



FRONT D'ACTION POPULAIRE EN RÉAMÉNAGEMENT URBAIN

180, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, local 105, Montréal (Québec) H2X 1N6
Téléphone : (514) 522-1010 • Télécopieur : (514) 527-3403
Courriel : frapru@cooptel.qc.ca • Web : www.frapru.qc.ca

Montreal, October 8th, 2007
Press Release

For immediate publication

At five days from the Throne Speech

FRAPRU moves its furniture in front of the Armed Forces Recruiting Centre in Ottawa.

In order to illustrate the growing disproportion between military spending by the Canadian government and its investments in social housing, hundreds of low-income tenants and homeless people will move furniture in front of the Armed Forces Recruiting Centre in Ottawa. This symbolic action organized by the Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU), a Quebec housing coalition of 130 local organizations, will take place on Thursday October 11th just five days before the Throne Speech that will decide the future of the Harper government. This action will be followed by a demonstration that will end up at the office of the Prime Minister.

FRAPRU deplores that in 2007-2008, military spending by the federal government will attain 17.8 billion \$, compared to barely 1.98 billion \$ for housing, this amount being essentially devoted to the funding of existing social housing. It notes that, since its rise to power, the Harper government has not put a single penny towards the funding of new housing, apart from the 800 million \$ voted under the former Liberal government of Paul Martin, following a budgetary agreement with the New Democratic Party.

FRAPRU estimates that the gap between military expenditures and the response to a need as basic as housing has grown considerably with the war in Afghanistan, that is also responsible for the loss of life, including Canadian soldiers. The Quebec Housing Coalition recalls that, according to the latest available figures, there are close to 1.5 million Canadian households in the core need housing category, among which 351,000 are from Quebec. Also, it is estimated that there are 150,000 homeless people.

For further information :

François Saillant (514) 919-2843 (cell); (514) 522-1010