

The Council of Canadians' 24th Annual General Meeting

Turning the Tide: A just economy for people and the planet

The Council of Canadians will be hosting its 24th Annual General Meeting October 23-25, 2009, at the Hilton Hotel in Saint John, New Brunswick.

Heading to Canada's East Coast and an area – like many across Canada – that is feeling the pain of the recent economic downturn, the focus of this year's meeting will be on sharing alternative visions for our economic future: ideas that focus on people, the environment, democracy and equality. We will look at how the current failed economic model, which is based on market priorities, has led to economic instability and uncertainty for families – with job losses, rising costs and unreasonable protections for fossil fuel industries that have devastating effects on the environment. We will talk about ways to pressure governments to recognize the need for change, and opportunities to create a just economy for people and the planet.

We hope you can join us. For more information, visit our website at www.canadians.org or call us at 1-800-387-7177, ext. 333.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION: AUGUST 10 – OCTOBER 14

Registration information will be posted at www.canadians.org starting August 10. Advance registration closes at 5:00 p.m. October 14.

RESOLUTIONS: AUGUST 21, 2009

Proposed resolutions must be received by August 21, 2008. After this date, only emergency resolutions on issues that could not have been foreseen by the deadline date will be considered.

NOMINATIONS: SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

Advance nominations for the Board of Directors must be received by September 25, 2009. This allows time for the nominating committee to make recommendations to ensure a diverse Board. Nominations will be accepted at the AGM until 2:00 p.m. ADT on Saturday, October 24.

In addition to the regular slate of candidates, two regional chapter representatives to the Board from the Prairies and Atlantic regions will be nominated and elected in a process exclusive to chapters. These Board members will be confirmed by the membership at the AGM.

ENSURE YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP TO DATE

Being a Council member "in good standing" allows you to vote on resolutions and Board nominations at the AGM. To be a member "in good standing," you need to have donated \$6 or more at least 30 days before the AGM business meeting (by September 25, 2009), and no more than 12 months before October 25, 2009.

Please check the status of your membership, or consider making an additional donation to the Council to help us put on the best AGM ever! To make a donation, call us toll free at 1-800-387-7177.

IN MEMORIAM: KEN WARDROPER



Ken Wardroper, former chair of the Council of Canadians and advisory board member, passed away recently at the age of 87.

As one of the Council's founding members, a monthly donor for more than 20 years and a committed activist who believed in speaking out on social and economic issues for the benefit of Canadians, Ken's energy and dedication played a key role in helping to

build our grassroots-based activist organization which engages people across the country today. A former foreign services officer for the Department of External Affairs and past ambassador to Norway, Mr. Wardroper had a strong commitment to public service. He built on this commitment with his involvement with the Council of Canadians, where he led the Council as interim chairperson in 1988.

In *The Fight of My Life*, current Council Chairperson Maude Barlow describes Mr. Wardroper's intervention for a national energy strategy. "Ken shone at the fall 1989 Energy Board

hearings into the Mackenzie gas reserves. The room was full of high-priced lawyers for the government and the gas companies, all of course on the same side. We had no money for lawyers, so Ken and I had to put the Council's case ourselves. At one point, the chairman of the Energy Board, Roland Priddle, took Ken to task for his adamant opposition to these exports. 'But, Mr. Wardroper, what about the owners of the resource?' he asked, clearly referring, without saying it, to the corporations represented in the room. 'Owners? Oh, you must mean the people of Canada,' Ken replied. 'Yes, they're why we're here.' The media, many of whom were on our side in this David and Goliath fight, lapped it up."

To honour his strong dedication and involvement in the issues, the Council of Canadians established The Ken Wardroper Founder's Award in 1994 to recognize the "unsung heroes" of the movement, specifically local Council members who have made a notable and long-term contribution to our work. Mr. Wardroper was the first recipient of the award.

The Council of Canadians extends sincere condolences to Mr. Wardroper's family and friends.