



Who is The New Socialist Group?

We are a group of activists committed to the self-emancipation of the working class, internationalism, and opposition to imperialism and all forms of oppression. While adhering to common principles and policies, we encourage a diverse range of views within our group, recognizing that such diversity enriches socialist politics.

Socialism from Below

As an organization we promote the politics of 'Socialism from Below'. While our members come from a range of radical left perspectives (both marxist and anarchist), we share the belief that liberation can only come from the self-organization and activity of working and oppressed peoples. We reject forms of socialism and socialist organizing that are undemocratic, bureaucratic, and authoritarian.

We believe the only way to a genuinely democratic, just, equitable, and free society based on the defense of the environment, is through the overthrow of capitalism by working and oppressed people. Reforms within the capitalist system can help improve our lives and further working class struggle, however if we want to build the power to challenge capitalism itself we believe they must be pushed for by militant and democratic movements that promote a vision of an entirely different world. To do this, the NSG seeks to contribute to the growth and radicalization of social justice, anti-poverty, labour, feminist, queer liberation, anti-oppression and environmental movements.

Liberation Politics

NSG supports movements for self-determination within the Canadian state and internationally. We support the demand for independence in Quebec and native demands for sovereignty.

Our organization is committed to anti-oppression politics. We believe the struggle for socialism cannot be separate from struggles against racism, white supremacy, all forms of sexual and gender oppression (including heterosexism and the oppression of transsexual and transgender), ableism and other forms of discrimination. This means supporting the liberation movements of all oppressed people and linking the struggles against different kinds of oppression. It also means being aware of our own actions and constantly striving to eliminate oppressive practices in the way we organize. We work in solidarity with people of colour who are organizing independently, fighting for dignity, power and self-determination.

Our Activism

NSG members make a commitment to being activists. Capitalism and systems of oppression gain much of their power by isolating us from others facing similar issues. In order to effect positive change we believe we must work collectively to build organizations on militant and radically democratic terms. We also feel radicals are better able to assess prospects for change when they are involved in present struggles. NSG members make it a priority to participate in many areas of activism including the labour, anti-poverty, global justice and anti-war movements. We try to develop grassroots democracy within movements and develop solidarity between them.

We support international solidarity campaigns with the people of Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Palestine and many other countries in the global South and we also defend the rights of immigrants and refugees.

Getting Involved

Making a commitment to join the NSG does not mean one has to forfeit their individual identity and adopt an exact political program. In fact, the history of socialism from below has always been about the freedom of individuals. Ending war, environmental destruction, the drudgery of work, racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression only matter because individual happiness matters. Our group offers important resources to help you learn and work with other experienced activists, but we also encourage members to help shape and remake the future of our organization as part of the practice of transforming society.

If you agree with the ideas in this leaflet we encourage you to get in touch, to join our organization or become a formal supporter and to help us build a movement for socialism from below.

How to find Us

The NSG has branches in Vancouver, Toronto, Sudbury and members in several other cities. We have a sister organization in Quebec called Gauche Socialiste and one in the US called Solidarity. If you are interested in joining an existing branch or finding out if there are other members in your part of the country please contact us:

National email newsoc@web.net,

box 167 253 College St. Toronto, ON, M5T 1R5

Toronto (416) 280-6435, **Hamilton** (905) 540-8228,

Guelph (519) 763-7138, **Sudbury** (705) 670-1420

Vancouver, lower mainland and Vancouver Island,

NSG c/o Box 4955, Vancouver, V6B 4A6, nsgvan@resist.ca

web site: www.newsocialist.org