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MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**COCHABAMBA + 1: CLIMATE JUSTICE AND ECOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES**

*Since the **Copenhagen Summit** of December 2009, followed by the **Cochabamba Conference** and the **Cancun Negotiations** of 2010, the question of climate change and environmental crisis has been widely recognized as a major issue that affects all aspects of life. From the Bolivian initiated **World People's Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth** came path-breaking proposals and a new mind-set: ecological questions must be of concern to **all social movements** and not only to those who have the environment as their main agenda.*

*Hence, all civil society organizations, be they trade unions, women's groups, global justice networks or progressive groups, have a role to play in this emerging Climate Justice movement. It is of utmost importance that all those who seek alternatives to the existing system should join forces. The Montreal International Conference "**Cochabamba +1: Climate Justice and Ecological Alternatives**, aims to promote this necessary convergence of networks, activists and struggles. It is a moment to reflect and act.*

PROGRAM**Friday Evening April 15th**

19:00 to 21:30 From Cochabamba to Durban, speech Pablo Solon, Bolivian Ambassador to the UN.

Followed by a panel with: **Maude Barlow, Patrick Bond, Dorval Brunelle, Tony Clarke, André Bélisle**,
Chair : **Claude Généreux** , National Secretary-Treasurer of CUPE

*In April 2010 the Bolivian city of Cochabamba hosted the **World People's Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth**. The impact of this emerging voice was felt across the globe. Many social movements and governments found its call to link the critique of the system with the need for an ecologically viable development most compelling. Where do we stand one year later? What is to be done as we near another international climate conference in Durban ?*

Saturday April 16th:**9:30 to 11:30 Multiple Faces of the Ecological Crisis and Popular Alternatives**

Panel with: **Dale Marshall, Terisa Turner, Pierre Jobin, Michel Loreau ; Ellen Gabriel**

Chair: **Judy Rebick**, founder of Rable.ca, author and social activist

The environmental crisis has many faces: extreme climate change, ecological disasters, melting polar caps, ocean acidification, desertification, loss of biodiversity... How do we stop this ongoing environmental degradation? What grassroots alternatives are emerging and how can we reinforce them?

9:30 to 11:30 Industrial Conversion and Transition To a Carbon Free Economy

Panel With: **Nick Decarlo, Keith Newman, Michel Fortin, John Cartwright**,

Chair: **Michel Ducharme**, VP Quebec Federation of Labour

Far from discounting the global climate crisis, many trade unions are looking at the ways and means of moving towards a carbon-free economy. What is their current thinking on industrial conversions? What can union-members do at their worksite or in the community with regards to this issue?

11:30 to 13:00 Setting Up an Ecological Network

13:30 to 15:00 Fighting Fossil Fuels: The Tar Sands In Alberta And Shale Gas in Québec

Panel with: **Clayton Thomas-Muller, Mike Hudema, Kim Cornelissen, Daniel Breton**

Chair: **Johanne Béliveau**, Citizens Committee Against Shale Gas- Saint-Marc-sur-Richelieu, Quebec

Our current model based on the mass production of fossil fuels is unsustainable. In Quebec and Canada alike, large-scale oil and gas exploitation projects have fueled vigorous public opposition and debate. Case in point: Alberta's tar sands or Quebec's shale gas drilling. What lessons can be drawn from these public protests and how can we broaden their scope?

13:30 to 15:30 Greening The Economy: Green Transit and Green Energies

Panel With: **Harvey Mead, Owen Rose, Andrea Peart, Ian Angus**

Chair: **Jacques Létourneau**, Advisor to the CSN and member of Alternatives' board

Moving towards a green economy is impossible without eco-friendly, accessible mass public transit and large-scale renewable energy production. Can these be achieved in the framework of a market economy? What are the obstacles and how can we overcome them?

15:30 to 17:30 North-South Ecological Debt and International Solidarity

Panel with: **Vinod Raina; Elizabeth Peredo, Judith Marshall, Andrea Harden-Donahue**

Chair: **Louise Casselman**, Public Service alliance of Canada (PSAC), Social Justice Fund

Many scientific studies reveal that those who are least responsible for the increased levels of greenhouse gas emissions are the ones to bear the biggest burden. This phenomenon has been termed by the global South as "ecological debt". What is the meaning and implication of this term and what can be done to correct this injustice? What can we, in the North, do to support these claims?

15:30 to 17:30 False Solutions: Geo-engineering, Nuclear Energy, Uranium Mines, Cap & Trade

Panel with: **Diana Bronson, Ian Angus, Ugo Lapointe, Viginie Lambert-Ferry**

Chair: **Andrea Levy**, Canadian Dimension

In response to those who demand system change to counter the ecological crisis, a series of experts and institutes have stepped up to propose technological and economic solutions that would merely escalate the problem. Nonetheless, multinational corporations and many international agencies continue to promote these "quick fixes". What are the most prevalent of these so-called solutions and how can they be fought?

8:30 pm : Cultural event to be advised

Sunday Morning April 17th

9:30 to 11:00 Food and Water Security

Panel with: **Tony Clarke, Pat Mooney, Éric Darier**

Chair: **Louise Vandelac**, Professor at the Institute on the Environment, University of Quebec in Montreal

One of the more daunting issues of the 21st century is access to potable water. Over one billion people in the global South are already affected by this problem. Moreover, oceans, lakes and rivers are increasingly polluted, thereby subjecting vulnerable populations to even more insecurity. Building food sovereignty requires challenging the agro-business model fostered by international financial institutions and safeguarding water as a public good.

Sunday Closing Plenary:

11:00-13:00 Multiple Networks and Convergence of Struggles: Building The Movement

Panel with : **Judy Rebick; Elizabeth Peredo; Amir Khadir, Clayton Thomas-Muller, Cy Gonick;**

Chair: **Michel Lambert**, exec.dir. Alternatives

Dozens of networks across Quebec and Canada are active on environmental and social issues, be they around tar sands, shale gas drilling, mass transit, nuclear energy, safe drinking water or safeguarding our forests. Protest movements abound but governments and corporations seldom seem to heed their call. How can we build support and strengthen the movement ?

SPEAKERS:

International :

Pablo Solon, Bolivian ambassador to the UN. One of the key initiators of the Cochabamba Conference

Elizabeth Peredo: Researcher and activist on water and human rights. director of the Foundation Solon in Bolivia.

Vinod Raina, A leader of the People's Science Movement in India and activist with Jubilee South.

Patrick Bond, Author and South African climate and social activist

Canada:

Ian Angus: Editor of Climate and Capitalism website and member of CD Collective

Diana Bronson, Programme manager at ETC Group, a research institute critical of geo-engineering

Maude Barlow, Chair of Council of Canadians and environmental activist

Nick De Carlo, Canadian Autoworkers (CAW), National Representative for the Environment

John Cartwright, President of the Toronto Labour Council

Louise Casselman, Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), Social Justice Fund

Tony Clarke, Director of Polaris Institute

Cy Gonick , Editor-in-chief of the magazine Canadian Dimension

Andrea Harden-Donahue, Energy and Climate Justice campaigner with the Council of Canadians

Mike Hudema, Greenpeace Alberta, organizer of Tar Sands campaign

Dale Marshall, Policy Analyst with the David Suzuki Foundation

Judith Marshall , United Steel Workers(USW),Global Affairs Department

Pat Mooney, Executive Director ETC Group, a research institute critical of geo-engineering

Keith Newman, Research director at Communication, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada

Andrea Peart, Health and Environment Representative, Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)

Judy Rebick, Founder of Rable.ca, author and social activist

Clayton Thomas-Muller, Tar Sands organizer for the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN), member of CD collective

Terisa Turner, Sociologist, University of Guelph, author Women & Global Climate Change, member of CD Collective

Québec :

André Bélisle, President of l'Association Québécoise de lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique (AQLPA), main spokesperson of the Quebec Coalition Against Shale Gas Exploration

Johanne Béliveau, Citizens Committee Against Shale Gas- Saint-Marc-sur-Richelieu, Quebec

Daniel Breton, Founder MCN21 and very active in the movement against Shale Gas exploration

Dorval Brunelle, Professor at the University of Quebec in Montreal , director of the Montreal Institute for International Studies (IEIM)

Kim Cornellissen, Vice-President of l'Association Québécoise de lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique (AQLPA), one of the founders of the Coalition Against Shale Gas Exploration

Éric Darier, Quebec director of Greenpeace and co-founder of Mouvement Vigilance Énergie

Michel Ducharme, Vice-President Quebec Federation of Labour (QFL)

Michel Fortin, Vice-President of Fédération de l'industrie manufacturière, Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN)

Ellen Gabriel, Mohawk activist and president of Quebec Native Women Inc.

Claude Généreux, National Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Union of Public Employees

Pierre Jobin, Vice-President of Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ)

Amir Khadir, Elected member of the Quebec National Assembly for Québec Solidaire, Mercier riding

Ugo Lapointe, Founder of "Pour que le Québec ait meilleur mine", a group opposed to uranium mining

Michel Lambert, Executive Director of Alternatives

Jacques Létourneau, Special Advisor to the Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN) and member of Alternatives' board

Andrea Levy, member of the editorial boards of Canadian Dimension and Nouveaux cahiers du socialisme

Michel Loreau, Biologist, McGill University

Harvey Mead, Author and founder of Nature Québec

Roger Rashi, member of the editorial board of Nouveaux cahiers du socialisme and CD collective

Owen Rose, Architect and president of Centre d'écologie urbaine de Montréal

Louise Vandelac, Professor at the Institute on the Environment, University of Quebec in Montreal