

hind. The Conservatives, for example, have not felt the need to re-assess their position on free trade or Meech Lake. After all, they won the election, so their stand on these questions "must have worked." What they have re-assessed, however, is their ability to keep all the promises they made during the campaign. Finance Minister Michael Wilson has already announced that it will be impossible to keep these promises, and that Canadians should brace themselves for various tax increases and fiscal measures which were not mentioned during the course of the election.

A political party which indulges in pragmatism can never serve people's interests. It is a philosophy which has other aims. And in the current situation, one can see clearly that one of the aims is to hide precisely which class the various political parties serve.



NATIVE STUDENTS PROTEST NEW POLICY ON THE POST-SECONDARY STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

On March 22 in Winnipeg, 2000 students demonstrated against proposed government cutbacks in post-secondary education funding for Native students, which will take effect April 1. The demonstration in Winnipeg was part of a national day of protest which saw actions in most provinces as well as the Yukon. The decision of the government to implement the E-12 Guidelines



View of the demonstration organized in Winnipeg on March 22.

is a violation of the Native people's treaty rights.

The demonstration in Winnipeg was organized by the Indian, Métis and Inuit Student Association but included the support and participation of various non-Native students and their organizations. The University of Manitoba Students Union, the student newspaper at the University of Manitoba, *The Manitoban*, the International Students' Organization and the Manitoba Student Movement, student organization of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist), organized and worked for the success of the demonstration. The participation of non-Native students and student organizations was one of the specific objectives of the Native students who were active in organizing the action. They recognized at the outset the necessity to unite all the students. Those who participated on behalf of other organizations made note of the importance of uniting in the fight for the common demands of the students.

While the E-12 Guidelines are a specific attack against Native youth and students' they are also part of a broad front of education cutbacks that are increasingly affecting the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education. In their statements and comments on this issue, UMSU, *The Manitoban*, the ISO and MSM all made reference to the basic right to education as fundamental for the youth of this country and it is a measure of the quality of the society. Their view was that an attack on one section of the students was an attack on all the students and must be treated as such. This unity they believe will deal a blow to those who seek to employ the policy of "divide and rule" in an effort to split the ranks of the people.

In Vancouver, more than 150 Native and non-Native students demonstrated at Robson Square. Beverley Scow of the Inter-Campus Native Student Network said that students across the country are standing for a moratorium on the implementation of changes to