

# Letters

## Health a controlled illness

Recently, I heard Shawn Buckley speaking at the Cleland Theatre. He talked about Health Canada. As a constitutional lawyer, Mr. Buckley warns of the clear and present danger that is Parliamentary Bill C-6, a regulatory agenda that would allow Health Canada to become an Orwellian monster. Indeed, Mr. Buckley's calm and even manner was the foundation of a dire warning to all Canadians: Bill C-6 must be contained.

Many of Penticton's finest neighbours were there at the Cleland Theatre. And Mr Buckley convinced us all that it is time to hear the call. Because, soon, should Canadians allow Parliament to pass Bill C-6, we are going to get to where George Orwell said we're headed "If you want a vision of the future," he said. "Imagine a boot stamping a human face, forever." Mr. Buckley makes it sound like Bill C-6 is a step in that direction.

There was controversy last year with Bill C-52, but it returns like a horror movie sequel. Bill C-6 would allow Taser-wielding enforcement officers to burst through our doors, any time they like, morning, noon or night and take all our stuff. Because, now, it is not just about Health Food Products; it's about all consumer products Health Canada believes to be unsafe. Proof: not needed. Thereafter, government agents would manage our health choices, declaring, both, cause and cure. They'd direct us toward big-pharma drugs, made available by lobbyists, while criminalizing other principled options. If Bill C-52 would have brought in a nanny-state, Bill C-6 will bring in a police-state. The lecture was sponsored by Nature's Fare, one of many local merchants who supply us with natural health options. Thanks to them.

Buckley suggests that it is very important that we all

contact our elected representative, and I will do that. But I've seen the pictures of Stockwell Day's large and lovely family. So, I wonder what sort of world our local MP wants to leave for his children and grandchildren. And for yours and mine. Perhaps his will live resplendently behind castle walls while ours, in unwashed serfdom, are slaves to unelected officials. Mr. Day knows. Protesters have been protesting, every Friday, outside his office for the past year. Thanks to them, too.

But I'll say it, regardless: Please Mr. Day, defend us from this Bill C-6 madness. The more important bill, our Bill of Rights says all you need to remember. "The Parliament of Canada, affirms that the Canadian nation is founded upon principles that acknowledge the supremacy of God, the dignity and worth of the human person and the position of the family in a society of free men and free institutions." And that's only the first line of the preamble; you should read the rest; it's great. It grants us the right to say: Health Canada, leave us alone. Bill C-6 would deny that right.

Meanwhile, the loss of the *Western's* Sunday edition should worry us all, because it might portend a time when there is no local news. No national or international news services, either, due to the global economic downturn. Then, who will hear our neighbour's cries? Who will hear ours?

Warn everyone you know. With this tightening grip on our fragile freedoms, Health Canada will maintain that, "health is a controlled illness," and it will, somehow, make sense, almost.

*Geoff Burton  
Penticton*