

Francis Fernandez with picture of Jimmy Carter in Washington on Jan. 20. *Times photo by RON POZZER*

Mississauga man invited to Carter's inaugural

By SID RODAWAY
Francis Fernandez thinks Jimmy Carter is the best thing to come along in America since fried chicken, and because of that he has been invited to attend Carter's presidential inauguration on Jan. 20.
Fernandez, a 53-year-old aluminum-siding salesman who lives on Greenmeadow Crescent, is one of those rare persons who enjoys writing letters, particularly to prominent politicians in both the U.S. and Canada.
In August, he wrote Carter "just a small little letter wishing him success."
He also urged Carter to take adequate security precautions

against would-be assassins.
Fernandez wrote Carter that "there are very few people of your calibre in America" and that the country could not afford to lose him.
The Carter Inaugural Committee responded on Thursday with an invitation for Fernandez to attend and participate in the inauguration ceremony at 11:30 a.m. and the inauguration parade at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 20.
"I've already booked my airline tickets but accommodation hasn't been worked out yet because of the heavy crowds expected in Washington," Fernandez said Tuesday.

His latest letter to a government official was mailed Monday to Jean-Luc Pepin, former head of the Anti-Inflation Board.
"I saw an interview with him on television on Sunday and I liked what he said so I wrote him a letter to tell him he was a champion of the people. It's too bad he's leaving the AIB."
"I write letters constantly to Trudeau, Canadian government officials and Americans," he said.
"If more people would write government officials they would have a better chance of finding out the real views of the people," Fernandez added.

LIP group helps tenants get their rights

By PAUL WILLIAMS
Warren Peace (not his real name), a student attending school in Mississauga, had a problem.

Peace, who was originally from Hamilton, had given proper notice to his landlord that he would be vacating his apartment when his lease was up Dec. 31.

Peace asked friends, who were visiting his apartment on the weekend of Dec. 15-16, to help him move.

All of his furniture was carted back to Hamilton. At the same time, Peace had the phone cut off.

He still had possession of the apartment until Dec. 31 and although he had moved his belongings, he intended to live there until his school term ended.

However, when he returned to his apartment on the Monday after the weekend he moved, he found the apartment had been occupied by new tenants.

With the help of the Mississauga Tenant Information Centre (MTIC), Peace is now in the process of taking his former landlord to small claims court to recover a half month's rent and travelling costs.

Without the help and advice of MTIC, Peace, not realizing the courses of action he could take or his rights, would probably have dropped the whole matter.

The MTIC is one of seven Local Initiatives Program projects in Mississauga. They received a total of \$80,000 recently from the Department of Manpower and Immigration and the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

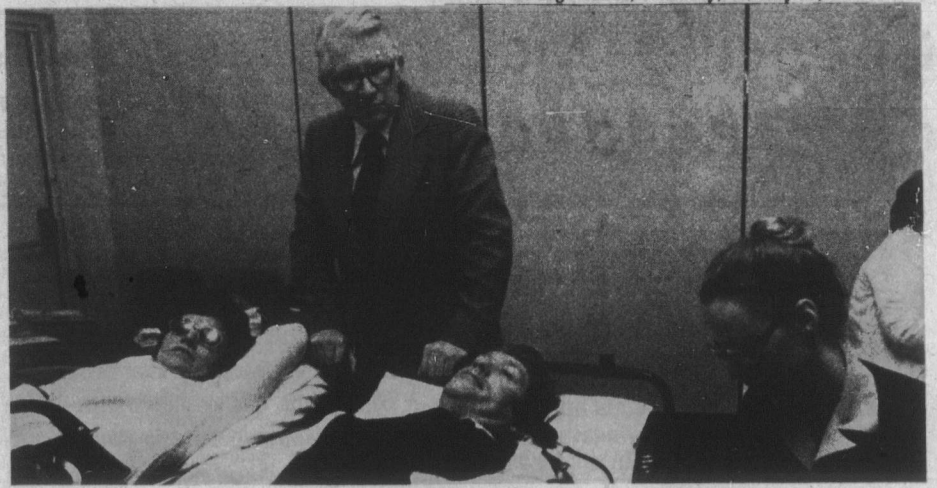
Peace's case is one of 74 handled by MTIC since its inception in early November.

The LIP grant of \$10,000 will enable two workers to handle the centre's phones until June 23.

The function of the centre is to answer questions from Mississauga's tenants on matters concerning landlord-tenant relations, rent controls and municipal bylaws concerning apartments.

The Mississauga Hospital was awarded \$9,595 for a special project dealing with Extended Care in another LIP project.

Other LIP grants in Mississauga: \$10,200 for Aid for New Mothers; \$9,240 for a Pre-Planned Fire Attack Data Program; \$15,300 for a recreation and parks department program; \$10,200 for a Community Services Project; and \$10,200 for an Outreach Program.



Mayor's blood clinic

Mississauga's newly elected mayor, Ron Searle, talks with donors at the Mayor's Blood Clinic last week. The clinic was held at Mississauga City Hall, across from the Square One Shopping Centre. *Times photo by RON POZZER*



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