

25th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Ottawa **Helps Build People Power**



by **Donna James**

It was standing room only on the opening night of our 25th Anniversary AGM, which took place in Ottawa last October. More than 500 people came to celebrate our 25-year history of “Building People Power,” and to talk about what we can all do to achieve trade, water and climate justice. Keynote speakers Maude Barlow, Dorval Brunelle and Steven Shrybman were joined by spoken word artists John Akpata, D-LightFull, and The Recipe, along with Latin musicians La Banda Sabrosa. Three youth activists also took to the stage that evening and spoke about their efforts to make positive change in the world.

PANELS AND WORKSHOPS

On Saturday delegates had a choice of five workshops, and three plenary panels: “Youth Acting for Change,” “Water for People and Nature,” and “Real and False Solutions to the Climate Crisis.” To reduce our carbon footprint, the climate panel hosted two speakers electronically – one spoke by pre-recorded DVD, and the other addressed the



Council of Canadians members and chapter activists take part in a workshop called “Tweet This!” at our Annual General Meeting in Ottawa last October.

Emily Sheff

crowd by telephone accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation.

TREAT OR TRICK?

A rally against CETA was held as trade negotiators were in Ottawa for the fifth round of Canada–European Union (CETA) trade talks. The message was: “Help us chase CETA out of town. Don’t let Harper create a trade monster.”

JOIN US IN MONTRÉAL IN 2011 FOR A CONFERENCE WITH QUÉBEC ALLIES

The Council of Canadians is holding a conference in Montréal October 21-22, 2011 in an effort to help foster alliances with people, organizations and allies in Québec. At a public forum Friday, October 21, and all day Saturday, October 22, we will bring together Council

members and activists, as well as organizations and citizens from inside and outside Québec to organize around issues of common concern.

The conference will be conducted in French and English with simultaneous translation. More information will be posted on our website this summer.

Please note our organization’s Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will take place on Sunday, October 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For conference registration and deadlines for the ABM please refer to the box below.

Donna James is Executive Assistant to the Board of Directors and organizes the Council’s Annual General Meetings and the 2011 conference in Montréal.

2011 CONFERENCE IN MONTRÉAL

CONFERENCE HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Marriott Château Champlain
1 Place du Canada,
Montréal, QC, H3B 4C9

To obtain the negotiated group rate of \$149 per night + taxes you must book by September 20, 2011, by calling 514-878-9000 (local) or 1-800-200-5909 (toll-free). State the group name “Council of Canadians.”

ADVANCE REGISTRATION: August 8 – October 13, 2011

Registration information will be posted at www.canadians.org beginning August 8. Advance registration closes at 5:00 p.m. October 13.

RESOLUTIONS: AUGUST 22, 2011

Proposed resolutions must be received by August 22, 2011. After this date, only emergency resolutions on issues that could not have been foreseen by the deadline date will be considered.

NOMINATIONS: SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

Advance nominations for the Board of Directors must be received by September 23, 2011. This allows time for the nominating committee to make recommendations to ensure a diverse Board. Nominations will be accepted at the AGM until 2:00 p.m. EDT on Saturday, October 21.

In addition to the regular slate of candidates, two chapter representatives to the Board from the Atlantic and Prairies

regions will be nominated and elected in a process exclusive to chapters. These Board members will be confirmed by the membership at the AGM.

ENSURE YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP TO DATE

Being a Council member “in good standing” allows you to vote on resolutions and Board nominations at the AGM. To be a member in good standing you need to have donated \$6 or more at least 30 days before the AGM business meeting (by September 23, 2011), and no more than 12 months before October 23, 2011.

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