

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DR. DAY'S HYPOCRISY

In "Brian Day's False Start" (*Canadian Perspectives*, Fall 2006), Dr. Day states that the influence of public sector unions in health care should be reduced because their "negative influence" and "propaganda machinery" have created "the present crisis." I wonder if Dr. Day includes the Canadian Medical Association in that assessment?

Rick Jelfs  
Vancouver, British Columbia

## PRIVATE HEALTH CARE PRIVILEGE

My brother Brian Osborne lives in Leigh-on-Sea, England. He is a recovering cancer patient. I am happy to say he is doing very well. Not too long ago, he needed to see a specialist. Brian was informed that there was quite a long wait to see this particular doctor, so he decided to "go private" rather than endure the stress of waiting.

Brian got an appointment in days. But here's the crunch – it was the same consultant. Only this appointment was held in another office, plush leather seats and all.

Is this what Dr. Day (aka Dr. Profit) has in mind?

Ronald S. Osborne  
Ladysmith, British Columbia

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Tony Fontbe

The energy in the Council of Canadians' office is electric. That's the only way I can describe what it's been like to work at the Council over the last few months. As I've been putting this special 36-page issue of *Canadian Perspectives* together, my co-workers have been hard at work, planning the teach-in that will take place in Ottawa from

March 30 to April 1, Integrate This! Challenging the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America. The emails have been flying back and forth at lightning speed. Every time I turn on my computer, there is new information to absorb. More and more partner organizations are jumping on board. We're hearing from chapter members, university students, artists and activists. Their curiosity has been piqued. They want to know what the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) is all about. And because the Canadian government has been less than forthcoming with information about the SPP, they're turning to the Council of Canadians for information.

It reminds me of when the Council of Canadians launched its fight against the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) in the mid-1990s. I was a high school student in Unionville, Ontario. Thanks to a radical teacher (a dedicated Council of Canadians member), I had been learning about the dangers of corporate globalization and structural adjustment in my history classes. I attended the Council's Teach-In on Corporate Globalization at the University of Toronto in 1997, and I was hooked. Within weeks, I was hounding my Member of Parliament about the secrecy surrounding the MAI. And so were thousands of other Canadians. Our collective effort killed the MAI. And I became an activist for life.

Resistance to the SPP is growing every day. This issue of *Canadian Perspectives* is designed to help you understand what's at stake – and what you can do to make a difference. Be sure to check out our website, [www.canadians.org](http://www.canadians.org), where we are always posting new information. And be sure to join us in Ottawa from March 31 to April 1 for our Integrate This! teach-in. Check out [www.integratethis.ca](http://www.integratethis.ca) for details, or give us a call at 1-800-387-7177.

– Ariel Troster, Editor, *Canadian Perspectives*