

WE ARE PARKDALE!

THIS STRIKE IS FOR ALL OF US.



THE RENT STRIKE CONTINUES JULY 1ST.
WE MUST STAY TOGETHER TO WIN.

PARKDALE:ORGANIZE! FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD POWER.

READY TO ORGANIZE? HAVE QUESTIONS?

GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ORGANIZATION: 647-874-8793



**PARKDALE
ORGANIZE!**

PARKDALEORGANIZE@GMAIL.COM

This is

Volume 1 Issue 9 - June 2017

PARKDALE

A publication of Parkdale: Organize!

NEGOTIATIONS WITH METCAP HAVE BEGUN

METCAP TENANTS THROUGHOUT PARKDALE WILL NOT PAY RENT ON JULY 1ST

On May 1st, the Parkdale rent strike began. Our demands were clear: no above guideline rent increases and repair our units. Two months later, we have seen the power of the rent strike change the dynamic between people in Parkdale and the landlords who want to push us out of our homes. Finally, MetCap is willing to discuss tenants' demands.

Back in March, after months of MetCap ignoring tenants' calls for meetings, over 100 Parkdale tenants took their demands directly to MetCap's office. MetCap refused to even acknowledge their tenants and instead of meeting, MetCap hired a security guard and called the cops. From that day forward you and hundreds of your neighbours have put pressure on MetCap, their executives and their investors. These actions have been so significant that MetCap accepted they could no longer ignore Parkdale.

Last week, high ranking executives from both MetCap and their investor, AIMCo came to Parkdale to negotiate with building representatives. MetCap wants this rent strike to end. Parkdale needs to make it clear to MetCap that the way to stop the rent strike is to stop the rent increases.

How did MetCap go from threatening to negotiating? Why are executives who control billions of dollars sitting across the table from working class tenants even though they have no legal obligation to negotiate? The reason is simple: hundreds of our neighbours have organized together. We have marched through the streets, occupied offices and tribunals, been in the media, held meetings and most importantly – went on rent strike together. That's why, this time, MetCap isn't getting away with what they have always been able to get away with.

When the rent strike started, there was a lot of fear. People were afraid that if they went on rent strike they would be evicted. The opposite ended up being true.



The strength of the rent strike protected our neighbours from eviction and continues to protect them from eviction now.

At the first negotiation meeting with tenants, MetCap agreed to back off from the 38 eviction hearings they applied for at the Landlord and Tenant board. If you receive a letter from the Landlord and Tenant board about an eviction hearing, please contact Parkdale Organize. MetCap has already agreed to NOT go forward with these eviction hearings.

It was not just the threat of organizing or the threat of a rent strike that has MetCap finally doing repairs and treating tenants with respect. Dynamics changed in Parkdale's favour when, by June, over 300 tenants actually went on rent strike.

If negotiations are to be successful, this pressure must continue on July 1st. Even if you paid your rent in May or June, it is essential that you go on rent strike for July 1st. MetCap must understand that if they do not end these rent increases, the rent strike will continue. With your participation, this can be the strongest month yet.

The rent strike is working. The rent strikers are winning. Join the rent strike on July 1st. Be a rent striker and win this fight for Parkdale.

JULY 1ST RENT STRIKE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- You should join the rent strike!

Everyone is safe.
The rent strike is working.

- Negotiations have begun.

MetCap agreed to stop all eviction processes during the negotiations. If you did not pay rent in May and/or June, MetCap will not evict you.

- What to expect.

When you decide to join the rent strike in July, you will probably get a “friendly reminder” letter from MetCap reminding you to pay your rent. *These letters don’t mean anything.*

If you receive an N4 eviction letter DO NOT WORRY! It’s just a warning letter. If you agree to pay rent at an eviction hearing, you will be safe. MetCap has been forced to stop all eviction processes during negotiations.

- When to pay rent.

Rent strikers will decide when to end the rent strike with you and your neighbours. Talk to your neighbours before you pay rent.

- What to do with your rent.

Do not spend it! Some rent strikers purchased money orders to keep the rent money safe and out of their accounts. Money orders cost \$7.50 and can be purchased at any bank, the post office, or any cheque cashing spot. We can pay you back for the money order fees.

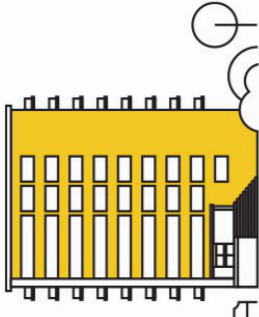
There are contact people in each building. Talk to your neighbours if you have any questions or concerns

For more information, email:
parkdaleorganize@gmail.com
or call 647-874-8793.

If you need legal information, contact Parkdale Community Legal Services, 416-531-2411.

February 1

units in 87 Jameson go on rent strike to oppose MetCap's AGIs

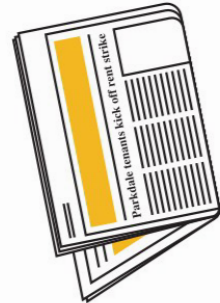


February 8

protest during first mediation between Parkdale tenants' and MetCap at Landlord and Tenant Board where property management applied for an AGI at 87 Jameson

March 16

occupation of MetCap offices to demand withdrawal of AGI application and deliver box of outstanding repairs

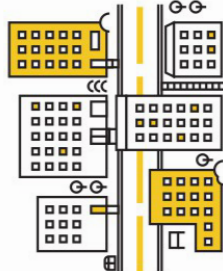


April 30

massive community wide march in Parkdale to support tenants as they begin rent strike

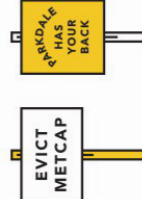
May 1

200 units in six buildings withhold rent in protest of AGIs



May 4

demonstration in front of AIMCo offices for its endorsement of MetCap's management



May 15

disruption of FRPO meeting for failing to condemn actions of Brent Merrill, CEO of MetCap



June 1

rent strike spreads to a dozen buildings with at least an additional 100 units committing to withhold rent

June 3

rent strikers and supporters have Parkdale party in front of Guy Alberga's house in Forest Hills to shame him for his role as MetCap consultant, advising property management to push for AGI

June 5-7

rallies organized by local teachers at Queen Victoria Public School every morning on King and Jameson leading up to hearing for 87 Jameson

June 7

protest during hearing for MetCap's application for AGI at 87 Jameson at Landlord and Tenant Board