



OUTLOOK

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Nova Scotia
Raising debate • Creating policy alternatives

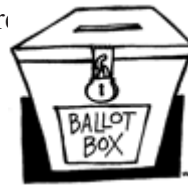
Co-ops: local development - social, environmental and economic justice

Join us for this panel discussion and lots more at the CCPA - NS Annual General meeting in Truro on April 21st from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm in Truro

We invite you to join us at our annual general meeting on April 21st. We will feature a panel discussion with moderator Tom Webb, who has developed, and currently teaches in the co-operatives management program at Saint Mary's University. He has more than 25 years of experience with co-ops: as a board member, as a senior manager with Co-op Atlantic, and as a consultant to co-operative business. Tom is also a past director of the St. F.X. Extension Department.

Also joining the panel is Debra Moore, CEO and founder of Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-operative. Just Us! is a worker-owned co-op in the Annapolis Valley that imports and roasts organically grown and fairly-traded coffee. Just Us! wholesales their fairly-traded products throughout Canada and owns four cafes in Nova Scotia with two more to open in Toronto. Debra is also a member of the CCPA - NS Steering Committee. Other panellists to be confirmed for

this discussion on the co-operative alternative and their potential in today's economic climate. A question and answer session will follow the panel. This promises to be an interesting and lively discussion. Non-members are also welcome to attend, so bring friends along.



At our AGM, we will also have elections for positions on the CCPA - NS Steering Committee. If you or your organization belong to the CCPA - NS, please consider putting your name forward for nomination.

Currently, there are positions open for three people who are individual members. There is also one position open for an organizational representative. If you are interested, please contact Mary MacLeod at mary.macleod@acadiu.ca or 902.585.1734.

CCPA - NS continues to build on its solid reputation as a pro-

gressive voice on public policy debates. Provincial Director John Jacobs is the full-time staff person and he and our talented group of Research Asso-

Con't on page 3



We will be serving lunch before the AGM, so please come at 12:30 pm for some food and a bit of socializing before we start the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact CCPA - NS Chairperson Joan Wark at 454.6735. The church is located at 250 Brunswick St. in Truro and you will find a map on page 3.

See you on April 21st.

Book review “Race in Play”

Please note: This review is condensed version of a review that has been submitted for publication in a future issue of the International Review for the Sociology of Sport.

Race in Play by Carl E. James, Canadian Scholar's Press, Toronto, 2005, 244 pages (including index) ISBN: 1-55130-273-X pbk.

Reviewed by Robert Pitter, Acadia University, Canada

Race in Play by Carl James is a welcome addition to the limited literature exploring issues concerning sport, race, racialization, and racism in Canadian schools. Focussing on the school system in the city of Toronto, James endeavours to provide insight into the socio-cultural words of student athletes through a series of case studies that carefully analyse the voices of high school students, their parents, teachers, and coaches.

Collectively, the seven chapters that comprise the main body of the book investigate the significance of school sports in the lives of students from grade eight through university. Each chapter of the book is organized around a specific theme: sport's role in school participation, race and sport participation, sports scholarships and academic aspirations, gendered

experiences of student athletes, lessons learned from failed aspirations, the role of coaches, and parental concerns. Using multiple methods and sources, James covers this range of sport and educational experiences in several ways I found to be interesting, insightful and reasonably thorough.

In each of the first five chapters of the book, we are presented with several glimpses at the role that significant others such as parents, coaches, and teachers play in shaping the identities and aspirations of student athletes. Chapter 6 combines these glimpses with a review of the literature to examine the role of coaches. In so doing, the book moves in a more explicitly pragmatic direction. James illustrates that the relationships between student athletes and coaches “are complex, varied, and interconnected . . .” (p. 194) and as such he encourages coaches to carefully and critically think about their instructional methods and relationships with athletes.

Many will agree with James's conclusion that sports are an effective tool for both students and teachers and he suggests they are most effective when coaches take the time to unearth their personal cultural values and expectations in conjunction with those of the

students. Continuing in this pragmatic direction, Chapter 7 briefly explores the concerns that parents have about sports interfering with academic achievement. Drawing from the information and analysis presented earlier in the book, James argues in favour of involving marginalised youth in athletics. He explains that it is up to parents to challenge racist and ethnocentric structures and processes that skew the encouragement and educational and other opportunities offered to students. Parents, James stresses, have a vital role to play in the academic success of their children. This role includes advocating and pressing for a form of equity in education that is amenable to various ethnocultural backgrounds and abilities and encourages diversification in sports.

James concludes the book with a discussion of inclusive schooling for student athletes. He recognizes that there are both benefits and drawbacks to sports participation and cautions teachers, coaches, parents, and others against being race-blind or race neutral and thereby ignoring how students' experiences, accomplishments, interests, and dreams might be racialized and the consequences of this racialization. Based on the findings of his research and that of others, he

Con't from page 2

argues that inclusive schooling for student athletes requires what I would describe as a sort of middle ground where athletic excellence and academic excellence can co-exist. A middle ground where sport and physical activity serve to make school meaningful and

to develop and reinforce their academic involvement and skills. A middle ground that is built on a foundation that challenges rather than promotes practices that “reproduce situations in which students’ school participation reflects their positions in the school hierarchy

of Canadian society” (p. 22). I enjoyed reading *Race in Play* and recommend it to Canadians interested in better understanding sport, education and race.

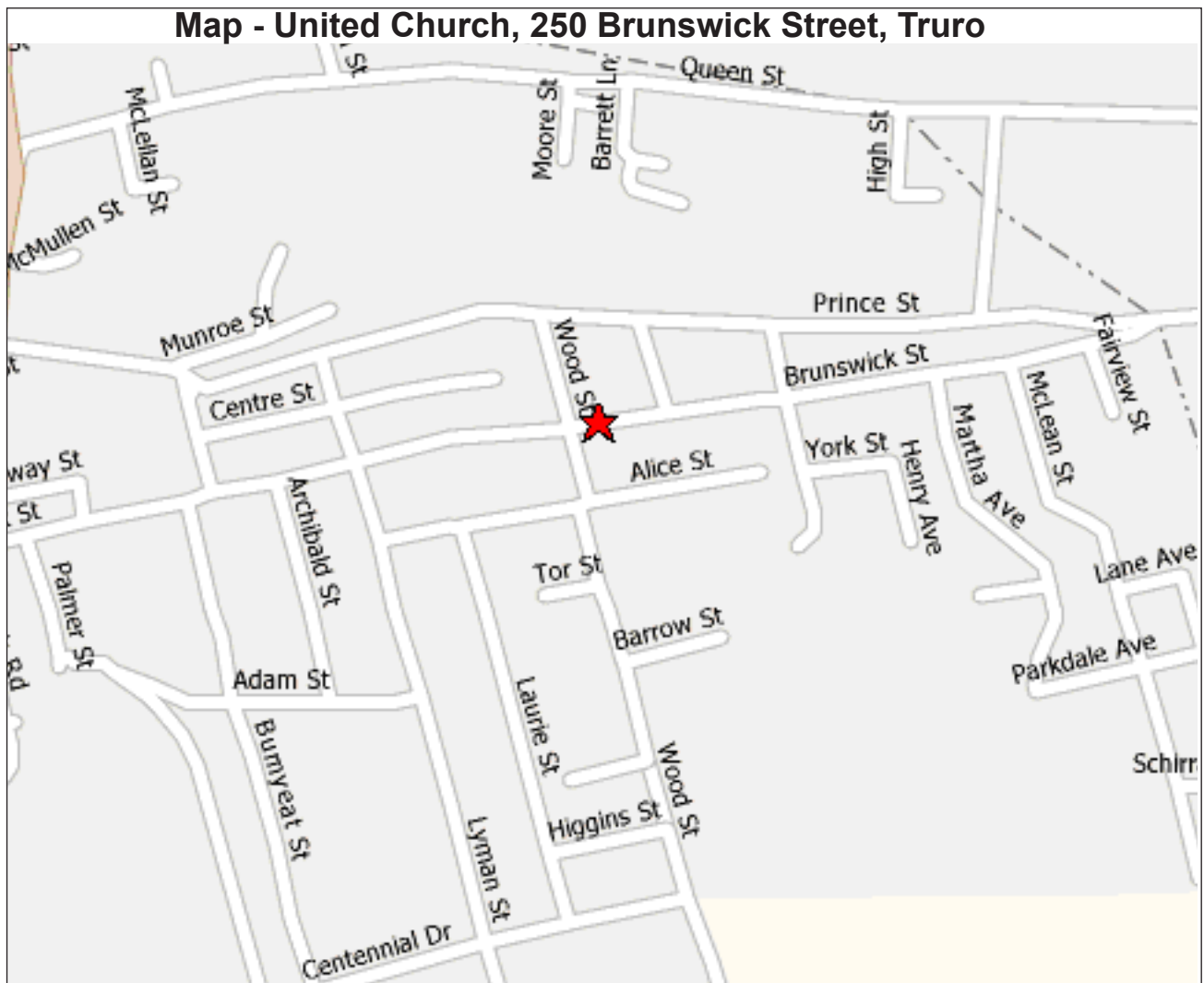
Robert Pitter is a member of the CCPA - NS Steering Committee.

Con't from page 1

ciates are producing excellent work, showing that there are always alternatives in public policies. As a member of the Steering Committee, you can help us build this organization so we can increase our capac-

ity to do more. We would again encourage you to consider putting your name forward and be a part of this vibrant organization that is such a crucial voice for Nova Scotians.

Also at this meeting we will be reviewing activities since our last AGM in Halifax and giving you an update on our financial situation



Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Nova Scotia

Tel: 902-477-1252; Fax: 902-484-6344

email: ccpans@policyalternatives.ca

Website: www.policyalternatives.ca. Organizational memberships are also available. For more information, please call CCPA - NS

Provincial Director John Jacobs at 902-477-1252.



Please note that this form is for new members only. If you would like to renew and have not received your notice, call 477.1252

Become a member of the CCPA - NS

Please complete and return this form to: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Nova Scotia Office, P.O. Box 8355, Halifax, N.S., B3K 5M1. You can also join online: www.policyalternatives.ca

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