



SCAN! @ Kingston

SCAN! set up an organizing committee of ten people to build the National Seniors Day for climate event on October 1 and began work in June. The committee did a lot of outreach to community groups, labour, educators and youth, faith groups and Indigenous peoples and groups, as well as to city council and provincial and federal NDP, Green, and Liberal representatives. We asked groups to endorse and/or sponsor the event and invited groups to have an information table. SCAN! members all contributed to building October 1, poster, leafleting, and setting up the SCAN! information table for the event. Members organized to leaflet at the Seniors Centre – which opposed running an ad for Seniors for Climate.



The outreach for the event and the rally itself raised the profile of SCAN! and built new connections with other groups, and 130-150 people attended. Given it was a Tuesday afternoon and the city closed Ontario Street for a film shoot, the turnout was respectable. We received endorsements from eighteen organizations. Seven groups (including SCAN!) had information tables. Eighteen people signed up as new SCAN! members, and dozens more signed the contact list. We raised \$2,469.00 in donations, including \$500 in cash at the rally and \$100 from Seniors for Climate. We asked the City of Kingston to proclaim Seniors for Climate Day, and our request was passed unanimously by city council. We used the proclamation to build public awareness of the rally. The proclamation was printed in *The Kingston Whig Standard* and was part of a

Seniors for Climate display at the Novel Idea bookstore on Princess Street. Our efforts to get additional supports from the city did not succeed. The city did not support our requests to have an information table or to provide free public transit on October 1. Public Health also declined our invitation to have an information table. At the rally, we circulated our petition calling on the City of Kingston to bring in a bylaw to protect tenants from extreme heat and circulated a sign-up list for people to join SCAN! or to stay in touch. We invited participants to get involved with climate action, to join SCAN! or KCJC or 350 or any of the various groups in the city committed to building a broad movement to address the climate crisis.



In addition to Seniors for Climate, SCAN! members participated in Kingston Climate Justice Coalition's Town Hall on September 28, the coalition's first public event. (SCAN! was a founding member of the coalition). The Town Hall launched a '[Report Card](#)' on the climate record of the city of Kingston). The event was well attended. Participants broke into groups to discuss the report card categories: Climate Targets, Transportation, Vulnerable Peoples, Green Spaces, Provincial and Federal Advocacy; and Built Environments. On September 30, SCAN! members participated in a walk for National Truth and Reconciliation Day. And SCAN! members participated in Labour Day with a SCAN! table. SCAN! Kingston members have been making climate T-shirts to give away, which has proven to be very popular.

All this work has raised SCAN!'s profile, built relations with others, and renewed our energy for addressing the climate crisis.

Together we can win!