

GIVING MONTHLY HAS ITS BENEFITS

THE CANADA PLAN HELPS THE COUNCIL NOW – AND IN THE FUTURE

by Dana Chapeskie

At the Council of Canadians, we pride ourselves on our ability to respond quickly and effectively when the public interest is under threat. When we found out that the leaders of Canada, the U.S. and Mexico would be meeting in Montebello, Quebec, in August, we organized a public forum and demonstrations across the country on short notice. In April, we exposed a secret meeting of business and government representatives in Calgary that planned to discuss bulk water exports. We couldn't have done any of this work without the support of our members and donors.

With a federal election likely to be called at any time, the Council is working hard to make sure that the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America will be a prominent election issue. In the meantime, we are still supporting our growing campaigns to defend and preserve Canada's water, energy and public health care.

Stable monthly donations provide us with the capacity to react to urgent events, while also doing the day-to-day work necessary to promote our core campaigns. They reduce our administrative costs, allowing more money to go directly to our vital research, programs and campaign work. Monthly giving is an important component of our fund-raising efforts.

Christine Sharma, a long-term Council supporter, prefers to give monthly.

"If you like the work of the Council, it is important to commit on a level that is affordable for you. Monthly giving is a great way to give since it is a guarantee – and that is important for non-governmental organizations. The urgency is greater than ever and it is important to

continue to get the word out. This is a time for Canadians to be extra vigilant."

SIMPLE AND SIGNIFICANT

Supporting the Council of Canadians on a monthly basis is convenient, automatic and effective.

Members authorize the Council to make monthly withdrawals from their bank account or credit card in an amount of their choosing. Canada Plan members receive *Canadian Perspectives* magazine throughout the year, as well as other tokens of our appreciation.

Members of the Canada Plan find it beneficial because monthly donations enable them to spread their donation out over the year instead of giving a larger donation in a lump sum. The plan is flexible: members are able to increase, decrease,

"As a member of the Board of Directors, I support the Council of Canadians with my time, and as a Canada Plan member, with monthly donations as well. It is so convenient for me, and I know it allows the Council to devote more time to its critically important advocacy and campaign work, and less to reminding me that my next contribution may be due.

– Steven Shrybman



Tony Foubse

postpone or stop donations at any time. And Canada Plan members have their Council membership automatically renewed every year.

Here is why one member, Denis Salter, chooses to give monthly:

"I know that the Council needs my contributions to maintain its independence as a non-partisan, socially progressive, advocacy organization not controlled by the purse strings of governments. As my contributions help in their own modest way, I have the satisfaction of knowing I am doing something useful to make a better Canada possible."

IT'S EASY

Joining the Canada Plan is easy. You can call our membership department at 1-800-387-7177 and ask for Dana. Or if it's more convenient, you can sign up on our website at www.canadians.org.

We encourage you to join, using whatever method is most convenient for you and we guarantee that you are able to alter or cancel your monthly support at any time simply by contacting us.

YOUR INFORMATION IS SECURE

The Council of Canadians ensures any personal information you provide is kept strictly confidential and we adhere to current Canadian privacy legislation.

JOIN THE CANADA PLAN TODAY!

If you have not already done so, please consider becoming a Canada Plan member. With your help, we will continue to promote a vision of a better Canada and a fairer world.

Dana Chapeskie is the Council of Canadians' Administrative Officer (Member Services). You can reach her at 1-800-387-7177, ext. 254, for more information on the Canada Plan.