right-wing populist is a fascist, every fascist is a right-wing populist. There is much debate about whether Trump himself or other Trumpists internationally can be considered nascent fascism.

“Trumpism,” also known as right-wing populism or authoritarianism, provides oxygen to the fascist right, is connected to it, and sometimes displays outright support to fascists. But it is based in the tiny capitalist ruling class that holds power through its own political institution, the capitalist state. Fascism is something else.

An existential threat

Fascism goes beyond state authoritarianism. At its core, it is a strategy of counter-revolutionary mass mobilisation and a symptom of a crisis of mainstream political legitimacy. It aims to smash all working class, democratic and civil society organisations.

Between the two world wars mass fascist movements emerged with new leaders that had a base in the poor and working masses, but they were directed and financed by big capitalist powers. It first emerged in places that were being rocked by working-class revolution from below (Italy and Germany in the 20s, Spain in the 30s) and has re-emerged today as a kind of “pre-emptive” counter-revolution against the possibility of working people drawing left-wing conclusions to the crisis of capitalism.

The socialist revolutionary Leon Trotsky developed an analysis about where this new political force came from. These fascist movements had relative autonomy from the bourgeois state and from the bourgeoisie itself. They were led by forces from the middle class: small business owners, the self-employed, certain kinds of professionals and senior administrators and managers. These were squeezed between the two main social classes, the ruling class that controls most wealth and the state, and the working class that can have collective strength in numbers.

Because they don’t have power of their own, some in the middle class have seen far-right movements as a strategy to seek a power base in mass movements of poor and disenfran-

chised people, and then to use this base to seek support from sections of the ruling class when they can’t manage the crisis. But before any far-right movement can manoeuvre itself into a position of “capitalist crisis-management” it must build a mass base it can leverage to convince the ruling class it has something to bring to the table.

Even when a revolutionary crisis is not imminent, fascist movements can act pre-emptively, using extra-parliamentary force to suppress the left and impose control in the streets, to pre-empt challenges to the priorities of capitalism.

What is Trumpism?

Trump is clearly a far-right sympathiser, but he is also part of the big capitalist class, a billionaire tied to every level of the US establishment. And while he failed to condemn some far-right violence he has not called on it openly to mobilise in his support. While he may have blown the dog whistle for the January 6 protest on Capitol Hill, he is not actively trying to create the kind of mass movement that was key to fascism in Italy and Germany in the 1930s.

The increasing authoritarianism we see at the level of the state is largely part of the existing capitalist toolbox. Even the representatives of the neoliberal centre have increasingly embraced elements of authoritarian state repression. The attempt by conservative South Korean president Yoon Suk Yeol to impose martial law in the face of opposition to deregulation was watched by other centre-right leaders dealing with their own opposition in the streets and workplaces, like Emmanuel Macron in France or Javier Milei in Argentina.

Something similar may be coming our way through Carney in his determination to push through an anti-Indigenous extractivist agenda and militarism in Canada.

The populist right arose from the crisis of neoliberalism economically and its centrist proponents politically. The collapse of the electoral centre coincided with the failure of neoliberalism to restore profitability after the crash of 2008. These centrist

neoliberals, including all Democrats who preceded Trump (and Justin Trudeau in Canada), paved the way for the populist right and are moving further right. The centre is crumbling because of multiple crises in a new age of capitalist catastrophe, and it is not the job of the left to prop it up to oppose either Trumpism or fascism.

How can we stop them all?

How we must organize to stop actual fascist threats is different from how we must organize against the authoritarianism of Trumpism.

This can seem like a moving target when wings of the capitalist state sometimes partly substitute for the lack of an extra-parliamentary street movement to discipline dissent. ICE and its partner the Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) are the clearest example, but there are other para-military forces that have been mobilized by other states (for example, CBSA in Canada). But the distinction between this and a truly mass fascist movement remains important.

In France there is debate about how to stop the rise of the far-right Rassemblement National (the RN). A French antifascist group, Antifasciste Paris-Banlieues argues: “focusing exclusively on the fight against the far right is a mistake because it would amount to ignoring the process of fascistisation that allows fascism to reemerge in new modern forms...so we must today fight equally against both the organized far right and the traditional governing parties—whether liberal or conservative—which all contribute to this fascistisation.”

This is understandable but mistaken. Saying we can’t effectively fight fascism without fighting capitalism as a whole cuts the anti-fascist movement off from the broader forces it needs.

The focus should not be only on authoritarian methods the state can adopt from the fascist playbook, but on the fascist threat of splitting the working class from the bottom up, not just from the top down through the state’s usual divide and conquer tactics. Blurring the line between

immediate fascist threats and the longer-term anti-capitalist struggle downplays both the oppressive logic inherent to capitalism and the distinct need to confront fascist movements directly before they grow.

Is Carney a Trumpist in disguise?

When the far-right “Freedom Convoy” movement took on the opposition to Trudeau that should have come from the left, it ensured an electoral victory for Pierre Poilievre. This was only derailed by his inability to pivot fast enough to benefit from the nationalist mood against Trump’s direct threats to Canada.

But Carney has implemented Trumpist border policies, massively increased militarization, anti-immigrant legislation, and other right-wing policies that Poilievre could only dream of – all paid for by cuts to social programs, climate protections, and public service jobs. Poilievre’s rise would not have been possible without Trudeau’s own anti-immigrant, anti-climate, and anti-labour attacks, and now Carney is getting away with even more.

Carney is part of the neoliberal right. The “rules-based international order” he shed tears over in his speech to the World Economic Forum is really just the rules of neoliberal capitalism, codifying how the capitalists conduct commerce and finance through the World Trade Organization, World Bank and International Monetary Fund. The Canadian state has long used these rules to pillage countries around the world and as a bludgeon against the working class at home. What Carney wants is a ‘united front’ of billionaires within the middle powers to maintain profitability – but without breaking step with Trumpists in asserting imperialist hegemony in Iran and Israel.

Canada’s mini-Trump, Alberta’s Danielle Smith and Ontario’s Doug Ford, are an important piece of Carney’s “build, baby, build” agenda. He needs them to run rough-shod over the environment from coast to coast. They are all creating space for the far-right, on trans rights and anti-immigrant racism, and all have

declared war on Indigenous land rights. In early August a banner was hung on a highway reading “The Indians have done nothing in 100 years and now they wanna tell us how to run Alberta” in conjunction with the “Alberta Independence Walk.”

Whether or not Carney himself is yet fully turning to Trumpist authoritarian repression, he is certainly paving the way for it.

Monstrous rulers

Trumpism embodies the morbid symptoms of an aging system facing extreme choices. The racist and authoritarian radicalization is coming from the capitalism.

Some say the monstrosity of Trumpists and tech bros flows from a ruling class now past its prime and focused on self-preservation. This may have some truth, but earlier capitalists can’t be romanticized as captains of industry with a wholesome entrepreneurial spirit.

A 2025 article by Canadian right-wing ideologue Andrew Coyne argues: “Consider how unlike the tech bros are from previous generations of billionaires: not only in the astronomical scale of their wealth, but how it was acquired. The ‘robber barons’ of a previous era – John Jacob Astor, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Andrew Carnegie, J.P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, Henry Ford, Henry Clay Frick...made their money over decades, through the gradual accumulation of properties and the ability to mobilize thousands of people to perform tasks together.”

This ridiculous fantasy is an illustration of the identity crisis plaguing those whose job is to defend a system that was past its prime in the 19th century.

The state of today’s capitalism reflects that even its most savvy representatives can’t explain the failure of economic zigzags to solve falling growth – and the inability to restore an imagined golden age when capitalists were “innovators” and not increasingly “zombies” subsisting on corporate welfare life-support because they are too big to fail.

The Marxist Walter Benjamin argued that revolutions are humans pulling the emergency brake before a runaway train drives society over a cliff. To do this, the vast majority of humanity – the working class – can refuse to play the game of profit by withdrawing our labour power.

But fascism was the emergency brake for the ruling class the last time it faced a massive crisis. A fascist regime isn’t simply where the police crack down harder; it’s a regime where everyone becomes a cop and actively collaborates in the repression. It is an existential threat.

The ruling class will always divide and conquer to better exploit, but fascism seeks to directly infiltrate the working class to break it from its potential to be the gravedigger of capitalism. We can challenge both if we understand the difference.



Organize to defeat the far-right threat

by: Michelle Robidoux and Morgan Oddie

Across the country the far-right is growing – hardening and pulling political debate to the right. And increasingly, they are moving from online hate to organizing on the streets. But these forces are also riven with contradictions and divisions. They can be isolated and defeated, if anti-racists mobilize a broad, confident and unified response.

Emboldened by Trump’s 2024 victory and far-right gains internationally, far-right networks across Canada have significantly stepped up their organizing and visibility. While these forces are not yet as strong as their counterparts in other parts of the globe, their rapid growth in the past year should alarm every anti-racist.

Their normalisation of virulent racism and efforts to develop a hardened core takes place in a context of ongoing economic and political crisis. Importantly, they are building on the scapegoating narrative and policies promoted by politicians like Mark Carney and Doug Ford that falsely blame immigrants for the crises in housing, healthcare and jobs.

Organizing to stop them now, while their base is still relatively small, is an urgent task.

Canada’s white nationalists

According to the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, “Canada’s white nationalist movement has consolidated into a network that includes three key branches: Diagon, the propaganda arm; the Dominion Society of Canada, an incorporated political arm; and Second Sons Canada and other Active Clubs, the militant arm of the movement.”

- Founded by former executive director of the People’s Party of Canada Daniel Tyrie, the Dominion Society presents itself as the ‘respectable’ arm of this far-right movement, describing themselves as a pressure group pushing adoption of ‘remigration’ by the Conservative Party. Inspired by Austrian fascist Martin Sellner (a key figure in the rapid development of “remigration” as a clarion-call for the far right in Europe), they aim to radicalize what is ‘acceptable’ speech on immigration. They promote the Great Replacement theory, a racist conspiracy theory that claims that “elites” are engineering mass immigration to replace white people, and depicting immigrants as dangerous invaders threatening “Western culture”.

- Founded by white nationalists Jeremy MacKenzie and Alex Vriend, Second Sons promotes itself as a type of fighting club for its adherents, including mixed martial arts and weapons training, projecting the threat of violence on its opponents. They have close ties with fascist groups in the US and its leaders’ posts are rife with pro-Nazi

and violent statements.

- MacKenzie is also a key figure in Diagon, a rabidly racist and anti-semitic online platform that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic and later supported the so-called “Freedom Convoy” that occupied Ottawa in 2022.

There is crossover between these networks. Alex Vriend boasted that the membership card he received when he joined Dominion Society was #88 – neo-Nazi code for the letters “HH” or “Heil Hitler”. And MacKenzie, Vriend, Tyrie and other Dominion Society figures appear on livestreams together. As Dominion Society co-founder Ken Jones stated, “I think that obviously organizations like the Dominion Society and Second Sons and the community of Diagon are all complementary of one another.”

Together, they push virulent anti-immigrant and anti-Indigenous racism, pressure politicians to normalize this bigotry into rhetoric and policies, and increasingly attempt to project a street presence.

Fueling racist violence

The torrent of racist abuse online pumped out by the far right – in particular, targeting South Asians – has been accompanied by a rise in reported hate incidents.

Between March 1 and April 20, 2025, in the lead-up to Canada’s federal election, over 2,300 posts containing anti-South Asian hate were shared across various platforms which collectively generated over 1.2 million engagements. A

recent report by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue stated: “Our analysis of the Canadian white supremacist network Diagon reveals how extremists have been demonizing these groups in practice: by harassing South Asian politicians and community groups, promoting hateful slogans, and openly celebrating their death and suffering, such actors are fueling a growing culture of hate in Canada...”

Statistics Canada reported that, “In 2025, there was a notable increase in police-reported hate crimes targeting the South Asian population, particularly in Ontario and British Columbia.” In London, Ontario, South Asians were the second most targeted group in 2025, with 35 reported incidents – a 105.9 per cent increase from the previous year. Across the country, police reported that hate crimes targeting South Asians rose by 227 per cent from 2019 to 2023.

The horrific and deadly consequences of this hate are clear: on June 6, 2021 when white nationalist Nathaniel Veltman – an adherent of Great Replacement theory – deliberately rammed his truck into the Afzaal family on a London street, killing four of five family members.

Remigration and Great Replacement Theory

Dominion Society tries to wear a mask of respectability. But the matching green golf shirts and khakis can’t cover the stench of what ‘remigration’ means: the violent ethnic cleansing of millions of non-white

immigrants.

Remigration is associated with Sellner and his so-called ‘Identitarian’ movement. In 2023, Sellner met with a select group of Alternative for Germany (AfD) figures and fascists to lay out his plan for the forced mass deportation of people not born in Germany and those who had failed to properly “assimilate” once the AfD took office. This meeting prompted mass anti-fascist protests. Since then, the AfD has embraced ‘remigration’. The Freedom Party of Austria (FPO), which could win the next elections, also promotes ‘remigration’.

According to Charles R. Davis, a journalist based in Vienna, “Remigration is basically the policy response to the ‘great replacement’ conspiracy theory” – the idea that there is a “global elite plot” (typically by Jews) to replace white people in Europe and North America with immigrants. As Richard Donnelly explains, “Instead of attributing housing shortages, collapsing public services and wage stagnation to decades of market-driven economic restructuring, [great replacement theory] blames demographic sabotage. Antiracism, feminism and LGBT+ rights are recoded as tools designed to weaken social cohesion and drive down white birth rates. Supposed state repression of the far right becomes proof that the process has entered its decisive phase.”

In June, at a ‘Remigration Summit’ in Portugal, Dominion Society’s Tyrie and others rubbed shoulders with Sellner and former command-

er-at-large of US Border Patrol Greg Bovino, a keynote speaker who led the assault on immigrants in Minneapolis and was subsequently fired. When asked if he met Bovino, Tyrie said: “Of course. Have his number for when we need to start rounding them up.”

In early August, the Dominion Society announced that Sellner, along with UK fascist Charlie Downes, would be keynote speakers at a Dominion Society conference in Hamilton on August 29th. Billing it as the ‘Premier Canadian Nationalist’ event, they also invited Quebec ethno-nationalist Alexandre Cormier-Denis – once a keen promoter of Marine Le Pen’s National Rally who now says she is too soft on immigration.

We can stop the far right

In response to Dominion Society’s increasing push to build its far-right network in communities across Ontario, people have organized to oppose their hate.

On July 25th, about 70 Dominion Society supporters descended on Orillia, Ontario to conduct a door-to-door campaign promoting their group. They were met by a loud and angry protest by local residents and anti-racists.

In response to Dominion Society posters appearing in downtown Peterborough, Ontario, community activists organized an anti-hate rally for August 29th.

And in Hamilton, in response to Dominion Society’s planned conference, community organizations, labour and anti-racist activists have built pressure to get the venue to cancel the booking, and have called for a unity rally to show broad opposition to their racist filth.

The far right are not unstoppable. They are riven with divisions, between so-called “civic nationalists” and “ethno-nationalists”, between those who promote Holocaust denial and open anti-semitism, and those who try to ‘sanitize’ their message to gain a bigger audience.

A strong movement that exposes the fascist forces within their ranks and which mobilizes to deny them the ability to organize in the streets can drive them back.

But this will require a broad and persistent effort everywhere they seek to organize. They are gaining an audience in communities, workplaces and schools. We need to counter their ideas, but just as important, we need to fight against the conditions that are feeding the despair they grow on.

This means taking on Carney and Ford when they attack immigrants. When mainstream politicians open the door to racist scapegoating to deflect blame for their own failures, they give confidence and legitimacy to the far right. We need to both oppose scapegoating and challenge their priorities of pipelines and war instead of social needs like housing, healthcare and education.



Climate change helping spread Lyme disease

by: Sarah Ensor

Canada is seeing a growing public health risk caused by tiny mites - ticks. As climate change warms Turtle Island, ticks and the diseases they carry are spreading to new areas. Provisional figures for 2025 show 7,100 people in Canada probably got Lyme Disease — a potentially deadly infection. Yet the government response has been to cut funds to combat this health threat.

Lyme Disease can be extremely serious in humans, particularly if it isn't treated quickly or the bitten person has a vulnerable immune system, but in anyone it could damage the heart muscle and brain. It can easily be misdiagnosed if the patient hasn't seen the tick that bit them — famously US singer, Kris Kristofferson was treated for Alzheimer's disease for years before it was found to be Lyme Disease.

The highest levels of recorded cases now are in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, and southern Manitoba, where for humans the main carriers of the bacteria are Blacklegged, or Deer ticks whose numbers have boomed this year. In Nova Scotia in June this year, I watched ticks stroll across cut grass and climb our clothing in search of exposed skin. When they smelt skin — they have poor eyesight — they moved with amazing speed in the hope of their next meal.

Lyme Disease-causing bacteria have been in North America for 60,000 years and Indigenous people developed ways of life that managed the risk. These included wearing long-sleeved and long-legged clothing, making tick-deterrant creams, examining family members thoroughly and managed, strategic grass burning.



But we also know that across the north of Turtle Island, Indigenous people had fewer ticks to avoid. Yale Medical School only described and named Lyme Disease in 1970

and only a few isolated instances of it were found in Canada in the 1980s. Ontario was then identified as its centre because of its deer population.

But since then climate change has made northern winters shorter with warmer springs and summers, allowing ticks and the bacteria they carry to expand their range northwards by as much as 55 km a year.

Climate change is exacerbating many threats to human and non-human life across North America, besides tick-borne diseases and devastating wildfires. For instance, *Perkinsus marinus*, is a marine parasite that causes Dermo disease in molluscs such as oysters. Climate change is one of the factors that has allowed the parasite to move into New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and both sides of the Atlantic. It won't harm human health but there's no cure and it can destroy Indigenous and Non-Indigenous commercial fishers' livelihoods, food security and Cultural practices.

Funding to improve Lyme disease research, diagnosis, treatment and patient care was only \$5 million between 2017 and 2026 but it created the Canadian Lyme Disease Research Network in 2018. This network grew to become TickNet Canada, which focused on all diseases carried by ticks. This relatively small amount of money has been cut, among thousands of other cuts announced last year. The federal government has plans to cut at least \$60 billion over the next five years. Meanwhile the government can always find many more \$billions for the killing-machine of the Ministry of National Defence expansion of Canada's Navy.

The cuts to services ordinary people need include tens of thousands of public sector jobs, rural libraries and fishing infrastructure. The cuts will fall heaviest on Indigenous and non-indigenous working class people and we shouldn't let the government get away with it.

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LAND BACK!

Territorial acknowledgment:

As settlers, we acknowledge our occupation of lands that are the Indigenous territories of Turtle Island. We support all struggles for Indigenous sovereignty in whatever forms they take by the hundreds of First Nations and Inuit communities that have resided here for many thousands of years, and by Métis communities that have developed in the last hundreds of years.



Racist policing is a system, not a scandal

by: Ibrahim Alsahary

Outside Station 39 in Montréal-Nord, people gathered behind a banner that said what official statements refuse to say clearly: “Racist police, complicit system.”

Svens Telemaque was among them. He was not shocked by the allegations.

“I wasn’t surprised at all,” he said. “It’s been happening for decades. Decades and decades.”

That sentence tells us more about the crisis than all the promises about rebuilding “trust.”

In June, Montreal police dismantled a team at Station 39 after serious allegations of racist and discriminatory conduct. Two officers were suspended, while 14 others were reassigned away from contact with the public. The allegations were serious enough that prosecutors were asked to consider possible criminal charges.

But this is not simply a story about 16 police officers.

It is a story about power.

“Since I was young I saw stuff”.

Samir Bensalem grew up in Montréal-Nord. He came to the protest because this was his neighbourhood.

“Since I was young I saw stuff that we wouldn’t see in other neighbourhoods,” he said.

Another protester, who did not give her name, spoke about something familiar to many Black and Arab Montrealers: being stopped again and again.

“We have heard many testimonies from people who are stopped repeatedly because they are perceived as being of Arab, Black or African origin,” she said.

This is what the language of “racial profiling” can sometimes hide: the everyday humiliation of being treated as suspicious in your own neighbourhood.

You walk down the street. You drive home from work. You wait for a friend.

And suddenly you have to explain why you are there.

For racialized people, migrants and refugees, this is not an abstract debate about policing. It is about who is allowed to move through the city without fear and who must constantly prove that they belong.

The problem is bigger than Station 39

The official response has focused heavily on restoring public confidence.

But confidence is not the fundamental problem.

The problem is racism.

Joel DeBellefeuille of the Red Coalition put it plainly. For many Black and racialized people, the allegations at Station 39 were disturbing—but hardly surprising. Communities, he said, have been raising the same issues for years: racial profiling, unequal treatment, street checks and being viewed with suspicion because of who they are and what they look like.

Alain Babineau of the same organization asked another crucial question: where were the supervisors?

“How long has this been going on?” he asked.

Exactly.

If racist practices can continue inside a police unit, the question cannot stop at which individual officer said what or did what. We have to ask who knew, who remained silent, who supervised, and what kind of institution allowed it to happen.

This is why calling the scandal an isolated incident is so dangerous.

It transforms a political problem into a personnel problem.

Remove a few officers. Move others.

Announce new training. Promise to listen.

Then wait for the headlines to disappear.

Montréal-Nord remembers

People in Montréal-Nord have reasons not to accept that story.

In 2008, 18-year-old Fredy Villanueva was shot and killed by a Montreal police officer.



His death became a symbol of the anger felt by racialized youth who had experienced years of surveillance, police stops, poverty and exclusion.

Eighteen years later, residents are again being asked to believe that the institution will reform itself.

But racism does not exist separately from the social conditions of Montréal-Nord.

The worker coming home late from a warehouse, the refugee waiting for a bus, the Black teenager standing with friends, the undocumented worker afraid that any encounter with authority could have consequences – these people experience the city very differently from those who never have to think twice when a police car slows beside them.

Racism tells workers that their neighbour is the danger.

Capitalism gives that lie a material foundation: unequal neighbourhoods, precarious immigration status, low wages, bad housing and institutions with enormous power over people who possess very little.

The result is division.

Black against white. Immigrant against citizen. Refugee against Canadian-born worker.

And while we are divided, the people who profit from low wages, precarious work and poverty remain safely above the fight.

Racism is a working-class issue

For the Immigrant Workers Centre, police racism cannot be separated from workers’ rights.

A migrant worker can be exploited by an employer in the morning, threatened by their immigration status in the afternoon and racially profiled on the way home at night.

These are not three separate worlds.

They reinforce one another.

A worker who is afraid of authorities is easier to exploit. An undocumented worker who fears any encounter with the state has less power to challenge an abusive boss. A society that constantly portrays migrants, Black people and racialized communities as threats makes it easier to deny them rights while convincing other workers that these are privileges reserved for someone else.

That is why anti-racism cannot be an optional addition to the workers’ movement.

It has to be at its heart.

We don’t need another promise

Police “awareness” training will not be enough.

Public-relations campaigns will not be enough.

Moving officers from one station to another will not be enough.

We need an independent and transparent investigation. We need an end to racial profiling and discriminatory street checks. We need real accountability when police abuse their power. Above all, the communities subjected to policing must have a real voice and real power in determining what safety means in their neighbourhoods.

At the Station 39 protest, Hantz Vius described the allegations in four words:

“Disgusting, but not surprising.”

That is precisely the problem.

When racism becomes unsurprising, something far deeper than the behaviour of a handful of officers is wrong.

Real safety will not come from making Black youth afraid to walk down their own streets. It will not come from making migrants afraid of the institutions around them.

It will come from decent housing. Good jobs. Living wages. Full immigration status. Properly funded public services. Strong communities where people look after one another instead of being encouraged to fear one another.

And it will come through solidarity.

The fight against racism is not a struggle that Black people, migrants or refugees should have to wage alone. It belongs to all of us.

Because an injury inflicted on one section of our class is ultimately a weapon against us all.

...Data centres continued from page 8

The 7.5 GW fossil gas-fired Wonder Valley Alberta project being developed by O’Leary Digital Limited (ODL) is located in the municipality of Greenview, which has spent \$70 million on infrastructure to support it. Outrageously, Alberta’s Aboriginal Consultation Office advised the municipality to skip Indigenous consultation with Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation (SLCN) when applying for a permit for 6 million cubic metres of water. In response, SLCN won their request for a judicial review which will go ahead in December despite the attempts by ODL to have it quashed.

Chief Sheldon Sunshine said that “SLCN is happy to have the opportunity to vindicate our Treaty rights and hold the Crown accountable on consultation.

“O’Leary’s data centre here in Alberta is a mind-boggling, massive project, which the province has been shepherding through their regulatory system using the municipality to evade their duties to us. There is no environmental assessment and next to no consultation with our nations.”

Both these projects supply their own electricity as mandated by the province for projects exceeding 75 MW. These are guaranteed to be gas-fired electricity plants because provincial regulations consider renewables “unreliable”.

Opposition to new data centres is also

growing among residents in cities and towns in Alberta – and across all of so-called Canada.

A proposed Meta data centre in Sturgeon County north of Edmonton was protested by hundreds of people outside the county office in August. Rocky View County bordering Calgary voted to pause new data centre proposals until new rules can be worked out to regulate these projects effectively.

In late August Alberta’s Technology Minister Nate Glubish was lambasted at two AI Data Centre Town Halls by people opposing them in Lacombe and Sturgeon County.

4,500 residents of Sherbrooke, Quebec signed a petition calling for more transparency on a data centre they say is being pushed by the council without addressing their concerns.

In Ontario movements have demanded a pause on these developments, and municipalities have responded in various ways.

Oakville city council voted in August to enact a one-year moratorium on data centre developments to study whether regulations need to be updated to address noise, vibration, and emissions issues, along with broader land use considerations. Burlington city council voted down a moratorium in July, while Mississauga is scheduled to vote on a moratorium in September. In Toronto, over 8,000 people submitted comments demanding a moratorium in late July, as the city council considered two different data centre proposals in Etobicoke and Scarborough: while a moratorium was not

granted, the council asserted more oversight over the developments.

These follow on from widespread resistance to data centres in the US that has won state-wide moratoriums in New York and Texas.

Premier Doug Ford responded to the resistance with “a new data centre playbook” that he claims will produce \$122 billion in economic growth by 2035 and create 17,000 new jobs annually. He says they are necessary to ensure “data sovereignty”. While he has attempted to address power and water concerns, he has called those resisting “hypocrites”. The economic forecasts and claimed safeguards should be taken with a grain of salt, and if they really cared about “data sovereignty” governments would safeguard people’s private information in their own public facilities, not in ones privately run that are beholden to tech billionaires.

New electricity demand from expanding data centre infrastructure is incorporated into Ontario’s plans for the massive expansion of nuclear and gas electricity generation. Like Alberta, Ontario refuses to invest in renewable energy, claiming it is unreliable.

In Hamilton, an interim control bylaw that called for a year-long moratorium on hyper-scale data centres in the city was defeated in July. But in June, a broad movement had successfully pressured the city council to reject the severance of 188 acres of former Stelco land to build a hyper-scale data centre. The Hamilton District Labour Council participated

in this pushback, demanding that this data centre be subject to a binding Community Benefit agreement that “compensates the city for the permanent loss of industrial capacity, including direct contributions to local skills training.” They pointed out that data centres include very low ratios of permanent full-time jobs compared to factories and offices.

Lily Chang of the Canadian Labour Congress brought workers’ concerns to the International Labour Congress in June:

“Artificial intelligence is already transforming workplaces and industries around the world. Workers see the potential, but many are also worried about what it means for their jobs, their privacy, and their futures.

“Workers cannot be expected to carry the burden of economic uncertainty by giving up fundamental rights. The right to organize, bargain collectively, and strike are essential to ensuring workers have a meaningful voice in the economy and in their workplaces.”

The widespread resistance to hyper-scale data centres comes from across the political spectrum, reflecting community concerns about noise, pollution, the climate crisis and water usage. Many people rightly question the expansion of AI and its connection to driving down workers’ wages and working conditions as well as its use in expanding military applications.

Organized labour has a crucial role to play in wresting control over these technologies away from the tech billionaires.

Justice for Grassy Narrows

by: Sid Lacombe

The people of Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation (also known as Grassy Narrows) have been fighting for justice for decades while governments deny claims and refuse compensation.

Their land was poisoned when the Dryden Paper Mill dumped tonnes of mercury into the Wabigoon-English river system that the community relies on for food and water. The corporate polluters have been able to not only delay providing any compensation for the community but have now been allowed to continue to contaminate the area.

The pollution has had a devastating impact on the people and the natural environment. The community relies heavily on fishing for their main food source yet the fish themselves are contaminated. Due to financial constraints people have forced many to rely on a food source they know is harmful.

“Every day mothers in Grassy Narrows must choose between hunger and feeding their families our traditional fish diet,” said Judy Da Silva, Grassy Narrows mother and activist.

The result is widespread disease and shortened life spans. Many reports have concluded that there is a direct link between the mercury dumping and negative health impacts. A report by the Mercury Disability Board commissioned in 2009 confirmed, “There is no doubt that at these levels of exposure many persons were suffering from mercury-related neurologic disorders. Following the results

of exposure and effects in 1975, as well as earlier mercury in blood monitoring study conducted by Health Canada since 1970, there should have been extensive examinations and followup of these communities from that time forward, and assistance with respect to health

and nutrition.”

The corporate polluters have continued to press for more industrial activity in the community.

Grassy Narrows responded with what has become the longest Indigenous led blockade



Marching at the River Run demo in Toronto

in history. In 2002 they were able to kick out one logging company – Abitibi – to protect their land.

But the Ford government is calling on ever more polluting industrial development in the area including clearcut logging and more mining operations.

Both Ford and PM Carney have refused to stop the destruction of the land and have denied compensation for the contamination that has occurred.

But the resistance is continuing. Community members have traveled to Toronto to confront the Ford government many times over the years and have organized massive marches through the streets of Toronto. Thousands of community members and supporters have made the annual River Run demonstration a key front in the fight for Indigenous Sovereignty and against the destruction of the environment.

Their demands are clear:

- Compensate everyone in Grassy Narrows fairly for the mercury crisis
- End the pollution by stopping the Dryden mill and ending mining and nuclear waste plans that threaten Grassy Narrows
- Support Grassy Narrows in restoring their community and way of life from the damage that mercury has done.

This year, the Grassy Narrows River Run will happen on Wednesday, September 23rd. Join the rally and demand Justice for Grassy Narrows.

Find info at: Freegrassy.net

Resisting AI data centres

by: Brian Champ

Al is increasingly hard to avoid on our screens, and the material reality is that its expansion is having a detrimental effect on Indigenous people, workers and the environment. The hyper-scale data centres at the heart of the AI “industrial revolution” rely on an explosion in semiconductor production, and massive electricity and water use.

These aren’t your parents’ data centres, that have provided data storage, web hosting and other computer services for decades. Those typically consumed less than 5 megawatts (MW – or a million watts) of power. Hyper-scale data centres, however, range from consuming around 30 MW all the way up to multiple gigawatts (GW – or a billion watts) of power. This hunger for electricity is being driven by the vast arrays of high-powered computer chips needed for AI, which run very hot and must be cooled. Even so the chips only last months before being replaced.

Some AI data centres are cooled via the heat absorbed by the evaporation of water, which is needed in enormous quantities – preferably clean municipal drinking water to minimize mineral buildup on pipes. Others use water from lakes or rivers to absorb excess heat, and then release this heated water back to the environment. Still others use closed loop systems that consume less water directly, but require more power to remove the heat from the water before it is re-cycled through the cooling system. In some closed loop systems, glycol (anti-freeze) is mixed with water to improve efficiency, which raises the potential for envi-

ronmental damage if there are leaks.

At a time when the disastrous impacts of the climate and ecological crisis are increasingly clear, expanding hyper-scale data centres threatens to accelerate them: through greater (largely “natural” gas-fired) electricity consumption, increased pollution from mine tailings and intensified water use.

Why AI?

AI is being deployed so bosses can replace programmers, administrators and supervisory

labour to reduce overall labour costs. It is not clear whether it can deliver on this promise. In this respect, however, it is similar to the application of machinery in factories to increase productivity: as whole industries adopt the new methods, the proportion of capital invested in machinery rises while the proportion invested in labour falls. This ultimately creates downward pressure on the rate of profit, since it is based on the surplus created by labour. But capitalists have no choice but to compete to implement the new, more productive methods –

in this case AI – in order to keep pace.

But AI is a bubble economy, with investments far exceeding any reasonable expectation of return. It would likely already have collapsed, but for the connection to rising military spending. States invest in AI for military applications as they seek to keep pace in the global imperialist competition – dominated by the US and China, but including many regional and junior powers.

In Canada, we are at the start of a massive wave of hyper-scale data centre expansion, echoing a similar wave in the US. Canadian data centres in operation this June had a combined power use of 1.6 GW. New data centre proposals would increase this by almost 10 times to 14 GW. 90% of this expansion would be in Alberta, including some of the largest proposed hyper-scale data centre projects: The Synapse project in Olds, and the Wonder Valley Alberta project on Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation land.

Both of these are intended to train AI models, but also face obstacles around regulatory approval and local resistance.

The 1.4 GW Synapse project is a 10 building proposal powered by a dedicated fossil gas-fired electricity plant, all within the town limits of the town of Olds that has a population of 10,000. 1,500 local residents applied to join consultations to express concerns about noise, pollution, home values, safety and strain on local health care and emergency services. In mid-August, the Alberta Utilities Commission denied the application for the gas plant, saying “[t]he site is simply not suitable for the proposed development.”

continued on page 7...



Data centres are killing the planet