rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US



Annual Report 2012

What can you find at rabble.ca?

original news and columns

in cahoots: featured links to social movement and labour stories

reprints of articles from many other progressive sources

Canada-wide event calendar

live video and curated best of the net

a plethora of podcasts on issues of the day

issues pages: an aggregate of stories, links and news on important issues

blogs from writers and activists across Canada (and beyond)

public polls to check the pulse of rabble visitors

the book lounge: a multi-featured book section with original reviews, book events and more

special features: short-term sections that focus on a range of issues

daily and weekly e-newsletters with links to our hot stories

progressive newswire and news from around the world

babble: our famous moderated discussion board

Not Rex: video commentary for the rest of us

Welcome

from Publisher Kim Elliott and President Duncan Cameron

"Derrick [O'Keefe] and his colleagues at rabble put out a call suggesting the holding of 'Casseroles Night in Canada.' The response was instant and overwhelming." ~Uprising Radio

The metallic ring of spoons, spatulas and kitchen utensils banging on pots and pans became the sound and call for democracy in Quebec and Canada in 2012. The Maple Spring and the Casserole Nights were key stories for 2012 and of course rabble was there. Just as with the #Occupy movement we put special attention covering democracy movements in Canada, such as bringing in Ethan Cox as our Quebec Correspondent to cover the Maple Spring movement. In that spirit, we are proud to have been way ahead of mainstream and even public media in reporting on Idle No More as it launched at the end of 2012.

2012 also saw the leadership race for the NDP and rabble invited all of the leadership candidates to participate in interviews in which rabble readers asked the questions. rabble covered the campaign thoroughly, even joining forces with The Cat Reporter for some unique convention coverage.

For the fifth year we published a "best of rabble" book, but this time we also launched a <u>free multimedia iPad version</u>. This version contains video, photographs, podcasts, audio clips and 250 pages of articles that chronicle the year as seen by *rabble.ca*. This was the first time iBooks Author had been used for this kind of longform journalism in Canada. Thank you to the online journalism students at Western University who made it happen with the support of *rabble.ca* board member and Director of Emerging Media, Wayne MacPhail.

2012 was *rabble.ca's* 11th year. Eleven years of reporting news for the rest of us. Eleven years of promoting the stories and issues of local, regional, national and international democracy movements. Eleven years of independent, community supported media. We continue to grow our audience, with up to 450,000 unique visitors each month, over 18,000 followers on twitter as well as thousands of subscribers to our free e-newsletters and thousands of followers on Facebook. We sponsored over 25 community events in Canada in 2012, providing free on-site and social media promotion in support of organizations and communities working for a better Canada.

The media used to cover labour stories with a labour beat, but that is a thing of the past. Except at *rabble.ca*. With the support of the Canadian Auto Workers we also welcomed Lori Theresa Waller as our inaugural Labour Beat Reporter.

In 2012 *rabble.ca* welcomed back journalist, author and former rabble editor Derrick O'Keefe as full-time editor. He is also the author two books, including *Michael Ignatieff: The Lesser Evil*?.

Finally, some goodbyes. Thank you to John Urquhart who has been a fantastic board member and supporter of rabble for a number of years. With a new job and the demands that it brings John has left the board of *rabble.ca*, but we are pleased to report he will remain on our editorial committee. And eight years ago Alex Samur came to *rabble.ca* as an intern and has had her hand in much of rabble ever since, most recently as Managing Editor and books and blogs Coordinator. Alex made tremendous contributions to rabble in her time here and we wish her great fortune in her new teaching work at Langara College in Vancouver. We're also pleased that she will be co-leading our Strategic Communications Planning process for 2013, as an advisor to the site.

We are a proud independent, community media site. If you like what you see in these pages and what you see, hear, watch and discuss on rabble.ca, please give us a hand at rabble.ca/donate.

Kim Elliott Publisher

Kim Ellin

Duncan Cameron President

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rabble.ca annual report 1

THANK YOU

SUSTAINING PARTNERS!

rabble's Sustaining Partners are organizations that support rabble's mission and vision financially, receiving support from rabble in advertising and site promotion.

Thank you to our partners for their support throughout the year!

2012 Sustaining Partners:

B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union Canadian Auto Workers
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Canadian Union of Postal Workers
Canadian Union of Public Employees
Communication Energy and Paperworkers
Council of Canadians
Hospital Employees' Union
National Union of Public and General Employees
Ontario Public Service Employees Union
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
Public Service Alliance of Canada
United Steelworkers

The importance of the community of unions and civil society organizations that support rabble is hard to overstate. These are crucial partnerships with organizations that value independent media and who see the issues they support on *rabble.ca*.

Sustaining Partners are thanked in a special section of our site's front page and also receive free advertising on rabble.ca. In addition, all Sustaining Partners are in cahoots members, meaning stories from their websites are featured on our front page in a special section. If your organization would like more information about becoming a Sustaining Partner, please contact business@rabble.ca.



























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rabble.ca:

Covering issues that mattered in 2012.

Bill C-377: What you need to know about the latest Conservative attack on civil society

BY DAVE COLES | OCTOBER 2, 2012

'Don't attack Iran!' Five lessons from the Iraq

war

BY JAMES CLARK | MARCH 20, 2012

Indigenous Nations in Canada face humanitarian crisis

BY PAMELA PALMATER | OCTOBER 13, 2012

Student strikers uphold strike mandate, blockade Chamber of Commerce

BY ETHAN COX | AUGUST 31, 2012

On the mainstream media's shameful failure to cover #IdleNoMore

BY DERRICK O'KEEFE | DECEMBER 12, 2012

Why is Vic Toews delaying Omar Khadr's return to Canada?

BY AMIRA ELGHAWABY | JULY 26, 2012

PowerShift brings hundreds of youth activists to Ottawa this week-end. Follow the opening night live.

BY RABBLE STAFF | OCTOBER 26, 201

Inside a migrant worker transport van

BY AYLWIN LO | FEBRUARY 10, 2012

Turning anger into action to stop Harper's foreign policy
BY YVES ENGLER | AUGUST 30, 2012

Passage of Bill C-31: A threat to refugees and 'a black eye' for Canada

BY SULEYMAN GOVEN | JUNE 12, 2012

Hill Dispatches: Chief Electoral Officer says robocalls are 'absolutely outrageous'

BY KARL NERENBERG | MARCH 31, 2012

Harper's abandonment of federal responsibility in health care

BY MICHAEL MCBANE | JANUARY 16, 2012

Idle No More: Canada, it's time. We need to

fix this in our generation.

Toronto's Occupy Spring

BY ÂPIHTAWIKOSISÂN | DECEMBER 17, 2012 BY KRYSTALLINE KRAUS | APRIL 5, 2012

Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois: Together we can block austerity

BY GABRIEL NADEAU-DUBOIS | OCTOBER 5, 2012

Responding to McGuinty's attacks on labour: Why we can't just roll over

BY ADAM DAVIDSON-HARDEN | SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

rabble.ca annual report 5

A portal for progressive news:

Labour, youth, grassroots and electoral politics in one space.



We were one of the first English sites to feature extensive news on the Maple Spring.







Watch live streaming video from cutvmontreal at

livestream.com

ON RABBLE.CA



The Maple Spring shows the way: Together we'll block pipelines, austerity and Harper | Oct 11 2012 | Derrick O'Keefe |

After the inspiration of this year's Maple Spring, I dare to dream that we can win real, tangible

victories here in B.C. and against Harper.

EVENTS ON RABBLE.CA

Various

October 11, 2012 - 6:30pm
WE ARE WISCONSIN,
the award-winning
documentary, Canadian
tour starts in Ontario

October 17, 2012 - 7:00pm

THIS IS NOT A

READING SERIES

Ottawa
September 19, 2012 -

Interdependent Media: a six-week course

Tatamagouche November 6, 2012 - 7:00pm

Diversity and Equity Leadership Institute (DELI): Facilitation and design skills

Quebec's Maple Spring has inspired the whole country and people around the world. igniting the popular imagination. This rabble page brings together our extensive coverage of the Ouebec student strike and the wider popular movement, as well as other news about education and student issues, all in one place.

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

Education rabble feed
Campus Notes

OITEO ME LIKE

Ston the Hike

We presented on-the-ground coverage of the Quebec student movement.

NOTES FROM QUEBEC BY ETHAN COX



rabble's Special Correspondent on the Quebec student strike, Ethan Cox is a 28 year-old organizer, comms guy and writer from Montreal. He cut his political teeth accrediting the Dawson Student Union against ferocious opposition from the college administration and has worked as a union organizer for the Public Service Alliance of Canada. He has also worked on

several successful municipal and federal election campaigns, and was a member of Quebec central office staff for the NDP in the 2011 election. Most recently he served as Quebec Director and Senior Communications Advisor on Brian Topp's NDP leadership campaign. You can follow him on twitter @EthanCoxMtl

In Montreal's streets, the movement continues

BY ETHAN COX | AUGUST 24, 2012



If there was any confusion over whether the suspension of strikes at most schools signalled an end to the broader social movement the strike generated, it was put to bed with an emphatic bang Wednesday in the streets of Montreal. The largest demonstration since the spring sent a strong message that this movement is here to stay.

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Place du Canada was packed by the time the speakers took to the roof of a truck to address the assembled crowd. CLASSE Financial Secretary Jérémie Bédard-Wien kicked things off with a characteristically strong speech, in which he made a noteworthy reference to this demonstration being the largest electoral mobilization in Quebec history. Coupled with the abundant placards reading "I'm voting for ______", which invited protesters to fill in the issue or

At the end of 2012 we were reporting on the start of Idle No More long before mainstream media caught on.



Drawn from the deep water of this legacy, the Idle No More movement has sprung up -starting in early December 2012 and promising to continue into the new year.

At an Idle No More rally in Toronto on **December 10, 2012**, Cree Elder Vern Harper spoke at Queen's Park to remind people, "When I came here [today], it brings memories. I've been coming here for 55 years and I'll keep coming as long as I can, as long as people are ready to speak out to defend our mother, the earth."

Furthering the Idle No More movement which began earlier this month, Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence, Emil Bell and Raymond Robinson are all currently on hunger strikes.

Idle No More **round dance flash mobs** are being held across North America -- from Whitehorse to Vancouver to Los Angeles to Toronto to Halifax -- supporting the **Indigenous _uprising** springing forth in its current incarnation of resistance in **opposition to Bill C-45**.

Our labour coverage continued to be a critical focus of coverage.





Labour Day: The struggle continues for democracy in the workplace | SEP 3 2012 | Dave Coles |

Canadians don't need any more politicians who want to further undermine collective bargaining rights or the notion that workers deserve some say over their working conditions.

TODAY'S TOP PICKS ON RABBLE

Happy Labour Day! Pushpolls prove it ... Canadians hate unions ... really, really

they do! | SEP 3 2012 | David J. Climenhaga | Labour Day 2012: a daylong frenzy of official and media sponsored hatred for the weakened vestiges of the labour movement.

Labour Day reminder: Harper's EI changes hit immigrants hardest | SEP 3

2012 | The Asian Canadian Labour Alliance | Our immigration laws should not be used to criminalize migrants; we should have an immigration system which is just and humane.

Activists protest the start of the annual Taiji, Japan

dolphin hunt | SEP 1 2012 | John Bonnar | Last year, protests were held in less than 50 countries; this year in over 100 countries worldwide.

In Cahoots Columnists N **NUPGE President** James Clancy on Labour Day 2012 SEP 3 2012 | NUPGE celebrates the legacy of those who came before us and we commit to continue the fight for fairness in five key areas. Labour Day CUPE | Canadian Union | of Public Employee message SEP 3 2012 | This Labour Day, CUPE is renewing its call on the federal government to convene a national summit Hope springs CAW TCA eternal for workers this Labour Day AUG CANADA www.caw.ca

31 2012 | When we look back years from now, I believe the worth of unions will be measured against our success in organizing and improving the lives of precarious

more

Other news sites emphasize a 'business section' we have a labour section.



Bringing Canada's labour movement into focus.

ON BABBLE

BC Teachers contract negotiation and job action last comment by epaulo13

Vimy's memory holds fast, 95 years on last comment by M. Spector

R.I.P. Madeleine Parent last comment by Unionist

Rio Tinto Lockout last comment by epaulo13

Electro-Motive Shutdown, and related issues last comment by Fidel

Hard time to find a job last comment by 1springgarden

CAW-CEP merger in the works last comment by epaulo13

Un- and underpaid internships last comment

UNION GROUP ON FLICKR



ON RABBLE.CA



The Time We All Went Marching spins tales from On to Ottawa MAY 17, 2012 |

By Yutaka Dirks | The Time We All Went

Marching brings the struggle of working-class men and women in the 1930s and 1940s to life through luminescent prose.



Not Rex: Ontario welfare workers -These boots were made for walking MAY 17, 2012 | By Humberto

DaSilva | In Ontario's Peel Region and Renfrew County, welfare workers have put on their walking



boots!

Changes to EI tighten the screws on the unemployed MAY 16, 2012 |

By Andrew Jackson | The significant changes to the Employment Insurance (EI) program

which are to be quickly implemented through Budget 2012 with very little consultation have not received enough critical attention.



Mayday: A Graphic History of
Protest MAY 14, 2012 | By Jane
Williams | Mayday: A Graphic History of

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

- Asia Pacific Currents
- The Labour Show

IN CAHOOTS

United Steelworkers

CEP

National Union of Public and General Employees

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Ontario Public Service Employees Union

Public Service Alliance of Canada

BC Government & Services Employee Union

Hospital Employees Union

OSSTF

SITES WE LIKE

All Together Now

Labour Rights

Canadian Labour Film Festival

Our Times Magazine

LABOURSTART TWITTER

labourstart: Congress is now singing the Internationale in

In partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers we launched the position of 'Labour Beat Reporter.'

rabble.ca welcomes Lori Theresa Waller as inaugural labour beat reporter



Up to 400,000 people (unique visitors) visited rabble each month.



On April 18, 2012, rabble celebrated its 11th anniversary.

It's our birthday! Help us celebrate 11 years of rabble-rousing



thousands were gathering to protest outside the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City. Inside the heavily fenced and fortified conference centre, the prime ministers and presidents of the western hemisphere were discussing the FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas).

With the rise of social

movements and new left-leaning governments across Latin America, the neo-liberal 'free trade' project of the FTAA was defeated.

We released the book 'Best of rabble.ca 2011.'



We made history with the past, releasing a multi-media version of the book for the iPad.

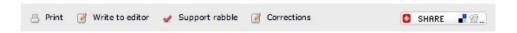


This was the first time iBooks Author was used for this kind of longform journalism

We tracked the NDP leadership race, including hosting live, crowd sourced interviews with candidates.



NDP leadership race: The babble interviews BY RABBLE STAFF | MARCH 9, 2012



During the NDP leadership race, rabble.ca invited all the leadership candidates to participate in interviews in which rabble readers ask the questions. Nathan Cullen, Brian Topp,

Peggy Nash, Paul Dewar and Niki Ashton all agreed to answer your questions in a live interactive Q&A session. Thomas Mulcair declined our invitation and Martin Singh did not respond. As the March 24 convention date rapidly approaches, here's a reminder of what the NDP candidates had to say to babble, rabble.ca's online discussion forum.

Nathan Cullen was the first candidate to appear, and readers were naturally interested in his much-touted (and much-critiqued) co-operation plan. For Cullen, the May 2 watershed moment for the NDP and the groundswell of progressive support in Canada makes this conversation particularly urgent. "The crisis of climate change, growing inequality and the dominance of oil industry interests," Cullen said, "demands that we rise to the crisis and be more generous in our politics." Some babblers, however, questioned his decision not to include progressive candidates from the Bloc Québecois in his arrangement. "Talk of the Bloc brings us into another conversation that isn't helpful," he responded.

When the popularity of Cullen's plan was cited to Brian Topp by rabble.ca columnist Murray Dobbin, however, it became clear that co-operation might be a hard sell to the other candidates. "I believe New Democrats have the right to vote for a New Democrat," Topp

We presented more events live with our commercial free livestream feed.





Who visits rabble? Our (2011) survey* says:

Fifty two per cent of the rabble audience identified as women, 47 per cent as men.

Much of our audience is from Ontario, which represents more more than 40 per cent of the total. The next largest group came from British Columbia at more than 20 per cent of the total. About ten per cent of our audience is from the U.S.

rabble readers are highly involved with 30 per cent belonging to a trade union, 41 per cent belonging to a grassroots organization, 38 per cent to an NGO, 15 per cent to a religious organization.

rabble readers are very loyal with 71 per cent reporting they visit the site weekly or more, 42 per cent of readers report visiting daily or several times a week.

*N=914

And we even deliver (no charge).



Our daily news digest gets highlights to thousands of Canadians.



rabble.ca daily e-news for Wednesday 10th of October 2012

This is your daily dose of our Editor top picks! For more new rabble content, visit <u>www.rabble.ca</u>

Interview with Mohammad Mahjoub

October 10, 2012 | By rabbleTV An interview with Canadian security certificate detainee Mohammad Mahjoub.

Australian PM Gillard labels Leader of Opposition Abbott a misogynist

October 10, 2012 | By rabbleTV Julia Gillard has used a call by Tony Abbott for the Government to remove Peter Slipper as Speaker to attack the Opposition Leader for hypocrisy, labelling him a misogynist.

Historic free trade agreement hurt more than helped

October 10, 2012 | By Jim Stanford There's no denying that foreign trade has been the biggest drag on Canada's economic performance in recent years.

Why ripping up bike lanes in Toronto will hurt students and cost lives

October 10, 2012 | By Mick Sweetman

City councilor Mike Layton is right when he said that cyclists are going to die on Jarvis because of this decision

Legacy of a historian: Remembering Eric Hobsbawm and his Age of Extremes

October 10, 2012 | By Thomas Ponniah

The brilliant Eric Hobsbawm died at the age of 95 on October 1, 2012. Many progressives and conservatives acknowledged that his books constituted the best introduction to modern history.

'Tree-in' protest aims to stop a tar sands pipeline through Texas

October 10, 2012 | By rabble staff

Activists in Texas a set up a protest camp high amongst the trees in an attempt to stop the Keystone XL pipeline.

PTSD on the rise: The hidden casualties of Canada's war in Afghanistan

October 10, 2012 | By Peter Goffin

With Canada's combat role in Afghanistan winding down, the need for a more responsible PTSD treatment program is becoming urgent.

Our weekly news digest features stories, events, contests and more.



MENS FOR THE REST OF US

05 Oct 2012

Hey rabble readers!

Now is a crucial time to have eyes and ears on Parliament, reporting to you on the right-wing agenda Harper and company are pushing onto Canadians. Our special fundraiser for Karl Nerenberg ends this weekend and we are still short of our goal --please donate today!

Tonight in Vancouver the <u>lessons from Quebec's</u>
<u>Student Strike tour</u> finishes up at the W2 at 7 p.m.
Come hear from <u>Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois</u>, former spokesperson from CLASSE, Cloé Zawadzki-Turcotte, former member of CLASSE's executive and a key organizer behind the strike and Ethan Cox, <u>rabble.ca'</u>s own Quebec correspondent and former student organizer.

If you can't be there in person, tune in live tonight at 7 p.m. PST for our livestream of the event on rabbletv! You can also follow the discussion on social media using the hashtag #MapleTour.

There's still time to catch some great films at the Toronto Palestine Film Festival (including Habibi) which closes this weekend. For those in Vancouver, come on out to see the rabble-sponsored film Indignados ("a sumptuously visual and typically musical docudrama") October 10 at the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Fetch stories, not coffee! In partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers union, rabble.ca is pleased to launch our first annual labour beat co-op placement. Find more details right here, and don't forget, applications are due next week on October 10.

And, don't miss your chance to put your activist ethics and skills to work with a rabble internship! We are recruiting a new books and blogging intern and a toolkit activist intern to join our editorial team this fall. For more information, visit our jobs page, but hurry, the deadline for applications is October 10.

This week's top news

In this issue

news blogs columns podcasts rabblety books

Upcoming events

Toronto Tools for Change: Meeting with government and elected officials

This workshop will provide you with the tools you need to get the most out of your meetings with elected officials.

By Tools for Change

Vancouver Donor Opium: The NGOization of Palestine

Join the Boycott Israeli
Apartheid Campaign for a film
screening and discussion
focusing on the impact of
development NGOs and
international donor governments
and agencies on the Palestinian
struggle.

By Boycott Israeli Apartheid Campaign

Vancouver Canadian premiere of 'Indignados' at VIFF

rabble.ca is a proud sponsor of the Canadian premiere of Indignados, at the 2012 Vancouver International Film Festival.

This week's top in cahoots

Workers force Wal-Mart to address serious health and

You can find rabble on iPhones and iPads, Twitter and Facebook.



news and features



Staff: Murray Dobbin, Senior Contributing Editor; Derrick O'Keefe, Editor; Alex Samur, Managing Editor; Kim Elliott, Publisher; Michelle Gregus, Assistant Editor; Karl Nerenberg, Parliamentary Correspondent; Ethan Cox, Quebec Correspondent; Lori Theresa Waller, Labour Beat Reporter **Intern:** Mick Sweetman **Contributing editors:** Tania Ehret, Amira Elghawaby, Larkin Schmiedl, Jaela Berstein

During 2012, *rabble.ca* became a key source of information for two remarkable and in many ways unprecedented social movements: <u>Quebec's Maple Spring</u> and the <u>Idle No More</u> movement for Indigenous rights and sovereignty.

We brought on board a special Quebec Correspondent, Ethan Cox, to cover the historic events around the Quebec student strike. We were among the first to translate and publish a number of the key documents of the Maple Spring, including manifestos and statements from the student unions. Late in 2012, when Idle No More swept across Canada, rabble was again one of the key sources of coverage of this social movement.

We continued to focus on federal political coverage with our Parliamentary Correspondent Karl Nerenberg, who focused particular scrutiny on the significant changes made to the Canadian immigration and refugee system. In addition, for the first time, rabble has brought on a Labour Beat Reporter, Lori Theresa Waller, thanks to a partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers. Lori Theresa Waller has reported on issues including Bill C-377, which aims to undermine the labour movement's ability to organize and impact politics, as well as covering Bill 115, Ontario's legislation aimed at the teachers' union. She has also written weekly compilations of top labour stories.

We partnered with <u>Public Response to promote a petition calling for support for an antibullying strategy.</u>

Some highlights of 2012's

news and features:

January:

<u>In-depth coverage of the NDP</u> <u>leadership race</u>

Canadians were shocked by the passing of Jack Layton just months after the historic achievement of Official Opposition status by the NDP. We provided extensive coverage of the leadership race, giving space to all the contenders and to a wide range of opinion about the future direction of the party.

February:

Thinking about Black History Month

Should Black History Month instead be called African Liberation Month? Anjamu Nangwaya's opinion piece raised this and other important questions.

March:

An up close look at conditions for migrant workers

Aylwin Lo completed a seven-part series looking at the difficult working and living conditions faced by migrant labourers in Canada.

April:

Quebec's student strike ignites popular imagination

Stefan Christoff was one of a number of contributors on the ground in Quebec covering the student strike. With nightly protests, monthly mega marchesand an outpouring of activist art, the Maple Spring captured imaginations far beyond Quebec.

May:

Musqueam First Nation fights condo development on burial grounds

It was a protest that lasted for months, yet somehow it stayed largely off the mainstream media's radar. We covered the story, as the Musqueam First Nation showed great determination to prevent a condo development from destroying part of their sacred burial grounds.

June:

<u>Canadian novelist reflects on Quebec's</u> <u>student strike</u>

Steven Galloway, internationally renowned author of *The Cellist of Sarajevo*, was one of many voices to speak up from across Canada in response to the historic Maple Spring led by Quebec students.

July:

Getting creative to stop a pipeline

All year, we documented widespread resistance to several tar sands pipeline projects. Christine Leclerc reported on the creative, direct actions taken by activists trying to get in the way of the KeystoneXL pipeline.

August:

Reflecting on the toll of gun violence in Toronto

rabble podcast intern Muna Mire wrote a powerful, personal reflection on the loss of a friend -- part of the toll taken by gun violence in Toronto this year.



Best of rabble.ca iPad multimedia version Free

September:

Labour Day, labour battles in Ontario

The school year in Ontario started with a major showdown between the province's teachers and the Liberal government over Bill 115. We provided extensive coverage of this labour struggle.

October:

Powershift coverage

This year's Powershift conference in Ottawa was an important gathering of youth activists committed to climate justice. We had it covered, with opinion pieces and interviews -- plus special live blog coverage of the opening night.

November:

Celebrating a win!

For years, we've covered the story of residents of Ontario's Melancthon Township fighting to save some of the country's most productive farmland from a mega quarry project. After a long struggle, they won. Meg Borthwick spoke with organizers and reported on the making of this inspiring victory.

December:

Bill C-377 coverage

Bill C-377 is an attack on the labour movement in Canada masquerading as legislation about financial transparency. As the Conservative government pushed this Bill through before Christmas, our new Labour Beat Reporter Lori Theresa Waller was there with a blow-by-blow account of the debate.



2012: A year of activism, from the Maple Spring to Idle No More



declaring they will be Idle No More.

It was a year of activism. The Quebec student strike, and related Casseroles demonstrations in neighborhoods and towns across Quebec, brought down the tone-deaf government of Jean Charest. I called this movement Occupy 2.0 because like Occupy democratic assemblies were at the centre of their success and mobilization but they also used more traditional community organizing techniques to build support among students and had a visible, sophisticated and accountable leadership.

Thanks to rabble.ca and Translating the Maple Spring, a volunteer social media effort, activists in English Canada were able to receive information from the inspiring struggle over the gap of language, mainstream politics and corporate media that have kept us ignorant of each other across the Quebec/Canada divide for so long. For the first time in my lifetime, people in the rest of Canada mobilized support for a struggle in Quebec. And the student movement in Quebec noticed. They are now in the lead of building a pan-Canadian, cross-sectoral

columns



Staff: Michelle Gregus, Assistant Editor

In addition to original news stories, in-depth features, provocative interviews, commentaries and more, rabble publishes original columns from some of the few progressive voices in mainstream media (if we've missed anyone, let us know) and reprints articles you wouldn't want to miss from other alternative publications.

There is at minimum one column published a day (including reprints), with 2-3 original columns (on average) published each week.

In 2012 we:

- Launched monthly <u>Retiree Matters</u> column, with multiple contributors from the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada
- Re-launched the monthly Pro Bono legal column, with rotating contributors, from law firm Iler Campbell
- Launched a column by <u>Thomas Ponniah</u>, now writing on a weekly basis
- Launched a column by Monia Mazigh
- Launched a column by <u>Joyce Arthur</u>
- Launched a bimonthly column by <u>Elizabeth Littlejohn</u>

Retiree Matters CURC Congress of Union Retirees of Canada



A monthly column from:

It's a matter



the on rabble.ca

2012 rabble.ca columnists

Duncan Cameron Elizabeth Littlejohn Ellen Russell Hennessy's Index (Trish Hennessy) Jerry West Jooneed Khan Joyce Arthur June Chua Matthew Behrens Monia Mazigh Murray Dobbin

Pro Bono (Shelina Ali, Paula Boutis, Laura Bowman, Brian Iler, Kirsten Iler, Priya Sarin)

Retiree Matters (Janice M. Bernier, Malcolm Buchanan, Cecile Cassista, Louisette Hinton, Susan Keeley, Pat Kerwin, Diane Wood) Thomas Ponniah

Wayne MacPhail

2012 syndicated columns:

Alice Klein Amy Goodman Jim Stanford Linda McQuaig Naomi Klein Ralph Surette Rick Salutin

2012 Column Highlights

The 25th anniversary reader: Key readings on the Morgentaler decision and Canada's abortion rights struggle (Joyce Arthur)

<u>Indigenous rights and the duty to consult (Pro Bono/Paula Boutis)</u>

Superstorm Sandy highlights the climate crisis -- and our power to stop it (Naomi Klein)

Robocall scandal is Canada's Watergate (Linda McQuaig)

Before championing human rights abroad, Canada needs to look closer to home (Monia Mazigh)

Cancelling the Ontario Northlander: Transit derailed and denied (Elizabeth Littlejohn)

<u>Celebrating the 50th anniversary of medicare in Saskatchewan (Retiree Matters/Janice M. Bernier)</u>

A number is never just a number: Food for thought (Hennessy's Index)

Beyond Harper: Rebuilding community (Murray Dobbin)

Ecologists, leftists and Rio+20 (Thomas Ponniah)

Just say no to corporate greed: The case of Iceland (Ellen Russell)

Giving up on newspapers (Wayne MacPhail)

Taking Liberties: Canada's growing torture infrastructure (Matthew Behrens)

How much will you lose from OAS deferral? (Jim Stanford)

Using debt for the common good (Duncan Cameron)

Columns translated into French:

Brisons le silence et passons à l'action pour l'élimination de la violence à l'égard des femmes (Louisette Hinton/Retiree Matters)

Repousser l'âge de l'admissibilité de la SV et du SRG n'est pas de genre neutre (Louisette Hinton, Diane Wood/Retiree Matters)

<u>Course à la chefferie du NPD : Mulcair reçoit le baiser de la mort de Québec/Canada Inc (Jooneed Khan)</u>

Columns in French:

Menaces sur la démocratie aux USA: La puissance de l'argent et l'exclusion de votants (Jooneed Khan)



The Popular Vote

Most read stories of 2012

- 1. Systemic sexism and the death of Amanda Todd by Jarrah Hodge
- 2. <u>10 reasons to oppose the Conservatives' Bill C-38</u> by Chloe Makepeace
- 3. <u>Nous accusons: Mainstream media fails to report on atrocities against Gaza</u> by Various
- 4. Exclusive: 'Green Square' leader renounces tuition hikes, endorses free education by Ethan Cox
- 5. <u>Debunking Blatchford and other anti-Native ideologues on Idle No More</u> by Harsha Walia
- 6. <u>Understanding the victory of Thomas Mulcair</u> by Judy Rebick
- 7. <u>But what about the men? On masculinity and mass shootings</u> by Meghan Murphy
- 8. <u>It starts in Quebec: Our revolution of love, hope and community</u> by Ethan Cox
- 9. <u>Harper's manifesto: Erasing Canada's Indigenous communities</u> by Pamela Palmater
- 10. <u>Court refutes Harper government: Attawapiskat was not financially mismanaged</u> by âpihtawikosisân

features contributors

(not including general contributors or bloggers)

Aaron Leonard Aaron Sheldon Abeer Majeed Adam Bemma Adam Davidson Harden Alan Sears Alain Deneault Alana Westwood Albert Koehl Alex Snowdon Amara Possian Amira Elghawaby Andree Bourbeau Andrew Frank Andrew Gage Andrew Stevens Andy Crosby Aniali Kulkarni Ajamu Nangyama Ann Silversides Anne Lagace-Dowson April Diamond Dutheil Archana Rampure Arij Riahi Art Sterritt **Audrey Huntley** Aylwin Lo Bashir Mohamed Ben West Bill Henderson Bill McKibben **Bob Harrington** Brad Olson Brenda Norrell Brent Patterson Brian Iler Brett Rhyno Brigette DePape Caitlyn Vernon Carlo Fanelli Carmelle Wolfson Carrie Rentschler Cathi Bond

Charlotte Kates

Cheryl McNamara Chloe Makepeace Chris Hedges Chris Nineham Christopher Majka Christopher Walker Christine Leclerc Colleen Fuller Correy Baldwin Crystel Hajjar Dany Morin **Dave Coles** Dave Diewart Dave 7irin David Bacon David P. Ball David Taub Bancroft David Heap David McNally Dave Vasey David Markland David Schulze **Delores Broten** Doug Henwood Doug Nesbitt Doris Layton **Duff Conacher** Ed Broadbent Edward C Corrigan Edward A. Wray **Ehab Lotayef Eleanor Grant** Elena Chou Elizabeth May Emilie Breton-Cote **Emily Gilbert** Emma Feltes Eric Doherty Erika Shaker Eva Bartlett Evan Robertson Ewan Robertson Fathima Cader Federico Fuentes Gabriel Nadeau-

Dubois

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Johanna Fernandez John Greyson Dr. John O'Connor John Riddell John Wunderlich Jonah Gindin Jonathan Cook Jonathan Sas **Jordy Cummins** Jose Antonio Zamora Gutierrez Joyce Nelson Julien Delacroix Justin Lina Justin Podur Kaitlin McNabb Kamal Arora Kara Andrade Karen DeVito Karl Nerenberg Kathleen O'hara Katie Toth Keith Stewart Kelly Bronson Kelsey Mowatt Ken Summers Kendall Yamagishi Kendra Coulter Kevin Duska Krista Hunt Krystalline Kraus Laila Rashidie Lana Goldberg Lana Payne Larkin Schmiedl Laura Carlsen Laura Johnston Laura Lepper Laura Snelgrove Leif Larsen Leisha Senko Libby Davies Lori Theresa Waller Lucia Lorenzi Lynn Gehl Maire Noonan Malalai Joya Mark Karlin

Maria Kari Martin Lukacs Martin Papillon Mary Foster Matthew Behrens Matt Eisenbrandt Matt Moir

Meagan Perry Medea Benjamin

Karunananthan Meg Borthwick Megan Boler Meghan Murphy Mel Watkins Melanie Vollick Melissa Graham Melissa McDowell Michael Laxer Michel Lambert Michael Carr Michael McBane Michael Stewart

Mick Sweetman Mike Levin Mohamed Keita Mohamed Shaheen

Michele Landsberg

Monia Mazigh

Morna Ballantyne Muna Mire Murray Dobbin Nadia Kanii Nadia Saad Nadia Sayed Nahla Abdo Nanky Rai Natalie Caine Natalie Lochwin Nathan Grills

Nathaniel G. Moore

Nick Day Noam Chomsky Nora Loreto Noreen Mae Ritsema

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Oberto Madondo

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Samantha McGavin Samantha Sarra Samir Shaheen-

Hussain

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Stephan Christoff Stephen Collis Steve Cornwell Steven Galloway Steven Staples Steven Zhou Suleyman Goven Suraia Sahar Suresh Fernando Susan McGrath

Syed Hussan

Tania Ehret

Ted Schmidt Ted Snider

The Satire Project

Tim Groves Tim McSorley Timothy Wilson Toshio Rahman Trevor Hanna Tristan Sturm Tyler Morgenstern Tyler Shipley

Vannina Sztainbook Vijay Prashad Vivian McCaffrey Wade Rowland Walden Bello Wayne Macphail Xavier Lafrance

Yves Engler

netted news/newswire

In the interest of connecting to and supporting independent media, *rabble.ca's* netted news on our homepage brings RSS feeds from:

The Dominion, Canadian Dimension, Briarpatch, The Tyee, The Bullet, Herizons, Alternet, This Magazine, The New Internationalist, The Vancouver Observer and The Daily Nuisance.

rabble.ca also offers a newswire on our front page with feeds from CBC, Al Jazeera and The Guardian.

Netted News . What's New: Geopolitics of the Amazon . Map of Annual Feb 14th Women's Memorial March Will Liberals Rise Up and Strongly Attack the Obama Targeted Assassination What's New: Open letter to Premier-Designate Kathleen Wynne Watch: Jon Stewart Softballs Ray Kelly on Stop-and-Frisk . What's New: Tunisia: Consolidation of the Crossing into Syria to take up the fight . What's New: Growing Activism: Labor/Community Strategy Center The Secret to Good Sex and Happiness in a Long Relationship What's New: How a Socialization of the Banking System Might Look Like . Was General David Petraeus Targeted for Take-down by the Military? How Shorter Work Hours and More Vacation Time Can Slow Global Warming . What's New: On Rosa Parks' 100th Birthday Meet the Male Senators Who Voted Against a Bill Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence (Hint: They're Republicans) Michelle Obama Is Not Our First Black First Lady? 10 Fascinating Things You Didn't Know About Black History more

Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere England v Brazil - live! | Barry Glendenning Canada-U.S. price gap report calls for import tax cut Negotiators talking to inmates in Hull jail lockdown Witnesses recall doomed officer firing shots at snowplow Unruly Sunwing passengers fuel Cape **Breton notoriety** RBS fined £390m as scale of Libor rigging is revealed Kenney suggests stripping citizenship in terrorism cases Tunisia PM to dissolve government amid crisis Hit-man case to be reviewed by RCMP watchdog more

in cahoots

Share your news with the world on *rabble.ca*! in cahoots is our readers' direct link to stories from civil society partners. From the top of rabble's front page, we link directly to social movement groups with news events and urgent issues. in cahoots membership is charged on a sliding scale designed to match an organization's ability to pay.

All Sustaining Partner organizations are in cahoots members.

Staff: Matthew Adams, in cahoots Editor



in cahoots members 2012:

Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada
Africa Files
BC Teachers' Federation
Beit Zatoun
Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry
Societies
Canadians for Tax Fairness
Canadian Palestinian Educational Exchange
Council of Canadians
Friends of Toronto Waterfront Birds
InterPares
National Farmers Union
United Food and Commercial Workers

Canadian Union of Postal Workers
Canadian Union of Public Employees
Communication Energy and Paperworkers
Council of Canadians
Hospital Employees' Union
National Union of Public and General
Employees
Ontario Public Service Employees Union
Ontario Secondary School Teachers'
Federation
Public Service Alliance of Canada
United Steelworkers

Sustaining Partners 2012:

B.C. Government and Service Employees'
Union
Canadian Auto Workers
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives





rabbletv is more than a collection of great videos. We present live internet video coverage of events (livestreaming), video commentary ("Not Rex"), Canadian music videos and "best of the net" gems for your viewing pleasure. rabbletv is just a click away!

Staff: Kim Elliott, Publisher; Derrick O'Keefe, Editor **Volunteers:** Anita Kranjc, Best of the Net Curator, Tor Sandberg ,Livestream, Wayne MacPhail, Alex Lisman Jase Tanner, Humberto DaSilva, Lisa Santonato, Adriana Byrne, Adam Bemma

rabbletv highlights



Not Rex: Three sonnets for Rob Ford Dec 7
2012 | by Humberto DaSilva | Rob Ford's tragic legal turn in the



TPPxBorder Rally Dec. 1 Dec 5 2012 | by Council of Canadians |
Trade justice activists from the U.S. and Canada converged on Dec. 1
to launch a North American people's movement against NAFTA
expansion through the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement.



May Goodman questions top U.S.

negotiator at UN climate talks in Qatar Dec 5 2012 | by rabble staff | U.S. climate negotiator Jonathan Pershing is questioned by Democracy Now! host Amy Goodman about the United States' failure to do more to cut emissions.

rabbletv LIVESTREAM highlights





Livestream of historic CEP convention discussion of new union proposal

2012 events livestreamed by rabble.ca included:

- Final event for the Council of Canadians Great Lakes Tour "Great Lakes need great friends"
- Inter Pares: Women's Rights in Sudan and Canada
- End the Nakba -- sharing stories, creating resistance
- The World We Want -- an evening with Frances Moore Lappé
- Toronto Area Council NDP Federal Leadership debate
- CAW/CEP new union press conference

not rex

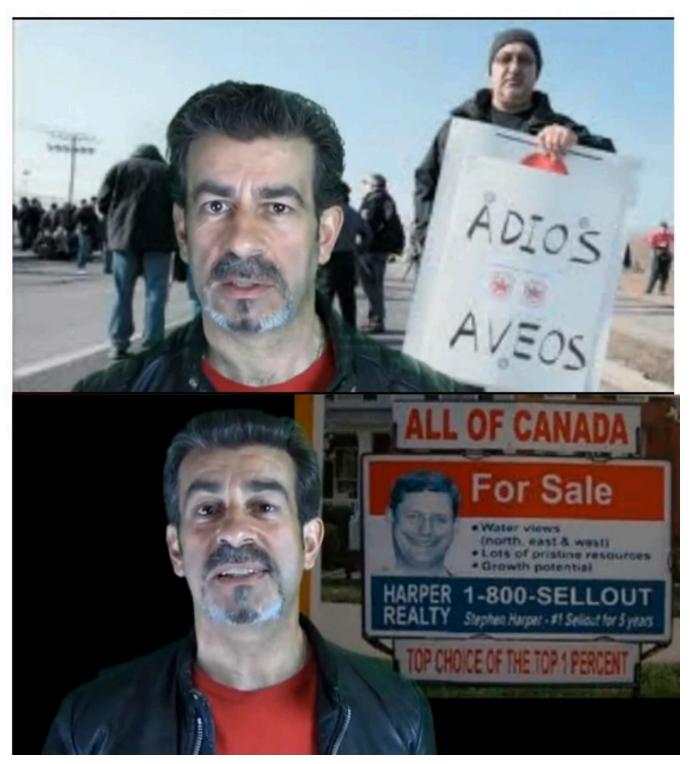


Rex schmex

Meet Humberto DaSilva killer commentary rabbletv



Since 2010 Humberto "Not Rex Murphy" DaSilva has been providing popular video commentary on the issues of the day exclusively for *rabble.ca*. In 2012 his "Adios Aveos" received more than 12,000 views. Humberto also produced video reports on a handful of news items and to top it off did film reviews for rabble!



rabble.ca annual report 37

indie inside

Featuring music videos from Canadian independent bands, you can find <u>indie inside</u> at rabbletv. indie inside was quiet in 2012, but will be growing in 2013.

Staff: Tania Ehret, indie inside Coordinator

Indie Inside - Three Little Birds

Print Write to editor Support rabble Corrections

BY RABBLE STAFF | DECEMBER 21, 2012



Three Little Birds is a fusion of three distinct women who candidly sing their minds on social and political issues.

Drawing upon a variety of musical influences; their songs combine everything from Balkan styled harmonies within reggae beats to country-flavoured melodies amidst Tin-Pan Era arrangements. Erin Saoirse Adair is an Ottawa-based singer-songwriter and folk musician, Amelia Leclair is a singer/percussionist who

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studied Latin music styles while in Brazil and Angela Schleihauf is currently studying oboe performance at the University of Ottawa. Three Little Birds are defined by the eclectic mélange of their diverse interests. Three Little Birds present strong vocal harmonies over upbeat acoustic arrangements consisting of mostly guitar, oboe, percussion, stand-up bass violin, and voice. Three Little Birds have performed at OttawaInternational Jazz Festival (2011), the Ottawa Tulip Festival (2011), and the Halifax Urban Folk Festival (2011). Three Little Birds' self-titled debut album (released May 2012) has been nominated for the New/Emerging Artist Award at the Canadian Folk Music Awards. They are also grant recipients of the Popular Music Grant, awarded by the Ontario Arts Council.







Staff: Alex Samur, blogs Coordinator; Michelle Gregus, Assistant Editor; Kim Elliott, Publisher

Interns: Noreen Mae Ritsema and Kaitlin McNabb, both were also curator and editor for *Campus Notes* and *Bound but not Gagged* blogs

Volunteer: Nathan Rambukkana, Copyeditor

rabble's blog section is a vibrant network of more than 110 bloggers. The blogs section fosters commentary, analysis and breaking news from progressive writers, thinkers and activists from across Canada. Blogs are highlighted on the front page and also can be found in the blogs section as well as appearing in appropriate issues pages (see below).

The blogs section on rabble was instrumental in breaking and covering major activist and political events including the Maple Spring in Quebec, Idle No More, #Occupy's one year anniversary, and the NDP leadership convention.

For the past year, our Parliamentary Correspondent, Karl Nerenberg, has been providing coverage of politics from Ottawa, Ontario -- more below on Karl Nerenberg. In 2012 Ethan Cox joined as our Quebec Correspondent.

Additionally, Alheli Picazo launched the *Sun Media Watch* blog and Anita Krajnc led a *Vegan Challenge* blog and campaign for Earth Week.

2012 rabble bloggers

Adventures in the eBook Game

AHRC Dignitas
Alberta Diary

Alexandre Boulerice Alice Klein's blog Am Johal's blog Andrea Carson âpihtawikosisân Art Threat Artful Change

Battered Women's Support Services blog

Ben Powless Blair Redlin

Blind Man with a Pistol bored but not broken Bound but not Gagged

Brent Patterson
Brian Topp
Campus Notes
Cat Reporter blog
Charlie Angus's blog
Child Care Canada
Christine Saulnier's blog
Christopher Maika

Climate Action Network Canada's blog

Council of Canadians' blog
Daniel Tseghay's blog
Daniel Wilson's blog
Dave Coles's blog
David Bush's blog
David Lundy's blog
David Suzuki

Democracy Watch's blog Dented Blue Mercedes Derrick O'Keefe's blog Dionne Brand's blog Dogwood Initiative Don Tapscott's blog Donald Gutstein's blog

Earth Rising
Elizabeth May
Ellen Woodsworth
Emma Pullman

Enter Up Left -- Holly Adams' blog

Eva Bartlett In Gaza Feminist Current FLOSS blog Gerry Caplan's blog Global Exchange Hello Cool World

I Read the News Today, Oh Boy!

Ian Capstick's blog

Independent Jewish Voices

Indigenous Nationhood -- Pamela Palmater's blog

J. Maureen Henderson James Laxer's blog Jessica Bell's blog Jim Quail's blog John Bennett's blog

John Bonnar John Warnock

Joshua Kahn Russell's blog Karl Nerenberg's blog Labour News This Week Letters to Ryan Leef Maher Arar's blog Making Waves Maude Barlow's blog

Media Watch Michael Laxer's blog MiningWatch blog

MiningWatch blog Murray Dobbin's blog

Narrative Resistance -- Alex Hundert's blog

National Office: Fred Wilson's blog

No One Is Illegal Nora Loreto's blog

Northwest Notes -- Tyler McCreary's blog Notes from Quebec -- Ethan Cox's blog

Open Media's blog Pierre Beaudet's blog

Policy Note

Praxis: A popular economics blog Progressive Economics Forum Pulpit and Politics blog -- Dennis

Gruending's blog rabble.ca's staff blog

Raffi's blog

Robert Chernomas' blog Roger Annis's blog Romeo Saganash's blog Sharon Fraser's blog Steven Shrybman's blog

StopWar blog Syed Hussan's blog Tariq Jeeroburkhan's blog The Canadian Boat to Gaza blog The Left Coast Post -- David Ball's blog

The Mainlander

The Media Studies blog -- Marusya

Bociurkiw's bloa

the moon is down -- Krystalline Kraus's blog The New Era -- Gen Why Media's blog

The Regina Mom

Tikkunista! -- Peter Marmorek's blog Time for change -- Gary Shaul's blog

Tonya Surman's blog

Transforming Power -- Judy Rebick's blog

Tria Donaldson's blog Trish Hennessy's blog

Vegan Challenge for Earth Week

Velcrow Ripper's blog

Voices North blog -- George Lessard's blog Your Heart's On The Left -- Jesse McLaren's

blog

Select rabble blog highlights:

<u>Justice at stake: Chief Theresa Spence passes Day 15 of hunger strike</u> by Am Johal

The death of innocents: Murder and guns in the USA

by Christopher Majka

The Men's Rights Movement, CAFE and the University of Toronto by Michael Laxer

<u>Idle No More: There's good reason the Natives are restless</u> by âpihtawikosisân

<u>Climate change is real, says Peter Kent, but don't expect us to get serious about it!</u> by Karl Nerenberg

Open letter to Facebook: B.C. advocates push for safe social media by Raffi

LGBT rights in Uganda, and John Baird's dilemma by Mercedes Allen

A token solution for the Downtown Eastside by Michael Stewart

Anatomy of manipulation: The jailhouse tapes when women became victims by Angela Marie MacDougall

<u>There's nothing inevitable about 'eduflation' and student debt</u> by Behind the Numbers

<u>Harper's manifesto: Erasing Canada's Indigenous communities</u> by Pam Palmater

<u>Activist Communiqué: Occupy May Day -- Toronto</u> by Krystalline Kraus

<u>Wildrose leader openly lays out plan for privatizing health care</u> by David Climenhaga

Karl Nerenberg

rabble's reporter on the Hill

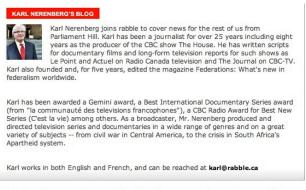
"Karl Nerenberg is an extraordinary and indefatigable journalist. During the passage of Bill C-31, a big, complicated bill that radically changed Canada's treatment of refugees, Karl Nerenberg was the only journalist to provide thorough, insightful and trenchant commentary throughout the entire legislative process. Canada needs his voice on Parliament Hill."

~Peter Showler Director, Refugee Forum Human Rights Research and Education Centre University of Ottawa

In the summer of 2011, rabble decided that there needed to be a rabble reporter on Parliament Hill and appealed to rabble visitors and supporters for donations to help make it happen. rabble readers agreed and together with donations from CUPE, CEP and the CAW contributed more than \$10,000 over a short period of time to help fund the position and Karl Nerenberg has been our Parliamentary Correspondent ever since.

We did another special fundraiser in 2012 and raised another \$10,000 towards supporting his position. If you would like to support this important coverage, please donate at http:rabble.ca/donate.

Karl posts his "Hill Dispatches" several times a week and his work <u>can be found in the Politics</u> section of rabble.

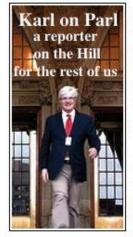


Hill Dispatches: Finley's new EI rules – 'We want McDonald's to hire Canadians, not foreigners'



"Karl Nerenberg's 'Hill Dispatches' are rich with the historical depth that the mainstream media should but are unable to provide. They also exhibit a quality that is all too rare in Ottawa: genuine empathy for the challenges faced by ordinary people."
~Marc Raboy, Beaverbrook Chair in Ethics, Media and Communications, McGill University

KEEP KARL
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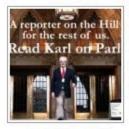


Karl Nerenberg joins rabble to cover news for the rest of us from Parliament Hill. Karl has been a journalist for over 25 years including eight years as the producer of the CBC show The House. He has written scripts for documentary films and long-form television reports for such shows as Le Point and Actuel on Radio Canada television and The Journal on CBC-TV. Karl also founded and, for five years, edited the magazine Federations: What's new in federalism worldwide.

Karl has been awarded a Gemini award, a Best International Documentary Series award (from "la communauté des televisions francophones"), a CBC Radio Award for Best New Series (C'est la vie) among others. As a broadcaster, Mr. Nerenberg produced and directed television series and documentaries in a wide range of genres and on a

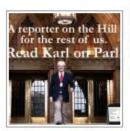
great variety of subjects -- from civil war in Central America, to the crisis in South Africa's Apartheid system.

Karl works in both English and French, and can be reached at karl@rabble.ca



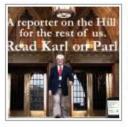
'Bogus' claims and 'safe' countries: When will Jason Kenney drop the other shoe?

Nov 27 2012 | by Karl Nerenberg | C-31 gives the Minister of Immigration unilateral power to declare safe "Designated Countries of Origin." Refugee claimants from those countries would have an extremely rapid hearing process.



Jim Flaherty says goodbye to Mark Carney

Nov 26 2012 | by Karl Nerenberg | Finance Minister Flaherty grew testy when asked about matters other than Carney's departure, especially the government's plans to balance the budget by 2015.



We've come to this: Parliamentary Budget Officer takes Harper government to Court

Nov 22 2012 | by Karl Nerenberg | Since April, Kevin Page has been trying to get the full facts and figures, which, after all, should not be state secrets.



Climate change is real, says Peter Kent, but don't expect us to get serious about it!

rabble podcast network

The rabble podcast network is a growing collection of Canadian podcasts which offer an alternative take on politics, entertainment, society, stories, community and life in general.

Between the Quebec Student Strike, Idle No More, Gaza, the Missing Women's Inquiry, gentrification and condo development in Vancouver, resistance against oil pipelines, and general coverage of the Harper government's ongoing impact on Canadians, the environment and on foreign policy, 2012 was a busy year for the rpn. On the business side of things we piloted an in cahoots partnership with Between the Lines books who produce podcast episodes for radio book lounge.

Once a month you can get highlights from the rpn on our flagship show <u>rabble radio</u>, hosted by Meagan Perry. Listen in to shows like "<u>Halloween: What scares are left?</u>," "<u>Free assembly: Queer Edmonton, Slutwalk and Casseroles</u>" and "<u>Shifting Power in 2012</u>."

Some of the more popular podcasts in 2012 included:

John Bonnar's Audio Blog:

"First Nations unite against sweeping legislative changes by Harper government"

"Refugee and Immigrant rights groups demand Bill C-31 be scrapped"

Redeye:

"The case for the abolition of prostitution"

"Uranium production for the tar sands"

The F Word:

"Young single mothers becoming the authors of their own stories"

"Men, Feminism & the Hugo Schwyzer Controversy"

Feminist Current:

"Does Facebook have a misogyny problem?"

"The sexualization of girls, 12-year-old slut memes and Amanda Todd"

Aw@l:

"Resisting reversal: Stopping the tar sands in Ontario"

"Resistance to Canadian Mining in Oaxaca, Australian Nuclear Waste, NZ Colonialism and the Honduran Coup government"

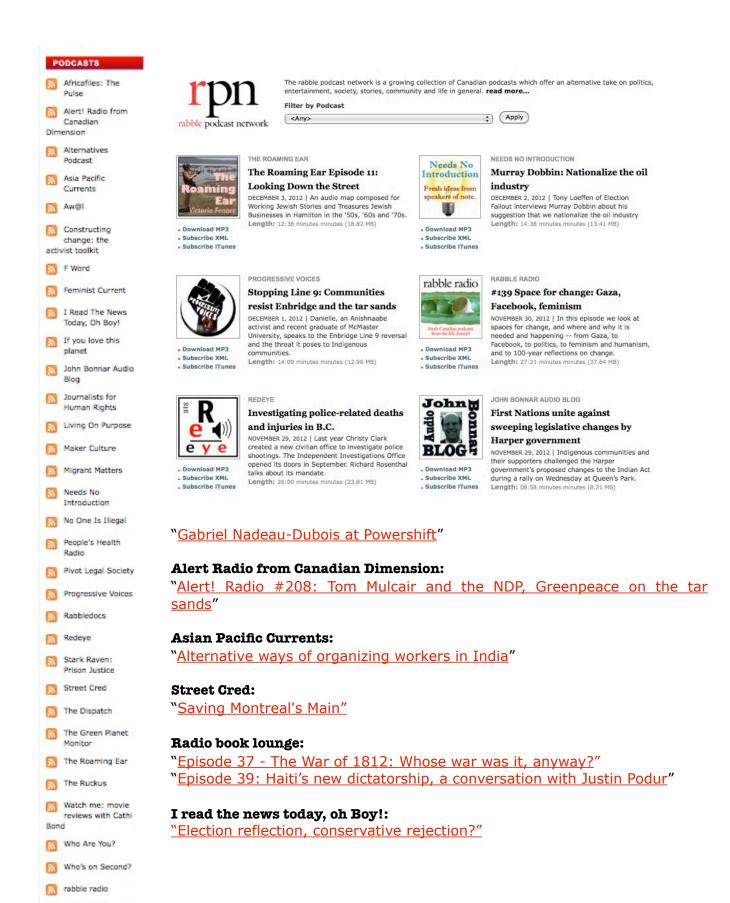
Needs no Introduction:

"In Conversation with Kim Crosby on Anti-racism Praxis at Slutwalk 2012"

"Michael Moore on the six-month anniversary of Occupy Wall Street"

"Needs No Introduction: Prof. Saskia Sassen on globalization"

"Murray Dobbin: Nationalize the oil industry"



radio book lounge

rabble podcast network

Staff: Meagan Perry, Executive Producer, podcasts; Meghan Murphy, producer; Matthew Adams, producer rabble radio (late 2012); Steffanie Pinch, activist tookit Coordinator; Kaitlin McNabb, babble book club Moderator Interns: Muna Mire, Leif

Podcasters: rpn hosts over 25 podcasts produced by over 50 podcasters on the network in 2012. Below are the podcasts and the regular podcasters.

Rohith Bhargavan Rowan Lipkovits Ryan Sparrow Sean Mullen Steffanie Pinch Stephen Benedetti Tony Loeffen Victoria Fenner

PODCASTERS

Adam Bemma Aiyanas Ormond Andrea Bear Nicholas

Ariana Barer

Asia Pacific Currents Collective

Cathi Bond Dan Kellar Derrick O'Keefe Ellie Gordon-Moershel

Esther Hsieh Heather Yundt Helen Caldicott Ian Hussey Jaggi Singh Jane Williams Jasmin Williams Jennifer Efting John Bonnar

Journalists for Human Rights

Kyle Dupont Laura Wood Lorraine Chisholm Lynn Thompson Manuel Schulte Mark Brooks MaryCarl Guiao Matt Soltys Matthew Adams Meagan Perry Meghan Murphy Michael Welch Mordecai Briemberg Nicole Deagan

Peter Driftmier Riaz Sayani-Mulji Robyn Maynard

PODCASTS

Africafiles: The Pulse

Alert! Radio from Canadian Dimension

Alternatives Podcast Asia Pacific Currents

Aw@l

Constructing change: the activist toolkit

F Word

Feminist Current

I Read The News Today, Oh Boy!

If you love this planet John Bonnar Audio Blog Journalists for Human Rights

Living On Purpose Migrant Matters Needs No Introduction No One Is Illegal People's Health Radio Progressive Voices rabble radio

rabbledocs radio book lounge

Redeve Street Cred The Dispatch The Roaming Ear

Watch me: movie reviews with Cathi Bond

(see Appendix A for more)

rabble news comes to you!















More and more people want the news to come to them. rabble has had a weekly enewsletter for a few years and in 2009 introduced a daily e-newsletter. Together our lists reach more than 20,000 people. We also have a Twitter feed with over 18,000 followers, a Facebook page and group with more than 8000 fans/members between them, as well as a YouTube channel, a Livestream and Vimeo channel and a Flickr page -- it is getting hard to miss us.

rabble is also a newsfeed source around the web and we have an RSS feed that can be found on newsreaders like Google's news reader, My Yahoo, Newsgator and Bloglines. Subscribe right now!

And if you are on the move you can get rabble feeds on mobile devices -- open your phone's browser and go to http://go.feedm8.com/gmndgj. In 2010, with the technical know-how of Spreed.Inc, we launched an iPhone/iPad app which can be downloaded here.

In 2012 we launched a partnership with Google Currents. You can download Google Currents to your mobile device (Android or Apple phones or tables) and then grab the rabble Google Currents app.

Cool features include saving stories you like or want to read later in a personal "saved stories edition," super easy navigation and a great look that automatically adapts to the size of screen you are using.



Read rabble.ca on the go



We got issues



Our <u>issues</u> pages continue to be popular on rabble. In 2012 we began to call these pages "topics" on our navigational bar.

These pages are theme-based aggregates of rabble columns, blogs, videos, discussion threads and podcasts, as well as news links and feeds from other news sources on specific issues. issues pages are a "one-stop-shop" for visitors to follow the news on an important issue, as well as to contribute content via discussions, photos and more.

Each page is also RSS capable so readers can subscribe to a feed on a theme of their choice. rabble can also create specialty pages with similar news aggregation features.

We highlighted the Maple Spring in <u>campus notes</u> and Idle No More in our <u>Indigenous rights</u> section.



From analysis of the climate crisis to solutions for saving our planet.

CURATE THIS PAGE!

Got ideas of links or feeds you think need to be on this page? Drop us a line:

issues@rabble.ca

ON BABBLE

Fracking oil companies and their toxic waste last comment

waste last comment by Buddy Kat

Dangers of the Northern Gateway Pipeline last comment by tmcd2011

Northern Gateway Pipeline - Enpipe project last comment by tmcd2011

Nuclear Energy last comment by Boom Boom

Eco-capitalism last comment by M. Spector

Wind power works last comment by Fidel

The great red herring of overpopulation - Part

ON FLICKR



ON RABBLE.CA

Dear Ryan: Amendments to the Fisheries Act

MAY 18, 2012 | By Linda Leon | How the Harper government's changes to the Fisheries Act will harm water quality and ecosystems in Canada and the Yukon.



De-growth or growth? Maybe we don't need to figure that out MAY 17,

2012 | By Seth Klein | There has recently been a renewed interest in the question of whether the ecological crisis means we need to

see a decline in economic growth. But my view is that this debate is largely distracting.



Thermometer rising: Ice, methane and climate change MAY 16, 2012 |

By Christopher Majka | Are dire warnings of climate change warranted? Declining arctic sea ice and increasing methane emissions indicate they are. While civilization nears a precipice, political

leaders speed the pace.

Hill Dispatches - Message to environmental advisory body: 'Shut the fuck up!' MAY 16, 2012 |
By Karl Nerenberg | The government is silencing an advisory body created by Conservatives and headed by a respected Conservative who once worked for Flaherty - a clear message to anyone who gets out of line.

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

- Council of Canadians
- Ben Powless
- Malice Klein
- Ioshua Khan Russell

IN CAHOOTS

Council of Canadians

Environmental Defence

CEP

Greenpeace

SITES WE LIKE

Statement Against Arctic
Offshore Drilling

ON TWITTER

RT @unfccc_cop: RT @RealizingRights: Realizing Rights is co-organizing an official side-event at the #climatechange #cop16 negot... http://t.co/cY5jiZAR

RT @RealizingRights: Realizing Rights is co-organizing an official side-event at the #climatechange #cop16 negot... http://t.co/cY5jiZAR

RT @RealizingRights: Realizing Rights is co-organizing an official side-event at the #climatechange #cop16 negot... http://t.co/7tDb1YwM

RT @RealizingRights: Realizing Rights is co-organizing an official side-event at the



ON RABBLE.CA



Justice at stake: Chief Theresa Spence passes Day 15 of hunger strike | Dec 26 2012 | Am Johal | Chief Theresa Spence's

hunger strike has inspired a new generation of

activists. This movement isn't going away. The Harper government's downfall will be remembered as one of its own making.



Photos from Idle No More rally in Toronto | Dec 26 2012 | Elizabeth Littlejohn | A selection of images from an Idle No More rally in Toronto, taken by Elizabeth Littlejohn.



Activist Communique: Idle No More -Returning to Our Sacred Places | Dec

26 2012 | Krystalline Kraus | We come from diverse and beautiful nations. This is another opportunity to connect with the land, strengthen our cultures, speak our languages and stand in unity and solidarity with each other.



In pictures: Vancouver #IdleNoMore rally December 23 | Dec 26 2012 | rabble staff | More than 500 turned out on a cold, rainy Vancouver morning to support Chief Theresa

Spence and Idle No More.

Idle No More: No Justice, No Peace | Dec 26

ON BABBLE

I am a US non Native in support of Idle No

More | Catchfire said... Great post, L2HT. Thanks, and welcome to babble! in

Saganash bill to make laws consistent with UN declaration on Indigenous Peoples' Rights

Unionist said... Great initiative! I wonder just how many laws would have to be written, amended, or scrapped if...

A Conversation about the People's Social Forum with Corvin Russell

kropotkin1951 said... What First Nation does Corvin belong too? in

Kitchener Waterloo Protests (Updated for #J11) | txanonxh

said... Livestreaming from

http://www.ustream.tv/channel/**inungenous Enviromental**in Network

Kapyong Barracks

kropotkin1951 said... The comments on the CBC are as racist as they get. Canadian settlers seem to think since they...

15th Anniversary of Delgamuukw vs The Queen of England |

NDPP said... the problem

issues on rabble.ca



This page features all the latest news about the struggle of indigenous people for their rights and sovereignty.

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

Dessica Yee's blog
Ben Powless's blog

SITES WE LIKE

Idle No More

Ottawa Algonquin First Nation

APTN

First Perspective

Defenders of the Land

#IDLENOMORE TWEETS

RT @JustARezChick: How Not To Be An Activist | Just A Rez Chick http://t.co/eHp8QpDw #idlenomore #indigenous #nativewinter #FN

the book lounge

The rabble book lounge continues to provide a dynamic platform that brings together a unique mix of independent publishers, diverse books, up and coming authors and community.

With an emphasis on the fantastic work coming out of Canada's small presses reviewed from perspectives you don't read every day, book lounge reviews range from the short and punchy, giving you a glimpse of what's between the covers, to in-depth featured reviews that engage with the ideas so you can too. Top-notch books, top-notch writers, top-notch thinking.

In addition to reviews and reprints, when you hang out in the book lounge you'll find the book lounge podcast, you can join in a babble book lounge discussion, check out book event listings in a city near you or peruse the Indie Bookstore Best Sellers list.

The book lounge was delighted to introduce a new blog by author Cathi Bond, called "Adventures in ebook game."

Come on in, sit down and relax with a good book lounge— Read rigorous reviews, find fabulous events, drop by our online book club, listen to book themed podcasts and more!

The book lounge

BOUND BUT NOT GAGGED WWW.rabble.ca/lounge

Staff:

Alex Samur, books Coordinator

Interns:

Noreen Mae Ritsema Kaitlin McNabb Theresa Ketterling

2012 Reviewers:

Aaron Leonard Al Engler Amira Elghawaby Cara Na Cathi Bond Eric Doherty Greg MacDougall Jenn Prosser Jody McIntyre Kaitlin McNabb Krystalline Kraus Mara Munro Matthew Beherns Mercedes Allen Murray Dobbin Nathaniel G. Moore Niranjana Iyer Noreen Mae Ritsema Paul Fontaine Paul Weinberg Ramona Wadi Stefan Christoff Tyler McCreary Zainab Amadahy

Highlights of 2012's rabble book lounge reviews:

January:

<u>Freeing Ourselves: A Guide to Health</u> <u>and Self Love for Brown Bois</u>

by The Brown Bois Project (The Brown Bois Project, 2011; By donation)

Review by Mercedes Allen

Freeing Ourselves is a health guide written first and foremost for trans-masculine, genderqueer and male-identified trans people, a group that is often otherwise invisible, facing barriers and taboos.

February:

<u>Lester Pearson's Peacekeeping: The Truth May Hurt</u>

by Yves Engler

(Fernwood Publishing, 2012; \$15.95) Review by Paul Weinberg

In his new book, Yves Engler sets to demolish the near saintly status of Lester Bowles ("Mike") Pearson in the public sphere, Canadian foreign policy circles and even on the social democratic left.

March:

<u>Palestinians in Israel: Segregation,</u> <u>Discrimination and Democracy</u>

by Ben White (Pluto Press, 2012; \$24.97)

Review by Ramona Wadi

Ben White argues in his new book that Israel's insistence on declaring itself a Jewish state leads to discrimination, segregation and a guarantee of continued conflict.

April:

VIVA! Community Arts and Popular Education in the Americas

by Deborah Barndt, ed. (Between The Lines, 2011; \$24.95)

Review by Zainab Amadahy

From Central America to Canada, the iVIVA! Project, summarized in a colourful book and an accompanying DVD set, features communities engaged in transformational arts processes.

May:

Power of Youth: Youth and communityled activism in Canada

by Brigette DePape, ed. (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, 2012; \$15.00)

Review by Kaitlin McNabb

Power of Youth is more than just a book about youth activism, it is a testament to all generations of activists who continue to fight, informed by passion and experience.

June:

The Enpipe Line: 70,000 km of poetry written in resistance to the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal

by The Enpipe Line contributors (Creekstone Press, 2012; \$18.00)

Review by Tyler McCreary

A recently released volume from Creekstone Press, *The Enpipe Line*, presents a poetic manifestation of resistance.

July:

<u>Undesirables: White Canada and the Komagata Maru, An Illustrated History</u>

by Ali Kazimi

(Douglas & McIntyre, 2012; \$39.95)

Review by Matthew Behrens

As Parliament passes sweeping, repressive immigration legislation, Toronto filmmaker Ali Kazimi's timely book, *Undesirables*, should be required reading for Jason Kenney and his cohorts.

August:

Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox for Revolution

by Andrew Boyd and Dave Oswald Mitchell, eds.

(OR Books, 2012; \$28.00)

Review by Murray Dobbin

Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox for Revolution is a unique guide on how to take on powerful adversaries to win.

September:

Too Asian?: Racism, Privilege, and Post-Secondary Education

by RJ Gilmour, Davina Bhandar, Jeet Heer, and Michael C.K. Ma, eds. (Between The Lines, 2012; \$26.95)

Review by Cara Ng

Too Asian?: Racism, Privilege, and Post-Secondary Education, a new anthology, takes Maclean's magazine to task and explores race and representation in Canadian universities.

October:

Social Democracy After the Cold War

by Bryan Evans and Ingo Schmidt, eds. (Athabasca University Press, 2012; \$29.95)

Review by John Warnock

In the present economic and financial crisis, we are seeing the collapse of the social democratic parties in Europe. How can they bring their former supporters back into the party?

November:

Fractured Homeland: Federal Recognition and Algonquin Identity in Ontario

by Bonita Lawrence (UBC Press, 2012; \$37.81)

Review by Mara Munro

Fractured Homeland is Bonita Lawrence's stirring account of the Algonquins' 20-year

struggle to reclaim their traditional territories.

December:

Revolution 2.0: The Power of the People Is Greater Than the People in Power: A Memoir

by Wael Ghonim

(Mariner Books, 2012; \$18.95)

Review by Amira Elghawaby

Reading Revolution 2.0 against the backdrop of the current unrest in Egypt, one can't help but feel nostalgic.

RABBLE SERIES Our story: rabble's book lounge launches in 70s style BY RABBLE STAFF | JUNE 7, 2011



Print Write to editor Support rabble Corrections

On April 18, 2011, rabble celebrated its 10th anniversary. Highlighting 10 important moments of rabble's history over the course of our 10th year, current and former people involved with rabble have been asked to share their personal highlights from their time with rabble. This monthly rabble history series elaborates on some of the most common highlights submitted. The first piece published on our

birthday appears here.

We also know that many of you have your own ideas of what the highlights of rabble's 10 years have been, and we want to know what you think. If you have thoughts on how you'd like to see us grow, please share as well in the comments section below.

Highlight: The launch of the rabble book lounge

The unofficial launch of rabble's book lounge combined guerrilla stealth and performance art at the Toronto Word On The Street Festival in September 2005.

"I found this 70s crazy ugly shag rug, Jane had a lava lamp and there were other people who contributed to this guerrilla lounge theme," recalls the lounge's founding editor, Lisa Rundle. The unofficial presence of this retro lounge, set up between tables at Word On The Street, wasn't entirely appreciated by festival organizers so it simply moved across the street.



babble is rabble.ca's discussion board but it's much more than that: it's an online community for folks who just won't shut up. It's a place to tell each other — and the world — what's up with our work and campaigns.

Learn More

	Forum	Topics	Posts	Last post
first s	stop			
· A	introductions Where we get to know the newbies, and they get to know us. Non-newbies can post their questions here, too!	494 1 new	5976	Who are babble by Boom Boom Feb 15 2012 - 9:08pm
rabble	e community			
· ·	rabble news features Read it on rabble, then talk about it here.	248 7 new	6689	Peggy Nash by autoworker 1 hour 2 min ago
*	news by the rest of us You post your original article; we comment!	225 4 new	3125	so they by Slumberjack Feb 7 2012 - 10:15am
	babblers helping babblers Do you have a pet idea or project? Would you like help or feedback? Or are you trying to track down some information? Work with each other.	491	7374	Evo Morales by Grandpa_Bill Feb 20 2012 - 3:29pm
×	babble banter For when you are so far off topic, you were never even on it.	311 1 new	6821	Gross Food by Catchfire 47 min 21 sec ago
· A	rabble reactions Topical questions and comments about the site only.	434 2 new	15169	Why are both by Unionist Feb 21 2012 - 11:56pr
	activist toolkit	21	189	Activist by sppinch Jan 5 2012 - 9:39am
curre	nt events			
*	national news Read it watch it live it discuss it.	1505 17 new	44122	Carbon by ilha formosa 2 hours 39 min ago
· A	canadian politics Layton-Lovers to Harper-Harpies. Talk about it here.	2304 84 new	114761	NDP Leadership by Howard 58 sec ago
·	international news and politics	2193 28 new	61583	Syria #4 by DaveW 1 hour 25 sec ago

Staff: Meg Borthwick; Michael Stewart

Supporting Moderators: Frank Preyde; Kaitlin McNabb

One of the most distinctive and popular aspects of *rabble.ca* is its unique, fully moderated discussion board, babble. Unlike most media sites, babble is completely integrated with the front page content of *rabble.ca*, and provides a communal, interactive space where its over 34,000 registered users discuss not only site content, but anything from Peter McKay's F-35 debacle to Creepy Victorians. Where else can you find all of Canada's labour issues and union struggle news in one place, like BC union's exposé of Canadian Mining Companies importing foreign temporary workers, or Ontario's anti-labour Bill 115?

Following its unmatched, grassroots coverage of the G20 protests in 2010 and the #Occupy movement in 2011, babble was far and away the best place in English-speaking Canada for analysis and reportage of both Quebec's Maple Spring and the Idle No More resistance. Long before the mainstream media had even noticed these two groundbreaking social movements, babble insiders were sharing information and building solidarity as the political landscape of Canada changed forever.

As always, babble's coverage of electoral politics is unmatched. Party insiders were whispering the ins and outs of the NDP leadership race on babble, singing the praises of their preferred candidate and criticizing their rivals. Almost every leadership candidate, from Nathan Cullen to Niki Ashton to Brian Topp to Peggy Nash, came on babble to be interviewed by shrewd rabble.ca readers -- who don't lob softball questions.

While *The Globe and Mail* was preparing to shed its Books section in 2012, *rabble.ca* founded the exciting <u>babble book club</u> (bbc). Led by former intern Kaitlin McNabb, the bbc gathers bookish readers to discuss the latest in Canadian independent fiction or progressive non-fiction literature. Our book club has hosted interactive discussions with leading new authors like <u>Kevin Chong</u> and <u>Pasha Malla</u> and is growing every month.

With NDP apparatchiks, labour leaders, constitutional law experts, documentary filmmakers, academics and activists all counting themselves members, babble is the best place to find intelligent and engaging conversation about progressive politics in Canada. When it's not the worst, that is.

walki	ng the talk			
*	activism Share strategies, calls to action, and success stories here.	540 12 new	8604	Join The by NDPP 8 hours 47 min ago
· ·	aboriginal issues and culture Aboriginal insights, issues and initiatives.	515 3 new	8169	Land Rights by NDPP 23 hours 34 min ago
*	anti-racism news and initiatives Discuss issues of race and racism from an anti-racist point of view.	560 1 new	12444	Toronto jail by RevolutionPlease 10 hours 24 min ago
*	disability issues Discuss disability issues from an inclusionary, anti-ablist point of view	6 2 new	124	Monsters by RevolutionPlease 10 hours 17 min ago
×	feminism Feminists discussing feminist issues from a feminist point of view.	706 7 new	17641	Manarchism by Maysie 3 hours 21 min ago
· A	labour and consumption Discuss work and economic issues from a pro-worker point of view.	452 6 new	10090	BC Teachers by Catchfire 22 hours 35 min ago
· A	LGBTQ Discuss all issues LGBTQ from an LGBTQ-positive perspective.	157 4 new	2134	Systematic by RevolutionPlease 9 hours 36 min ago
· ·	environmental justice Discuss earth-friendly initiatives and issues here.	678 4 new	15086	Climate change by Doug 1 day 9 hours ago
*	sex worker rights A place for sex workers and their allies to discuss issues around, and advocacy of, sex workers' rights.	86 1 new	1040	On Rush by Tommy_Paine 1 day 13 hours ago
· ·	youth issues The rabble school cafeteria.	162 3 new	2779	"OUSA" by Caissa Mar 1 2012 - 2:46pm
rabble	e life			
	humanities & culture Don't be a passive audience. High brow, low brow, no brow.	517 5 new	16107	Holocaust by CMOT Dibbler 10 hours 17 min ago

the activist toolkit

Staff: Steffanie Pinch, activist toolkit Coordinator; Kim Elliott, Publisher

Intern: Belinda Ellsworth

The promotion of citizen or people's journalism, we believe, must be coupled with the promotion of grassroots action. The activist toolkit is a hub for resources encouraging community participation -- a place for community activists to share workshop designs, posters, flyers and ideas to inspire and support others to do community work and develop leaderships and their organizations.

At the end of the year, drawing from the activist toolkit, we presented <u>Ten activist success</u> stories from 2012, and some tools to recreate them.

Plus in 2013 check out the new re-design of this section as the <u>Lynn Williams activist toolkit!</u> Lynn Williams remains one of the most influential North American union leaders of the 20th century and we are excited about the <u>2013 re-launch of this section</u>.



Welcome to the **Activist Toolkit**, an exciting new project of **rabble.ca** currently in Beta. The Toolkit is a wiki-style section of the rabble site devoted to content collaboration. It contains a growing number of encyclopedic resources that you can write. **See our User Guide**, and please check out the toolkit blog and podcast.



FEATURED: ON THIS DAY



International
Women's Day
March 8 is IWD but how
did it all get started?
read more...

FEATURED: GUIDE



Balloon Banners
A graphical guide about
how to put together a
balloon banner
read more...

TOOLKIT

About Toolkit User Guide Moderator Guide Toolkit Policy Feedback

FEATURED: GUIDE



Starting a co-operative
How to form any kind of
co-op from the ground up
read more...

FEATURED: SOFTWARE



QR codes What are QR codes and how activists can use them

read more...

3 MINUTE ACTION

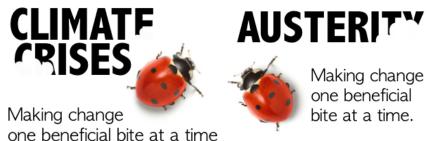
All Together Now February 6, 2012

Outraged at Caterpillar's closing of Electro-Motive's London, Ontario plant? Disgusted by the lack of action on this by the Harper government, and the government in Ontario? Tell them what you think. Send Harper and McGuinty a letter today using this form.

For more on this issue read rabble's **Labour Issue page.**

membership community supported media





SUPPORT rabble.ca NOW SUPPORT rabble.ca NOW

Like community radio and TV, community Internet news sites depend on members to help meet their budget.

At rabble.ca, we hold an annual membership drive to recruit members (starting at \$5/month).

In 2012, rabble continued our partnership with independent print magazines from Canada and the U.S. In 2012 we only extended our magazine offer to members during the membership drive. The rest of the year we offered a "best of rabble" book as a thank you gift.

rabble finished 2012 with over 700 members contributing between \$5 and \$50 a month.

We kick off each fundraising drive with an old school mailing (we get a good return!) and depend on volunteers to help us stuff envelopes. Always great conversation and good snacks. Thanks to our volunteers!

Also thank you to OPSEU for covering our mailing postage for the membership drive and the CAW for the donation drive mailing.

membership community supported media

Members get mags.





Become a member of rabble.ca (\$5/month) by July 6 and get an indie print magazine subscription as our thanks. 10 to choose from!

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donation drive community supported media

We also held our annual donation drive for those that wanted to support us with a one-time donation. *rabble.ca* offered a prize draw for the donation drive. We had great prizes for 2012 including <u>Beacon Bike Lights</u> and even a year's supply of fair trade virgin olive oil from <u>Beit Zatoun</u>.



advertise@rabble.ca



Advertising that makes a difference

advertise@rabble.ca

BIG AUDIENCE

rabble.ca sprang to life in 2001 as an independent news source with strong roots in the various movements working for social justice and equality.

Today *rabble.ca* gets up to 350,000 unique visitors a month and two million page views every month. Over 27,000 people have an account on rabble (allowing them to comment on articles, participate in the discussion board, and post on our events calendar).

In 2011 *rabble.ca* had 3, 318,000 visits from 219 countries/territories and 82% of traffic to the site came from Canada. Thousands of Canadians are registered for rabble's discussion board *babble*.

Over 8,500 people subscribe to our newsletters (and we have ad space there too!).



We updated our ad kit in 2012 and continue to offer very competitive rates to reach large audiences. Contact us at advertise@rabble.ca.

We take a proactive role in spreading the word about rabble through marketing on Facebook, Twitter and mobile news feeds, sponsoring events, tabling at events, conference presentations, advertising, membership in media organizations and more.

rabble participated in numerous advertising exchanges, including exchanges with the *MusicWorks Magazine* and *Upping the Anti.*

Media sponsorships, conferences and events:

rabble.ca sponsors events with civil society groups, activist organizations, unions and others as a way to promote issues and to promote rabble.ca. We offer exposure on our website through advertising and in our e-newsletters and in turn rabble.ca is listed and promoted as an event sponsor.

rabble sponsored over two dozen events in 2012 including:

- Beautiful Trouble book tour
- Warrior Nation book events
- Bring Your Boomers, Power and Energy
- Canzine
- Shout Out Mining Injustice Conference
- A Child's View From Gaza exhibit
- Take By The Day, Interpares Mother's Day event
- KI Canoe Expedition
- Min Sook Lee Labour Arts Award
- LAL CD rabble Award
- Lessons from Quebec's Student Strike
- Mayday rally and march
- Mayworks Festival of Working People and the Arts (Toronto)
- Media Democracy Day, Vancouver
- Media Democracy conference, Ottawa
- Powershift
- (de)Occupy Talks
- Regent Park Film Festival
- Resistance: Mining Injustice Conference
- Reimagine CBC
- Save the Salish Sea
- Speak Up: Reflections on Gendered Violence and Words as Weapons
- Toronto Palestine Film Festival
- Ugly Canadian book tour



rabble staff and board are in demand to present and participate in conferences. Some conferences that rabble participated in and/or presented at include:

M

Publisher Kim Elliott and Assistant Editor Michelle Gregus both appeared at different times at meetings of the Canadian Association of Journalism.

Kim Elliott was a judge for the Online Media Association News category in 2012, and Michelle Gregus was a judge for the essay competition at the Canadian University Press annual conference. rabble was also a sponsor for the conference this year.

a

Parliamentary Correspondent Karl Nerenberg spoke on the keynote evening of the Media Democracy Conference in Ottawa in November. Michelle Gregus attended this conference as well. Karl Nerenberg represented rabble at 2012 Press Gallery Dinner and various other Hill events.

p

Editor Derrick O'Keefe and Managing Editor Alex Samur presented "Promoting the Missing Stories" at Media Democracy Day in Vancouver in November. Derrick O'Keefe also sat on the closing plenary "Dissent Chill: The Chill Against Political Dissent in Art."

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Derrick O'Keefe also did a workshop "Climate Change and Media Democracy" at Windermere High School in Vancouver and spoke at Amnesty International's annual convention.

9

rabble hosted gatherings for contributors over the year in Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver.

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Kim Elliott and Alex Samur attended the Progressive Media Consortium meeting in Oakland, California.

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MDD SPONSORS

Media Democracy Days 2012 Sponsors & Partners

Silver Sponsors









CULTURENET PROGRAM







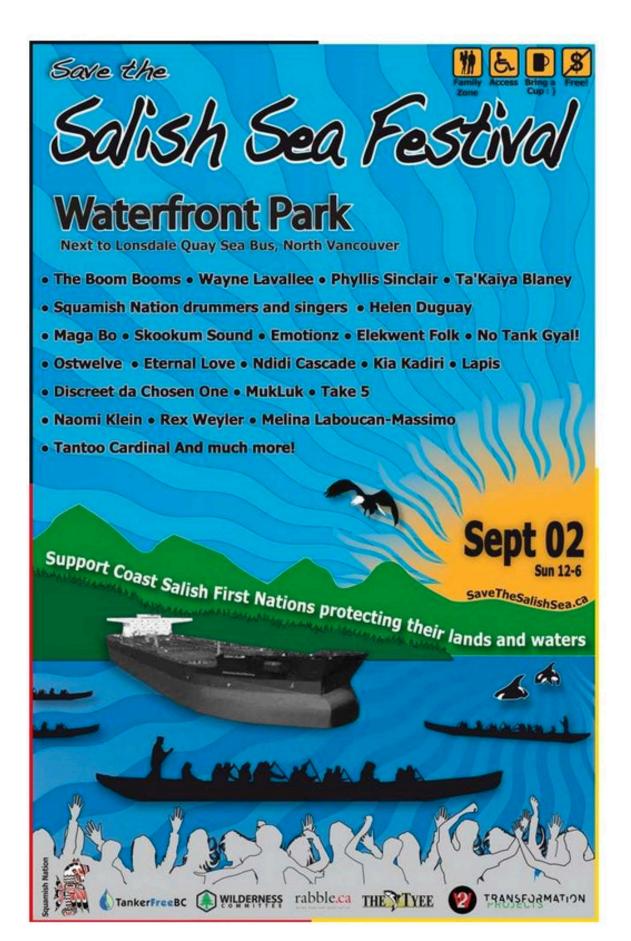
Media Sponsors





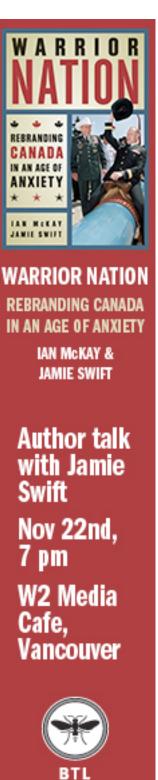












www.btlbooks.com

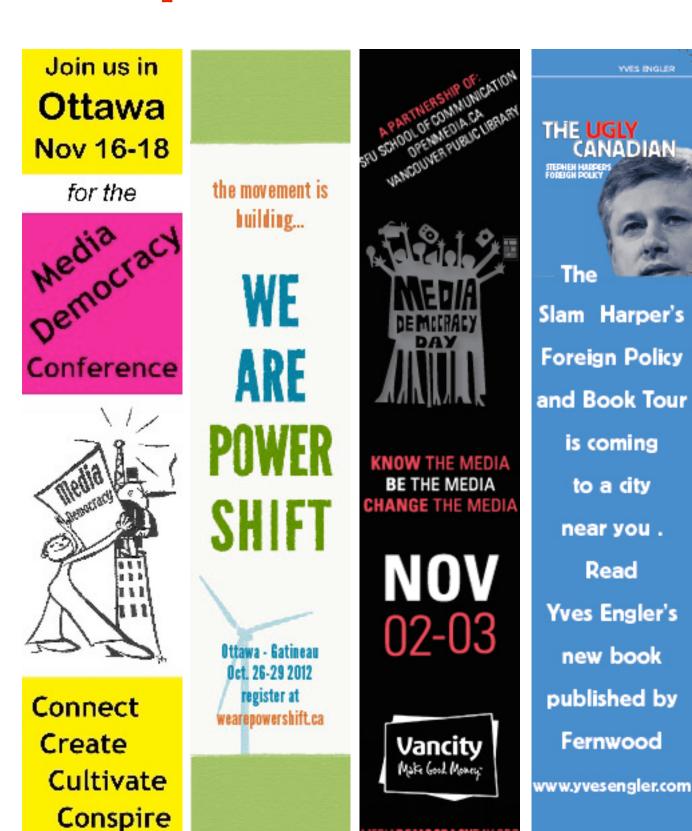




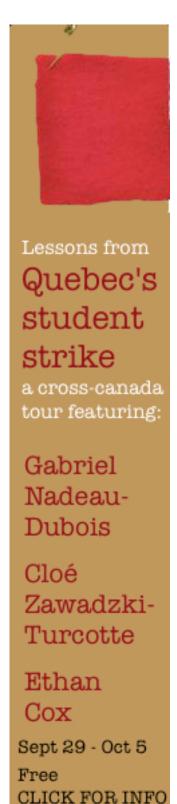






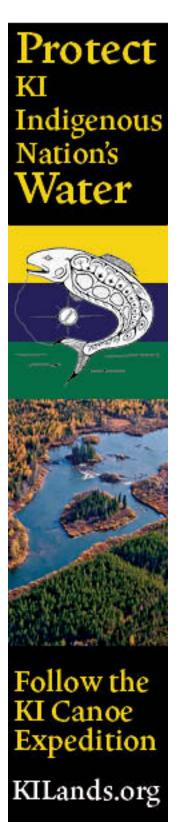


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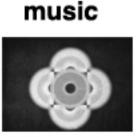




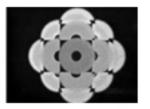


rabble.ca





media



community



ideas



May 7th 7pm-10pm Vogue Theatre



harassment and

violence.

Thurs Dec 6 6pm - 8:30pm

Centre for Social Innovation annex 720 Bathurst, Toronto

FEATURING
Mike Layton,
Heather Jarvis,
Steph Guthrie,
deb singh,
Jeff Perera,
Music by
Ori Dagan

Join rabble.ca in taking the

Once again, *rabble.ca* sponsored the Vegan Challenge and had some staff, contributors and interns taking part to eat vegan during Earth Week 2012.



Join rabble.ca's Vegan Challenge for Earth Week 2012!

BY RABBLE STAFF | APRIL 6, 2012



Join rabble.ca in taking the Vegan Challenge during Earth Week from April 16-22!

F 💆 🔀 🚺 16

rabble.ca staff, contributors and users are encouraged to go vegan for a week to help protect the environment, show compassion for animals and enjoy some wholesome nutritious and yummy food!

Going vegan is one of the strongest ways most of us can contribute to Earth Week and make every day Earth Day!

Making your "hoofprint" smaller will reduce your ecological footstep by cutting down on your carbon footprint, diminishing pollution of air, water and land, and helping stymie the destruction of ecosystems being swallowed up to produce feed for farm animals.

We hope you will join us by saying you'll "attend" on our facebook event, and share updates about the experience in the comments section, and on babble.

You can also take the Vegan Challenge yourself as an individual, you can get your co-workers involved or even ask the whole workplace to volunteer and take the VC together. It'll make it more fun and also gives you an opportunity to share your recipes and nutritious and delicious experiments!

We've put together tips and resources for you, in collaboration with the Toronto Vegetarian
Association and Toronto Pig Save. We have everything you need: the menus, the shopping
list, the nutritional tips, and the information about how participation helps the Earth, the

animals, and your health.

Vegan Challenge

April 16-22

rabble.ca

Memberships





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rabble.ca is an Associate Member of the U.S. progressive network The Media Consortium. The Media Consortium is a network of leading progressive independent journalism organizations who work to "amplify our voices; increase our collective clout; leverage our current audience and reach out to new ones; transform our sector's position in a rapidly changing media and political environment; and redefine ourselves and progressivism for a new century."

rabble.ca is also a founding member of the Canadian Independent On-Line Media Alliance. The Alliance brings together Canadian online independent media for the purposes of discussing possible editorial, technical and revenue generating collaborations. The Alliance has pooled resources and obtained a collective discount for the email serving program "What Counts" and have shared infrastructure development, ad swaps and are exploring the potential for other forms of cooperation.

rabble.ca is an active member of the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI) in Toronto, Under One Roof in Ottawa and was also active in W2 Media and Community Arts in Vancouver, where we host "desks." In 2013 rabble moved to the co-working space, The Hive.

rabble.ca is also an associate member of the British Columbia Association of Magazine Publishers (BCAMP). BCAMP "represents, connects and promotes the B.C. magazine industry by uniting the talent, knowledge and skills of its publishers. B.C. magazines foster award-winning talent and represent some of the best periodicals published in Canada. BCAMP membership is made up of more than 80 titles, including arts and culture, news, business, lifestyle, leisure and special interest magazines." rabble was previously an affiliate member, but since we moved the centre of our editorial operations to B.C., we have been approved for voting membership.

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Information tables:

We spread the word about our work at conferences and meetings and in 2012 we tabled at a number of events including:



Indignados

and Vancouver ■CEP convention in Quebec City

■Canzine Vancouver

Lessons from the Quebec Student Strike talk, Toronto, Vancouver

■The Word On The Street in Toronto

Alternative Media Fair, Toronto

■OPSEU convention, Toronto

LeftWords Festival of Books and Ideas, Toronto

■NDP convention, Vancouver

*HEU Convention, Vancouver

Media Democracy Day, Vancouver

rabble.ca

e-newsletters, Twitter, Facebook

rabble offers a daily and weekly e-newsletter, both contain links and summaries to all our features, with our weekly e-newsletter featuring contests and giveaways. Over 8000 people follow rabble on Facebook and over 18,000 on Twitter.

Promotional exchanges and giveaways

Readers of our e-newsletters get the most opportunities to win cool stuff like books, show tickets and CDs. As a sample, our giveaways in 2012:

- Maya Angelou tickets
- Passes to films Habibi and War All Around Us, Toronto Palestine Film Festival
- Passes to a film of choice at the Amnesty International Film Festival
- Passes to Vancouver International Film Festival

An advertisement rabble ran in *MusicWorks Magazine* through an advertising exchange with the magazine.



All of our sponsored events, plus events from around Canada can always be found on our popular calendar what's up, which is free to post and read.



what's up lists events staged by social justice & arts organizations in your community. Click on the column titles to sort the events. Please note that due to the large number of events posted on rabble, it may take What's up lists events staged by social justice & arts organizations in up to two weeks for your event to be displayed on the website.

View upcoming events | Add an event

City	Event	Time
Vancouver	How the 99% Can Change the World	July 7, 2012 (All day) - July 8, 2012 (All day)
Toronto	Diwa Ng Kasarinlan 2012	July 7, 2012 - 12:00pm - 6:00pm
Charlottetown	PEI Pride Parade	July 7, 2012 - 1:00pm
Prince George	Prince George Pride Parade	July 7, 2012 - 11:30am
Toronto	Harbourfront Centre presents Longo's free flicks Scott Pilgrim vs the World	July 5, 2012 - 9:00pm - 11:00pm
Vancouver	re: Think Housing: Idea entries exhibit	July 5, 2012 - 7:00pm - 9:30pm
Halifax	Ecology Action Centre annual general meeting	July 4, 2012 - 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Toronto	Eyewitness report on Greece: Election, workers' movement, EU crisis	July 4, 2012 - 7:00pm
Toronto	Talk: Eyewitness report on election in Greece	July 4, 2012 - 7:00pm
Toronto	Screening: Squat - The city belongs to us	July 3, 2012 - 6:30pm
Toronto	Trans Space + North Stage	June 29, 2012 - 6:00pm - July 1, 2012 - 9:00pm
Vancouver	Take action against Canadian militarism on Canada Day	July 1, 2012 - 12:00pm - 4:00pm
Toronto	Toronto Pride Parade	July 1, 2012 - 2:00pm
Vancouver	Margins Zine Launch	June 30, 2012 - 7:00pm
Toronto	Meeting Facilitation for Change Makers	June 30, 2012 - 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Ottawa	The Ottawa small press bookfair	June 30, 2012 - 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Vancouver	Walk for peace: The next generation	June 30, 2012 - 1:00pm
	Join 'Save Our Saugeen Shores' in a walk to protect the Great Lakes	June 30, 2012 - 11:00am - 1:00pm
Toronto	Toronto Dyke March	June 30, 2012 - 1:00pm
Toronto	Toronto Trans Rally and March	June 29, 2012 - 6:00pm
Halifax	Great Books, Great Questions Symposium	June 27, 2012 - 12:00am - June 29, 2012 - 5:00pm
Toronto	Creative Writing Workshop	May 10, 2012 - 9:28pm - June 28, 2012 - 9:28pm

Tech reflections

We've upgraded our software. Click to learn about what this means.



rabble.ca made significant steps this year in creating a tech infrastructure that takes itself seriously as the major independent online news source in Canada and provides a backend for our reach-for-the-stars goals.

Major changes occurred with the tech infrastructure in this past year. We upgraded our software from the aging Drupal 5.x to the Pressflow 6.x, which is a version of Drupal built specifically for high end performance of large sites.

As part of this process we transitioned from a single server set up for our live site, to a clustered set of servers that can handle the load on our site much more efficiently.

We also increased our tech staff capabilities in this past year shifting from one organization (Anarres Worker Co-op) providing all support within two days a week, to two separate positions working an average of three days each week.

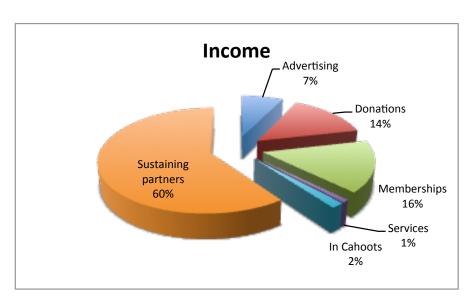


Financial reflections

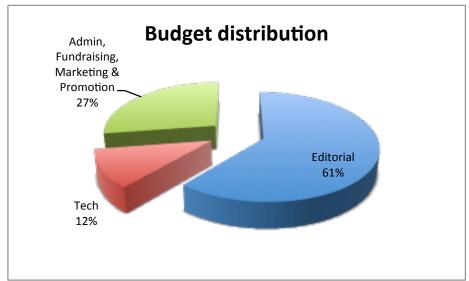
The total operating budget for rabble in 2012 was \$302,610.

rabble's reliance on Sustaining Partners income was represented in 60 per cent of our total income. Membership support accounted for 16 per cent of the annual budget, donations were up to 14 per cent and advertising sales were seven per cent and services and in cahoots accounted for only three per cent.

Income



Budget distribution



Eighty five per cent of rabble's expenses are staffing and contributor costs. Within that staffing and contributor expense, 62 per cent is attributed to editorial costs, 27 per cent to fundraising and administration and 12 per cent to technical support.

Measuring website traffic

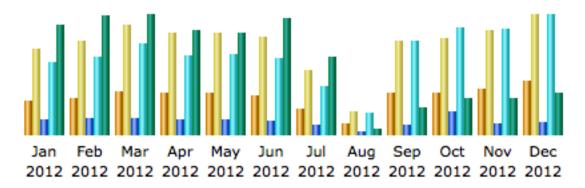
rabble uses AWStats and Google Analytics to measure website traffic. While the programs measure different variables (log files vs. javascript), together they provide a helpful view of traffic trends.

Both analytics programs continue to improve on the robustness of their measurements. In particular, AWStats' metrics improved to reduce the presence of non-human driven traffic on the site (search bots, etc). As a result, the real numbers in AWStats reports are reduced from previous years, however, the trends continue to reflect a similar story to the measures provided in Google Analytics.

In 2012, as noted in the chart below, due to technical difficulties related to a required operating system upgrade, most traffic recordings from August 2012 were lost. The monthly average for 2012 is thus calculated on the basis of 11 months, excluding August. rabble had an average of 169,000 unique visitors per month, an average of 308,000 visits per month and about two million page views per month. The website reached a high of 247,000 unique visitors during December 2012, with our coverage of Idle No More.

What is the difference between unique visitors and visits? In simple terms, unique visitors refers to the number of IP addresses, or individual computers, that visit the site over a period of time. The number of visits¹ represents the number of individual sessions initiated by all the visitors. From a Google Analytics standpoint, visits are the most basic measure of how effectively a site is performing.

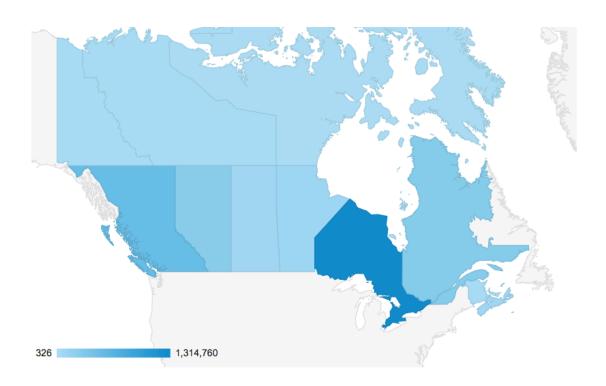
The average time spent on the site in 2012 was 3.01 minutes per visit.



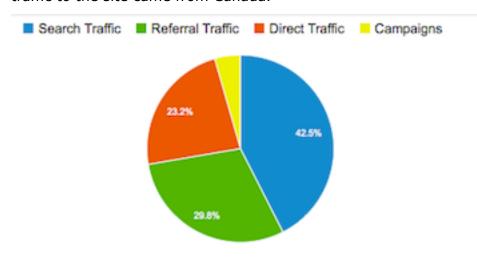
The above graphic, drawn from AWStats, is an indication of the traffic trends over the seasons of 2012.

¹ Visits represents the number of individual sessions initiated by all the visitors to the site. If a user is inactive on the site for 30 minutes or more, any future activity will be attributed to a new session. Users that leave the site and return within 30 minutes will be counted as part of the original session.

The initial session by a user during any given date range is considered to be an additional *visit* and an additional *visitor*. Any future sessions from the same user during the selected time period are counted as additional *visits*, but not as additional *visitors*.



In 2012 *rabble.ca* had 3,385,000 visits from 217 countries/territories. Eighty one per cent of traffic to the site came from Canada.



The above graphic indicates the primary methods by which people came to *rabble.ca*. More than 42 per cent of traffic to the site came from search, while nearly 23 per cent of the traffic came directly to the site. rabble's top referrer in 2012 was Google, with Facebook, Feedburner, Twitter and Bing being among the top ten referrers.

people at rabble.ca

rabble operates with a full-time editor and a dedicated crew of part-time staff and volunteer staff, and our work is supported by interns, volunteers and a volunteer board of directors.

You can read biographies at: www.rabble.ca/about/bios

There is no central office to rabble -- we are a virtual organization with staff located around the country. In 2012, we had editorial staff in British Columbia, in Ontario, in Quebec and in Washington, D.C. We have columnists, bloggers, podcasters and video makers coast to coast and beyond the Canadian borders. In 2012 the staff had a rare opportunity to get together in person for a retreat to reflect and plan. Special thanks to our hosts in Ottawa!

rabble is a member of the <u>Centre for Social Innovation</u> in Toronto, where we have access to work and meeting space and can connect with other progressive organizations and businesses. In Vancouver, rabble was a member of the <u>W2</u> Community Media and Arts Centre and in Ottawa you can find us at <u>Under One Roof</u>.

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Mandy Bergman Nathan Rambukkana Sally Miller Suzanne Gallant Tariq Jeeroburkhan Tor Sandberg Yee-Guan Wong

rabble by the numbers 2012

```
# of feature contributors almost 300
# of events rabble streamed live on rabblety 6
# of podcast shows 26
# of community events sponsored by rabble 26
# of podcast episodes approximately 600
# of posts on babble in 2012 Way, way too many to
 count. You try it.
# of original book reviews 30
# of sustaining partners 13
# of Not Rex videos 17
# of bloggers on rabble 111
# of supporting members 698
# of average unique visitors a month 168,000
# of countries/territories visitors came from 217
#of page views on average per month 2 million
```

Appendix A: rpn shows 2012



Africafiles: The Pulse
News from Africa produced and
compiled by Heather Yundt



Explores varied aspects of feminism through discussion and interviews



Meekly Canadian news and current affairs not heard on mainstream radio



A progressive, feminist perspective on everything



Alternatives Journal
Canada's informed voice on
environmentalism



(oh boy!)
News and views on politics in
Canada, the U.S. and beyond

I Read the News Today



Asia Pacific Currents
News from the Asia Pacific
region with a labour and
grassroots perspective



If you love this planet
International guests? Yes.
Generation-defining issues?
Absolutely.



Peace and social justice discussions from campus radio Waterloo



John Bonnar Audio Blog
Independent journalist with
social justice stories in and
around Toronto Ontario



Constructing change: The activist toolkit
Showcasing tools from the activist toolkit



Journalist for human rights Get the most up-to-date human rights news and headlines at home and abroad



Living On Purpose

Ideas, music and talk in a
spirit of health and well being



rabble radio
Our own mix of politics,
music, art and more



Migrant Matters

The issues that limit people moving across borders of all kinds



rabbledocs

Journeys of discovery with the best independent radio documentaries



Needs No Introduction

A series of speeches and lectures from some of the finest minds



radio book lounge

Author readings, interviews, book reviews, storycasts and more



No One Is Illegal

The right to self-determination for migrants, refugees and indigenous people



Redeve

On the political social and cultural issues of the day



People's Health Radio

A weekly conversation about how racism, sexism and class shape health



Street Cred

Interviews, reports, docs from a journalistic year of screaming dangerously



Progressive Voices

Riaz Sayani-Mulji and Ryan Sparrow, examine Canadian domestic and foreign policy



The Roaming Ear

Victoria Fenner travels around the world with a mike making docs, audio poems, portraits



The Dispatch

Briarpatch magazine with essays, interviews, music, spoken word, satire



Watch me: Movie reviews with Cathi Bond

Cathi Bond talks about unusual new releases not to miss

How can you keep rabble.ca going and growing?

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A special thank you to our Sustaining Partners

















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Who says there's no alternative? rabble.ca

A word from our friends at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.



STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



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NEWS FOR THE REST OF US



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Naomi Klein rabble.ca

Finds us at:

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