

THE WHALLEY WINDOW

HOMES NOT JAILS! WINDOWS NOT BARS!



“It’s like a military action - every morning at 6am they drive around and honk their horns. If you don’t move fast enough they pick it up, put it in the back of the truck, the truck swallows it. If you’re gone for an hour, they call it ‘abandoned’” -Xavier

About The Whalley Window

When homeless and low-income people rally, march and protest, you often hear the chant “Homes not Jails! Windows not Bars!” Windows symbolize homes – affordable, adequate, secure -- where we can ground our lives, feel safe, and engage in our communities. Windows also provide openings through which we see a world beyond the walls that surround us. They invite us to envision new possibilities of life together where needs are met and well-being flourishes, where the violent forces of the state that confine our bodies, minds and spirits are eliminated. Homes and healthcare, not cops and bylaw!

No More Surveillance! Word Search

I	F	G	O	U	M	T	N	Z	Y	O	E	B	W	Y
H	K	U	U	E	S	S	V	W	F	I	R	G	E	T
S	O	S	T	C	P	R	W	J	L	I	I	Y	D	E
A	U	E	D	N	O	I	O	E	L	L	G	C	N	F
W	T	N	O	A	C	F	N	C	O	F	H	T	E	A
R	R	I	O	L	H	S	G	I	R	I	T	S	S	S
E	E	L	R	L	T	S	N	L	T	G	S	I	D	A
W	A	P	P	I	L	E	I	O	N	H	H	S	A	N
O	C	R	E	A	N	S	P	O	T	Q	E	Y	Q	P
P	H	C	I	V	E	I	U	I	C	B	H	R	Y	P
K	G	S	S	R	H	S	O	W	S	A	Z	E	Q	W
X	U	I	O	U	C	U	H	L	O	C	S	R	F	N
Z	H	D	N	S	D	B	N	S	O	K	N	C	R	T
O	R	K	N	O	I	S	S	E	R	P	P	O	I	F
P	U	C	O	F	F	I	C	E	R	T	G	G	B	D

Find these words in the word search:

- health
- officer
- safety
- businessfirst
- police
- outreach
- surveillance
- theft
- cops
- discipline
- housingnow
- control
- oppression
- rights
- Wednesday
- powerwash
- resist
- fightback

Voices from the Strip

“On wash day, if you were watching from above looking down, it’d look like rats running from a sinking ship. When that time comes, people are running.”-**Xavier**

“The Surrey Outreach Team offers no access to resources. Its office building has an 8 foot high chain-link fence surrounding it.”
-**resident of the Strip**

“There’s so much weird shit that goes on down here that it all seems normal”-**Morgan**

“For all the money they spend on cops, they could build decent housing for everyone on the strip.”
- **resident of the Strip**



Next Issue!

If you have art to submit or a story to tell about policing, bylaw, or life on the Strip please call Dave at 778 708 5006 or e-mail us at thewhalleywindow@gmail.com

-The Whalley Window team (Teresa, Dave, Sarah, and Daniel)

“This is an Outdoor Prison” By The Whalley Window team

It’s been almost a year since the City of Surrey launched its City Centre Response Plan to deal with the “public health and safety” crises on the strip. What has become disturbingly obvious is that the city cares little about the health and safety of the homeless folks forced to live on the sidewalk of 135A Street. Its prime concern is the “health” of economic development and the “safety” of business and property owners in the area.

“The City has installed a regime of punishment and surveillance.”

Instead of providing housing and healthcare to the homeless population on the strip, the City has installed a regime of punishment and surveillance. Surrey’s “outreach team” of 12 cops and 4 bylaw performs an “outreach” function for the prison industrial complex; they are not social workers, health workers or housing advocates. They carry guns and the laws they enforce, in arbitrary and punitive ways, serve the interests of the property owning class.

What the City has created on the strip is an outdoor prison, where the people living in squalid, deplorable conditions of state-legislated poverty are surveilled, controlled and punished on a daily basis. And since the police oversee the entire operation, all other workers (fire, paramedics, social workers) participate in their oppressive regime of disciplinary management.

So it’s not that surprising that after nearly a year the homeless population has grown, the physical and mental health conditions of their lives have gotten worse, and there has been no provision of secure and dignified housing. For the residents of the strip, the City’s “public health and safety” strategy is one of punishment and elimination, plain and simple.

