

EDITORIAL NOTE

As we write this, the G8 and G20 summits have transformed downtown Toronto into a barren, barricaded, heavily policed zone. While scenes of violence – perpetrated by no more than a hundred self-described anarchists – captivated the media, thousands of other energetic, progressive Canadians gathered throughout the weekend to protest and imagine a better world. Our cover picture is from the large gathering that took place on Saturday, June 26th. That afternoon, thousands of protestors and demonstrators gathered to peacefully protest a host of issues, from climate change inaction, to failed promises on HIV-AIDS policies, to job markets, and to preemptively warn provincial and federal governments that the public service would not bare the brunt of the economic recovery. This was the largest gathering of a week of protest, including a Native Day of Action, to the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty protest, to the Toxic Tour, to the gathering of LGBT activists. As the summit concluded with vague promises around climate change and ominous warnings about the need to tackle debt, escalating fears around public services and servants, many were left wondering about whether the summit was worth it, both in terms of cost and the temporary abridgement of our democratic rights and freedoms.

All of this demonstrates the continued relevancy of left wing politics, and of the importance for contemporary activists to have a grasp of the history behind the policies they fight, of struggles that have come before, in all realms. We hope that *Left History* can continue to be a site for further discussion of these issues, and, as always, encourage you (and your students and colleagues) to submit articles, essays, and touch base with us.

In this issue, we welcome two new editors and say farewell to one. Krista Weger will be stepping down as a co-editor after a productive tenure with the journal, and in her stead we welcome Katharine Bausch and Brian MacDowall as co-editors. Dan Horner and Ian Milligan will be remaining with us through this issue.

Our next issue focuses on Active History, and will be out in December 2010. The issue is shaping up well, and will contain peer-reviewed articles, theoretical pieces as well as several discussions about active history projects, what active history is, and the role of historians in all of these projects. If you missed our Call for Papers, fear not! Please consider contributing, as we're always looking for great, original, and compelling content.