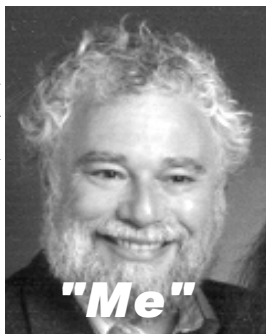


This Is *Not* About Me!

by Gordon Stone

My newspaper is not about me, but it will help me achieve two of my life goals: to create my community newspaper, and to prove I can manage as a manager.

My name is *Gordon Stone*. Four months ago I resigned as Director of the Community Unemployed Action Centre, burned out, in ruins. Then, on Friday, August 13, I won



\$1.3 million in the lottery! Obviously, my luck was good!

I gave most of the money to friends, relatives and worthy causes. What remained went to *The Winnipeg Weekly Herald*.

The Herald is a last chance to demonstrate that I can be a good manager, that I understand people. This time, everything will go

FREE

FREE

The Winnipeg Weekly Herald

All the news that fits
in six small pages.

Issue 1, November 15, 1999

We owe to no one,
only to ourselves.

write (ha ha)!

I had the money. I had the idea. Next I sat in my pyramid to work through that idea. I emerged with *CQM: Complete Quality Management*.

Now I had resources, a plan, and a brand new management system. All I needed was someone to manage and make them better. Over the last few months I have found five talented people and created a Collective. We are all equal, and I will manage by influence. The co-workers all have three year unbreakable contracts, which I am sure was one of my better ideas.

It has been a tumultuous time.

I bought a house and moved onto the second floor. The *Herald* moved onto the first.

CQM is based on equality. For everyone to have input, *CQM* calls for daily meetings totalling about 20 hours a week. True, more

than half our time is spent in meetings, but *CQM* will make it productive!

I have retained the right to do the mottos. Mottos are signals to the world. Also, as the funder, I have the right to ensure that we stay on budget and the co-workers follow their contracts. But apart from that we are all equal!

Finally that perpetually broke thirty-six year old single guy has a shot at a whole new life!

Not everything is perfect, but is anything? My current living space is *smaller* than my old apartment. The toilet breaks down more frequently (if possible). The kitchen is a joke. Co-workers always seem

to be downstairs. Privacy is nonexistent. Me and *The Herald* in the same building may not have been such a great idea, after all.

No matter. Little things don't matter in the long run!



Inside: Your Community Newspaper?

The Winnipeg Weakly Herald Workers' Collective

Minutes of Meeting November 13, 1999

by Mike Hanchuk
Herald Staff

I'd just like to say I *do* have an axe to grind, these are *my* minutes, and I'll write them *any way I want!*

That said, welcome to the first Collective minutes to be published in *The Herald*.

We sat waiting while upstairs Gordo flushed the john three times. Is that normal? Maybe it was a mistake for him to live upstairs.

1. Agenda. Debated. Another hour none of us will see again. If we're lucky.

2. Hierarchy. We are completely equal but somehow Gordo is more equal. *Will discuss again, next week.*

3. Classified ads. Lengthy debate about ad Phillips sold to anonymous client. We do not understand what the ad advertises, including Phillips. We'll open all letters sent to Box 1 and send them information about safe sex. Not happy--I am the one who lays out the paper. Is lay the right word to use?

4. CQM. Gordo blathers.

5. Motto. Can Gordo alone



decide the motto if we're all supposed to be equals? Not exactly a horizontal democracy. *Will continue discussion next week.*

6. Articles. Each co-worker must write at least one article each week. I then edit the

articles and lay out the paper. Each co-worker is responsible for their article, but as co-workers we are all also responsible for each other's articles. Confused? Welcome to the club! *Agree to continue discussion next week.*

7. Terry Bird. Very upset her movie review was cut from this issue. I apologise very respectfully and tell her I needed room for *real* articles. She claims I deliberately don't spell check her column. Why should I do her work for her, especially if her highness can't even spell?

8. Meeting adjourns, we all go home. *No discussion about anyone's articles, quality, what we want to do with our newspaper, etc. x Okay, I was fired from my last job. I did what they said. But do I deserve this real life No Exit?*

The Herald

**Free.
Worth Every Penny.**

Who are the Herald?



by Terry Bird
Herald Staff

A brand new community newspaper! What a great project! We're learning, and Winnipeg will watch us grow.

Debate in the Collective is stimulating and incisive. True, not all decisions are made by group vote. For example, the decision that there could be

room in the first edition of this paper for this article about US, but that there was no room for my first culture critic column. That decision was made by Mike.

And *only* by Mike.

Just as Mike complains about Gordon, it seems some

of us are just a wee bit more equal than the others!

So I guess you could say the Collective has a way to go. But that's what collectives are about: learning how to work with other people so you can get them to do what you want.

Mike, to be fair if I really have to, does have a tough job. She has to take our articles and make them into a coherent newspaper. Let her vent! There is plenty of time ahead of us to clarify our roles.

Gordon was a little tense when I first met him, but I joked about all the bad relationships I'd had, he joked about his--lots of common ground!

Phillips has tons of moxie. With a little more experience he could be a great reporter. Ruth was already a successful journalist. They have not directly addressed now working together, but that will come.

True, none of us has ever worked successfully in a collective. True, Ruth might want to kill Phillips. True, Mike might want to if not kill all of us, do each of us serious harm. We each have our very individual personalities.

Dan Quayle is hard to say *anything* about. He spent a lot of the meeting making coffee. Ruth and Phillips' scandal has made them kind of famous. Gordon's a famous advocate, and I've been published many times. But Dan? He's a mystery.

The Collective and What I think Of It

Gordon Stone. Social service activist, nerd, lottery winner. He tries very hard. He means well. But, well.... *Manager.*

Phillips Slothead. A would-be muckraking reporter, fired in his first week for his first article. He reported Ruth Schwartzman's strictly off the record comment. He's got a lot to learn. *Reporter.*

Ruth Schwartzman. A talented journalist, she became a government Communications Officer and was fired after Phillips reported her off-the-record comment. *Reporter.*

Terry Bird. Well known artist, Curator, feminist activist. Pretty sharp, certainly that's true of her tongue. *Culture Critic.*

Dan Quayle. Worked in a donut shop. Likeable guy, always short in the wallet department. *Entertainment Page Editor.*

Mike Hanchuk. This is me. Fired from lots of places. I edit and lay out the Herald, and spell-check the articles of the co-workers who are not jerks. Look for my *comments.* *Editor, layout.*

Toxic Train Wreck Downtown



This is a stock photo because Gordo forgot to budget for art.

Our Statement of Principles

**We will create
the best paper
in town**

**We will report
honestly**

**We won't be bought
(we're free)**

**by Phillips Slothead
Herald Staff**

I was woken up last night by a huge crashing sound. It was a derailed freight train, in the middle of downtown.

The derailing may have been caused by an overheated switchbox.

The train carried 29,000 tonnes of the lethal chemical *Neoconservationium*, along with 3,000 frozen turkeys.

The toxic waste was

shipped by AAA Acme Incorp. AAA refused to return The Slothead's phone calls.

The toxic waste is bright blue. Police were having a hard time keeping the curious away. There are significant public health concerns.

AAA has the highest number of shipping accidents in the waste disposal business.

Our Logo

by Mike Hanchuk

Perhaps you noticed our logo on the front page. What looks like a donut with five bites out of it is the Collective. with the six white zeroes the co-workers. The biggest zero of all is Gordo.

I told Gordo if he was going to do mottos, I own the logo. He said okay. No one here has asked me about the logo. But none of them have noticed Weekly is misspelled, either. And, check out the Citizen Kane momento on this page!

Classified Ads

*SWM, seeks similar.
Must be white. Evening dress
optional, must be double jointed.
Sand showers, wet or dry. Apply
to The Herald, Box 1.*

*Comics for Sale.
I have a lot of comics, some real old,
and want to sell them. If you're
interested, write Box 2 of The Herald.*

*Garage Seal
The seal in our garage has
got to go! Box 1846, Katie
Schwartzman.*

Food Bank Leader Sells Out

by Ruth Schwartzman
Herald Staff

Food bank workers and clients rallied last Thursday at the Legislative Building to demand the government restore needed funding to social services.

"Cutbacks to programmes have doubled the clients of food banks," Dan Weston,

Director of Harvest Bank, told the crowd.

After the rally broke up, however, the Minister of Family Services quietly invited Weston and other key leaders inside for a meeting. A reception followed, complete with buffet. \$2,500 was spent to wine, dine and co-opt Weston and the others. Enough food was eaten to supply Weston's food bank for almost three days.

When this reporter asked Dan what the people eating at his soup kitchen would think of his scarfing down the buf-



fet, he got angry. We argued, he shoved *The Herald*, and finally he was escorted out by security guards.

Ofcourse, Weston may think he was singled out for my questions because this reporter happens to be his ex-wife.

Well, maybe so. But he was a jerk to me and the kids, and deserves it.

To the Editor:

We worked with Gordon Stone at the Community Unemployed Action Centre.

Gordon is a nice guy who instead of just sitting down with us would instead try out his latest management fad.

For the first couple of years it was all right. He had a lot of energy. We could ignore the pyramid. But then he burned us out. It is no secret he was in serious trouble as our Director because he had lost our confidence.

Now Gordon has started a newspaper. Why? Why not give the money to social services? He resisted the call of politics while at our Centre. Now that he has money is it different? Does he want to create a power base?

We dare Gordon to publish this letter!

Co-workers of The Herald, be warned: with Gordon at the helm you will spend more time in meetings than you will actually working.

Entire Staff, CUAC

The Mob and Your Garbage

by Phillips Slothead
Herald Staff

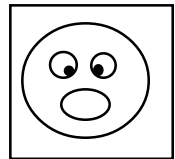
The company which disposes of eighty percent of Winnipeg's toxic wastes, AAA Acme Incorp., is owned by organized crime.

Photocopies of incorporation documents show AAA is owned by a numbered company which is controlled by organized crime figures.

I spent countless hours tracking this down. Well I didn't get it myself, it was handed to me by a financial informant inside AAA Acme. I promised him confidentiality.

Over sixty percent of the toxic wastes handled by AAA Acme are shipped out of Manitoba. In 1994 twenty-five tonnes of this toxic waste were used as landfill for a Calgary playground. The cancer rate in that area is now 250% above average.

AAA won the contract to dispose of our wastes under mysterious circumstances: three companies which filed bids withdrew, while two which did not withdraw burned in suspicious fires.



Phillips Slothead
He'd rather you not know what he looks like

Rear End

The World's Best Crossword

by Dan Quayle, Entertainment Editor

Today's Theme: "Be Generous to Dan"



Down

- 1 Big debts
- 7 Rope around neck
- 9 No savings
- 13 Empty wallet
- 25 I need money
- 27 Pay a debt
- 35 Gambling debts
- 49 Dan needs money
- 57 Credit Officer
- 59 Dan needs money bad
- 63 "It is ----- to be generous"



Dan

Up

- 3 Loanshark
- 17 Credit Card bills
- 23 Send money to Dan Quayle
- 27 Bankruptcy
- 33 Dan's pocket is -----
- 41 No money
- 45 Send money to Dan now
- 51 Interest on loans
- 52 Send cash to Dan Quayle
- 57 The Lord loves generous --
- 64 \$20, to Dan

Register now for Dan Quayle's Puzzle Club. Send \$25 plus \$15 shipping and handling directly to Dan Quayle!

The Winnipeg Weekly Herald
by Victor Schwartzman
Copyright, 2006
This is a work of fiction.