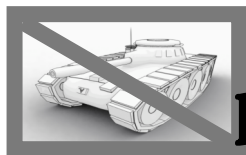


BILLIONS \$ for HOUSING!



NOT FOR WEAPONS...

DEMONSTRATION

in OTTAWA

Thursday OCTOBER 11TH 2007,

at 1:30 P.M.,

in front of the RECRUITING CENTER
of the Canadian Armed Forces
66, Slater Street (corner of Elgin)

Preceded by a lunch at the Centre Père-Arthur-Guertin,
at 16 Beriault St. in Gatineau; bring your own lunch •
Free transportation; reserve your place •

Organized by



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The Harper Government : Everything for the military

In a study published in May 2006, the Ottawa based Polaris Institute estimated that from autumn 2001 to March 2006, the cost of military operations directly related to the Canadian « mission » in Afghanistan reached 4.1 billion \$. The Institute predicted that the total cost would increase by at least 1 billion \$ in 2006-2007, bringing the total cost to 5.1 billion \$.

These expenditures brought on by the war in Afghanistan are responsible for inflating the already humungous budget of the Ministry of National Defense. In 2007-2008 these expenditures are expected to reach 17.8 billion \$, which represents an increase of 69 % since 1996-1997. The military budget represents 8.5% of all federal program spending. As if this were not enough, in June 2006, the Conservative Government of Stephen Harper announced that it will spend 15 billion \$ in the upcoming years for the acquisition of military equipment.

Nothing for housing!

Meanwhile, the expenditures of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the crown corporation responsible for housing assistance, should be 1.98 billion \$ in 2007-2008, which represents an increase of barely 0.6% since 1996-1997. The expenditures relating to housing assistance now represent only 0.9 % of all federal program spending.

With the exception of the 800 million \$ that it put in a trust account in 2006 for the funding of supposed affordable housing by the provinces, because of a law adopted by the previous government, the Conservative Government has not announced a single penny of funding for new social or even affordable housing. At the very most, it announced the investment of 270 million \$ to extend assistance for the homeless, an insufficient and non renewable amount.

As yet, according to the latest statistics available, there are close to 1.5 million Canadian households in the core need category for housing assistance, including 351,800 from Quebec. Furthermore, it is estimated that there are 150 000 homeless people.

OTTAWA MUST :

- ① invest an ADDITIONAL 2 BILLION \$
PER YEAR FOR SOCIAL HOUSING
- ② guarantee the PROTECTION
OF EXISTING SOCIAL HOUSING
- ③ ensure SUFFICIENT
AND ONGOING ASSISTANCE
FOR THE HOMELESS