

Have you called the following
CONTROLLERS?

Orlando Zamprogna
434-4976

Ron Annis
227-4125

Joan Smith
672-6689

The NO-TAX FOR PAN-AM GAMES NEWSLETTER

Have you written your letter
to the editor of the
London Free Press?

~~FIVE!~~
THREE!
Only ~~FIVE~~ city hall politicians are
required to *change their*
decision (or their future status at
city hall) on *Pan-Am!*
Call them today!

SECOND ISSUE

FREE TO ALL NO-TAX FOR PAN-AM RESPONDENTS

DECEMBER

BIG PAN-AM VOTE COMING UP MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 AT CITY HALL **BE THERE!**

...and 2 more politicians come over to our side!

Your presence is required at City Hall on Monday, December 3, 1984. That's the big day folks! It's the day that city council will vote to commit \$10 million plus to *Pan-Am Games* projects.

The major drawback to attendance is that no specific time has been allotted for discussion of that item, so the vote could be taken anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. or between 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

We will be personally calling as many of you as possible to give you the latest updated information on the meeting, and to confirm if you will be able to attend. **Bring your friends and neighbours! This is it!**

To help relieve supporters from constraints, free babysitting services will be provided at the office of *Freedom Party*, from 4:30 p.m. till after city council votes on the issue, so you are welcome to bring your children to the third-floor office at 364 Richmond Street (downtown, just ten feet from the south-east corner of King and Richmond). There's lots of room; toys and other items to keep youngsters occupied will be supplied.

Signs are being prepared and will be available for some of you to hold while seated in the gallery overlooking the city councillors. We are also preparing a long cloth sign to stretch across the gallery. If you feel so inclined, feel free to make your own sign.

Please do attend this meeting at City Hall. If we

haven't managed to get a hold of you first, please call me to confirm if you can attend.

A packed gallery will influence the *three* councillors (it was *five* just a month ago, remember?) required to swing the vote in our favour. Controller Joan Smith and alderman Pat O'Brien are now prepared to vote *against* Pan-Am expenditures, so we only need *three* more conversions.

Particularly sensitive to this issue are: *George Avola* (who will run in the provincial election next spring, and cannot afford to have this albatross attached to his name), *Janet McEwen*, *John Irvine*, and *Grant Hopcroft*. If any of these people are your aldermen, please call them!

They will be the ones to change their minds if we bombard them with enough calls. In fact, George Avola has already been angry with me for being what he calls "a real pain in the ass" as a result of the many calls he has received from his constituents.

George Avola, *Joe Fontana*, *Bob Beccarea*, *Orlando Zamprogna*, and *Al Gleeson* are usually in political cahoots on most issues; their votes will be tough to change, but it can be done, particularly in the case of *George Avola*.

All those in attendance at the city hall meeting are advised to constrain themselves to city hall rules (there are no provisions for expressing opinions or speech-making from the gallery), but you *are* encouraged to *clap* for speakers who speak out against Pan-Am spending.

Over 500 Responses Received By Nov. 22

Our second *No Tax for Pan-Am* newsletter already has over 500 subscribers, and our original newsletter eventually found its way to as many people. With just over \$1,000 received in contributions (almost enough to pay for the entire second printing of our booklet), I'm pleased to report that over 40 of you volunteered some form of work, over 20 letters to the editor of the *London Free Press* have been published

(between October 25 and November 23; all favorable, with two exceptions), over 60 commitments to write a letter to the editor of the *Free Press* are still pending, and over 140 of you promised to call your politicians. So if you haven't as yet written your letter or called your aldermen, make a point of doing it now --- there's not much time left.

UP WITH PEOPLE
CENTENNIAL HALL
NOVEMBER 17
2:00 PM AND 8:00 PM
CALL 679-1111 FOR DETAILS

The London Free Press
Western Ontario &
wednesday London

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1984

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Councillors shocked

Horton Street cost jumps by \$1 million

By John Hamilton
of The Free Press

Sewer work for the controversial Horton Street extension will add about \$1 million to the announced \$12.88-million cost of the London core-area expressway, figures from the city engineer's department show.

Reactions to the extra cost Tuesday ranged from a charge that city administrators had been "hiding the true dollar figure" of the project to the comment, "It was only to be expected," as three councillors described how they felt when the fig-

ure was revealed in public for the first time Monday.

Controller Art Cartier, a member of the environment and transportation committee and long-time opponent of the project, said he was "really shocked" when the added cost was listed under sewer construction work in a report from city engineer D'Arcy Dutton during a committee capital budget session Monday.

Cartier said he believed the cost of necessary sewer work was not included in previous announced costs for the extension "in an effort to make a bitter pill a little easier to swallow." He said by not including

the price of sewer work in the cost of the project, administrators "were simply hiding the true dollar figure."

While the cost of the sanitary and storm sewer work is included in the city's capital budget figures and won't add to over-all projected costs, "it's another example of the Horton Street work putting off other, badly needed surface work at a time when hundreds of people are complaining of flooding problems in their homes," he said.

"Without the work needed for Horton Street," Cartier said "we could have completed sewer work on an entire street. With it included,

we have that much less to try to solve flood problems now listed as priorities."

Alderman Gord Jorgenson, a committee member who supports the Horton Street extension, agreed with Cartier that councillors first learned of the cost of the sewer work when their agendas were delivered last week, but said "an estimate of the cost couldn't have been made before work started on Beconsfield Avenue."

Jorgenson said extra costs for sewer work should have been expected on top of the price announced when the extension was approved. "The work likely would

have had to be done soon, even without the extension," he said.

Alderman Alf James, a second long-time opponent of the work, said news of the extra cost "shouldn't have come as a surprise (to him) but it did. Sewer work is almost always an added cost of a major construction." He said an extra cost "was only to be expected but nothing like that (\$1 million)."

James, also a committee member, said he did not believe Dutton would have had an earlier chance to estimate the cost of the sewer work. "It just couldn't have been included in the over-all price before now," he said.

Dutton said the "very shaky condition" of underground sewers was only recognized "within the last two months when we got down to detailed design work." While the estimated cost was "way beyond what we imagined," it would be "really imprudent to put a brand new road on top of surfaces where there are known problems."

The extension, hotly debated by council for about 17 years before it was approved by provincial cabinet in 1963, is expected to be completed early next year. It will provide a major east-west arterial link across the Thames River.

On November 14, the *London Free Press* reported that "hidden" costs were responsible for the addition of \$1 million in costs to the local portion of payments required to finance the project. As a perfect example of what we cited in our Pan-Am booklet, it should be obvious by now that what we are told are "final" costs, are never the "final" cost.

It was even more disturbing for Londoners to learn that the 1985 to 1988 provincial subsidies *have already been*

used up because of the Horton Street Extension. Many areas in White Oaks, Westminster, Carling Heights, etc., are experiencing some really bad flooding problems and yet, for them, provincial funding is no longer available. Virtually man-for-man, the same group voting to spend our tax dollars on Pan-Am was responsible for voting in favour of the Horton Street Extension (including the Mayor, Orlando Zamprogna, Tom Gosnell, Joe Fontana, and George Avola).

ST. THOMAS OLYMPIC SIZE POOL GOES UNUSED & UNPAID FOR

Politicians supporting the tax-financed Pan-Am Games will routinely insist that London is the only major city east of Timbuktu that doesn't have a completely public Olympic-sized pool. (Although there is an Olympic-sized pool at the Robarts School, and at the University of Western Ontario, they don't seem to count for some reason.) They'll tell you that even Tillsonburg has one, but you won't see them boasting that *St. Thomas* has one. Well, it does, but it was closed last year because so few people were

actually showing up to use it, and the \$500,000 mortgage fell into arrears. We reprint the article below:

These same politicians will not mention that *London has more private pools per capita than any other city in Ontario*. Not to mention the number of health spa pools, apartment pools, etc. Anybody still wondering why the *St. Thomas* pool is in trouble? We have pools enough!

St. Thomas to use grant as study plan for closed 'Y'

ST. THOMAS (Bureau) — Proposed renovations to bring the closed High Street YMCA back into public use will be put on paper in the form of a conceptual drawing with the aid of a \$5,000 grant, city council decided Monday night.

Alderman Janet Golding said council had recently toured the facility, which closed under the weight of a \$450,000 mortgage debt last Dec. 31. The conceptual drawing, she said, would enable council to better understand plans of an eight-member task force to revitalize the building through structural changes.

The \$5,000 grant is to be taken from \$100,000 pledged earlier by the city on condition that the required \$650,000 to reopen the doors is raised in full. Golding said there is a chance the provincial tourism and recreation ministry may absorb the sum as part of \$150,000 the provincial government has earmarked to help bring the facility back into public use.

City administrator Bob Barrett, who with ministry and civic representatives is a task force member, told council the grant would be well spent whether or not the city was forced to bear the cost.

"Considering the magnitude of the job, \$5,000 is little to spend to see where we are going on this job," he said.

Barrett said the task force realizes it has to broaden the recreational appeal of the facility to meet the needs of adults as well as children if the High Street Recreational Centre is to succeed.

He said renovation plans call for installation of a whirlpool and sauna and exercise rooms to complement the Olympic-size swimming pool, double gymnasium and multi-purpose rooms already contained in the building.

NEW ORLEANS EXPO '84 GOES BANKRUPT NOTHING LEFT AFTER \$400 MILLION SUNK INTO PROJECT

After being forced to put in \$400 million in local and Louisiana state taxes, the citizens of New Orleans and Louisiana have nothing to show for it. Their *Expo* went \$160 million further into debt and all assets are being liquidated to pay off a portion of that debt.

After the assets are sold off, literally nothing will be left to account for the \$400 million expenditure (\$525 million Canadian).

Even tourism was disappointing, despite the fact that New Orleans is a well-known tourist centre. You can bet there's a lot of talk about "civic pride" in the New Orleans area these days!

World's Fair files for bankruptcy

By Carol Stevens
and Mei-Mei Chan
USA TODAY

The 1984 New Orleans World's Fair, following its busiest weekend yet, became the first fair Tuesday to file for bankruptcy — just six days before the debt-plagued festival closes.

Despite the late attendance surge in its six-month run, officials predict the fair will end \$140 million in debt and 4 million visitors short of original attendance estimates of 11 million.

They blame heavy debts on poor marketing, bad weather and low summer attendance.

"We built a fabulous fair. Everyone that came loved it," said media relations manager Michael Cooper. "It just wasn't marketed properly. We just didn't get the ... visitors we expected."

Fair officials say they have been considering bankruptcy since June, but were afraid it would hurt attendance. Their lawyers decided to file now — before the fair closes — to hold off creditors on Sunday.

"It prevents creditors from coming in on the last day and trying to get what is there," said New Orleans fair President Petr Spurney.

Under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy law allowing reorganization, the court will sell the fair's assets at public auction and divide proceeds among creditors.

Debts include an estimated \$35 million owed to fair creditors, \$55 million put up by fair backers and \$27.4 million in state loans and guarantees.

Ironically, the past weekend's attendance figures set three records — busiest single day on Saturday with 96,081 visitors, busiest Sunday and busiest full weekend.

"We will be open and operating until Nov. 11," Cooper said. "We're getting the biggest crowds we've ever had."

B.C. EXPO '86 COSTS RISE FROM \$150 MILLION IN 1980 TO \$800 MILLION TODAY MAY STILL LOSE AN EXTRA \$300 MILLION

Due to union work stoppages, escalating costs, corruption, padding, diminishing attendance expectations, etc., the huge taxpayer-paid *Trade & Commerce Exhibition* (B.C. EXPO '86) may go \$300 million in the red, despite the fact that it has already skyrocketed in cost from \$150 million in 1980 to \$800 million in 1984. (Don't believe me, check out the *Maclean's* article below!) The \$800 million does not even include the \$137 million *Trade & Convention Centre* or the \$718 million Rapid Transit System that will carry visitors to the site.

No doubt, that \$800 million will buy a lot of "civic pride" too. Since Vancouver has a population of just over one million, that's \$800 per Vancouverite, or \$3,200 per household! Even if we assume that costs are spread over every B.C. household, we're still looking at a cost of \$1,000 per household for EXPO '86.

While Bennett made it clear that his main concern was the prospect of labor problems, critics suspected that the premier was also troubled by the escalating price of the project. Since 1980 the projected cost of Expo has skyrocketed from an estimated total in capital and operating expenditures of \$150 million to more than \$800 million, a figure that does not include the \$137-million trade and convention centre being built by Ottawa or a \$718 million light rapid transit system, which will carry visitors to the Expo site. As well, there have been costly work delays, raising concerns that the 250 Expo buildings may not be completed by the November, 1985, deadline.

EQUADOR BACKS OUT OF 1987 PAN-AM GAMES, can'T AFFORD IT

Having the honesty to tell the *Pan-American Sports Association* that they simply can't afford it, Equador backed out of hosting the 1987 Pan-American Games, leaving Indianapolis, Indiana as the

chosen host. At least Indianapolis already has most of the facilities and will likely recoup most of its costs from television and private investment.

WINNIPEG 1967 PAN-AM GAMES RAN \$6 MILLION IN THE RED (\$20 MILLION IN 1984 Money)

Canada has hosted the Pan-Am Games before, in 1967, and the cost of building facilities there ran the costs \$6,080,000 over budget, the over-runs paid 33% by the federal government, 42% by the

provincial government, 21% by Winnipeg.

\$6 million in 1967 is equal to over \$20 million today. Remember, this is just the debt amount, the actual cost of 1967 PAN-AM Games was far greater.

MONTREAL OLYMPIC DEBT NOW EXCEEDS \$1 BILLION

The red ink for the 1976 Montreal Olympics was \$968 million as of a few months ago, but it will go well over a *billion dollars* in costs *beyond* any revenues received when the Montreal Olympic stadium is domed, as is now planned.

The debt goes on.

As one Montreal Councillor commented on the stadium that now loses \$5 million a year already, "*at best, the domed stadium will now attract a few Billy Graham revivals*".

**BABYSITTING
FREE OF CHARGE
ON MONDAY
DECEMBER 3
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING**

**BE THERE!
MONDAY
DECEMBER 3!**

**MAKE A SIGN
FOR THE
BIG VOTE ON
DECEMBER 3
AT CITY HALL!**

We Get Some YES TO GAMES Responses Too

Although we've received over 500 NO! TO TAX-PAID GAMES cards, some people stroked out the NO and put YES in its place. Or obscene language.

So far, we've received 4 YES cards where the senders had the courage to identify themselves, and 9 anonymous YES cards. Some of their comments are interesting: "*Quit wasting your money and my time --signed, an avid sports fan*"; another, "*Pan-Am would be an asset to any city*"; another, "*I oppose anything you stand for. I am 1000% behind London bidding for these Games. London is dead enough already*"; another, "*If you are against it, it must be correct*".

So we've given them equal time, if they ask.

London Magazine

features

Gord Hume

&

Pan-Am Games Bid

The November issue of *London Magazine* featured *Pan-Am Bid Committee* head Gord Hume in an interview. Though the article appeared at first to be supportive of his cause (as was the magazine's intention), it was downright uncomplimentary, given the quotes they chose to publish:

Hume's standards, and his impatience when they are not met, are well known to those who work with him. "I'm very intolerant of fools & idiots in business and politics" he says. How does he express his anger? "In the first phase, I get very loud and turn purple. In the second phase I get icy cold. That is probably the more dangerous."

"I'm a very gracious winner, but I'm a pig of a loser."

"I really like the good things in life. Good wine, good cigars, beautiful women... especially beautiful, intelligent women."

Hume's comments are most revealing, not so much in the sense of *what* he says, but in terms of his elitist and snobbish attitudes. He demonstrates no feel for *London* and those of us who *live* here. His remarks reflect his feelings, that we are all '*markets*' and '*demographics*' to him. His job might terminate with bad ratings, he could take a better position in radio anytime elsewhere for all we know. He isn't married, has no children, makes *much* more than the average London homeowner, and could care less about taxes.

Some interesting letters and comments from our supporters on a number of issues follow:

WOULD YOU JOIN A TAXPAYERS' WATCHDOG GROUP?

Rene Mauthe of the University's School of Journalism enlightened us about the enormous debt incurred in Winnipeg as a result of its hosting the Pan-Am Games in 1967. In 1967 dollars, that debt was over \$6 million; in 1984 dollars, we're talking about a \$20 million deficit.

Don Fowler of Janes Street sent us a copy of a letter he mailed to Janet McEwen and Joan Smith, and we reprint it.

Tom Borrowman of Glenbournie Crescent made a terrific suggestion: "I would suggest that a permanent watchdog committee be set up to monitor how our tax dollars in London are being spent." He wrote about the trustee's recent 36% salary hike, the \$1 million Horton Street extension cost overrun, the new ed centre.

No doubt, London really could use a small group of five to ten people organized under some form of "London Taxpayers Union", or something like that. To encourage people to respond to this suggestion,

once a group is organized, I will publish a newsletter (every two months or so), free of charge. If five or ten of our Pan-Am supporters were willing to get together on this, it could be announced to the media in a press conference, and from there on in, people could send us clippings, or call to leave messages, etc.

Any group willing to take on the challenge will have an enormous source of research and information available to its members. It could be pretty exciting and enormously beneficial to Londoners at large. Membership could be \$10 a year or something equally nominal, enough to cover postage and handling expenses.

I'd do it myself, but then the press would just dismiss the effort as another "Marc Emery crusade". If we want to achieve *results*, then we can't afford to have the press discount our work for any reason. All we need to start with is about five good people; facilities and research will be *freely available*. Please write or call if you are interested in working on a project like this. It should be fascinating, fun, and effective. It's a great idea.

Ms. Janet McEwen
527 Upper Queens
London, Ont.

Dear Ms. McEwen

As a city property owner, taxpayer and voter, I am furious that the city is considering throwing millions of dollars away on a two-week Alice in Wonderland extravaganza, the 1991 Pan American Games.

My fury is particularly great, as the street on which I live needs new sidewalks, very clearly and very badly. Yet the city tells us it does not have the money for a new sidewalk on Janes St.

If you vote for the Games, you are telling me your priorities are such that you believe it is wiser and better to spend millions of dollars for a two-week show seven years from now, than to spend a few thousand dollars now for new sidewalks that will be used every day, year after year.

If these really are your priorities, I can only advise they are definitely "bass-ackwards" as far as a great many voters, including myself, are concerned.

Sincerely

Don Fowler
1 Janes St.
London, Ontario
N6C 2G8

October 25, 1984

IS LONDON 'DESPERATE' FOR A 'SHOT IN THE ARM'?

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Gord Hume (Pan-Am Committee Chairman) is reviewed from some clips from the November copy of London Magazine. In the introduction in London Magazine, publisher Ute Lawrence comments "*London desperately needs a shot in the arm ...*" and "*could be a rallying cry for a new community spirit*"

Well, of course, you and I know that London does not *desperately* need a shot in the arm like Pan-AM. Where do they get this '*desperate*' stuff from. Are you desperate for a shot in the arm? A shot like

Pan-Am? I know a lot of homes in London may be said to be desperately in need of sewers, street lights, more frequent police patrols, but Pan-Am won't do that for them.

Ironically, right below *Lawrence's* poorly-worded editorial is a letter to the editor from a newcomer to London, John Dickson, who has now lived in London for three years, since moving from Ottawa. In his letter Dickson comments: "*We moved here three years ago from Ottawa and consider London the best community in the country, bar none.*"

Does that sound like a city that is *desperate* for a "shot in the arm" to you?

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We cannot over-emphasize how important it is to call up the three Controllers and your alderman. Do not give up if they are not home. Keep calling each day until you get hold of them. **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR of the LONDON FREE PRESS is immensely important for the morale of our supporters, the citizens of London, for yourself and will ultimately keep the pressure on City Council. Londoners read the Letters to the Editor section (I ought to know).

Here are the names and home phone numbers of local politicians who voted in favour of Pan-Am 1991 tax funding. Give them a call. You can find out what ward you live in by examining the map below.

CONTROLLERS

RON ANNIS: 227-4125
JOAN SMITH: 672-6689
ORLANDO ZAMPROGNA: 434-4976

ALDERPERSONS

Ward 1

JOHN IRVINE: 439-5450

Ward 2

BOB BECCAREA: 672-2889

Ward 3

JOE FONTANA: 672-6376
PAT O'BRIEN: 455-4955

Ward 5

GRANT HOPCROFT: 686-8670
GARY WILLIAMS: 681-2638

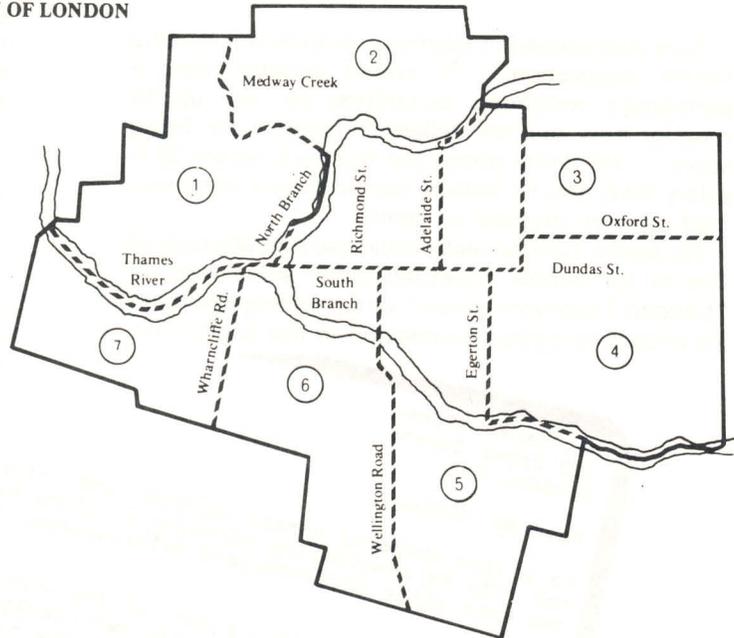
Ward 6

TOM GOSNELL: 672-6142
JANET McEWEN: 681-8524

Ward 7

GEORGE AVOLA: 471-5753
GORD JORGENSON: 471-2695

CITY OF LONDON



CALL YOUR ALDERMAN -NOW!

NO-TAX FOR PAN-AM PHONE NUMBERS:

Marc Emery (office) 433-8612, (home) 438-4991

If you call my office, you can talk to Robert Metz if I am not in at the time.

THE FUTURE OF OUR CAMPAIGN

If city council should vote in our favour on December 3, we will have achieved our goal and Pan-Am 1991 will cease to be an issue in London. But if the vote should go *against* us, our battle must still continue --- letters to the editor must continue.

Remember, municipal council can opt out of its commitment on Pan-Am funding *anytime up to the point when facilities begin to be constructed*. That isn't expected to happen until 1986, and before that there will be a *municipal election*.

The 1985 municipal election promises to be a very feisty one for many reasons. The Mayor's poor showing in the federal election will invite serious

challengers for his post, two or three aldermen will be running for Board of Control (likeliest candidates: Joe Fontana, Tom Gosnell, Wilma Bolton), a few will retire, and a few have become very unpopular, like Controller Ron Annis. Every ward in the city is up for grabs, and at the back of most politicians' minds is their political vulnerability.

So there will still be opportunities to change council's collective mind: in February 1985 (if London is picked by the *Canadian Olympic Committee*), before the municipal election, or after a new council is elected.

We will not give up!

The **No Tax for Pan-Am Games Newsletter** will be published regularly until we get our local taxes out of Pan-Am 1991. **Vol. 1 NO. 2 December 1984:** Written by Marc Emery. Edited by Robert Metz.

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