

In the News



by **Dylan Penner**

The Council of Canadians has been in the news more than 600 times and mentioned in, on average, four media stories per day since the last issue of *Canadian Perspectives*. Below is a sampling of the headlines the Council made across the country and around the world in recent months.

SHOW US THE "BUY AMERICAN" DEAL BEFORE SIGNING IT, DEMANDS COUNCIL OF CANADIANS

The Council of Canadians requested a copy of the Canadian proposal to Obama several weeks ago and was told by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to file an access to information request. This request has been delayed because, according to the government, looking for it would take too much of the department's time.

"It's a little worrying, to say the least, that the Canadian government is purposely hiding this 'Buy American' proposal from the Canadian and American public," says Stuart Trew, trade campaigner with the Council of Canadians. "What exactly has Harper offered that would convince Obama to tamper with the enormously popular 'Buy American' rules? We need to see the details."

Originally published in Exchange Magazine, October 1, 2009.

POWER DEAL WORRIES NEW ENGLAND: TAKEOVER GIVES QUEBEC TOO MUCH CONTROL, SPOKESWOMAN SAYS

Andrea Harden Donahue, Council of Canadians energy campaigner in Ottawa, said the deal between NB Power and Hydro-Quebec is based on a business model to sell exports into the northeastern U.S., which is demanding more supplies of renewable energy.

"We're seeing a business model driving the sale of New Brunswick Power, requiring the further expansion of hydro power in Quebec, which appears to be focused on export opportunities in the U.S. market," she said Monday.

Originally published in the Chronicle Herald, November 3, 2009.

MAUDE BARLOW ON CNN DISCUSSES "WATER JUSTICE"

"When you add the for-profit motive into water supplies, some people are going to die," Barlow told CNN's Christiane Amanpour. "Water must be declared to be something that belongs to all of us, which is not that it's a free-for-all, but that it must be equitably divided and shared — and only government can do that."

Originally broadcast on CNN's Amanpour to more than 257 million households in more than 212 countries, on January 7, 2010.

GAMES NOT GREEN, AWARE SAYS

[R]epresentatives of the Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment, the Council of Canadians and Whistler Watch held a brief news conference outlining environmental and security-related concerns about the Games.

Pina Belperio, a Whistler resident and board member of the Council of Canadians organization, said the level of security is not providing a conducive environment for people to speak out against the Games. "The amount of security in this town does bother me to a huge extent," she said. "I think it's way over the top. Now they're doubling up police officers on corners. It's a bit of overkill, so I don't know if that's their way of showing taxpayers how their money is being spent but to me it's a big source of intimidation."

Originally published in Pique Newsmagazine, February 17, 2010.

"GET BACK TO WORK"

Council of Canadians members Roy Brady and Kathryn Langley were encouraging



ABOVE: Harjap Grewal, B.C.-Yukon Regional Organizer for the Council of Canadians, is interviewed by reporters about concerns of the corporatization of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, which were held in Vancouver and Whistler, B.C. in February.

people to write their messages to Harper on pieces of paper, which were posted on a board behind the table.

"We're trying to get the issue out to the public," said Brady, who was wearing a placard across his chest and sporting a mask of the prime minister. "Suspending parliament is so anti-democratic. So we are here defending democracy today."

Originally published in the Peterborough Examiner, January 18, 2010.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST HARPER GOVERNMENT'S KAIROS FUNDING DECISION

Well, the Harper government has done it again. If anyone says or does anything it doesn't like, they get fired (the CEO of the Chalk River nuclear plant), blackballed (Richard Colvin), or have their funding cut (women's rights groups).

This time it is Kairos.

Is Mr. Harper's expressed concern for human rights and ecological justice just a political front? How long are we to put up with the arrogant indifference of this government?

Letter from Jim Riesberry, Brockville Chapter, Council of Canadians. Originally published in the Brockville Recorder & Times, December 11, 2009.

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