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dialogue

Canada's Independent Voices MAGAZINE

**Find the real world
under the hypocrisy & lies**



**Don't succumb
to hype-notism!
p.41**

Earth needs your

Attention and Intention
Soulful solutions for people & communities

EXTRACT OF THE 60-PAGE PRINT EDITION

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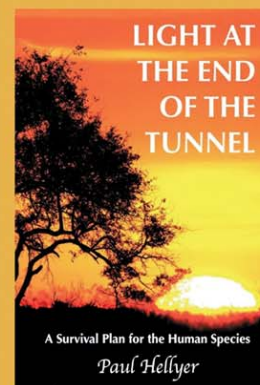
Helen Forsey with her father, Eugene Forsey (1904-91). Helen's new book is called, "Eugene Forsey, Canada's Maverick Sage." The Preface, p. 8

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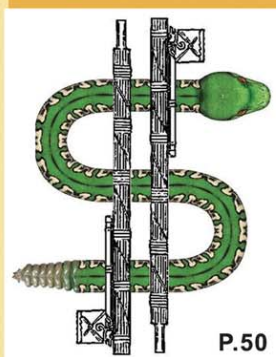
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IT'S ALL ABOUT BANKING!

Many articles in this issue discuss the systemic fraud of what Paul Hellyer calls "one gargantuan Ponzi scheme" The diagram (right) shows the staggering cost to taxpayers of the compounded interest that is paid by governments to private bankers.



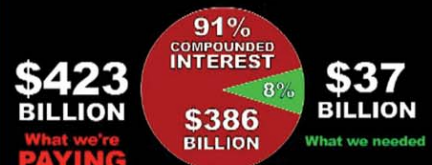
Light at the End of the Tunnel is a new book by Paul Hellyer (April 2010): "Paul Hellyer's story is an important contribution to the literature of modern western civilization. His experience in government, his interest in exopolitics and the issues of sustainability of civilization are significant areas of current discourse." - Edgar Mitchell, Sc.D, Apollo 14 Astronaut



www.ohcanadamovie.com

Oh Canada... Our Bought & Sold Land!!

**CANADA'S
FEDERAL DEBT**
1867 - 1992



Canada's Auditor General Report 1993 OhCanadaM

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A word from the publisher and editor...



Maurice, Janet and Penny

Dear Reader,

With so much misinformation, disinformation and deception swirling around the planet these days, is it any wonder that people are having a hard time knowing what is really going on. And, of course, the old adage – that “we see what we want or expect to see” – has never been more relevant, in these times of highly polarized and politicized news manipulation. With the surfeit of “information,” it is not difficult to find “facts” and “opinions” that seem to support our entrenched views. But, as Otto Scharmer reminded us in an earlier issue (Vol. 24, No. 3, Theory U, p. 26), we can (re-)learn how to listen and understand with an *open mind, open heart and open will*. And we can do it with a *light – not heavy – heart*, as Steve Bhaerman reminds us (on p.41). Our planet and fellow Earthlings *really* need us to focus our **attention** – and **intentions** – on real problems and solutions, rather than on the fake and hyped-up distractions and distortions that pass as “news” and “reality TV.”

Many writers share ideas that challenge the mainstream media’s corporate mantra. Paul Hellyer is among several who address head on the failings of the **Global Banking System** (especially pp.29-32). If it is not clear already, it will become clear to us all that this single topic underlies most problems facing humanity today – from the concentration of political power to resource wars to environmental degradation, disease, alienation, etc. Some other topics addressed by numerous writers are: the **North American Security Perimeter** (pp.18-20); Canadian political and “**party**” **power** (4, 6, 24, etc., etc.); and the tragic **hypocrisy of the latest war** – against Libya (p. 6, 33-34). Many of the essays (and books mentioned) not only analyse the problems, but also offer **creative and holistic solutions**.

We are also very pleased to share the Preface of Helen Forsey’s forthcoming book about her father, “**Eugene Forsey, Canada’s Maverick Sage**” (p. 8). Mr. Forsey was the most knowledgeable of Canadians regarding constitutional matters, especially the reserve powers of the Crown (*through the powers of the Governor General*). His wisdom and courage are sorely missed, especially in the face of Canada’s apparent de facto oligarchy.

The growing trend among *dialogue* writers to include links to Internet sources (articles and videos) may be frustrating to readers with no home Internet access. If this is your situation ~ and you would like to be able to follow up on an article link ~ consider taking your magazine to your local library and asking for help to find it through one of their computer terminals. ***It may open a whole new world for you!***

Just a reminder that *dialogue* is an independent, volunteer-produced, not-for-profit publication that has always relied on the subscriptions and donations of its readers to survive. If you are in a position to help at this time, your donation is very greatly appreciated. Without your support and your voices, there would be no *dialogue*! ***Thank you.***

Maurice, volunteer publisher ***Janet***, volunteer editor/layout
...and Penny, of course!

P.S. As this edition is goes to press, we are becoming aware of increasing threats of nuclear disaster, if not from Japan’s earthquake, from the escalation of global hostilities. May we all wake up to our responsibility to Earth and each other, before it is too late.

dialogue is...

...an independent, volunteer-produced, not-for-profit Canadian magazine, written and supported by its readers - empowering their voices and the sharing of ideas.

dialogue, for over 23 years, has been providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and an antidote to political correctness. We encourage readers to share with others – including our politicians – the ideas and issues gleaned from these pages.

If this is your first issue, please let us know what you think of it. If you would like to share your ideas and become a writer in

***dialogue* magazine**

Consider this your personal invitation to participate!

We also need your support as a subscriber, to help us continue
(See P. 58 for details)

We receive NO government funding & little or no advertising revenue. We rely totally on the generous support of our readers & subscribers.

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Maurice J. King, Volunteer Publisher
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Current Affairs

The SPP never died...

Paul Manly, Nanaimo BC

"There are reports that the signing of a security perimeter agreement between Canada-U.S. has now been delayed. When news leaked late last year of an imminent trade and security deal between the two countries, it caused an uproar in Canada. At first, the Conservative government denied any such claims, but later they admitted that negotiations are taking place. With speculation of a possible federal election in the spring, it would make sense to wait for such an announcement. This could avoid any sovereignty concerns becoming an issue during the campaign. If an election is called and the Conservatives do win and are able to secure a majority government, they could also proclaim that they have a mandate to pursue a perimeter security deal. In December of last year, Prime Minister Stephen Harper acknowledged in the House of Commons that, "Canada already operates under what is called the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) with the United States and Mexico." This is further proof that the SPP never truly died. A perimeter approach to continental security is a continuation of the SPP agenda and will serve to expand the Canada-U.S. relationship in the confines of Fortress North America." [ONLINE: www.pacificfreepress.com:80/news/1/7926-the-deepening-canada-us-security-and-military-ties.html] From: paul@manlymedia.com ♣

Conflicting numbers fuel debate over political polls

Published Wed Mar 02 2011, www.TheStar.com/news

Joan Bryden The Canadian Press

OTTAWA – A battery of conflicting federal horse race numbers is pouring fuel on a raging debate over the reliability of political polls. A new poll by Harris-Decima for The Canadian Press added Wednesday to the confusing mix of surveys released over the past week. It put Tory support at 36 per cent, the Liberals at 28 and the NDP at 15. The telephone survey of 2,020 people was conducted between Feb. 17 and Feb. 27 and is considered accurate within plus or minus 2.2 percentage points, 19 times in 20. The results are in sharp contrast to other recent surveys which have put the Tories as high as 43 per cent, 16 points ahead of the Liberals, and as low as 32 per cent, statistically tied with the Liberals... ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/StarPolls> ♣

QUESTION: When is someone going to point out that the ubiquitous little phrase "19 times in 20" really means "give or take 5 percent." – editor ♣

Why is Stephen Harper still so popular?

The following article was published in the Jan-Mar. 2011 issue of

The Bridge, put out by Jack Etkin, in Victoria. – from Gerry Masuda

Why is Stephen Harper still so popular? Because he's giving Corporate Canada everything they want, so they use their media to keep him in power.

First the corporations removed the Paul Martin government from power in 2006. They did that by using their corporate media to create the 'sponsorship scandal' that Mr. Martin probably had nothing to do with. The corporate media called it the biggest scandal in Canadian history, which was absolute nonsense. They hammered away on it for months, and destroyed Paul Martin with it. It is a very dangerous situation when big business can eliminate the federal government virtually at will.

The media then had Mr. Harper elected and he has given them a never-ending series of tax-cuts and corporate free-trade deals. He has done everything Big Business could possibly want in terms of environmental destruction with the TarSands and climate change, salmon farms, clearcut logging, removal of safety regulations, and everything else. There's been little or no criticism from the corporate media as he has done his job of destroying our planet in order to maximize corporate profits. Canada is one of the worst nations in terms of climate change; and we are one of the worst in using and promoting genetically contaminated foods, which is a nightmare yet to come. Mr. Harper is an enemy of the planet, so is much loved by corporate Canada.

He has given them the corporate war they want in Afghanistan, a war being fought over natural gas and pipelines and US power, while the media pretends it is all about democracy and helping women and children. What a pack of lies, but they are good at spreading it. Mr. Harper is very likely a war criminal. In Afghanistan, he has forced Canadian troops to give innocent civilians to the Afghan police to be tortured. That is a war crime, but it is never mentioned by the corporate media.

Last year, Mr. Harper gave us the largest deficit in Canadian history, over \$50 Billion - all of which we are going to have to pay back with interest, but *not a word of criticism*. That deficit was caused by tax cuts for the richest people and biggest businesses in Canada, put in place by Liberal and Conservative governments over the past 20 years. Unemployment is up, no criticism. Poverty and homelessness are growing. *No criticism*. Canadian soldiers maimed and killed, no criticism of the man who is keeping them there. Australia under water; but barely a mention of the words climate change or global warming. People dying while waiting for health care; but *no criticism* of Mr. Harper who is allowing the destruction of public health care so it can be privatized and taken over by big business crooks who intend to make Billions from it; and this has been going on for the past 20 years under various governments.

Stephen Harper is a corporate prime minister. He works 100% for big business; and they keep him in power to continue the job of attacking and selling out the rest of us. It is certainly long past time to get rid of this traitor, but can we do it when corporate power is so very great? ♣

CCPA REPORTS AND VIDEO LINKS:

From Bruce Campbell, CCPA, Ottawa

RE: Federal Reports, Updates released March 3, 2011

Federal outsourcing creating a shadow public service:

A CCPA report released today suggests that if the federal government wants to get serious about spending controls, it needs to look critically at its ballooning outsourcing costs. The Shadow Public Service, by CCPA research associate David MacDonald, finds that over the past five years, personnel outsourcing costs have risen 79%. While federal departments have had their budgets capped, expenditures on outside consultants have not been touched and remain above \$1 billion a year.

ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/CCPAshadow>

Reasons to stop the corporate tax cut

Is there someone you know who isn't yet convinced that the federal government's corporate tax cuts are a bad idea?

Then ask them to watch CCPA Senior Economist Armine Yalnizyan give five convincing reasons in a new video:

Five reasons to stop the corporate tax cuts. ONLINE:

<http://tinyurl.com/CCPAcorporate>

CCPA-Numbers in a new Hennessy's Index:

ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/CCPAhennessy>

Bruce Campbell, Executive Director

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

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LATE ADDITION:

Nuclear Meltdown In Japan?

By Stephen Lendman, Countercurrents.org

In 1946, Einstein said: "Our world faces a crisis as yet unperceived by those possessing the power to make great decisions for good and evil. The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking, and thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe." ...

ONLINE: www.countercurrents.org/lendman130311.htm ♣

NATO invasion of Libya underway:

Petroleum & Empire in North Africa

By Keith Harmon Snow (www.allthingspass.com)

Global Research, March 2, 2011:

Are events unfolding in Libya, Tunisia and Egypt more about petro-terrorism or about freedom and democracy? How much oil is there in North Africa? Who is in control of that oil? What is the relationship between the West and Muamar Gaddafi? Is he really the terrorist we've all been led to believe he is? Who is the Libyan "opposition" and who are the "rebels" we read about? Presented with this story are petroleum industry concessions maps for North Africa that people might want to ponder, in between the Western propaganda on Libya.

Amidst the full-court press of propaganda presented by the western media and State Department disinformation apparatus we find that Muamar Gaddafi is even accused of committing genocide against his own people. Are there double standards at work?

READ IN FULL ONLINE:

www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=23481 ♣

4080 votes elected British Columbia's new premier

By Stephen Hui, Feb. 26, 2011, straight.com

[EXTRACT] (Christy) Clark (who doesn't currently sit in the legislature) won the B.C. Liberal Party's leadership vote, which went to three ballots. The former education minister garnered 4,420 votes on the third ballot, while former health minister Kevin Falcon received 4,080 votes. Clark captured the leadership despite only having the support of one B.C. Liberal MLA, Burnaby-Lougheed's Harry Bloy. The B.C. Liberals selected their new leader by phone and Internet using a preferential ballot and a voting system weighted for each riding...

ARTICLE ONLINE: www.straight.com/article-376983

More on the recent BC Liberal leadership contest on p. 39 ♣

"Stephen Harper rules" –

PM claims personal ownership of the Government of Canada - now officially The 'Harper Government'

A directive went out to public servants late last year that "Government of Canada" in federal communications should be replaced by the words "Harper Government." [CANADIAN PRESS/Adrian Wylde]

Bruce Cheadle, The Canadian Press Mar 03, 2011

OTTAWA - It's official: Stephen Harper rules. And lest anyone forgets, a directive went out to public servants late last year that "Government of Canada" in federal communications should be replaced by the words "Harper Government."

Public servants from four different line departments told The Canadian Press the instruction came from "the Centre" — meaning the Prime Minister's Office and the Privy Council Office that serves the prime minister.

None would speak on the record for fear of retribution. It's a well-grounded concern given the treatment of a senior government scientist who was fired in 2006 after rebelling against a directive to use "Canada's New Government" in government communications.

Andrew Okulitch was subsequently reinstated after his story went public, and the Conservatives finally retired the "Canada's New Government" handle after 21 months in office

READ MORE ONLINE: ARTICLE ONLINE:

<http://tinyurl.com/HarperRebrand> ♣

MORE THOUGHTS ABOUT HARPER & THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

A party of thugs, liars, cheats, crooks, dirty tricksters – and Christians

Murray Dobbin, Powell River BC

Blog, <http://murraydobbin.ca/> 25 Feb 2011

Do any of the alleged Christians who support the government of Stephen Harper have any trouble with the fact that his government is the most morally corrupt party in Canadian history? Does their fantasy that he will end abortions sometime in the future allow them to rationalize what he does on an almost daily basis that violates what most people accept as Christian values?

I have always suspected that Stephen Harper became an evangelical Christian to enhance his ability to reconstruct Canada on the US model of free markets and minimalist government. It would fit with his military-like discipline and end-justifies-the-means approach. He knows that most Canadians are not naturally free-marketeers eager to dismantle the Canadian activist state. But wrap it up in Christian clothing and presto, you have a core of 20% who will follow you anywhere.

I have tracked Harper's political career for twenty years and for the first part of that period I also tracked Preston Manning. The two men present an interesting contrast. Manning really was a Christian and I always found it interesting that while he would bend the truth to the breaking point and was a master practitioner of what I called calculated ambiguity (able to deliver totally different messages in the same statement) he never in my experience actually lied.

You had to know how to corner him to tell the truth but if you could (almost no journalist ever even tried) in the final moment of the sparring he would not lie. I once called into a talk show and tried to get him to admit he supported a GST with no exemptions. He had garnered probably 40% of his party's membership in the early '90s on his opposition to the GST but I knew that he actually supported this tax – as all neo-liberals did.

In fact, he had invited Sir Roger Douglas, the man who transformed New Zealand into a free market wasteland, to speak at the party's biggest policy convention in 1990. He actually introduced him by highlighting the fact that he had introduced a value added tax with no exemptions. That he could get away with this while opposing the GST at the same time was a testament to the sway he held over his adoring membership.

On the talk show in question, I kept pushing him to tell me his position (the party was debating its GST policy at the time). He kept dodging and weaving, avoiding the question until finally the host got fed up and said, "**Come on, Mr Manning, it's a straight forward question.**" There was a long pause and then he said it, "Yes, I would prefer a GST

with no exemptions." I thanked him for informing Saskatchewan voters that he would put a tax on their groceries.

I can't say for sure whether a government run by Preston Manning – a man who changed Canada without ever being prime minister – would have run a government significantly different than Harper's. And his notion of Christianity promoted wealth accumulation as a way to get to heaven and Manning would have had no problem with the current huge gap between rich and poor. **But I somehow doubt he would have committed fraud in an election campaign, systematically abused his power to muzzle watch-dog agencies, or produced a book for his MPs on how to sabotage the work of parliamentary committees.**

The contrast in styles has often been given as the reason Harper left the *Reform Party*. I think it may have been a contrast in ethics. Manning wasn't willing to go as far as Harper wanted to go. Harper went directly from the *Reform Party* to the *National Citizens Coalition*, the most ferociously right-wing lobby group in the country. Harper said he really enjoyed it because he wasn't restricted in what he could say or do.

Now, it seems, the *National Citizens Coalition*, founded to rid the country of Medicare, is running the country.

[...]

Which raises the question: Where are the real Christians when we need them?

Murray Dobbin, Powell River BC

BLOG ONLINE <http://murraydobbin.ca/> with active links
Murray Dobbin has written five books, three of them critical profiles of Canadian politicians. His last book, "Paul Martin: CEO for Canada?" looked at Martin's corporate approach to running the country. He was the first to publish books on Preston Manning and Kim Campbell. His 1998 book, "The Myth of the Good Corporate Citizen – Democracy under the rule of Big Business," has been described as a citizens' guide to globalization. Murray can be reached at mdobbin@telus.net.
[Reprint suggested by Don Parker] ♣

No party in Ottawa is acting for the commons

Sharon Lawrence [From: smallfish@shaw.ca]

Unfortunately, it really isn't the people's government. There is no party in Ottawa that is acting for the commons. We have no government, only rules and protections of corporations. I am thoroughly convinced we have gone beyond the tipping point. Until Canadians wake up and oust the lazy and the conniving politicians, we might as well design a new crown for the King of Canada. ♣

BOOK: AGENDA FOR A NEW ECONOMY A Declaration of Independence from Wall Street

From the back cover of the first edition of David Korten's AGENDA FOR A NEW ECONOMY (2009) [new and updated 2nd edition now in print]

"The most important book to emerge thus far on the economic crisis." - Peter Barnes, cofounder of Working Assets and author of Capitalism 3.0.

"At last, a book by one of our most brilliant economic thinkers that outlines the real causes of-and solutions to-the current economic crisis." - John Perkins, New York Times bestselling author of Confessions of an Economic Hit Man.

"David Korten has provided an economic blueprint for the 21st century." - Judy Wicks, cofounder and chair, Business Alliance for Local Living Economies.

"No one should be surprised that David Korten is the first great thinker to assemble a detailed road map for a new economy where people, the planet, and communities come first." - John Cavanagh, Director, Institute for Policy Studies.

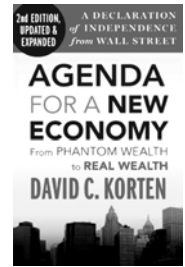
Today's economic crisis is the worst since the Great Depression. However, as David Korten shows, the steps being taken to address it – including pouring trillions of dollars into bailouts for the Wall Street institutions that created the mess – do nothing to deal with the reality of a failed eco-

nomic system. It's like treating cancer with a bandage.

Korten identifies the deeper sources of the failure: Wall Street institutions that have perfected the art of creating "wealth" without producing anything of real value: phantom wealth.

Our hope lies not with Wall Street, Korten argues, but with Main Street, which creates real wealth from real resources to meet real needs. He outlines an agenda to bring into being a new economy – locally based, community oriented, and devoted to creating a better life for all, not simply increasing profits. It will require courageous and imaginative changes to how we measure economic success, organize our financial system, even the very way we create money, an agenda Korten summarizes in his version of the economic address to the nation he wishes Barack Obama were able to deliver.

DAVID KORTEN is president and founder of the People-Centered Development Forum, chair of the board of YES! magazine, and a board member of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies. He is the author of The Great Turning, The Post-Corporate World, and When Corporations Rule the World. ♣



UTOPIA or OBLIVION?

A scathing indictment of our predatory society, with signposts for a wiser path...

To whom it may concern

Gunther Ostermann, Kelowna BC

UTOPIA or OBLIVION, that's the prospect for humanity, said the late Buckminster Fuller. And I wonder ...

Is it Missed Opportunities? Conspiracy? Greed? Vested interests? Or just plain stupidity, if we carry on as usual!

What are human beings' fundamental birthrights? They need to be understood and claimed, especially for the disenfranchised and future generations, who cannot speak for themselves.

Many people are concerned about injustices, unemployment, poverty, homelessness, drug addicts, healthcare, crime, war, terrorism, globalization, species extinction, natural resource depletion, pollution, climate change, and many other miseries that are destroying our beautiful planet.

The late scientist Buckminster Fuller researched those problems and came to the following conclusion, in his book CRITICAL PATH, in 1982. "It is now possible to give every man, woman and child a standard of living comparable to that of a modern-day billionaire. This is not an opinion or a hope; it is an engineering demonstrable fact... World Game* makes it eminently clear that we have four billion billionaires aboard our planet, as accounted by REAL WEALTH, which fact is obscured from public knowledge by the exclusively conceived and operated money-game

and its monopolized credit system accounting ... We find all the no-life-support-wealth-producing people going to their 1980s jobs in their cars and buses, spending billions of dollars' worth of petroleum to get to their no-wealth-producing jobs. It doesn't take a computer to tell you that it will save both Earth and humanity billions of dollars a day to pay them handsomely to stay at home." [This message was meant for the North American Continent in 1982, as an example.]

This statement can be verified by the US research organization Technocracy, which stated some 80 years ago that, if we would operate our society in an intelligent manner, with the 'Energy Certificate', instead of money, then these could be our benefits: The first 25 years of anybody's life could be devoted to schooling and job training, suiting a person's aptitude and ability, with no financial burden to student and family; a working age from 25 to 45, with perhaps a quarter the present working hours; and then retirement with full purchasing powers and privileges. Equality of men and women. Full medical and dental care for life. No more debts of any kind to anybody. An orderly planned society obviates competition, advertisement and shoddy products (to assure continuous sales and service). The whole fear industry could be transformed to render useful service. If there is no financial gain through litigation, a simple

excuse me' or 'I'm sorry' would settle most grievances. The present reason for economic crimes, alcohol and drug abuse would be gone. No more need for anybody to prostitute themselves. And no more wars!

Visualize what it could be like now, 80 years later, if this would have been promoted like an automobile commercial, and put on the ballot box. It would make political parties and elections obsolete. It could have been the modern version of what Plato talked about that, "Rulers were not to have any private property or wealth, as the temptation to sacrifice the interests of society for their own would be too great." Of course, Plato's and Technocracy's ideas are not without faults, but they should give us something to think about.

The rate psychoanalyst, social theorist, and humanitarian Erich Fromm confirms what Fuller and Technocracy disclosed, in his book THE SANE SOCIETY in 1980. For example: "The present development is characterized by the increasing replacement of manual work by machine work, and beyond that, of human intelligence by machine intelligence. While in 1850 men supplied 15% of the energy for work, animals 79%, and machines 6%, the ratio in 1960 will be 3%, 1% and 96% respectively." End quote.

Professor John Farina of the Wilfred Laurier University said, in 1982: "Man invented machines so man would not have to work and. we've succeeded to the point of one and a half million unemployed. (In Canada) But instead of cheering about it, we're in despair. To me that is sheer raging idiocy."

In view of the previously verifiable statements, it should be obvious that the people in education, business, and politics missed a fantastic opportunity to create, for the first time in history, a just and sustainable society. Sadly, there is nobody in "Who is Who" who will talk about such possibilities publicly.

The former media mogul Ted Turner challenged us in 1992 with this statement: "If we don't make the right choices after we have all the information, then we don't deserve to live."

Well, we have more than enough information. Oil and gas, the stored sun's energy, which took hundreds of millions of years to incubate, gone forever within this century. We are, in fact, approaching PEAK EVERYTHING.

Our planet will be around for millions of years. What gives us the right to dig out the last of the non-renewable resources and destroy the environment in the process? And now, nations are posturing to exploit the Arctic resources, just because they're there? The oceans, where ALL life began, are fished out and used as convenient sewers, and ocean bottoms are scraped clean of all living things and creatures, with no thought given to future generations. This is just a fraction of what is ailing our world. We're living in a finite world, and cannot carry on as usual.

Honest research would make it obvious that 'Obsolescence

Incorporated' – like making last year's car models obsolete, as well as thousands of other consumer goods – is not only foolish, but also morally wrong, as it wastes precious resources that we're stealing from our descendants. The "fight" for job-creation and full employment is utterly absurd. We need a co-operative-participatory-shared-leisure society, where everybody's NEEDS are supplied. We can ascertain what King Tut died of some 3300 years ago, but WE are unable, or unwilling, to investigate what ails us now?

How did it ever come about, that the farmers and workers, without whom nobody could live, have to go begging for a living wage, while the financial and related paper shuffling institutions, who produce nothing of real value to society, demand and get, no, take, millions and billions?

In view of all declining resources and escalating miseries, perhaps anybody who wants to be a leader in academia, business or politics should live and lead by example, with a new Global Ethic: "Do not expect others to live with less than what you're willing to live with." That would determine anybody's integrity. Remember, we come with nothing and leave just the same. Immature minds crave prestige and an insatiable appetite for possessions, but a mature human being could say: "My riches consist not in my possessions, but in the fewness of my wants."***

By the simple fact of birth, all humans are co-owners, temporarily, of the wealth of this Earth and the marvels of technology. No useful invention can appear before its time; we're all indebted to somebody else. Example: In 1990, a 12-year patent infringement lawsuit was settled for \$10.2 million for the 'inventor' of the intermittent windshield wiper against the Ford Motor Company. He claimed that they stole his invention. Isn't it a logical course of improvements that any 5th grader could eventually figure out?

Why does the rest of humanity have to be held hostage for this, and millions of other cases that clog up the courts and need thousands of lawyers, who are required in our predatory society but produce little of real value to society? Bill Gates is a smart opportunist, he got lucky first, but he couldn't have 'Microsoft' without a Tesla, Faraday, Edison and thousands of other innovators. Let's be thankful to all pioneers, inventors or innovators and let's get on with life.

The never-ending, pro-and-con arguments about global warming or climate change, whether men-or-sun-made, or even true, must look really ridiculous, when intelligently viewed from a cosmic-time perspective and the future. Eliminating non-life-producing jobs and businesses, without anybody suffering, could cut resource-demand and greenhouse gases significantly.

Our consumption-oriented "Having" society should be encouraged to explore the concept of "BEING," a philosophy best articulated by the late Erich Fromm, in his books.

Quote: "If life's tendency to grow, to be lived, is thwarted,

the energy thus blocked undergoes a process of change and is transformed into life-destructive energy. Destructiveness is the outcome of un-lived life. Evil constitutes the crippling of a human being's power. Criminals (and terrorists) are made not born." End quote.

The late scientist Ashley Montague is both frank and explicit in his book, The Humanization of Man: "Evil is not inherent in human nature, it is learned ...Aggressiveness is taught, as are all forms of violence which human beings exhibit."

Why don't we apply such wisdom in society and the world, instead of clogging up the prisons and destroying our world in endless wars and wasteful competitions? In view of such powerful and verifiable statements, by these humanitarians, all members of past and present governments should be held morally, and some criminally, responsible, and that includes CEOs as well.

Fundamentalist religions, in cahoots with politicians and the money-manipulators, have ruled humanity virtually

forever. Unless people wake up and claim their BIRTH-RIGHT, nothing will ever change in the world, and this could result in our demise.

I may be a dreamer, but we ought to heed the words of Albert Einstein: "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." Well, now. Albert gave us something to think and do about.

Gunther Ostermann, gco@shaw.ca / 250 765 8726

* **World Game**, sometimes called the World Peace Game, is an alternative to war games. The playing of World Game was an idea proposed by Buckminster Fuller. The idea was to "make the world work for 100% of humanity in the shortest possible time through spontaneous cooperation without ecological damage or disadvantage to anyone." He publicly proposed the concept in 1961 as the core curriculum at the (then new) Southern Illinois University Edwardsville... In 1972, the World Game Institute was founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by Fuller, Medard Gabel, Howard J. Brown and others. Read more at Wikipedia...

** paraphrase of quote by Joseph Brotherton, 1783-1837, British author, politician, religious leader, community activist. ♣



Erik Andersen

"Prévoyance"

Observations from Erik Andersen, Gabriola Island BC

Some thoughts on the P3 topic – and natural monopolies

The more I think about the Sea-to-Sky highway rebuild and the Olympic Village project, the more certain I become that the public-private-partnership (P3) model is a form of shadow taxation benefiting private interests.

P3s allow a financial 'rent' to be imposed on the public by private interests. "Economic rent" is a formal term used to describe a financial obligation that is not matched by real value. It is one form of "skimming". This undermines the capacity of affected societies to be economically competitive in the broadest sense.

Vancouver's Olympic Village experience demonstrates the serious consequences that can result - when the private partners run into trouble, the project was abandoned and taxpayers were left to assume the financial risk they had failed to recognize in the first place.

Such risks not only compromise the ability of local governments to find funds they need to finance the services they are mandated to provide, they also mean there are fewer dollars left in the economy to invest in new enterprises and job creation.

Another example can be seen in the huge financial premium we must now pay, so that BC Hydro can recover the cost of its provincially-imposed agreements with independent power producers. The financial record of the past five years continues to show decreasing productivity at Hydro.

If we extend the notion to other parts of the natural-monopoly* economy, it is easy to see that the portion of

GDP now being directed to private interests for no value could be as high as five per cent and growing.

Citizens would be well-advised to ask BC Auditor-General, John Doyle, to fast-track his evaluation of the P3 process, before a new government adds any more of these long-term debt obligations onto the taxpayers.

*The concept of the "natural monopoly". As we know monopolies are universally condemned because they confer on a few, unearned rights to over-charge for goods or services (a form of economic rent where cash is paid for no real value). They are often exploitive of the "commons".

A good and valid reason to have a natural monopoly is where, without a collective social will, many valuable services would never come available. It is impossible to imagine any social benefit coming from attempts to create competition in the matters of building and operating competitive city streets, sewer systems, water systems etc. Because a natural monopoly needs the supporting financial commitment from citizens, various by-laws and laws are enacted to ensure the community has the option of coercing all citizens to pay their share. This is done by property taxation, user fees, income taxation and consumption taxation (VAT, GST, Duties, HST). By this system, natural monopolies operate with a high degree of income certainty, not available to normal private businesses. The value of the income certainty then is captured by credit ratings which in turn are translated into lower borrowing costs than those enjoyed by private corporations.

Erik Andersen, Economist ♣

Corporate Interests Vs. Canadians

Michael Moore joins MP Ashton's campaign for Thompson, MB

The renowned filmmaker joins campaign to protect jobs in Manitoba community

Press Release, Feb. 25, 2011

THOMPSON, Manitoba - Award-winning filmmaker Michael Moore has joined New Democrat MP Niki Ashton's campaign to fight back against the devastating decision by foreign-owned mining giant Vale to close the Thompson, Manitoba smelter and refinery.

"Right now, Thompson is fighting a frontline battle in a war that's been raging for the past 30 years -- the global war of the world's rich on the middle class," said Moore. Vale, a Brazilian company, bought out Inco in a foreign takeover that was approved by Canada's federal government in 2006. In the fall of 2010 Vale also received a \$1Billion loan from the government. Despite promises to increase employment, Vale announced the closure of the smelter and refinery, eliminating all the value-added mining jobs in Thompson by 2015.

"Across this country, Canadians have been speaking out against foreign take-overs -- approved in backrooms by successive Liberal and Conservative governments -- deals that have gone terribly wrong," said New Democrat Leader Jack Layton. "Michael Moore's interest in Thompson's campaign is a testament not only to the hard work of Niki Ashton and her community, but to the need for all communities to stand up and defend their jobs."

In a statement released on his website, www.michaelmoore.com, Moore drew parallels between the situation in Thompson and what is currently happening in places across the United States and around the world. He posted testimonials by community members who have shared their stories and he encouraged readers to watch the campaign video produced by Ashton and a local team. "Michael Moore's support for our campaign helps us send the message that this is not just about Thompson, it's not just about Canada - it's about all of us fighting to have control of our future," said Ashton. "It was Flint yesterday. It's us and others today. Tomorrow, who knows? That's why we're reaching out, that's why we're fighting back and that's why it's important that our message is going global."

"Our Community. Our Resource. Our Canada."

For more information, please contact:

George Soule, press secretary: 613-850-3448 or SouleG@parl.gc.ca

MICHAEL MOORE ARTICLE ONLINE:

www.readersupportednews.org/opinion2/274-41/5085-global-war-on-the-middle-class

VIDEO ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/ThompsonVale> ♣

Vale threatens 90-acre pristine lake in Newfoundland

Council of Canadians

Vale to appeal ruling on intervener status on Schedule 2 challenge

ACTIVlist NEWS Feb. 28th, 2011: CBC reports that, "A Newfoundland environmental group trying to stop a local lake from being turned into a toxic waste dump is claiming a small victory after a court ruled that giant mining company Vale Inco could have only limited participation in an ongoing court case. The Sandy Pond Alliance went to court recently to challenge new regulations in the Fisheries Act that would allow mining companies to use natural waters as waste dumps."

"Vale wants to use Sandy Pond to hold waste produced by the nickel processing plant being built near Long Harbour. ...The group fears that if Vale is successful, the 90-acre pristine lake would be destroyed. ...Vale applied for full intervener status in the case -- which would have made it an active participant in the process, rather than a witness or an observer -- but was granted only limited status."

"Owen Myers, a representative for the environmental group, said the company is trying to drag out the legal process. 'They're abusing the process and these are just obstructionist tactics to hope they can just wear us down by attrition,' he said."

"Myers said he was notified on the weekend that Vale is appealing the latest ruling." The Council of Canadians is a member of the Sandy Pond Alliance and is committed to winning this Federal Court challenge against Schedule 2.

ARTICLE ONLINE WITH WEB LINKS:

www.canadians.org/campaignblog/?p=6630 ♣

Barlow opposes Toronto-London stock exchange merger

ACTIVlist NEWS, Feb. 9 2011: The Toronto Star reports this evening that, "Analysts say the merger of the TMX Group with the London Stock Exchange could be a boost for Canadian resource companies, but a prominent critic says the deal could mean losing control of financial regulation and cost this country high-paying jobs. ...The TSX and the TSX Venture Exchange, both owned by the TMX Group, list more than 1,500 mining companies combined." [ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/COC6327>] ♣

McGuinty government rejects calls to save South March Highlands in Kanata*

Feb. 25th, 2011: Two week ago the Council of Canadians issued an action alert calling on people to contact Ontario's minister of culture Michael Chan and other provincial

government representatives to stop the clear cutting of the South March Highlands near Ottawa, [Article online at: www.canadians.org/action/2011/beaver-pond.html/]

Apart from its impact on wetlands and wildlife, we highlighted that the cutting of the forest would destroy 10,000 year-old Algonquin artefacts, burial mounds and archaeological sites found in the area.

This morning, the *Ottawa Citizen* reports that, "(Ontario's) Culture Minister Michael Chan told (*Ontario NDP leader Andrea*) Horwath he was satisfied with an assessment that concluded the South March Highlands was not a significant archaeological site. 'The assessment report meets the Ministry of Tourism and Culture requirements,' Chan said in the legislature. 'The ministry is not an approval authority in respect to any development project. That said, we do rec-

ognize the City of Ottawa's efforts to force the dialogue between the development proponents and the aboriginal community on this matter.' ... Chan left the legislature without acknowledging Daniel Bernard, an Algonquin Firekeeper who believes the Kanata land contains ancient artefacts. 'There's no reason we should be ignored like this,' Bernard said."

CTV reported on February 13 that, "Ontario NDP leader Andrea Horwath and Council of Canadians chairman Maude Barlow have pledged their support (to help stop the clear cutting), said (Mohawk Turtle Clan member Danny) Beaton. 'If all of Canada knew what was going on in this sacred place and that this disrespect was happening, I'm sure there would be a public outcry,' he said."

ONLINE: www.canadians.org/campaignblog/?p=6577 ♣

[GSX] Alberta's \$16-billion electricity scandal and the Oil Sands

By Andrew Nikiforuk, 8 Feb 2011, *TheTyee.ca*

[EXTRACT] Two years ago, Alberta's Transportation Minister Luke Ouellette described Joe Anglin, a former U.S. Marine and telephone transmission engineer, as "dangerous individual and a trouble maker."

At a conference of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, Ouellette also wondered aloud "why someone hadn't dealt with [Anglin]."

It was a remarkable declaration and one for which neither Ouellette nor the Progressive Conservative Party has ever apologized.

But it's not hard to understand why a government ruled by one party for 40 years and now beset by political scandal

deeply fears the political crusader.

Over the last six years the 55-year-old father of two has arguably become the most persistent and informed critic of the government's controversial plans to build \$16.5 billion worth of transmission lines and all largely for U.S. export.

"It's all driven by the oil sands and the failure of electricity deregulation," adds Anglin. "I don't think Alberta's politicians are bad or evil but they are incompetent and dumber than your average monkey. I can't tell you how many times I've caught them lying." [...]

READ ARTICLE ONLINE:

<http://thetyee.ca/News/2011/02/08/AlbertaElectricity/>

[Received from Erik Andersen] ♣

"Have Computer Will Write" ~ Jeremy Arney

End the hypocrisy of "Question Period" (Oral Questions)



From: Jeremy Arney, Victoria BC

[iamjema@gmail.com]

To: the Leaders of the Opposition in the House of Commons

Men: Why are you allowing question period to continue on the way it is?

Yesterday the parliamentary secretary to the dysfunctional Prime Minister whispered the same bullshit statement to how many questions about the fraud committed in the 2006 elections? I lost count. The government house leader does the same thing, as do all the ministers, 98% of the time. You do not get answers, you get pre election smearing. Why do you continue to take part in this fiasco?

The definition of madness, I am told, is doing the same thing over and over again and to expect a different result.

Why not make a statement that will get the attention, not only of Canadians, but of the whole world: when the speaker says "Oral Questions", all three of your parties should just get up and walk out in protest.

This government is treating you like dirt and you sit there and take it. Make a statement they will have to answer for. Before you all cower away and say, "We can't do that" be prepared to answer the return question, "Why not?"

In Wisconsin, the Democrats refuse to attend the legislature because it is the only way to stop the new Republican Governor from destroying the public service sector of the state. The Dems are not even in the state so they cannot be forced to attend the legislature and thus there cannot be a quorum in the house. The result is that there is talk already of impeaching the governor even though he was only elected last November. **The people can and do and will make a difference if you let them.**

The question, I suppose, is: Why are you really there in Ottawa? Is it for the people or is it for the broken and very poor theatre? I do not approve of this present totally dysfunctional-at-all-levels parliament, and 'walking out' could be a very effective way to establish the peoples' right to

effective representation and truthful answers to Opposition questions on the peoples' business.

The Justice Minister should investigate the assault of minors by the policies of Health Canada & the Health Ministry

To: Rob Nicholson, Minister of Justice for Canada,

It has come to my attention that there is a vaccine called Gardasil which is designed to be injected into very young girls with the idea that eventually, 5-9 years later, they may or may not be protected from a few forms of STDs, and then a further 15 to 20 years later they may or may not be protected from cervical cancer. This vaccine is totally unproven to do either of the claims the manufacturer is making, (Given the limitations of Merck's original clinical trial methods, the fact that malignant cervical cancer takes decades to develop and yet the longest clinical trial on Gardasil was only four years in duration shows this is true), yet the Minister of Health through Health Canada is encouraging not only all young girls be vaccinated with Gardasil, but now I understand also young boys. It would seem to me that a Minister of Health should know that boys do not have a cervix, thus cervical cancer is not a possibility.

However, there is ample evidence that this particular vaccine has already done irreparable damage to the mental and physical abilities of many of the young women to whom it has been administered so far, and indeed far too many have died soon after being given the vaccine.

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) has confirmed, as of November 3, 2010, a total of 20,575 adverse reactions, including 352 reports of abnormal pap smears post vaccination and 89 reported deaths associated with Gardasil & Cervarix.

To allow not only for further use of this unproven vaccine, but the expansion to young boys as well, is, I believe, a criminal assault on the young people of Canada, who are really still children; and thus the Minister of Health, Health Canada's senior executives, and the executive of the manufacturer of this Gardasil along with all doctors who administer this vaccine should be charged with criminal assault of minors. If you

are really concerned with victims, why are you allowing this assault to happen Minister? Oh yes, of course, you are just doing what the PM and Merck tell you, right?

Well I do not agree with your performance in this matter and I think you should either rectify your behaviour and your attitude to the real people who employ you and to the laws of Canada, or resign.

Why \$133M to a bankrupt Cdn company?

To: Mr. J. Flaherty, Employed by the people of Canada as Minister of Finance for the Corporation of Canada

It has come to my attention that, as a result of Prime Minister Harper's indifference to how Canadian taxpayers' money is spent, some \$133 million dollars was donated to Abitibi Bowater, a bankrupt Canadian Company, through the Chapter Eleven section of the NAFTA.

A couple of questions for you

1. Why was this money donated without there being due process through the NAFTA Arbitration Board, which was used as a mechanism for the payment?
2. Why was this money donated to a bankrupt Canadian company anyway?
3. What tax rate did they pay on the income from this bailout? Have they paid it yet?
4. What is the difference in this payment (\$130 million), which had no benefit in any way of business to Canadian companies or workers, and the sponsorship scandal (\$100 million), to which your government refers so often, but which at least had a benefit to Canadian businesses and workers?
5. When there was an investigation costing an unbelievable \$14 million on the sponsorship deal, why was this more expensive payment to Abitibi slipped quietly though when parliament was in recess. And there is no enquiry planned, is there?

I have absolutely no idea why the opposition are not asking, no demanding, answers to yet another incredible waste of taxpayers' money. I can only assume it is because they know full well from Question Period in the House of Commons that they will not get a straight answer.

Jeremy Arney [EMAIL: iamjema@gmail.com]

CAP candidate for Saanich -Gulf Island 2008 ♣

North American Security Perimeter

Critics Call Secret U.S.-Canada Talks "End Run Around Democracy"

By Paul Weinberg, ipsnews.net

TORONTO, Feb 28, 2011 (IPS) - The just-announced Canada-U.S. security perimeter discussions are comprehensive and potentially wide-ranging and could impact Canadian sovereignty. However, the domestic opposition appears to have been caught off-guard.

It is hard to fight a deal when Ottawa and Washington are offering few details, said Vancouver-based international lawyer, author and commentator Michael Byers in a recent interview with IPS.

"The people who are opposed to this are left pointing at

shadows rather than anything concrete," he noted.

Both Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama were vague in January about what a Canada-U.S. security perimeter would entail in a predicted deal later this year.

Canadian media reports indicate that the negotiators' high priority includes a formal sharing of intelligence, law enforcement, and migration data by Canada and the U.S. in exchange for greater movement of goods, people and services across the border between the two countries. ⇒

Rendition Redux

The case of Maher Arar, an innocent Canadian who was jailed in the U.S. and then deported to Syria, his country of birth, where he was tortured, was one result of already existing Canadian and U.S. law enforcement cooperation. And it has caused many Canadians to be wary of further cementing this arrangement, says Roch Tasse, co-coordinator of the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group.

A judicial inquiry into the Arar case called for an independent oversight agency for Canadian national security operations. While the Harper government has refused to go along with this urging, a Canada U.S.- perimeter would make such a protection much less likely over the long run.

"With the full integration of most of these agencies into the American counterpart, there will be no practical way to render those agencies, integrated teams [of Canadians & Americans] accountable to any Canadian mechanism," Tasse told IPS. Both the Canadian government and business sector are keen on improving the current North American free trade regimes, especially after 9/11 when U.S. international terrorism security concerns slowed down trade and traffic across the border, explained Colin Robertson, a former Canadian diplomat and a proponent of a Canada-U.S. security perimeter.

Robertson agrees that protectionist pressure in the U.S. – the latest manifestation being the "Buy America" provisions under the Obama administration – means that gaining an unfettered U.S. market for Canadian companies remains an illusive goal, whatever Ottawa negotiates in the final analysis.

"My view is that in each case we have improved our relative situation. Is it the optimum? No. The day is long, there are always new little barriers coming up," Robertson told IPS. "We will never give [the U.S.] exactly what they want. We couldn't do that from a sovereignty perspective and it wouldn't be practical."

Robertson predicts that in any deal, Canada will conform its copyright legislation to the U.S. model in exchange for greater export of Alberta tar sands oil (that is bitumen, or "dirty oil" in the minds of its many critics) to the U.S. market via a pipeline – yet to be approved – heading south towards the Gulf of Mexico coast for refining.

Meanwhile, one contentious aspect of a security perimeter could involve the merging of Canadian personal information into North American databases that are accessible to U.S. security and law enforcement.

Already, legislation is going through the Canadian Parliament that would oblige Canadian air carriers regularly crossing U.S. territory to get from one part of Canada to another, for the shortest route possible, to make their passenger data available to U.S. authorities.

At a recent Ottawa conference, Michael Wilson, a former Canadian ambassador to Washington and the ex-finance minister in the 1980s Conservative government that negoti-

ated the first Canada-U.S. free trade agreement, was forthright on this point: "This border agreement does raise some very significant issues on sovereignty, on privacy, on the form of collaboration between both sides. Sharing of information is very important to being able to make this agreement work," he told reporters.

A second speaker, Michael Hayden, a former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), indicated that a thinner Canada-U.S. border means a common North American approach to security.

"I understand that these are national decisions on both sides of the line. And we're each free to take the decisions we feel appropriate," said Hayden, CIA director from 2006 to 2009. "You just need to understand that if your decisions are markedly different than ours, it affects our view as to how thick the border should be," he said.

Another observer, Scott Sinclair asserts that business has been given "privileged access" to the secret discussions surrounding the harmonising of U.S. and Canada regulatory standards with regards to products and services. "The security perimeter deal, as I understand it, is not about harmonising to the highest regulatory standards. Its goal is to reduce the regulatory burden on cross-border business.

Combining pressure from corporations to cut regulations with a secret decision-making process is a sure-fire recipe for eroding regulation and moving to the lowest common denominator," said Sinclair, senior trade policy researcher at the [Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives](#).

This is a continuation of a recent trend within Canada towards government deregulation, the CCPA recently reported, in a host of areas including butcher shops, restaurants, water filtration plants, freeways, elevators, rides at the fair, food labels, prescription and natural drug approvals, air travel, toys, and baby gear.

Meanwhile, Michael Byers says the lack of transparency in the Canada-U.S. negotiations represents a deliberate strategy to undermine the ability of anti-free trade and critics of globalisation to marshal effective public campaigns against their latest effort. "The two governments have concerns that opposition to negotiations will mount if people know what's being discussed, and so this is an end run around democracy. And it is particularly ironic that it is occurring now as Canadians and Americans are celebrating revolution in North Africa and the Middle East," (Byers) noted. One potential scenario, adds Byers, is that the ruling Conservatives will sign a deal following a predicted win in a spring federal election – during which the Canadian electorate will hear very little of what has transpired in the negotiations with Washington.

On the other hand, previous efforts at a cross-border deal have flopped, says Stephen Staples, president of the Rideau Institute. "We have seen this before. It has not worked out."

He notes that Washington under President George W. Bush walked away from a proposed easing of restrictions on truck traffic at busy border crossings because of an Ottawa-Washington disagreement over fingerprinting citizens.

This time around, energy politics and specifically the desire for increased sales of tar sands oil are increasingly driving Canadian policy towards border trade within North America, says Sinclair. "[Ottawa] will be looking for commitments such as expedited regulatory approval processes for pipelines and assurances that Canadian tar sands oil will not be disadvantaged by state or federal environmental protec-

tion measures regulating the carbon content of fuels." Byers charges that the Harper government will do anything to get around opposition in the U.S. toward the importing of Canadian bitumen, including surrendering unique Canadian policies in immigration, refugees, copyright and human rights.

"The Harper government is beginning to realise that there is a serious question as to whether the United States or Europe will actually want to buy our bitumen in the future and it is fighting really hard to keep that access open," he added.

From: S.McDowall [stephmcd@telus.net] / Feb. 28, 2011

ONLINE: <http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=54655> ♣

Corporate media silent as new border deal betrays Canada -

New Harper/Obama Border Deal about Corporate Power – not security and trade

'This is the kind of government action that we in the business community have been seeking for years'.

- The Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE) Feb 4, 2011

By Jack Etkin, Victoria BC

The CCCE (quoted above) is the secretive umbrella group that represents Corporate Canada. The CCCE is the banks, big oil, the drug companies and manufacturers and retailers and all the rest; the people and corporations who own our country. Many believe they ARE the government of Canada. They are the ones behind this deal.

The agreement signed in Washington on Friday February 4 will put a new border - A Security Perimeter - AROUND Canada and the United States. And it will begin the work of REMOVING the border between us in order to give Big Business more control of Canada's resources and people.

This is being done without the involvement of our Parliament, or the people of Canada or the United States. It is an undemocratic betrayal of all of us.

The Corporations behind this deal own the politicians who signed it, and the media that are telling us 'how good it is'. Also in the Border Deal: A new 'Council' will 'harmonize' regulations between Canada and the United States (google: Regulatory Cooperation Council):

The Corporations want ONE SET of business-friendly rules for Canada and the United States, they want control of the rules and regulations that govern us, and that is what this deal is largely about.

Where is the Corporate Media? Where is the CBC?

All silent – under Corporate orders. Where are the Unions? The Environmental Groups? The Council of Canadians? The Social Groups. The other Political Parties? We are allowed to hear nothing from them either.

This powerful new agreement will further undermine our democracy, it is all about Corporate Power and Wealth.

Here in Victoria, our main Corporate radio station, CFAX, tells us the new border deal will be good for security and trade and nothing to worry about. That is just Corporate Propaganda, but only that one message is put out.

The border deal will 'protect us' from terror. That's how it's being 'sold', but in fact we are getting in bed with the number one terrorist nation in the world today, the United States of America; a nation that is also bankrupt and may be nearing social upheaval. Even worse, this deal gives more power to Corporations which have neither heart nor soul and who will happily see us ruined if it means increased ⇒ Profit for them; we know this because it is what they do everywhere in the world. Why is Stephen Harper signing us into secret deals with these lunatics?

The new agreement will make it easier to cross the border. This is the other selling point for the deal, but of course the 'tightening' of the Canada/US border was done to give us 'a problem' that they are now going to solve with a new border around us - which was the Corporate Plan all along.

These are the kinds of games these lunatics play. Do we Canadians want to be part of that?

And does anyone care WHAT we want? What can we do?

1. Contact your local corporate media and demand coverage of this story - but remember that the person you are talking to is not to blame; the owners are to blame.
2. Contact your local politician and find out what they are doing about this.
3. Inform yourself, and inform your friends and family.
4. Support democracy & free media wherever you find them.

Jack Etkin, Victoria jetkino@yahoo.ca ♣

Continental perimeter agreement likely to be major election issue

Council of Canadians [ACTIVist] NEWS, Feb 5, 2011

The Globe and Mail reports that, "Stephen Harper's decision to move Canada toward a continental security perimeter as part of new border agreements with the United States has launched a debate over sovereignty that may be re-

solved only with a federal election. ...

ARTICLES ONLINE with links:

www.canadians.org/campaignblog/?p=6280 ♣

The Power of Great Wealth

It's real. It's true. The whole economic system is one gigantic scam. The sole purpose of the national debts that have been built up by governments around the world has been to build up the personal wealth and power of a small faction of our society. The debts have been engineered by them for that purpose only. Any pretence of necessity or legality is a farce. They are the faction who are in control of the governments of most of the major countries on this planet. Elections are a farce. These people appear now to have plans to bring Russia and China under their influence as well.

The manipulation of the economies of the various countries around this planet to produce benefits for the wealthy class is frequently attributed to "bankers" and we are tempted and encouraged to visualize the manager of the bank down the street. But the "bankers" of whom we speak are the controllers of that "Power of Great Wealth" that is the title of this essay. They are the "faction" to whom we refer in other paragraphs of this essay.

It is interesting to investigate this "faction" a little more thoroughly. Frequently it is considered to be about one percent of our society. But that includes a great many people who merely have enough wealth to be comfortable. The real "faction" who are in the controlling position is much smaller than that. In 2004, Forbes magazine announced that the number of billionaires in the world had increased to 587 from 436 in 2003 and they were worth approximately \$1.9 trillion. We can assume that by now this number has increased to perhaps 5000 and their worth would be anybody's guess. Certainly they control many times the amount of their own fortunes. It is within this small group that the "faction" with the ambition to gain complete control of our world will be found.

Evidence of the behaviour of this faction of our society is readily available. Only the misinformation supplied by the corporate-owned media prevents it from becoming widespread public knowledge.



Will there be an Election? Thoughts on the Bloc Québécois

Ernest Semple, Montreal

(In mid-February) Peter Mansbridge puffed and huffed and said: "The date is May second, and you heard it here first".

It doesn't matter really. As long as the NDP demand for higher seniors

pensions, and finally killing the Bloc Québécois vote subsidy funding, reduced to either zero (as it should be) or a humanitarian compromise to one quarter of the present \$2 dollars per vote, it doesn't matter.

The resignations from the Bloc are long past due. The Bloc is a useless impediment to Quebec's aspirations. The Bloc

by **D. D. Keir, Dundas ON**

I read article after article about the financial melt-down, and what must be done to recover from it. I feel that almost all of the writers of these articles have missed something that is very important. These writers conclude that it is possible to restore the prosperity of the past few decades by returning to a theme of "growth creates prosperity." There is only one problem with this solution. It cannot happen. This planet cannot support any more growth. The signs are all around us. So the problem becomes: How do we restore the "good life" without growth? This will necessitate a whole new philosophy of life for our society.

According to the present philosophy every family must have a wage-earner. This makes a wage-paying job a necessity. This makes extensive industrial and financial activity necessary to provide those jobs. This means that millions of products must be manufactured and sold. This is extremely profitable for the people who own these facilities. It also means that these products are required to become worn out or obsolete and relegated to the scrap heap so that they can be re-manufactured and re-sold. But in the near future the resources of this finite planet of ours must become depleted. Waste products, including trash and harmful gases, must become excessive. So what do we do? Do we mindlessly continue with the same system that has produced the current melt-down, or do we attempt to change our life-style to allow the human race to continue to survive on this planet as long as possible?

Since growth and survival are not compatible, how are we to solve this problem? I have read that food need not be a problem. Experts have concluded that with intelligent planning there are plenty of resources (such as arable land) to feed and care for the present world's population with ease. But how do we manage to by-pass that small unscrupulous faction of our society who believe that money is more important than the welfare of society and who are also in control at the present time?

- **D. D. Keir** ♣

does nothing more significant than absorb salaries and spend the subsidy all in Quebec, (and France travel maybe).

A bonus for the Liberals and the NDP would be to add 30 more seats to the House of Commons thus opening the way to stronger Canadian representation in the House.

You can expect many Bloc MP's with more than sixteen years of building pensions to finally take their reward. MP Serge Menard is reputed to be leading the way.

This trickle will undoubtedly lead to a flood of resignations that has been Quebec's ticking time bomb since the day the Bloc was elevated, unjustly, to the level of Official Opposition in 1993, after the election of Jean Chrétien.

[ItsSemple@aol.com] ♣

Canadian Constitution Foundation defending freedom of expression: Mandatory bilingual sign bylaw unconstitutional

Canadian Constitution Foundation, March 2, 2011
«Galganov v. Township of Russell»

The Canadian Constitution Foundation (CCF) today announced that it has been granted permission by the Ontario Court of Appeal to make written and oral arguments in defence of freedom of expression against a restrictive Ontario Township of Russell signage language by-law.

Bilingual small business owner Mr. Jean-Serge Brisson ordered a new sign for his store, with his business name in English and services listed in French. Shortly before he ordered his sign, Russell Township passed a municipal by-law requiring all new exterior commercial signs to be bilingual, with identical style and content in both Official Languages, except for the business name. Mr. Brisson's new sign ran afoul of this by-law.

Together with language rights activist Mr. Howard Galganov, Brisson decided to challenge the constitutionality of the bylaw. However, in *Galganov v. Russell Township*, the Ontario Superior Court held that the bylaw does not violate freedom of expression under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

On appeal, the CCF has been granted the status of "friend of the court". It will argue that the impugned bylaw infringes freedom of expression because it compels and coerces individuals to express themselves in a language not freely chosen, and in only French and English. There are other

Ontario municipalities with similar bylaws and other provinces engaged in a similar controversy about language restricting commercial signs.

CCF Executive Director and lawyer Chris Schafer said, "The CCF does not support language-restricting signage laws. We think they lack constitutional, evidentiary, and prudential justification". Schafer added, "The bylaw unfairly affects the township's immigrant population since it prohibits businesses from communicating with potential customers by signs in, for instance, Italian or Chinese. The Canadian Constitution Foundation is a registered charity, independent and non-partisan, which defends constitutional freedoms through education and litigation.

[www.canadianconstitutionfoundation.ca/article.php/221]

From Kim: We are very pleased and grateful that the CCF is taking an interest in the case. The Appeal case will be coming up on May 3rd (in Osgoode Hall, Toronto). If you are interested in joining a trip to Toronto from Ottawa on May 3rd, please contact me:

Kim McConnell, Canadians for Language Fairness

P.O. Box 40111, Bank & Hunt Club Postal Outlet

2515 Bank St., Ottawa, ON K1V 0W8

Tel (613) 321-7333 / Email: clf1@bell.net

Website: www.languagefairness.ca

"We support the right of the vast majority of English speaking Canadians to be free from the discriminatory effects of forced bilingualism." ♣

"The Fifth Columnist"

Viewed from the Macroscope



Michael Neilly, Dunrobin ON

In Piers Anthony's science fiction book *Macroscope*, our hero studies an anthill for a very long time. Suddenly he has a revelation, and crushes the anthill with his boot as he walks away. Why did he do this? The author answers by posing a question: If we could be super-evolved creatures called "lopers" that never

experienced pain or want, and subsisted on music and colour, would anyone choose to remain a human being, living figuratively in an anthill and doing things ultimately pointless in the grand scheme of things?

It's the same with cultures. If one culture dwelled in the past, refused to "evolve", and blamed others for their misfortunes, while the other, a very pervasive one, offered wealth, freedom and mobility, how long would it be before the former culture began to die, to be assimilated?

Assimilation. If a government, let's say the German government, announced that the Germany was in danger of assimilation and therefore all the world's inhabitants must

speak German, well, certain segments of Canadian society would be very nervous. There would be howls of protest from Canada's Left. It's fashionable to pick on Germans! Yet, here in Canada another group of people sow these very same fascist seeds – paranoia over the danger of assimilation, an obsession with the purity of their culture, a profound sense of entitlement to strip others of their rights – and it's accepted by thinking Canadians without question. Remarkably, it is implied that this culture – you know which one – is so delicate, so fragile, like coral or lichen, that it simply cannot survive in English-speaking North America without state intervention.

If you were waiting for the other shoe to drop, this is it. A new bill, S-220, proposed by Senator Maria Chaput, would force the Federal government to expand the reach of the Official Languages Act so that the criterion of "where numbers warrant" no longer applies. This would mean that the federal civil service would be French from top to bottom, from East to West, excluding the majority of Canadians, no matter where they are, from participating in their own government. Could we give Newfoundlanders ⇒

The Fifth Columnist – Mike Neilly, contd.

a break like this without looking like racists?

We hear the tired refrain in defence of Canada's French language subsidy: Official Bilingualism is the glue that holds this country together. But where is the proof? Has there been a single poll asking Quebecers if official bilingualism caused them to vote to remain in Canada (twice)? I cannot recall a single one. It's as if we are afraid to ask the question. Because if the answer were no, that Official Bilingualism was not a factor in the sovereignty votes, that it didn't matter all, then we all have spent and are spending billions of dollars on nothing. This would be much like spending billions on a carbon credit exchange market that didn't address the global warming or pollution problem at all. Oh, we're doing that, too...

So to the microscope we go. If a people are abandoning their own culture in favour of another, who are we to say no? Who are we to artificially impose this "fragile" culture everywhere, on everyone, simply to retard what is so blatantly obvious. When Canadians land on Mars, there will always be one segment of our population that will demand that Martians speak French to them, that French signs be plastered all around the space port, just so French people won't "lose their language". It is preposterous and paradoxically never-ending.

I have to ask why English Canada must subsidize the French language thanks to Bill S-220, when it is clear to me that intelligent French people moving into the Anglosphere have made their own choices to live and work in English. Am I somehow diminished because I have "lost" my Gaelic tongue? Or, are the French people themselves, our Celtic brothers, who once spoke a Celtic tongue and are the poster child of assimilation by the Roman invasion, now diminished by speaking French?

There are many Canadians whose sense of compassion has achieved such mythological proportions that they cannot comprehend that they are sponsoring fascism by supporting the state religion called Official Bilingualism and its underpinning Official Languages Act. Make no mistake; it is not "pride" or "respect" but fear of "assimilation" that drives bill S-220. This particular fascist culture cannot even co-exist with any other; it must march into every government office and business in the land in order to survive. To all these wilfully blind people, I would say that in my dog, this behaviour is called fear aggression. And yet...

Recently I stepped down from a Via train and exited Toronto's Union Station. Down the road, an event at the Sky-Dome was letting out, and throngs of teenagers emerged. They were virtually all Asian. I drove by the University of Toronto campus and all I saw were Asians. For an instant, I felt what the franco-fascist felt, a sense of being overwhelmed, of being invaded: Since the mid-1970s, Canada

has been bringing in 250,000 people a year, overwhelmingly visible minorities. With respect to Bill S-220, legislating this nation into French one won't make a lick of difference to the demographics, for if the saying demographics is destiny is true, then Canada will be young and Asian in the big cities, and old and Caucasian in the country. Haven't you noticed? It seems that our two state religions, "Official Bilingualism" and "Official Multiculturalism" are now in glaring conflict. Divide and conquer?

In the mean time, surely there are more important things to address. Why, for instance, is our country so addicted to growth that it must bring in 250,000 people annually in the first place? Why must we consume and pollute everything in our path? Why must every piece of ground be developed and sold? At the root of it all are humanity's "right" to breed and pollute, the perfect storm, exploited by the growth machine called civilization. But no, apparently the most important thing is that Canada must be made French. I swear that we will be hip-deep in our own refuse and dying of starvation, and somebody will still be demanding to be spoken to in French. For aliens gazing through the microscope, I have to wonder how we must look.

An open letter to Mr. G. Duceppe

I have to say that I admired you in the second last federal leadership debate. You were direct, clear and knew the answers to the questions. "We're not better, just different", you said. Still when I read your web site, I was confused. "The Bloc Québécois is a sovereigntist political party...", you say. But the subject is immediately dropped in the very same paragraph. Continuing, "Its presence in the House of Commons assures the agreement and legitimacy between the vision of a people and those of its representatives and its elected representatives on the federal scene." This part sounds like someone with a vested interest in staying!

Frankly I don't know what you are waiting for. What are the ideal conditions for sovereignty? A weak, dissolute, impoverished Canada and a booming Quebec economy, I should think. Do you honestly believe that these conditions will EVER occur in the next 20-40 years? Because a prosperous Canada usually translates to a prosperous Quebec. And when people's bellies are full, there can be no revolution or sovereignty, if you will.

More likely, the next 20 years will herald a weakened, dependent Quebec, and a booming Canada, and nobody in Quebec will support the severing of that life line, especially those getting ready to retire. Most of us here in the real world, or should I say only slightly less deluded one, are waiting to hear the news that Quebec is really bankrupt. Throughout the recent financial meltdown, news from Quebec on this subject was curiously muted from our toady media outlets.

Mr. Duceppe, you are a smart guy, sir, and I'm sure you =>

are surrounded by brilliant tacticians and strategists. How else could a "victimized" province end up running the country? So I think that you are just going to continue collecting your salary and political party welfare from Canada, extracting concessions at every turn and then retire to a nice, fat pension. Yes, it's a waiting game right now. No Canadian Prime Minister wants to be the one that presided over the "break-up of Canada", and Quebecers are not stupid; it's to their advantage to collect those generous transfer payments, masquerading as a "have-not" province.

If the BQ were sincere, they would set the date for separa-

tion unilaterally. You could project manage the whole thing, with deliverables, milestones, etc., and in the interim sort out those pesky details like partitioning, natives, the armed forces and so on. Since the opportune time for Quebec's departure will never occur, it might as well be now; but this would require courage, faith and resolve. Absent these critical items, do us all a favour, and delete that first line on your web site's home page. Vous êtes un poseur.

- **Mike Neilly, Dunrobin ON**

dialogue always welcome, contact me at:

fifth_columnist@magma.ca ♣

Wikiarguments: a democratic tool?

Gerry Masuda, Duncan BC

It has been evident to me that our opposition parties do not properly carry out their responsibilities in review of draft legislation. It took individuals like Jeremy Arney to study draft legislation and warn us and try to prod MPs into action.

I had thought about setting up a Citizen's Legislative Review Committee for a number of years but the logistics are daunting. I have never heard of **Wikiarguments** before (link to article at the end) but it could be the answer to interested citizens understanding complex legislation and in the process exposing the worst abuses.

Currently the Elites who control the legislative agenda would like to keep the public ignorant of what is being done to it through legislation designed to favour special interests at the public's expense. The opposition has not been very good at informing the public on what is involved and the implications of legislation being considered. Remember Peter Julian and his heroic battle to inform the public about the SPPA? Did you ever wonder why his Leader Jack Layton did not use the useful information Peter was revealing?

You may be interested in reading about **Wikiarguments** as one suggestion on how to help those in the public who realize just how important legislation is and would like to monitor developments without having to try to read and understand the legislation itself. It would only be those pieces of legislation which are particularly important and

of personal interest that **Wikiarguments** would identify which you would actually read and study with the background provided by **Wikiarguments**.

However, the mere existence of **Wikiarguments** would tend to prevent extreme cases from even being drafted and presented to the legislatures.

Link to the article on Wikiarguments by Carmen Yarrusso:
www.informationclearinghouse.info/article27485.htm ♣

"Dog whistle" politics

Dog-whistle politics is a form of political rhetoric in which coded language is used, thereby ensuring that a message reaches a target audience without making the general public aware of the specific content of the message. Much like a dog whistle (which is only audible to ears that can hear sounds in a certain frequency), dog-whistle politics often slides below the radar of the average citizen, allowing politicians to target certain groups of the electorate with very specific language. This term originated in Australia in the 1990s, when immigration was a hot-button issue in elections. Several politicians were accused of using coded terms to refer to immigration issues, ensuring that they came across as hard-liners to conservatives without offending people of a more liberal bent. In 2003, the term was used in Britain, and by 2005, it had reached the United States...

READ MORE ONLINE:

www.wisegeek.com/what-are-dog-whistle-politics.htm ♣

Laughter & 'Lightenment

**From John McCullough:
HOW IS NORMA?**

A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Joseph's Hospital. She timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?"

The operator said, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number of the patient?"

The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said, "Norma Findlay, Room 302."

The operator replied, "Let me put you on hold while I check with the nurse's station for that room."

After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, "I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Norma is doing well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back normal and her physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged tomorrow."

The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful. I was so worried. God bless you for the good news."

The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?"

The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in Room 302. No one tells me a darned thing." ♣

Chemtrails: a global covert operation for weather, tectonic warfare



Covert aerosol spraying (chemtrails) have transformed the Earth's atmosphere into a plasma that is used for HAARP* and directed energy scalar weapons

Alfred Lambremont Webre,

03/03/2011 NOTE: This is Part 2 of a 3-part article on the war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide now talking place as a result of the covert global operation of spraying aerosols

into the Earth's atmosphere, also known as "chemtrails".
[Link to Part 1 from the link at the end of the article.]

Four of the seven applications (of aerosol spraying) include: HAARP, directed energy scalar weapons, weather warfare, and tectonic warfare.

- Electromagnetic Operations, including HAARP, directed energy scalar weapons and mind control weapons applications,
- Environmental modification and weather wars. Clifford Carnicom (an acknowledged expert on the global spraying of aerosols) stated he has concluded that the covert aerosol-spraying program has transformed the atmosphere of the

planet into plasma capable of sustaining weaponized applications since its acceleration in 1999.

- Geophysical, including tectonic (earthquake) warfare [...]

Many audio presentations **ONLINE**:

<http://tinyurl.com/ChemWebre>

* **Alfred Lambremont Webre**, J.D., M.Ed. (b. May 24, 1942 on a U.S. Naval Air Station) is an author, lawyer (member of the District of Columbia Bar), futurist, peace activist, environmental activist, and a space activist who promotes the ban of space weapons. MORE AT: <http://exopolitics.blogs.com/about.html>

Received from Don Parker/John Shadbolt. ♣

MORE LINKS RE CHEMTRAILS

<http://vaticproject.blogspot.com/2011/02/haarp-chart-for-nz-quake-evidence-of.html>

<http://theintelhub.com/2010/05/29/evergreen-air-cia-chemtrail-facility-leaked/>

<http://aircrap.org/loose-lips-sink-ships-and-747s-too/33516/>

<http://aircrap.org/evergreen-aviation-admits-to-chemtrail-contracts-with-usaf/33619/>

*HAARP=High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program ♣

Global Fraud, Global Hope:

2011 Speech by Paul Hellyer

The transcript of Paul Hellyer's Feb. 26th, 2011, presentation (extract, right) is recommended by David Boese, Stephanie McDowall, and David Creighton and many others. The speech is available online at:
www.victoryfortheworld.net/speech.html

GLOBAL FRAUD: GLOBAL HOPE

An Address to the International UFO Congress, Fort McDowell Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona, 26 Feb. 2011, by Hon. Paul Hellyer, P.C., Former Canadian Minister of National Defence

[EXTRACT] **The world financial system is a total fraud.**

It is one gargantuan Ponzi scheme, no better than the one Bernie Madoff used to swindle his friends and neighbours, and thousands of times worse if you add up the total number of victims it has ripped off over countless generations. The principal difference between the two schemes is that Madoff was acting outside the law while the international banking cartel has persuaded generation after generation of monarchs, presidents and prime ministers to provide legislative protection for their larceny.

The banks' Ponzi scheme is alarmingly simple. They lend the same money to several people or institutions at the same time and collect interest on it from each. What the banks really lend, however, is their credit, and what they take back in compensation for that privilege is a debt that must be repaid with interest. [...]

READ ONLINE: www.victoryfortheworld.net ♣

SEE P. Pp. 2, 59: RECENT BOOKS BY PAUL HELLYER

Victory for the World website

ENLIST IN THE WAR AGAINST THE BANKS AND FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD

This website has been created for people who agree that the world monetary and banking system is a total disaster, and want to fix it for the benefit of all the people who lost their jobs, homes and businesses as a direct result of a fundamentally flawed system. THE PRIVATELY-OWNED BANKING MONOPOLY IS STRANGLING THE WORLD ECONOMY AND WITH IT THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF BILLIONS OF PEOPLE... The website was initiated by Andre Bernier, former member of parliament for Richmond-Wolfe, Hon. Paul Hellyer, former Minister of National Defense, Hon. Jack Murta, former Minister of State for Multiculturalism, Richard Priestman, past President of the Kingston Chapter of the Committee on Monetary and Economic Reform, Ray Stone, Broadcaster, and Keith Wilde PhD, economist, and a rapidly increasing number of concerned Canadians and others who are totally convinced that there will be no victory for the world until the high-flying privately-owned banks have their wings clipped permanently!

Links available on the website: www.victoryfortheworld.net

- The Egyptian Tinderbox: - Ellen Brown
- The Bernard Lietaer video, support for Hellyer's campaign
- How the Bankers Fleeced the World - Salon.com
- FDR on "Government by Organized Money" (DailyKos)
- Fictitious Capital - Real World Economics Review Blog
- Lost Decade Looming? - New York Times
- Chicago Petition Against Dynamite Prize Winner Institute ♣

Money creation in Canada

Derek Skinner, Victoria BC (29 Jan. 2011)

I expect most people would like to have a bit more spending money or, put another way, to have their money worth a bit more so that the same money would buy more.

We have just opened the box dealing with money supply, credit and inflation. (Shudder) Do not despair! The story is easy to understand but not readily available because there are some people who would rather keep their world of private finance for themselves.

There are two parts to money supply. Coins and notes (the money base) and credit. In the total money supply, if it is not the money base, or "cash" it must be credit.

The creation of credit followed the 2000 year old practice of the "fractional reserve" by which money-lenders created credit (extra money) based on a multiple of their gold or capital in the vault. Classically, the multiple was in the order of 10 times.

As you may or may not know, we inherited our money supply system from Britain. At Confederation there were a few private banks creating their own money and credit and it was a hit and miss system of too much money or too little money in circulation until 1930 when demand for a Central Control Bank could no longer be denied.

The Bank of Canada was created and then nationalised in 1934. It had its own mint for issue of the money base and it bought government bonds in order to provide the government with up to 25% of the money supply. It controlled the creation of credit and inflation by the private banks by varying the amount of the required reserve or by varying the basic rate of interest charged by the banks to each other and the ensuing rates charged to borrowers according to the risk involved. The system worked well. It pulled us out of the Great Depression, paid for World War II and enabled the glorious development years of road and airways building and the St. Lawrence Seaway, the improvement of Social Security, Pensions and the start of the National Health System.

Unfortunately, around 1974 a new economic philosophy from the Chicago School of Economics took hold promot-

ing the belief that the private economy and private finance was more efficient than government control. It argued for deregulation and privatisation of national assets, Free Trade and specifically the money creation process because of the unfair nature of a National Bank creating money in competition with private banks.

The Bank of Canada was persuaded to change its monetary policy. It retained control of creation of the money base but reduced its holdings of government securities in favour of almost total creation of credit by the private banks.

The Canadian Government changed its fiscal policy to encourage Free Trade Agreements in North and South America, with Europe and currently with Morocco. These agreements permit "hot" investment money to come and go in search of quick profits and the disastrous movement of production capacity to offshore locations. [...]

[The net result of 35+ years of neo-conservative monetary policy] means that it now takes twice as many dollars to create a dollar's worth of GDP as it did 40 years ago. Inflation has cut the value of a dollar in half over the last 40 years.

All that extra credit has been used by the money manipulators to create more money rather than goods and services that would have increased the value of the GDP. ...

In order to get back to a more stable monetary situation it is essential that we abandon the neo-con economic theories and return to the true control of monetary policy by the Bank of Canada that we had prior to the 1970's.

It was not perfect but it did keep interest rates low and inflation at a minimum.

The alternative is to create a new model and that implies revolution. Back in the pre 1970 days it could be said that the government controlled the banks. Nowadays the banks control the government and our everyday lives. How this came to happen is another dark and secretive story.

[Graph & detailed analysis based Statistics Canada & Bank of Canada data available on request, from dialogue@dialogue.ca] ♣

The results of turning over all debt funding to private banking...

Russ Vinden, Errington BC

There have been more than enough unexpected events occurring here and abroad.

Who could have predicted that both Parties in BC would see their Leaders resign, and grave splits appear in their ranks; that huge chunks of the poorer nations would see food riots boiling over in the streets because there was not enough food to go round and the price was rocketing upwards; or that numbers of developed nations would be effectively bankrupt and have to be bailed out by their neighbours?

I am just seething myself because I sent an e-mail to my MLA (Scott Fraser) asking for details on the BC debt and in particular, the amount of interest payable. This morning, a caller from his office told me that the BC debt was now a whopping \$47.8 billion - but would not give me the rate of interest paid, because, he said, "it was confidential information between the government and the corporation which supplied the debt". When I pressed for a ball-park figure of total interest, he said he had not got the details in front of him and would have to look them up. I got the distinct impression that he was not go-

ing to get any deeper into this question, so I hung up. This echoes a similar situation a couple of years ago when I wrote to Carole Taylor as BC Finance Minister, asking for similar information. A very polite staffer phoned me back about two weeks later asking how he could help, and when I mentioned the cessation of government debt funding by the nation's own Bank of Canada there was a short silence, and then he asked what I meant as it meant nothing to him.

I explained what I knew about the abandonment of this service some 30-odd years ago, and the total privatization of debts which followed, and he appeared genuinely mystified; he said he had worked in that Office for 14 years and had never heard of the B. of C. lending money to governments - it was total news to him. After several minutes of further chat, I realised he simply could not answer my questions. I think he was not being obstructive at all, he really wanted to help, but could not do so. He advised me to contact the federal Ministry, but when I told him I had received a two-page reply from Paul Martin saying what a good job he was doing, but not answering my questions at all, he sounded chastened, apologised, and we said goodbye.

I have found the same reluctance to answer questions on the privatization of debts, and the amounts of interest being charged, from my local Reform MP and his Alliance/ Conservative successor, and from some 14 or 15 other MP's and Finance Ministers whom I contacted in the same spurt of investigation beginning years ago now (Mrs Elizabeth Cull was the first, which dates it, more or less). The whole matter seems be like the kiss of death; the loudest noise is the frantic shuffling of feet as those questioned fell over themselves to avoid answering.

This is a sorry tale to relate in what we assume to be a democracy, and I don't know how we can revert to borrowing substantially again from our own Bank - short of another, bigger crash than we have just had.

International Banking and Global Unrest

from **Connie Fogal, Vancouver BC** [Feb. 19 2011]

Positive Money – the foremost campaigning group for Money Reform in the UK – has launched a new sub-campaign called "[One Good Cut](http://www.onegoodcut.org/)" / www.onegoodcut.org/ It has produced a 3 ½ minute video on the subject of the ability of banks to create money, which is one of the simplest and most professional videos we have ever seen on the subject. You can view it at the above website...

After you watch One Good Cut (above), watch this one: www.infowars.com/alex-jones-nwo-orchestrated-protests/

THE BANKING SYSTEM GLOBALLY IS THE ROOT OF PROBLEMS. UNDERSTAND THAT AND YOU UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING. ♣

It has led me to the certainty that not only this nation but all nations which are embedded in the same borrowing process are, in fact, in a state of legal usury, in that all have stupendous interest-induced debts, which they cannot possibly extinguish without bringing their economies to the ground; and therefore they are all paying colossal sums of interest, on the unpayable interest, on a permanent basis. I feel sure – but of course cannot prove – that all the nations currently in dire financial straits, like Greece, Ireland, etc., etc., are there because they handed their entire debt funding process to the private banking sector, rather than retaining a good portion from their own national Bank.

It is when one realises that every sovereign government has to guarantee its debt and, by the same token is fully capable of issuing its own credit, that the enormity of what has been accepted by our privatization-mad governments becomes apparent. The Green Party is aware of this, as is the Canadian Action Party, but they are neatly frozen out of office by our deplorable electoral system – which no sitting government will change. This situation is encouraged by the hefty donations received by governing Parties from the finance sector – a very tight but invisible circle.

I apologise again for going on like scratched record; but try this. My caller this morning told me that the BC debt is now a stunning \$47.8 billion. At say 5%, the interest works out to some \$2.39 billion annually, which doesn't produce anything at all except a personal charge on every one of the 3.4 million people in BC (babies and pensioners included) of \$700 a year; and that the corresponding figure for federal debt (\$500+B) must be nine or ten times as much – close to \$7000. This does seem a tremendous amount of money to transfer to the private lending corporations for no productive purpose at all, when our own Bank's facility is abandoned and returns no profit on these vast loans to government, which it was designed to do. – **Russ Vinden ♣**

Did you think a global currency was a conspiracy theory?

R. K. Moore (Feb. 13, 2011)

Those who ignore history are destined to repeat it. In 1913, when they wanted to bring in the Federal Reserve, they first created a panic, and then said the Fed would bring stability. They lied. The Fed brought us instead the Great Depression, two World Wars, and astronomical national debt. Now they're playing the same trick. They intentionally created the collapse of 2008, and now they're telling us that a global currency and the IMF (a global Federal Reserve) will bring stability. Again they lie.

UN and IMF propose the SDR, a ONE WORLD NEW CURRENCY, G20 (Sep 8, 2009)

VIEW ONLINE / WITH LINKS:

<http://tinyurl.com/YTUN09report> ♣

On-going Regime-Change Theatre in the Middle East

Resist disinformation about Libya!

Grant Orchard, Toronto ON [grantorchard@bellnet.ca]

I'm sending (below), a piece prepared by Marjaleena Repo about the rush into another war, the role of the media in that rush, and what we can do to resist the barrage of disinformation, so familiar from other recent wars...

Marjaleena Repo, Saskatoon SK

We are facing soon another illegal war, an invasion to dismantle yet another country in "western," i.e. U.S., interests. Libya is the target nation this time, and already has "military advisers" from U.S., Britain and France, and perhaps also from Israel, on its soil. (See item below). Although genuine internal opposition to the regime exists, the Libyan "protesters" we see supported by a Western media frenzy are by and large a military force, now being trained and equipped by foreign powers who are intent on getting hold of Libyan oil to have it "privatized," i.e. to become foreign-owned (as it was nationalized by Gaddafi 40 years ago). The eastern part of Libya is where the oil fields are, by and large, and that eastern part will be yanked out of Libya by separatists working hand-in-hand with foreign powers. I'm pretty sure they already have a name for that new "country"!

PLEASE read the items below carefully and check my sources. It is of essence that we don't fall for the transparent claptrap that we should be and are supporting "demonstrators" and "protesters"; under no circumstances should we give comfort to those who mouth "Responsibility to Protect" (RTP) while preparing for all-out invasion and occupation of yet another country. No matter how you twist it, RTP is a blatant imperialist doctrine with a false garb of "humanitarianism." ***With great urgency, Marjaleena Repo*** mrepo@sasktel.net / Tel. 306-244-9724

Here is what I wrote to the CBC while trying to call in to the Feb 27 Cross-country Check-up and not getting through:

Libya, a familiar story: Marjaleena Repo

What is brewing in Libya is not a "protest" or "demonstration" that has spread across the country, but an attempt to overthrow the government, militarily. We hear already about "rebel soldiers" and see images of men shaking their powerful guns, waving flags from the pre-Gaddafi period, which appear out of nowhere, en masse. The question is who is behind this force and what is its aim? This question is not being addressed in any way in our media and by our political representatives, and any real information and analysis has been replaced by sentimentalizing about "people power."

It is clear that big powers are in a real rush to attack and dismantle Libya, in the same manner that Yugoslavia, Iraq and Afghanistan have been attacked and dismembered. We hear how the eastern part of Libya where the bulk of the oil is from, "wants to separate" (and get the exclusive benefits of the oil, which now belongs to all Libyans, until it, too

gets taken over by the western powers who will gladly "privatize" that oil).

The same method is being used: demonize to the hilt, turn the Saddams, Milosevics and Gaddafis into absolute monsters and make up horrendous stories about them and their governments that never have to be proven true, and excite and mislead western populations to support military interventions in the name of "Responsibility to Protect." Surely many Canadians will remember the claim that Iraqi soldiers had taken Kuwaiti babies out of their incubators and left them to die, so they could haul their loot back to Iraq. This was the famous incident, acted out in front of the US Congress that provided the impetus for the first invasion of Iraq in 1990. And yet, soon afterwards it was revealed that the woman who had tearfully testified having been an eyewitness to the atrocity, turned out to be a daughter of the Kuwaiti ambassador in the U.S. and was acting out a script prepared by the PR firm Hill and Knowlton, hired by the Kuwaiti government to get Americans to support the invasion of Iraq. (Amnesty International completely fell for this hoax as well.)

"**The Responsibility to Protect**," oddly enough, appears only to apply to certain countries: no such thing to protect the Palestinians when Israel launches a massive military attack on Gaza and not a finger lifted when the U.S. invades and occupies Iraq and Afghanistan, where several millions of innocent civilians have died and continue to die. Now the UN appears to be willing to facilitate an attack on yet another country, with a guaranteed loss of thousands upon thousands of Libyan lives. (as noted on Israeli website, posted on Feb.25th, the following verify my worst fears: Hundreds of US, British and French military advisers have arrived in Cyrenaica, Libya's eastern breakaway province... **ONLINE:** www.debka.com/article/20708/ ♣

Western Journalists Fail to Report the Facts about Libya Objectively

By Timothy V. Gatto, Dandelion Salad, March 5, 2011
www.liberalpro.blogspot.com | <http://tinyurl.com/DSGatto>
I wrote an article that ran on a few different websites entitled "Another Corporate-Inspired War?" I received some information about Libya and some facts about Col. Gadhafi from a few of my readers. I have no way of completely fact-checking all of this information and so initially I wasn't going to write about all of the information I received. After I watched a number of news shows about Libya and saw that very few of them were trying to show an objective outlook on Gadhafi or on Libya, I decided that another perspective really needed to be presented to the American people. I have decided to write on the information presented to me and let the readers of this article make

their own judgment on the information presented.

First of all, very few good things have been presented on Col. Gadhafi. I would like to mention some of the things that have taken place in Libya since he overthrew the monarchy in 1969 in a popular revolution against the US supported King. **Some aspects of Libyan progress since the downfall of the monarchy in 1969:**

1. Literacy rates have risen from 10% of the nation to around 90% of the population.
2. Women have the right to go to school & hold down a job.
3. The life expectancy of Libyans has risen by twenty years and the infant mortality rate has dropped dramatically.
4. Libya had the highest Human Development Index ranking in Africa. This is a U.N. measurement of life expectancy, educational attainment and adjusted real income.
5. Most basic necessities: food, housing, fuel, healthcare and education were either heavily subsidized or became entirely free. Subsidies were considered the most effective way to redistribute the national wealth.
6. Libya had a lower incarceration rate than the Czech Republic (or the United States). Libya ranked 61st in the world while the US has been number one for years.
7. Libya has the third highest GDP on the African continent, South Africa has the highest, Algeria is second.

Who is behind the insurgency in Libya?

This is the question that most people following the situation there would like to know. The details are far from clear. There are more questions than answers. One question in particular seems to be elusive, and that is why does the United States take such an active interest in a nation that has less than 6.5 million people? Egypt by comparison (with a population of almost 79 million) was a resolute ally that had a peace agreement with our other ally Israel and controlled the Suez Canal, the oil gateway into the Middle East. Why does Libya provoke such a response like the one Secretary of State Hillary Clinton articulated from the Middle-East yesterday when she said "all of our options regarding actions towards Libya are on the table" (This is euphemism for military options). Yesterday President Obama made the statement that Gadhafi's time was up and that he should resign. This is a much harder stance than the one the United States took towards Mubarak in Egypt.

The primary opposition group most widely quoted is the National Front for the Salvation of Libya. According to Wikipedia: "NFSL was based in Sudan until 1985 when the regime of Colonel Nimeiry fell. It opposed military and dictatorial rule in Libya, and called for a democratic government with constitutional guarantees, free elections, a free press, and separation of powers among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. NFSL launched a wide campaign to topple Gaddafi in Libya, establishing a short-wave radio station, a commando military training camp and also published a bi-monthly newsletter, Al Inqadh (Salvation). According to various sources, Saudi Arabia and the United States Central Intelligence Agency had supported the NFSL."

The facts are that the United States has considered Gadhafi an enemy of the U.S. for well over 35 years. The NFSL now operates out of Virginia. According to Sara Flounders, writing for Global Research: "The U.S. carried out numerous assassination and coup attempts against the Gadhafi regime and financed armed opposition groups, such as the NFSL. Some U.S. attacks were blatant and open. For example, without warning 66 U.S. jets bombed the Libyan capital of Tripoli and its second-largest city, Benghazi, on April 15, 1986. Gadhafi's home was bombed and his infant daughter killed in the attack, along with hundreds of others."

Looking at the situation in Libya now, according to past history, the United States is not behaving in any way that could be described as anything new. She also states that: "Even if Gadhafi were as quiet and austere as a monk and as careful as a diplomat, as president of an oil-rich, previously underdeveloped African country he still would have been hated, ridiculed and demonized by U.S. imperialism if he resisted U.S. corporate domination. That was his real crime and for that he has never been forgiven."

(www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=23472)

[...] The truth of the matter is that we would not be thinking of acting militarily against Libya if they did not sit on oil reserves estimated at over 40 billion barrels of high-quality crude. If Russia or China launched military operations against Libya we would be screaming at the top of our lungs.

The American people need to see this as what it is, and that is just another attempt by the United States to secure resources by force. We are already fighting a war in Afghanistan in order to stabilize the country so that we can build the Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Indian pipeline (T.A.P.I.). Our attempt to control the oilfields of Iraq has yielded no significant gains for the U.S. Sending America's military to Libya will be a grave mistake. Obama's entire presidency will be gauged by what we do in Libya and other potential trouble spots in the resurgent Middle-East. I don't want to be writing about what I wrote today years from now.

ONLINE with links: <http://tinyurl.com/DSGatto> ♣

Libya's huge fresh water pipeline

From Tom Ascher [lifeforce@blackfoot.net]

Geeez... I wonder if this is the real reason there is so much "civil unrest" in Libya. Could it be someone else covets the oil and water of this potentially rich nation? Or is this all about maintaining control... Cannot have Libya, or any other third world nation, become independent of the international banking/oil cartel. Can't have that! Hmmm...

Virtually unknown in the West: Libya's water resources

We still wonder how on earth did Gaddafi manage to stay in power for 40 years? Did no one notice his madness until now? Did no one notice that he built a HUGE FRESH WATER PIPELINE to the Benghazi region, that lunatic? Were they waiting for him to finish? **ONLINE:**

www.goumbook.com/4729/libyas-great-man-made-river-project/ ♣



QUEBEC NOTEBOOK

Quebec Liberal, PQ MLAs unite in unanimous declaration of cultural independence

'Multiculturalism is a Canadian value – it is not a Quebec one.'

Peter Sauvé, Montreal QC

Early February saw another bad day for the self-deluding multitudes of English-speaking Canadians who

want to believe “only good things, Toto” about French Quebec and its place in Canada.

That was the day when all 113 members of the Quebec legislature – from Premier Jean Charest and his governing Liberals to Pauline Marois's opposition Parti Québécois – spoke loudly, clearly, unambiguously unequivocally with one voice. A voice, of course, *tout en français*.

Prompted by a PQ motion to ban a small, ceremonial dagger worn by Sikhs on legislature grounds, the Quebec National Assembly vote was aimed at sending the clear message that multiculturalism – just like bilingualism and all those other Canadian Charter of Rights values and ideals trotted out at July 1st ceremonies across the land -- doesn't really cut it in French Quebec.

Yet, however horrifying English Canada's typical federal Liberal and NDP supporters would find it to be, the vote was truly French-Quebec democracy in action.

That's because these politicians voted exactly the way most French Quebecers wanted them to. Multiculturalism? Just say “Non!” So they did. All 113 of them. Unanimously.

Jean Charest, too.

And the resounding message that the “My Canada Includes Quebec” crowd in English Canada didn't want to hear about bilingualism was now being repeated about multiculturalism, courtesy of PQ MNA Louise Beaudoin, Quebec's former minister of language and culture.

“Multiculturalism is a Canadian value – it is not a Quebec one,” Beaudoin forthrightly and unabashedly declared after the Assembly vote. With a 113–0 vote count and even a Cameroon-born PQ MNA condemning multiculturalism for promoting “ignorance, solitude and division,” who would argue?

The recent proceedings were triggered after a lobby group of four young Sikhs, led by a lawyer who spoke perfect English, arrived at the National Assembly in January to push for multicultural benefits before a Quebec government committee hearing arguments concerning Bill 94 and the subject of “reasonable accommodation,” as it has come to be known. But they were denied access to the building by security agents after refusing to remove their kirpans (unsharpened knives with a blade that's just under four inches long, wrapped and worn under clothing) as a routine condition of entry.

(For the record, kirpans can be worn in every provincial

legislature, and in the Supreme Court of Canada).

Dr. Charles-Philippe Courtois, who teaches history at Canada's Royal Military College outside Montreal, says no Quebec government in the last half-century has supported multiculturalism. In an interview with the Montreal Gazette, Courtois noted almost 90 percent of Quebecers disagreed with the Supreme Court of Canada's 2006 ruling that the kirpan was a religious symbol, not a weapon.

“If we look at Quebec's policies on immigration and integration from the 1960s until today,” he said, “the Quebec government has always maintained that multiculturalism is not a Quebec value.”

The February vote result likely came as no surprise to veteran watchers of the Quebec political scene, or to most readers of this magazine. As noted, French Quebec has increasingly said Non to the normal and naturally occurring use and presence of English here since the 1960s.

Backed by political threats and gamesmanship, grand social posturings, frequent anti-English vandalism, and fearful and fawning federalists, French Quebec increasingly whitewashed English from its face. Does anyone seriously think that, after sticking it en masse to its English-speaking population, that French Quebec would now let a few visible minorities with kirpans and burkhas stand in its way?

Predictably, the legislature vote saw embarrassed federalist apologists in both Quebec and Canada quickly go into damage-control mode, choosing to muddy the waters of Canada's obvious national-disunity by insisting that Quebec is perhaps less “multicultural” – but more “intercultural” -- in its treatment of minorities.

(This is one of the new lies that federalist plumbers and spin-doctors will be selling to English Canada to further forestall your perception that Quebec's true values are incompatible with Canada's. Let's all hide behind word play once again to avoid the real truth about national disunity).

Of course, the kirpan story got a lot more ink than that of a Quebec Human Rights Tribunal – you know, one of those typically politically-correct, neo-Salem-witch-hunting bodies – that recently ordered the city of Saguenay to remove a crucifix and Catholic statue from city-council grounds, stop saying a prayer before each meeting, AND pay the atheistic complainant \$30,000 in moral and punitive damages for discriminating against his freedom of religion and conscience.

It's time the National Assembly banned so-called Human Rights Tribunals.

⇒

In Ottawa... Quebec francophone Conservative MP Steven Blaney introduced a private member's bill that would require anyone voting in a federal election to show their face before doing so. A 2007 Quebec law requires all who vote in provincial elections to remove any facial covering.

Where's the justice?... Quebec's overworked and understaffed Crown prosecutors make about \$100,000 annually – roughly half of what their Ontario counterparts earn. Despite their current strike action, the Quebec government says no raise.

Nonetheless, Charest's Liberals have come up with \$200-million, covering the province's share of the estimated cost of a new hockey arena in Quebec City. The rink's intended to boost the capital's bid for a future Winter Olympic Games, and to attract the National Hockey League's interest the next time an existing franchise sputters financially, or a new one takes flight. Last year, eight Quebec City-area Conservative MPs graced a press conference wearing Quebec Nordiques jerseys, not so tacitly throwing their weight behind the project in a way that lets Quebecers know the Conservatives will surely be there to shell out, and to cover the inevitable cost over-runs the project will entail.



“From Down the 401”

My fellow Canadians,

It is that time of year again when I anxiously check my email 100 times a day and wait for the phone call to tell me that I have kept my job...or not.

And although there have been

moments of panic, I made a late New Year's resolution: I will not overreact. Partly because I have no control over what my bosses do with the governmental departments who control the project wherein lies my job, and partly because I have seen SO MUCH overreaction over the last couple of months that I have to laugh and shake my head and wonder agape at the alleged “experts” way of handling things in their most sincere Chicken Little ways. (In addition, a recent, fairly lucrative proofreading assignment reminded me I do have marketable skills for the right company, and will be pursuing that in the future as well.)

---I guess, as a hockey fan, I was among millions disappointed in the World Junior Hockey Championship which our boys lost. In the final. But unlike those who rendered garments & burned effigies, I take great pride in the fact that we were IN the finals for EIGHT STRAIGHT YEARS (and counting), medaling more than any other country, including FIVE straight golds. If ANY NHL team was that consistently good, it would be considered a dynasty in every sense of the word, and rightly so. Let's rejoice in what we have accomplished and not dwell on not being the best every year.

---The CRTC is truly an enigma, going back decades to when

Maxime Bernier... When it comes to candour, PQ MNA Louise Beaudoin has nothing on federal Conservative MP Maxime Bernier, who recently told a Halifax, NS radio show that Quebec's Bill 101 should be abolished.

Bernier's “political bravery” won kudos from former McGill University professor Don Donderi in a recent *Gazette* article. The equally straight-shooting prof called the language law's commercial signage and Internet regulations “small-minded, vindictive and foolish,” and knocked its discriminatory school-access provisions.

Donderi heads CIT-CAN, a group lobbying against Bill 101. He says many of its objectionable parts could be changed by Quebec cabinet orders-in-council without parliamentary approval.

Thus, a modified Quebec language law could, conceivably, remain in force, but more “as a symbolic reminder of more conflicted times, just as the Confederate flag still flies here and there in a United States that elected an African-American president.”

Comments?... To contact the Notebook, write to quebecnotebook@hotmail.com

Peter Sauvé, Montreal QC ♣

Lou Israel, Toronto

they banned arguable the best American programming from reaching our cable stations. But the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council decides that *Dire Straits'* mention of the word “faggot” (not in a derogatory sense) in its hit song, *Money For Nothing*, was “too offensive” for Canadian airwaves...and yet the CRTC agrees to help destroy small internet companies by ruling against unlimited downloads.

The *Dire Straits* hit was in 1985. The CRTC ruling affects those small companies TODAY. And where are the efforts focused???? On a 25-year-old song. **Pathetic.**

ONLINE: www.thestar.com/entertainment/article/921054--dire-straits-song-ruled-unfit-for-canada#article

Oh, that's just the beginning!

---Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was shot, a 9-year-old girl & 5 others (including a judge) was killed, the NRA silent on guns and gunmen (of course). So there was an under reaction. ONLINE:

www.nola.com/crime/index.ssf/2011/01/attack_on_arizona_congr_esswoma.html

But it was only a matter of time before a Democrat acted as stupidly as a Rethuglican. Limit free speech? Bring guns into the legislature? ONLINE: www.narbosa.com/2011/01/rep-robert-brady-introduces-bill-to-rip.html

Not a bill tightening gun laws. NO, the solution to gun crime is apparently allowing MORE people to own MORE guns to shoot MORE people! (This does not include the Republican fireman who refused to answer the emergency call to the Giffords' shooting because she was a Democrat,

if you can believe that!)

---Quick quiz: what is the single deadliest device a Canadian can smuggle onto an American airplane? A set of box-cutters? No. Eye drops? Guess again. It's the dreaded Kinder egg! Apparently, the ever-vigilant Americans have, in the interests of security, of course, declared the Kinder egg to be a choking hazard (for the toy inside). Because that's how terrorists work, don't ya know? "Ma'am, I WILL shoot you. STEP AWAY FROM THE EGG!" Isn't that a 22 Minutes sketch? [ONLINE: www.theglobeandmail.com/life/the-hot-button/border-guards-crack-kinder-egg-case/article1865884/](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/the-hot-button/border-guards-crack-kinder-egg-case/article1865884/)

Environmental awareness is fine. But punishing a 6 year old kid for bringing a Ziploc bag for lunch?!?!?

Of course, it would have to happen in Quebec. Now, I am all for limiting our carbon footprints, reducing waste and all that. We all must take measures to save our planet. But traumatizing a 6 year old for a mistake his parents made is a bit much. (Actually, a LOT much---the kid now has a fear of plastic bags. An unhealthy one.) It's not like the parents are oil executives. They are not professional polluters. They usually use recyclable containers. But like the dieter who occasionally slips and has a quick meal at a fast-food place (in my case, it's at the Popeye's that recently opened across the street---do not tell my diet coach!), they simply had an off-day when the good stuff was being washed. For that slight error in judgment, you punish the child? There are enough poor parents and good teachers out there that we do not need to stigmatize these people further for the occasional lack of foresight or planning. [ONLINE: http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/quebec-boy-punished-bringing-eco-unfriendly-ziploc-sandwich-bag-school/story?id=12815697](http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/quebec-boy-punished-bringing-eco-unfriendly-ziploc-sandwich-bag-school/story?id=12815697)

I often marvel at the fact that I, a confirmed (for now) child-free (forever) bachelor, would easily make a better parent than so many people I read about these days. But it DOES make me feel good about those life choices.

---Speaking of life choices...apparently Silvio Berlusconi has made some poor ones. He has been indicted for sex with a 17 year old at 74? (I know, you're saying "THIS is a scandal?? It's a medical miracle!") But he happens to be the Prime Minister of Italy who also owns most of the media in that country. (Imagine President Rupert Murdoch or Donald Trump.) The truly incredible thing is, having sex with a 16 year old is legal. Having sex with a hooker is legal. But in a Gordian-type twist of logic, it is illegal to have sex with a 17 year old, if she also happens to be a hooker. [ONLINE: www.cbc.ca/news/world/story/2011/02/15/berlusconi-judge.html](http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/story/2011/02/15/berlusconi-judge.html)

To add blather to balderdash, the Italian cops seem to be determined to do a legal end-run around Berlusconi since the man himself tries to use his undue influence to dodge prosecution on more legitimate charges. I guess Italians really do live in "interesting times." Makes you long for the stalemate of multiple coalition parties, doesn't it?

I feel I must list some feel-good stories of the new year as well, from the breakout in democratic demonstrations

(peaceful so far) all across the Arab world, from Tunisia to Egypt and beyond, which has the warmongering conservatives in a twist; the homeless man with a golden voice who caught a lucky but well-deserved break;

[ONLINE: www.thestar.com/sports/article/917755--homeless-man-with-golden-voice-reunites-with-mother](http://www.thestar.com/sports/article/917755--homeless-man-with-golden-voice-reunites-with-mother)

And then there is Conservative MP Maxime Bernier (who I already liked because of his poor taste in girlfriends and security documents), telling a Quebec audience that we do not need Bill101! He should have gone further, of course, but he is currently the only Conservative politician I respect enough to vote for. Time will tell whether pragmatism will trump politics.

---In the "meh/whocares?" category, we have discovered that when Justin Bieber isn't singing, he should really shut the hell up, since he doesn't make a lot of sense.

[ONLINE: www.thestar.com/entertainment/music/article/939801--really-don-t-believe-in-abortion-justin-bieber?bn=1](http://www.thestar.com/entertainment/music/article/939801--really-don-t-believe-in-abortion-justin-bieber?bn=1)

---It's that time of year when Conservative attack ads are in the air, meaning a spring election can't be far away. Our feelings, from the polls, range all the way from ho to hum.

---And both the TSX and NYSE are up for sale. So people who gamble on the stock market should be upset because like every other North American product or service, it is being outsourced to overseas owners? Do many of us really care that much?

Now, there are a few UNDER-REPORTED stories that SHOULD have us outraged but so far do not:

---For example---Republicans itch and moan about laws and procedures and following rules, but illegally open the actual session of Congress. (They had not been sworn in.) Barely an eyebrow was raised. Nobody was impeached or threatened.

And yet nearly THREE YEARS after Barack Obama WON the Democratic nomination, we are still reading about conservatives demanding to see his birth certificate, like he was an illegal alien or something. (Conveniently forgetting that John McCain, their would-be president, was born in Panama Canal Zone, not exactly the Great 48.)

---Huckleberry Finn, an iconic novel from our youth, is nearly required reading for most students. It contains the dreaded N-word "nigger", which spooks the left and the right, somehow. (What happened to our evolving beyond the point of fearing simple words, even offensive ones?) But leave it to wrong-headed politically-correct zealots who have decided to replace "nigger" by the ever more 'acceptable' epithet "slave," in fact exercising censorship.

I learned that using a word, confronting it, takes away its power and helps you "own" it. The "gay" people did it. The "liberal" people are doing it (although they have to fight because the conservatives maligned it into something that should be disdained and feared --- again, nothing could be further from the truth). Hell, even the blacks themselves are

doing it. I ask why we can't. When mere words can make us cower with fear, we have a long way to go before we can consider ourselves an evolved society.

Back home, I am underwhelmed by the lack of punishment fitting these crimes:

---In Montreal, Vincent Lacroix masterminded a \$115 MILLION fraud, screwing over 9000 people. He has apparently paid his dues: 16 months in prison. That's it. The sentence was 13 YEARS, not too shabby, and yet this man is free after swerving only 8% of his time. In what system would this be considered justice? ONLINE:
<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/vincent-lacroix-freed-16-months-jail-defrauding-9-20110121-122918-117.html>

(It gets better: Lacroix served a previous jail term after being convicted in a civil court case in 2007 for related securities violations. So not only a serious criminal, but a REPEAT serious criminal.) I think most of us are in the wrong line of work. The REAL money is in cheating people and getting away with it. **How unbelievably sad.**

---Here in Toronto, our drivers are not allowed to be talking and driving at the same time, one of the few traffic laws I wholeheartedly support. It is even worse to be texting as you drive. I believe you should have your license suspended on the spot for that.

But to have our city bus drivers doing that? Unconscionable, right? And we, as citizens, should have the right, nay the obligation, to photograph them while committing these dangerous acts, right? Not according to the TTC. They actually had the gall to issue a statement asking citizens NOT to photograph their drivers while committing this crime. (This boneheaded decision resulted in an incredible 546 comments on the Toronto Star website alone!) It is one thing to deny the existence of wrongdoing; it is quite another to admonish potential witnesses to crimes to not provide the proof. If cops or lawyers did this they would be crucified in the press. (Following upon the story, three TTC drivers were fired after alert passengers caught them in the act. How many of them were NOT caught, is the question?) I still ride the TTC. But every once in a while my eyes will drift towards the driver, making sure he really does keep

his eyes on the road. ONLINE:

www.thestar.com/news/article/929736--ttc-to-passengers-don-t-snap-texting-drivers#article

---Stephen Harper seems to think his pledge to make government transparent and accountable has been forgotten. If it had been, the recent scandal (or would-be scandal, as apparently this type of malfeasance is being dismissed as a tempest in a teapot) of minister in charge of the Canadian International Development Agency, Bev Oda, for admitting (after proof was discovered) that she falsified an official document, would have rocked the government, or brought it to its knees. We will go to press before this is resolved but it seems to me the opposition has a bone to pick with Harper, and should gnaw on it like a rabid dog.

The term I hear coined through this scandal refers to the CPC MPs who preach good, honest, accountable government and yet manage to commit what would be considered criminal acts outside of Parliament.

They are called.... Harpercrites! ONLINE:

www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2011/02/17/oda-parliament.html

And one late-breaking news story I just heard about as I was writing this column: bad news for pregnant women in South Dakota---if a bill proposed in that state's legislature passes, it will LEGALIZE MURDER of abortion doctors. How lawmakers reach this Peter Principle of idiocy is beyond me. I refuse to believe Americans, even red-state ones, are THAT stupid that they will allow this to stand. ONLINE:

www.salon.com/news/feature/2011/02/15/south_dakota_abortion_killing_bill

Whew! Pretty depressing ending, I admit. But to make up for it I am issuing TWO Lou Laurels: one to Maxime Bernier for telling it like it is to Quebecers (regardless of how many will listen), and another to my good neighbours of Toronto, whose cellphone-camera skills helped fire three dangerous drivers and get them off our public transit system.

With luck, I will still be working next column.

With better luck, so will my Canadians!

Your Fellow Canadian, Lou Israel ♣

Calls for a BC Rail probe are unstoppable - BC Mary

The Kieran Report: Like a runaway freight, calls for a BC Rail probe are unstoppable

Article posted to **The Legislature Raids**, where we are focused on getting a full Public Inquiry answering the many questions left by the sudden end of the BC Rail Political Corruption Trial. We're working on the Terms of Reference for a Public Inquiry to include a whole understanding of who decided to sell BC Rail and what steps were taken, by whom, to complete the giveaway. We will also see the BCR-CN deal, in full, for the first time. We have an ideal person who we hope will agree to head the Inquiry too -- someone respected by almost everyone, and who has

the credentials to do such an important job. British Columbians have been patient for 7 years, hoping to find out what had happened to the provincially-owned railway. Then whammo! the trial was brutally shut down and citizens are told they must pay a bill for \$17.3 million to cover Basi & Virk's legal fees. What, in the end, did British Columbians get out of all this? Very little. And we'll never know this part of our own history, if we don't press on and have a full Public Inquiry now. A Public Inquiry into BC Rail is the beginning of cleaning up the province we love. [The Jan. 24, 11]

column by Brian Kieran (below) was very welcome.

– **BC Mary**. [Extract & link follow] ⇒

ONLINE: www.briankieran.com/2011/01/like-runaway-freight-calls-for-bc-rail.html

[EXTRACT]“Because the BC Rail trial ended abruptly and with so many questions dangling unanswered there has been an outcry, particularly from the NDP, for a full public inquiry into the \$1 billion sale. “Most political observers believe the charges against David Basi and Bob Virk

masked a far more vital issue about whether the sale process was tainted like bad meat. Having been at the epicentre of this mess in one way or another since 2002, I have had no hesitation stating my belief that the sale of BC Rail represented a colossal failure of public policy process.” –

Brian Kieran, VI, BC Received, Jan 27, from S.McDowall, with her comment: Kieran's whole blog is interesting: BRIAN KIERAN'S WEBSITE: www.briankieran.com

The New B.C. Liberal Leader & Unelected Premier

SO YOU THINK CHRISTY CLARK IS OK?

Received from Wayne Russell, Clearwater BC:

WOW! I knew all this but I hope you all take time to inform yourself what we have coming to us in BC. I wish I could write like this one below. It is fairly long but well worth the read if you care about our children's future. - Wayne

5000 of the nearly 7000 rejected memberships came from the Christy Clark Campaign Team. Blogger Grant G. - “Eyes Wide Open”

Strange days indeed, I can't help but feel very dirty this morning (Feb. 27 2011); we go from hated Government to illegal Government with no mandate from the people...

Before I get rolling here let's do a little math... There were 30,000 BC Liberal members before the leadership contest;

the Liberal (leadership) camps claimed to have signed up 60,000 new members, bringing the grand total to 90,000 members. Yet a mere 53,000 people voted.

Christy Clark has no mandate to Govern. Period. There were almost 7000 rejected memberships! That's right folks, the BC Liberal Party, two days before the leadership vote, announced quietly that over 6000 new memberships were rejected; how many spoiled new memberships were missed?

[...]

ONLINE: <http://powellriverpersuader.blogspot.com>]

This is going to be really fun and scary trying to bring down Christy Clark and the lying Liberals, although I suspect the party will/may disintegrate on its own. – Grant G. ♣

Can't We Have Fun While Saving The World?

A Short Essay to Bring Joy and Laughter to Your Day

From Fred Burks for PEERS & the WantToKnow.info Team

What Is It All About?

by Swami Beyondananda [aka Steve Bhaerman, co-author with Bruce Lipton of Spontaneous Evolution-our positive future (and a way to get there from here)

In this **dogma-eat-dogma** world where fear is fueled by terrorism – not to mention anti-terrorism – I say it's time to declare all out peace. Those of us who've been developing inner peace all these years – time to let it all out. Time to affirm everyone's right to bear arms – provided those arms are used for hugging. Instead of giving in to “fear gnomes” – those little gnomes of gnawing fear that have been injected into the body politic – let's get right to the heart of the matter.

Let's declare an **emerge 'n see!** Time to emerge from beliefs that no longer serve us and see how we humans have been tricked into behaving foolishly. Time to emerge 'n see beyond the dueling dualities to find solutions bigger than the problem. Time to emerge 'n see there's no escape. God has us surrounded. Might as well surrender. We are all part of the inescapable Oneness.

One Spirit, many paths. One Planet, great diversity. One humanity, each of us totally unique ... just like everyone else. I have often said that if we keep doing what we've always done, we will only get what we've always gotten. It stands to reason that if we try doing something new, we increase

our chances of getting different results. So while it makes no sense to take up arms against warfare, it makes all the sense in the world to lift up arms and embrace anything that nourishes peace.

Now in this shrinking world that could definitely use a good shrink, it is understandable to look upward in hopes of the Messiah. But I say, we need to look at each other instead, and face the truth that we are looking the Messiah in the face. We have met the Savior and he is us! Here are all these children of God praying for Jesus to intervene, but we cannot expect to be fed intervenously forever. Time for children of God to grow up, for Goodness sake, and become adults of God instead. It turns out both the creationists and the evolutionists are right. The Creator created us to evolve in consciousness. Otherwise Jesus would have said, “Now, don't do a thing until I return.”

I have a dream, so allow me to tell a vision. Each year at Passover, the Jewish people affirm the possibility of the Messiah: “Next year in Jerusalem.” Next year always comes, and the Messiah never seems to come with it. Maybe it's time to make a break with the past and actually act as if the Messiah is already here. You know, fake it till you make it. So put it on your calendars. Next year let's celebrate **Past Over** in Jerusalem, and declare that the

past is over and a new day has begun.

Hold this vision with me please: Leaders of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths together in celebration – **doing the Hokey Pokey**. *They put their whole selves in ... that is commitment. They pull their whole selves out ... that is*

detachment. *They turn themselves around ... that is transformation. And that's what it's all about!*

ONLINE: www.WantToKnow.info/070227whatsitalabout
The Swami's website: www.wakeuplaughing.com ♣

Transpartisan Upwising!

ALTHOUGH THE FOLLOWING IS WRITTEN BY & FOR AMERICANS, THE IDEAS APPLY EQUALLY TO CANADIANS...

Transpartisan Moment

Joseph McCormick & Steve Bhaerman, US [Nov. 30 10]

We are living in what Tom Paine would have called “soul-trying” times. In the face of multiplying crises – economic, ecologic, political and spiritual – it’s becoming more apparent that fundamental change is required. The good news is: **what is needed isn’t revolution but evolution.** The other news is: this evolutionary alternative must be clearly expressed, carefully developed, and made tangible to the millions and millions of Americans who see that something is profoundly wrong, but don’t know what to do about it.

Many of us have spent time and resources over the years supporting causes we believe will create a better world. Until now, the vast majority of well-meaning organizations have either worked within the system, or worked around it. It is now time to confront the elephant – and the donkey – in the living room. The bipolar insanity of a fiercely divided body politic has largely paralyzed us in the face of huge problems, as we have devolved into an orgy of impotent blame and dogmatic positioning.

There is now a unique opportunity to seize the time, and take advantage of what we are playfully – yet seriously – calling **“an evolutionary upwising.”** All across America and all across the political spectrum, people are waking up and wising up to recognize that neither political party truly represents them. And as people are awakening from the partisan trance, there is a growing Transpartisan movement, not to be confused with “bipartisanship.”

Transpartisan and bipartisan are two different things. The corporatist elitist element at the “center” of both parties –

Brad Blanton calls them “Dempublicrats” – are now scrambling to channel the discontent with partisanship into a “bi-partisan” rule that will further narrow the scope of conversation and increasingly enforce top down rules “for our own good.” Or, as conservative activist Grover Norquist puts it: ⇒ **“Bipartisan means the Democrats and Republicans getting together to screw the American people.”**

We the people of America – and indeed the world – are at a crossroads now. There is disheartenment in the heartland. In the past, a discontented populace would rise up to overthrow its government in a revolution. Today we are called upon to wise up and overgrow the corporate-state in an evolution. And there is very good news in this regard. Thanks to the work of pioneers like Tom Atlee and Jim Rough, and the very recent work done in Seattle through the **Transpartisan Alliance**, we now have the tools to use the existent polarities to activate the collective intelligence and wisdom in any community. In other words, We, the people, are finding that we have access to something “the system” lacks: **wisdom.** [...]

What happens in the next two or three years may very well determine whether civilization evolves to greater heart intelligence and wisdom, or whether we dissolve into neo-feudalism. [See website – for how to support this initiative] In supporting this endeavor to bring awakening, awareness, courage and functionality to our body politic, you are playing a significant role in the history of our species and civilization. **We hope you will join the “upwising!”**

With faith in us all,

Joseph McCormick and Steve Bhaerman

<http://transpartisan.us/> (Received from R. K. Moore) ♣

Max Neef: Universal Human Needs

Comment from: “A. Gayle Hudgens” 12 Feb 2011

Re: The systems thinking debate*

[EXTRACT] I thought you might want to learn more about the Chilean economist, Manfred Max-Neef (aka the Barefoot Economist), who was interested in localization, political economy, 'dynamic' dialogue, decentralization, and even used a type of parallelism.

He developed a **Universal Human Needs concept** that satisfies many people. Those needs include: Subsistence, Protection, Affection, Understanding, Participation, Idleness, Creation, Identity, and Freedom. Not quite universal

yet is the need for Transcendence (a need for satisfying spiritual aspects of our lives). It is important to recognize that these are nothing like **Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs**, which were limited to the psychological realm.

How we satisfy these universal human needs in a legitimate manner depends greatly on how the political economy is designed. Max-Neef offered locally based, bottom-up, grassroots workshops which empowered the formerly powerless to create more satisfying and sustainable lives and livelihoods. His progressive work is well-worth incorporating in the localization and transition movements.

Incidentally, Max-Neef's workshops were full of 'dynamic' dialogue long before anyone used that term! He also incorporated decentralization and parallelism into his thinking. Working with peasants or small communities, he helped groups understand decentralization. By virtue of his 'universal' human needs, groups recognized that people everywhere had like (parallel) needs. How they satisfied those needs, however, were often not parallel (i.e., they were satisfied in illegitimate ways, as Max-Neef often said).

Below are links to some video clips from *Democracy Now!* and other links for more about Max-Neef.

<http://tinyurl.com/DNmaxneef>

www.rightlivelivelihood.org/max-neef.html

www.rainforestinfo.org.au/background/maxneef.htm

The book that best outlines Max Neef's thinking is *Human Scale Development*, 1991, Apex Press, New York and London. It may still be available from Apex Press.

~ Gayle

* Received from Richard Moore < rkm@quaylargo.com >

This message archived at: <http://tinyurl.com/RKM446> or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cyberjournal/message/446> ♣

Democracy Model – diagram

I've revised and renamed the democracy-model diagram.

I'm much happier with it now, and it is more self-explanatory. Also, it is now publicly accessible, thanks to riseup.net: **A consensus-based model for global self-**

governance:

https://lists.riseup.net/www/d_read/cyberjournal/global-self-governance.pdf

This is a case where a picture is worth a thousand words.

The diagram is complex, but I think it is more comprehensible than my various attempts to describe the model with text only, in multiple chapters. I want to go on and take this to the next level: a power-point slide show.

In that way I can create a story, beginning with community, and building outwards, with scenarios along the way. There are obvious problems with the model, enough that most people would probably dismiss it as being unrealistic. Scenarios can be used to show how the dynamics of the model would deal with those problems, at least the ones I've been able to identify so far.

As always, I invite your help in developing these ideas. In this case, one of the most useful responses I could get would be for you to tell me why the model can't work. A rational argument is not required; gut feelings or whatever are quite valid. I'll be incorporating, not debating. And of course improvements are welcome as well.

~ in collaboration, Richard, Wexford, Ireland

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2012: Crossroads for Humanity:

<http://rkmdocs.blogspot.com/2010/07/toc-2012.html>

related websites: <http://www.governourselves.org/>

<http://escapingthetmatrix.org/> <http://cyberjournal.org> ♣

A Message for Humanity...



Mike Harvey, Langley BC

Soon to be 85, I am still walking our neighbours' dogs each day, which is my pleasure. I play table tennis three times a week and enjoy writing things on my computer. Your last issue was excellent and filled with interest. - Mike

A dream or reality?

The threatening black cloud, lower than its contemporaries in the darkening sky, scudded towards the cliff upon which I stood and then stopped directly overhead as the wind gusts died with a mournful sigh.

It was an unusual event. I studied the black outlines of the shape above me. Suddenly, there was a flash of brilliance that I assumed was caused by a bolt of lightening that was followed by the crashing noise of thunder.

As the noise faded the light within the cloud became ever brighter and a voice louder than the tumultuous sounds earlier, spoke in tones reminiscent of the words quoted in Holy Books revered across the expanse of the globe.

Although given in a language unknown to me it resonated within my brain as clearly as it would have had it been in English. With reservations for my feeble attempt to put down the message into words, this is the gist of its meaning: Every act of all human beings on planet Earth is recorded in the great Akashic library where every nuance of every

action is recorded and will be available to all as each lifetime is reviewed and, if necessary, will be the guide to a new existence.

Although terrified by events I hazarded the thought that this incredulous occurrence could not be happening and must be the product of a frightening lucid dream. I am not religious and find myself occasionally doubting the existence of a great creative force. However, whether dream or reality I had no control and my experience continued as if in answer to my doubting mind.

The voice dominating all reason continued. It explained that those who ardently believe in a great power are indeed blessed if they follow the simple rule of 'Do unto others.' However, it continued, if love and kindness is metered out because of the awareness that some greater power is watching, their acts of love and kindness have less worth than that of a person who, without faith or having doubts about a day of judgement, goes through life with these admirable traits.

The voice was still and then faded into nothingness as the wind again blew strongly, propelling the dark cloud into invisibility against the dark night sky. Bewildered, frightened and chastised by events, I wound my way home and tumbled into bed. I awoke refreshed but with the searing question: Did this really happen or was it a most incredibly realistic dream?

– Mike Harvey ♣

Are GMO foods safe to eat?

by **Tsiporah Grignon, Gabriola Island BC**

We all eat for a living. The best food will nourish us. The worst will cause disease.

Are GMO foods safe to eat? Yes, according to the biotech companies that produce them, and bureaucrats, government policy-makers and corporate-paid scientists. They tell us that GMOs have been thoroughly tested and proven safe for humans and animals. But why trust them?

Imagine you are a farmer who has chosen to buy GMO seed. You must sign an End User Agreement that explicitly forbids that any seeds be used for independent research. In the absence of independent research, what IS permitted to be published about GMOs are studies pre-approved by the biotech industry!

This is a classic example of how Corporations manipulate situations for profit. But this is our food supply we are talking about! Author Jeffrey M. Smith has focused on exposing industry and government lies about the safety of the genetically engineered foods we are eating. His first book on GMOs, *Seeds of Deception*, comes highly recommended: first by scientists, who have seen and experienced firsthand “scientific deceit of the highest order” in getting GMO technology approved, and also by consumer watchdog organizations who have shattered the illusion that national food regulatory agencies have independence and integrity.

Are you aware that a new principle, “substantial equivalence” came into being to convince the world’s eaters that GMO seeds were as safe as non-GMO seeds? This principle embodies the concept that if a new food is found to be substantially equivalent to an existing food, it can be treated in the same manner with respect to safety. Those who question the safety of GMOs explain that this principle is unscientific and arbitrary, and expresses a dangerously permissive attitude towards producers. And, at the same time, this principle offers little protection for consumers and biodiversity because it is designed to be as flexible and open to interpretation as possible.

For years, we have heard the biotech industry’s favourite trumpet song: that GMOs are the “solution to world hunger” because they allegedly increase crop yield. For this to be true, all of the following statements must be true: GM crops 1. are safe 2. produce higher yields 3. have consistent and reliable yields 4. must be better than competing options, and 5. world hunger can be solved by increasing food production. All five are false, documented meticulously by Smith in his companion book on GMOs, *Genetic Roulette*.

The biotech companies tell us that GMO seed reduces the use of agricultural chemicals, which we have already been eating for decades from aerial spraying of herbicides and pesticides on food crops in the field. With GMO crops, the seed itself is designed with specific traits of herbicide toler-

ance and insect resistance. When this “food” is eaten, we become guinea pigs in a world-wide GMO experiment.

Smith has documented that GMO crops accumulate environmental toxins or concentrate toxins in milk and meat of GM-fed animals. His books provide proof that eating GMO foods can lead to allergies, can promote development of toxins, viruses, neurological disease, and can contribute to the proliferation of cancer cells.

If we were farmers growing our own food, instead of consumers buying it, we would realize that food grows on the top 6 inches of soil. Its unfortunately sad but true that GMO crops deplete essential nutrients and beneficial micro-organisms in the topsoil. This is a legacy of GMOs that will take great effort to reverse.

Another great hardship for farmers is the true reality of contamination of non-GMO, organic and wild plants from GMO seed. We need to understand that seed movement occurs through many variables: the weather, insects, transport, storage, and human error. Nonetheless, reason did not stop industry from claiming that GMOs can be contained, and therefore can co-exist with non-GMO crops. Their response to prevent contamination has been to recommend buffer zones between fields. Perhaps they did not see the UK study that showed canola cross-pollination occurring as far as 26 km away! Here is another terrible consequence of the biotech industry’s disrespect for the integrity of natural systems.

The World According to Monsanto is a powerful documentary. In less than 2 hours, we see how a former chemical company has repositioned itself as a “life sciences” company, to sell us on their seed technology as a good thing. Monsanto produces the seeds for 90% of the world’s genetically engineered crops. The film’s ultimate question, and the one eaters need to address is: Why should we trust the future of our food supply to the same company who brought us dreaded poisons such as Agent Orange, PCBs, and dioxins? Scientists still have much to learn about genetic engineering. It is a highly unpredictable, unstable science, and therefore, dangerous.

Renowned Indian seed activist Vandana Shiva warns us: “If they control seed, they control food; they know it, it’s strategic. It’s more powerful than bombs; it’s more powerful than guns. This is the best way to control the populations of the world.”

If you do not want to be part of the experiment, stop buying GMO foods. The top three GMO foods are corn, soy and canola, which are ingredients in 70% of ALL processed foods. If the label does not say any of these ingredients is organic, we must acknowledge they are GMOs. (So far, the Canadian government prohibits mandatory labelling of foods containing GMOs.) Then remove from the grocery

list everything that contains GMOs.

We also need some of us to write letters to the folks who process the products we've stopped buying. If we could reach a 5% tipping point of awareness of the dangers of GMOs, this WILL impact the bottom line of food producers, with a strong message to STOP buying GMO ingredients. It will take concerted effort to reverse the hijacking of our

food supply by corporations only interested in profit. North Americans need to become as aware as the Europeans about the dangers of GMOs, to speak up and say NO. In this huge contest of wills, the stakes are the biology of the planet.

No one is an innocent bystander when the goal of others is total control of food. – Tsiporah Grignon *

Medicine to die for

Challenging the logic of Canadian municipalities adding fluoride to drinking water

John Shadbolt, Acton ON

Ah, the healing power of medication. Your doctor that gives it to you tells you to take xx dosage per day, often at prescribed times and with or without meals.

So if you heard of a medication that you could take – as much as you want, as often as you want, whenever you like – well that would be something new, right? **WRONG!**

Do you believe in the tooth fairy? Well perhaps you should, according to health Canada, and Dr Nosal, our medical officer of health.

I am talking about fluoride, that is in our water supply. This is added (in our case) by the *Regional Municipality of Halton* 'for our good.' However if you do the research fluoride does kill fish, and even whales are eating food with very high fluoride levels, which does not bode well for them.

Not to worry – drink your eight glasses of water daily – or only one. It does not seem to matter which amount you drink – the fluoride looks after you. Yes, it really looks after you – with thyroid problems, cancer, etc., etc. – all in the name of (supposedly) keeping your teeth in good shape.

This is one of the few medications you can enjoy with no prescription or doctor's visit. A big plus, eh!?! However, in twenty or thirty years, you will be paying lots of visits to your doctor, thanks to fluoride. It takes twenty-plus years for you to get the full "benefit."

Calgary has just eliminated fluoride, Guelph does not have

fluoride in its water (one reason I drink beer made in Guelph). So why does our region, Halton, spend some \$150,000 per year putting this into our water?

It's called, I think **lack of information**, plus the idea that Health Canada actually protects Canadians from bad stuff. Well, look at all the medications that they approved, only to later pull them off the market.

Old entrenched ideas are hard to kill – it would be embarrassing for them to admit, after pushing fluoride forever, that in fact this stuff is toxic poison. So do not hold your breath for them to act.

Its time for the local councils to do the research – as everyone should. There is so much disinformation put out by Health Canada you really should make your own mind up.

One other thing – 90% of fluoride goes down the drain into our rivers, etc. No wonder our wildlife is suffering (frogs, etc.). So local taxpayers spend \$150,000 to put \$135,000 down the toilet. That's regardless of the pros or cons of this issue. Does that sound good to you?

And another thing – many people use reverse osmosis filters to take the fluoride out. For every one gallon you use for drinking, 4 gallons of fluoride-concentrated water goes down the tubes. Reverse Osmosis filters are expensive, and should not be required to make our water safe from this garbage.

A place to start your research – www.fluoridealert.org/ (The Fluoride Action Network)

That's my take on it. – John Shadbolt *



"Your Health Matters"

A TYPICAL CASE OF THE "CHOKED ENGINE" SYNDROME

Derrick Lonsdale, M.D., Strongsville OH

In the last issue of *Dialogue* I mentioned the "Choked Engine Syndrome", referring to the ingestion of empty calories. I want to describe a typical case and any reader

might easily recognize his/her own symptoms. A 14-year old boy came to see me with the major complaint of abdominal pain. Studies elsewhere reported that he suffered from fructose intolerance and all forms of fresh fruit had been withdrawn from his diet. He had constipation alternating with diarrhea and the pain occurred after ingesting anything that

tasted sweet. He had had suicidal thoughts, suffered frequent headaches and "panic attacks". He complained of frequent nausea, sometimes accompanied by vomiting. He had been admitted to a hospital for three weeks for depression and seven different drugs had been prescribed. He had noted occasional dizziness, was regarded as emotionally unstable, suffered unusual fatigue and insomnia. He ground his teeth and talked in his sleep and suffered periodic attacks of "pins and needles" in his hands and feet, as well as leg pain while walking. He had noticed an occasional brief pain in the chest and, on questioning, he reported that nasal congestion

affected his right nostril only.

His appearance was typical of the many children and adolescents that I have seen over the years. There was a zone of pallor around his mouth and his tongue was badly coated a dirty brown. He had the signs of mitral valve prolapse (by listening with a stethoscope) and his blood pressures in the two arms, when measured at the same time, were widely different. Knee jerks were excessively reactive and a white stripe could be elicited by gently stroking the leg with a finger tip, a phenomenon known as dermatographia or "skin writing". There was a family history of one relative with diabetes.

If the reader would care to go to my blog entitled "Oxygen, the Spark of Life" < <http://o2thesparkoflife.blogspot.com/> > one of the posts describes a "two-brain model that emphasizes that the lower brain, known as the limbic system and brainstem, make up a very obvious computer that organizes our daily adaptation to environmental factors that are sensed and data processed by the computer. If this part of the brain is poorly nourished by the ingestion of empty calories, it behaves as though its oxygen intake were limited.

The equivalent in a car would be what we refer to as a choked engine. This is achieved by an excess of gasoline with insufficient oxygen and/or an inefficient spark plug to ignite the gasoline. The result, of course, is that there is a deficiency of energy to drive the car and the running characteristics of the engine become obviously abnormal. This is why I refer to the problem in this patient as "The Choked Engine Syndrome" Our cells all have to burn fuel, but it is a complex biochemical system where protein, fat and carbohydrate are equivalent to gasoline in a car. The oxygen that we extract from air has to be transported to body/brain tissues where vitamins and minerals are the equivalent of spark plug and cylinder.

The brain computer has a heavy oxygen requirement and a curious thing happens when energy production is mildly to moderately limited. It becomes **hyper-reactive in its response to environmental stress via our sensory input.**

It is not the stomach that causes nausea, it is the brainstem. Vomiting occurs as a result of a signal sent to the stomach from the computer. This boy's headaches, abdominal cramping and all his abnormal emotional reactions were produced by faulty and unnecessary executive signal from

the computer to body organs.

It is the limbic system of the brain where our emotions are initiated. It was not fructose intolerance that was the defining issue. It was sensitivity to sugar that has been extracted from the plant where it is naturally produced. To deny him fresh fruit was unnecessary because that is the natural way that sugar should be ingested. When we extract the active principle from a plant we turn it into a drug. Our taste mechanisms in the brain are programmed to receive permutations and combinations of six stimuli that provide flavor. By tasting sugar as a solitary stimulus, it stimulates pleasure perception and it is the root cause of its addictive nature. All that his boy had to do to get well was to remove all forms of sugar from his diet except in the form of fresh fruit, the natural source of our sugar intake. The fiber in the fruit modifies the way that its sugar content is absorbed and processed.

It is the lower, primitive brain that organizes our adaptive mechanisms and **panic attacks are nothing more than fragmented fight-or-flight reflexes** that were being fired much too easily and unnecessarily.

The autonomic nervous system, that is the two channel "telephone line" to all body organs, controls the two halves of the body separately, so this asymmetry is normal. When the brain controls become excitable in the way that I have described here, its asymmetric reflex mechanisms, including the blood pressures, become exaggerated. The nasal congestion confined to the right nostril only was an abnormal representation of this asymmetry, for there is a $\Rightarrow$ phenomenon known as the nasal cycle (Yogis have known this for centuries) when the nostrils receive signals from the autonomic nervous system asymmetrically.

Out of great complexity, it is possible, with our present knowledge of how the human body functions, to distil out a simple solution that does not require seven drugs. All it does require is a knowledge of the diet that God intended us to consume. After all, we could not have survived as a species if our food had not been present.

Everything is connected to everything else.

Derrick Lonsdale is a Fellow of the American College of Nutrition and a Certified Nutrition Specialist. www.prevmmed.com

Blog: <http://o2thesparkoflife.blogspot.com/> ♣

More Health Topics

Do the chemicals that turn soda brown also cause cancer?

DR. MERCOLA: Soda is bad for your health. But it may be even worse than you'd thought. According to the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), the "caramel coloring" used in Coke, Pepsi and other sodas is carcinogenic. [...] [READ ONLINE AT MERCOLA.COM: http://tinyurl.com/MercolaSODA](http://tinyurl.com/MercolaSODA) ♣

Why Soy Is Bad for Your Health

The dirty little secret hidden in much of your health food

Dr. Mercola – Feb. 19, 2011 [EXTRACT/LINK]

[...] Sadly, most of what you have been led to believe by the media about soy is simply untrue. The sudden upsurge in the recommendation of soy as a health food has been nothing more than a clever marketing gimmick to further

reduce the cost and nutritional content of your food. For you vegetarians out there staring at the (page) in open-mouthed shock, fear not. There are plenty of other healthy vegetarian alternatives, which I will discuss later in this article. What was once considered a minor indus-

trial crop back in 1913 now covers over 72 million acres of farmland. For more about soy: soy protein isolate (what is it and how is it getting in my food?)...

READ ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/MercolaSoy> ♣

Cancer's favorite food – SUGAR, found in everything you eat?

Dr. Mercola | August 27 2010

[EXTRACT/LINK] Research just published in the journal Cancer Research shows that the way the different sugars are metabolized (using different metabolic pathways) is of MAJOR consequence when it comes to feeding cancer and making it proliferate. The study confirms the old adage that sugar feeds cancer because they found that tumor cells do thrive on sugar (glucose). However, the cells used fructose for cell division, speeding up the growth and spread of the cancer. If this difference isn't of major consequence, then I don't know what is.

Whether you're simply interested in preventing cancer, or

have cancer and want to live longer, you ignore these facts and listen to industry propaganda at your own risk.

How Does Sugar Feed Cancer?

Controlling your blood-glucose and insulin levels through diet, exercise and emotional stress relief can be one of the most crucial components to a cancer recovery program. These factors are also crucial in order to prevent cancer in the first place. It may surprise you, but the theory that sugar feeds cancer was born nearly 80 years ago. Even more shocking, most conventional cancer programs STILL do not adequately address diet and the need to avoid sugars.

READ IN FULL: <http://tinyurl.com/MercolaSugar> ♣

Responses and Feedback

More on subsidiarity...

From Richard Moore, Wexford, Ireland

To Gerry Masuda, Duncan BC

Re: Article on subsidiarity (Jan-Feb. issue, p.15)

Hi Gerry,

I read with interest your recent article in dialogue. The basic principle of subsidiarity: "Things that can't be handled at the local level are handled at the next higher level". That principle assumes that the local levels can't work things out among one another. And it leads to a higher level that serves the interests of none of the local levels. I'm not talking about theory, but how things have always worked out in practice.

Subsidiarity is an attempt to fix the problems of hierarchy. But it doesn't work, because the higher level always gathers more and more power to itself. Subsidiarity was talked about a lot when the EU was formed, and it was supposed to be a founding principle. No one talks about it anymore, as Brussels becomes more and more of a dictatorship, always with the excuse of 'greater efficiency.'

Instead of trying to fix hierarchy, I think we should work on the problem of localities working things out with one another. **Best regards, Richard** (rkm@quaylargo.com)

Feedback about dialogue...

From Richard Moore, Wexford

Hi Maurice & Janet,

It was with great pleasure that I received my copy of dialogue. I'd say it's one of the world's very best magazines. I even read things there about Ireland that I didn't know about. It is an honor that I usually find one of my pieces in

there. It's funny how on tv sometimes they have a feature, "what's buzzing on the net". All they give us is of course trivia. You actually mine the net for useful material.

Keep up the great work, Richard ♣

Further to "A Circle of Gifts"

(by Charles Eisenstein, Jan-Feb. issue, p.18)

From: Alexandra, www.forbiddenknowledge.tv

This video shows how a gift economy flourishes in Mali, Africa one of the poorest nations on Earth, in materialistic terms. There is a culture of constantly giving to their neighbor, with no immediate expectation of return. Their cultural belief is that by giving, you will also be given to and be taken care of. Hoarding is frowned upon, so people avoid it. It works in the small villages that dot this vast, mostly arid land. Medical care, education, Social Security and other things that most Westerners think are supposed to come from the government are handled on a personal basis and somehow, everybody seems to get what they need.

Video: www.forbiddenknowledge.tv/page/995.html

Thank you for "A Circle of Gifts"

From: Don Keir, Dundas ON [d_keir@bell.net]

To: Charles Eisenstein

Re: Article, A Circle of Gifts (Jan-Feb. issue, p.18)

Thank you. You have contributed a critical element to my reasoning. Your article titled A Circle of Gifts seemed to fit in to complete a requirement that I had felt that was absolutely necessary for our society when I wrote my article on The Power of Great Wealth (on P.21 of this issue).♣

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