

**Edgeley discussed in symposium**

# Housing problem not solved in suburbs

By DARA LEVINTER

"We see your problems as our solutions," visiting professor Doug Montgomery commented at last week's Bi-National, Tri-City Urban symposium.

Attempting to familiarize students with the current problems in Canadian urban planning, a panel discussion was held by the urban studies programme at York to illustrate the mounting difficulties Toronto planners face due to increasing growth rates.

"Housing," feels York professor Francis Frisken, "has become an acute problem, with the central area of the city becoming an attractive residential location for middle income families, causing displacement among those in lower income brackets." The alternative: public housing in the suburbs, which Frisken regards as a means of shifting rather than solving the problem.

Edgeley is a subsidized development, commissioned by the Federal Government in 1964, presently situated in the Jane-Finch area just to the west of the York campus.

Irving Grossman, a Toronto architect affiliated with the project, feels that at the outset there were several positive aspects in the planning of Edgeley, but allows "it is impossible to anticipate changes over the framework of a 10-year period."

The main goal in building Edgeley was to integrate socially as well as architecturally private and government assisted housing, and minimize the differences between the two. However, the "central core", a complex of recreational facilities intended to create a focus for the community and generate activity, was never completed.

In reaction, Pat O'Neill organized and became executive of the Edgeley Tenants' Association. She classifies the major problems of the community as economic ones, other main concerns being limited space, resentment among lower and middle income tenants, and loss of pride due to posted government housing signs labelling them as second class citizens.

Provision of funds for recreation in public housing came out too late

to subsidize Edgeley, and so now becomes the responsibility of the borough. If the complex is constructed, it will be for wider community use, to which O'Neill objects.

O'Neill also objects to the OHC's

one year lease policy and annual rent hikes imposed on the community. Other complaints such as lack of adequate transportation, medical care and simple management dealing are sound, but remain common

examples of governmental inefficiency.

"In terms of integration, the community hasn't worked," said O'Neill. "The only hope left is the chance of getting out."

## Progressive Crombie tag deceptive

By DOUG TINDAL

Toronto mayor David Crombie has devoted more time to maintaining the image of a progressive mayor than to being it, a Toronto journalist said last Thursday.

Jon Caulfield, for three years the city hall columnist for the Toronto Citizen, told an urban studies symposium that Crombie's "reform council" is more accurately a "middle class vehicle" that has produced no reforms other than saving "nice buildings from development". The symposium was hosted by York's urban studies programme in conjunction with similar programmes at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, and Lake Forest College in Chicago.

A coalition of "neighbourhood forces and those genuinely concerned with social problems" combined in 1972 to throw out the pro-development Metro council, and to elect the reformers headed by Crombie.

Caulfield said the developers have lost nothing and the poor have gained nothing.

"The real winners are the middle-class neighbourhood people," he said, "the nice building people."

## John and friends orchestrate life while Kafka talks about Earth

A Sound Matrix will be presented today by John and Friends, a group of people that present a clear statement of life through the medium of music, in 110 Curtis discussion room at 1:30 p.m.

Next Tuesday, October 29, Peter Kafka from Loveland, Colorado, will lecture on the topic, The Earth of Your Being.

This lecture represents the fifth

session in the Art of Living Series presented by the York Ontology Club, and will take place in S169 Ross. These sessions are free and everyone is welcome.

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Tues., 5:00 P.M.

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sponsored by: Jewish Student Federation at York U., and Hillel foundation at U. of Toronto.

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