

Annual Report 2013

"I rely on rabble to bring me the real debates that are shaping our country. I also depend on rabble to bring my columns to a remarkable community of Canadians."

~ Naomi Klein

"It is no exaggeration to say that the hopes of a decent world rest substantially on the success of the kind of work that rabble has been carrying out with such distinction."

\sim Noam Chomsky

"rabble is a crucial resource for achieving media democracy in Canada, in this era of increasing corporate media concentration."

\sim Maude Barlow

"The world needs to hear a lot less from the mainstream media and a lot more from rabble"

~ Linda McQuaig

"rabble is a remedy for an age where the media has been hobbled by corporate concerns, the bottom line and pressure groups"

\sim June Chua

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

A full dozen. The big 12. Boxcars. Twelve years and still standing.

2013 was *rabble.ca*'s 12th year reporting news for the rest of us. The media landscape has changed a lot in this time, with many mainstream and alternative sites unable to hang on. We have always been a non-profit, community-supported media site, and thank all of our supporters over the years that have kept us going.

In 2013 we welcomed the *Straight Goods* family of websites to rabble. While *Straight Goods* ceased publication after 13 years of alternative news, we are proud to not only house their archives, but to be the new home for former *Straight Goods* writers.

We also grew in our ability to get out the news our readers want. We launched theme-based enewsletters and we upped our Facebook and Twitter activity significantly. Our followers on Twitter are over 22,000. And we once again produced a "best of rabble" print book, along with a special multimedia version for the iPad. This version was awarded silver at the 2013 Canadian Online Publishing Awards.

Our reporting has a special focus on social movements, including those active in the labour movement. For the second year, in partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers (now Unifor), we hosted a Labour Beat Reporter. And, with support from the United Steelworkers, we relaunched and updated a great section of the site, now called The Lynn Williams activist toolkit. Get your activist on!

Once again we turned to the public and to our partners to support the work of our Parliamentary Correspondent, Karl Nerenberg. We ran a campaign on rabble and a separate campaign on Indiegogo to crowdfund Karl's important work. Karl's popular posts dig into the laws, the schemes and the politics of Parliament. His work is a "must read" for Canadian political news junkies.

Of course, we continued to report on the the tar sands, community activism and on the leadership of Indigenous communities. We continued to host more blogs, introduce new podcasts, present more columnists and to have many, many conversation on babble. On babble, the babble book club featured author visits and literary discussions for those who didn't get their book fill on the rabble book lounge. On rabblety, Humberto "Not Rex Murphy" DaSilva presented video commentary you don't hear on CBC. rabblety also featured our "livestream" work -- presentations of events live through internet video.

In 2013 long-time *rabble.ca* rabble podcast network coordinator Meagan Perry became Editor-In-Chief. Meagan worked for CBC radio's "As It Happens" and "DNTO", as well as having years of production and journalism experience in community media. She continues to freelance for CBC radio and her writing has been featured in *The New Zealand Herald, This Magazine, Herizons, Yukon News* and the *National Post*. She also runs MAP Communications Consulting, which produces media for clients across Canada.

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

Kin Ellin

Duncan Cameron President

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!

2013 Sustaining Partners:

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

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.



United Steelworkers























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rabble.ca:

Covering issues that mattered in 2013.

Everything you need to know about Elsipogtog

BY APIHTAWIKOSISAN | OCTOBER 23, 2013

Line in the Sand project dissects Northern Gateway pipeline

BY JUNE CHUA | DECEMBER 18, 2013

Are you on Harper's Enemy List?

BY FRANKE JAMES | JULY 27, 2013

Defunding abortion: A non-starter

BY JOYCE ARTHUR | NOVEMBER 1, 2013

Harper fails to explain his unconstitutional appointments to the Senate

BY KARL NERENBERG | NOVEMBER 8, 2013

Theatre of the Fiscally Absurd: Auditions now open to run government finances

Indigenous rights and the duty to consult

BY PAULA BOUTIS PRO BONO | JANUARY 31, 2013

ELLEN RUSSELL | OCTOBER 16, 2013

Harper seeks to blame Indigenous women for their own disappearance

BY PAMELA PALMATER | AUGUST 28, 2013

After stunning NDP loss in B.C., it's A number is never just a number: time for a new kind of politics

What price, austerity?

BY HENNESSY'S INDEX | MAY 1, 2013

Death of Margaret Thatcher reopens the debate over her legacy

BY ROGER ANNIS | APRIL 16, 2013

BY MURRAY DOBBEN | MAY 20, 2013

Stand up to online bullying and racism against Aboriginal peoples

BY CHARLTE ANGUS | JULY 17, 2013

It's still time for an adult conversation about

taxes

BY MATT FODOR MICHAEL LAXER | AUGUST 17, 2013

Closing the income divide: The time has come to limit CEO over-

compensation

BY MONIA HAZIGH | DECEMBER 13, 2013

On April 18, 2013, rabble celebrated its 12th anniversary.

It's our birthday: Help us celebrate a dozen years online!

BY RABBLE STAFF | APRIL 18, 2013



We welcomed the Straight Goods family of websites to rabble.ca.



Today we are pleased to welcome the Straight Goods family of websites to rabble.ca. While Straight Goods has ceased publishing, rabble.ca will maintain an archive of the 13 years of online coverage provided by Straight Goods News, and has

welcomed all Straight Goods News contributors to continue providing innovative coverage under the rabble.ca banner.

"We are honoured to have the Straight Goods News fine writing and legacy part of rabble.ca.

It's not an easy time for independent media, but we're both survivors and this lets the best of Straight Goods News live on as rabble.ca continues to insert strong voices with alternative messages into the Canadian media landscape," said rabble.ca Publisher Kim Elliott.

"It's hard to say goodbye to a dream, but it made sense for us to pass the torch on to a publication that is in sync with our objectives," said Straight Goods News Publisher Ish Theilheimer.

rabble.ca has already started to work with Straight Goods News writers and staff on new projects, including the recent coverage of the Conservative convention and Pros & Cons counter-summit in Alberta.

We celebrated of course.



Karl Nerenberg (rabble's Parliamentary Correspondent) on keys, Ish Theilheimer (Founder and Publisher of Straight Goods) on Jazz violin at our party. (See more photo at flickr.com/rabbleca)

Thanks to community funding, we featured the Parliamentary reporting of Karl Nerenberg.



Our labour coverage remains a critical focus.



labour



Activists from CUPE locals stand together with Operation Solidarity Bonfield

Criminal employers are employers too, Alberta government spokesman says, but illegal strikes are still illegal | Jan 10 2014 | David J. Climenhaga | If you strike illegally, or talk about striking illegally, or even look like you might be thinking about talking about talking about thinking about striking illegally, you will be dealt with severely.



The myth of the skills shortage in Canada's labour market | Jan B 2014 | Jim Stanford | Canada's politicians are fond of trumpeting that our economy has performed better than almost any other jurisdiction. But the numbers indicate

that Canada's 300s performance has been ho-hum at best.



Oral histories, labour and feminism in Manitoba | Jan 8 radical 2014 | Scott Neigh | Scott Price talks

ON BABBLE

Why the timing is good for parties from the left in Canada |

socialdemocraticm iddle said... Exactly. The Conservative economic record is NOT good, and we need an alternative. Moreover, if the ...

Amazon is our desperate and vacant future

6079_Smith_W said... Well that's a good solid dose of bad retail news to ring in the Christmas season. Heard the story...

SeaTac votes on highest min wage in

US | lagatta said... It would be a great precedent, But what a ghastly town name - 1 figured that it pertained

More and more boomers in the street (Le Devoir)

lagatta said... Another take on this, exploring "bag lady" fear, from the New York Times magazine:http://www...

RASBLE.CA FEEDS

- Asia Pacific Currents
- The Labour Show
- Canadian Association of Labour Media
- David Bush
- Reitree Matters
- Asia Pacific Currents

SITES WE LIKE

Rank and File

Labour Start

Labour Reporter

All Together Now

Labour Rights



Our commitment for 2014: We will fight to save Canada

Our union has launched the Save Canada Post campaign to fight the Conservative government's attack on our public postal service. We cannot

In other words Labour day isn't the only day we write about working people.



rabble.ca daily e-news for Monday 2nd of September 2013

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

Thoughts on Labour Day: Workers and their unions must learn to dream bigger

September 2, 2013 | By Gary Engler Reality for most workers, which means most people, is a fundamental lack of respect at work. That's why "the system" prefers to focus on us as consumers rather than as workers.

Labour Day 2013 in North America: Facing up to improving society for everyone September 2, 2013 By David J. Climenhaga

Things aren't so different for working people in 2013 than they were in 1963, when Martin Lather King gave his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. On this Labour Day, much remains to be done and

Labour Day: Immigrant workers hit harder by tough economic

times September 2, 2013 | By The Asian Canadian Labour Alliance By advocating for healthy and decent employment we can take the necessary steps to implement changes so our elders no longer need to sacrifice and toil under indecent and inhumane working

Naomi Klein: Unifor should fight for a green labour revolution September 2, 2013 | By Martin Lukaes

Naomi Klein urged members at the founding convention of Unifor in Toronto to take the lead in ushering in a green labour revolution, setting out a bold vision to reverse the damage of neoliberalism.

A just society would condemn Marois's divisive Charter September 2, 2013 | By Gerry Caplan

There is good evidence to fear that Pauline Marois's so-called Charter of Quebec Values will represent the precise opposite of the province's 1975 Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.

Expose the TPP rallies in Toronto, Nanaimo and Montreal September 2, 2013 | By Stuart Trew

Rallies last week in Toronto, Nanaimo and Montreal drew attention to the excessive secrecy in the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade negotiations which continued in Brunei behind closed doors.

<u>Unifor members ioin Toronto's Labour Dav parade</u> September 2, 2013 | By rabble staff Members of Canada's newest union are up early for the Labour Day Parade, a great Toronto tradition. (Photo: Sid Ryan / Twitter)

Unifor sets out long term strategy at day two of their convention September 1, 2013 By H.G. Watson

Day two of the Unifor convention focused on defining Unifor going forward, with the help of some high profile speakers.

Unifor officially takes shape at historic union convention September 1, 2013 | By H.G. Watson

Saturday CAW and CEP joined together as the largest private union in Canada. But questions about diversity and future steps still

In partnership with the Canadian Auto Workers (Unifor) we continued the position of

'Labour Beat Reporter.'

Welcoming H.G. Watson, rabble's new labour beat reporter



Lance in Windsor and The Cord in Waterloo, where she's the Editor-in-Chief of the Cord Community Edition. She's also written freelance stories for a number of publications.

With support from the United Steelworkers we introduced the Lynn Williams activist toolkit.



rabble.ca is excited to announce a re-launch of a great part of the site, what we now proudly call the Lynn Williams Activist Toolkit. The Activist Toolkit is a special section on rabble.ca that acts as a resource hub for community and labour organizers.

With support from the United Steel Workers we have been expanding and improving the site and will continue to do so in the future -- watch for new features! We are excited to

name the toolkit after Lynn Williams, one of the most influential North American union leaders of the twentieth century. He was the first Canadian to become International President of the United Steelworkers, where he brought innovative leadership in bargaining and a structural readjustment of the North American steel industry during its most turbulent period, the 1980s and 1990s.

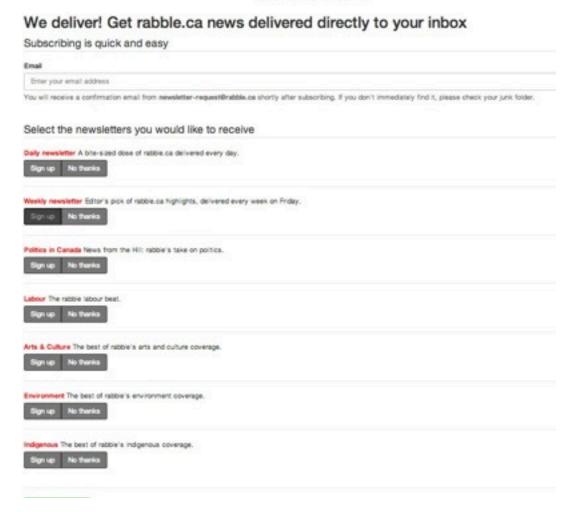
We expanded our enewsletter options.

We deliver!



Along with our general daily and weekly e-newsletters, readers can receive free weekly e-newsletters on politics, labour, arts & culture, environment and Indigenous issues.

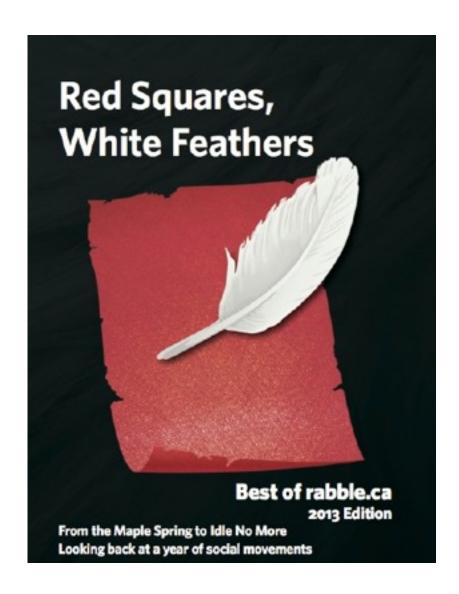




Up to 450,000 people (unique visitors) visited rabble each month.



We released the Best of rabble.ca 2013 edition, edited by Michael Stewart.



For the second year we released a

multimedia version

of the book for the iPad.

Matt Dusenbury was the designer.



This edition received a silver medal at the Canadian Online Publishing Awards.

rabble.ca recognized at Canadian Online Pulbishing Awards



Who doesn't like a little recognition? The Canadian Online Publishing Awards ceremony was this week and rabble is pleased to have received a silver medal in the category of Best Tablet Edition and to have been a finalist for Best Online Only Publication Website! Congratulations to all of the nominees and the winners. Thank you to all of our donors and supporters who enable us to produce highquality content and provide news for the rest of us to people around the world.

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This year rabble.ca once again produced a free special iPad tablet version of our "best of rabble" book entitled Red Squares, White Feathers. Matt Dusenbury was the project designer for this multi-media

We partnered with Western University's masters in journalism class for a series on citizen science.



information abundance

In the spring we conducted a visitors survey.



Who visits rabble? Our survey* says:

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

Much of our audience is from Ontario, which represents 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 a highly educated group with over 80 per cent reporting a post secondary school degree.

rabble readers are highly involved with 30 per cent doing volunteer work each week, 32 per cent belonging to a trade union, 41 per cent belonging to a grassroots organization, 40 per cent to an NGO, 11 per cent to a religious organization.

rabble readers are very loyal with 77 per cent reporting they visit the site weekly or more, 53 per cent of readers report visiting daily or several times a week.

^{*}spring 2013, voluntary survey, N=950

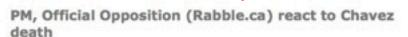
You can find rabble on mobile devices, Twitter and Facebook.





And we enjoyed being, for even a day, the tongue-incheek 'official opposition.'







David Akin - March 6th, 2013



CARACAS, Venezuela - The hearse carrying the coffin of Venezuelan President Hugo

Recent Comments

Lynda van Leeuwen on NDP MPs sing "Bud the Spud" in tribute to Stompin' Tom Jayne sorensen on NDP MPs sing "Bud the

Spud" in tribute to Stompin' Tom Diane Brown on Stompin' Tom Connors: Icon

of Canada, dead at 77 Misery on Stompin' Tom Connors: Icon of

Canada, dead at 77

Alvin on Stompin' Tom Connors: Icon of Canada, dead at 77

David Akin is Sun Media's national bureau chief and is based in Sun Media's Parliamentary Bureau in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Click through for Akin's contact information and full biography

Follow @davidakin 17.6K followers

David Akin on Twitter

No public Twitter messages.

news and features



Staff: Derrick O'Keefe, Editor (until September 2013), Meagan Perry, Editor-In-Chief (November 2013-present); Kaitlin McNabb, news coordinator (October 2013-present); Kim Elliott, Publisher; Michelle Gregus, Managing Editor; Karl Nerenberg, Parliamentary Correspondent; H.G. Watson, Labour Beat Reporter Intern: Sana Malik

During 2013, *rabble.ca* continued its coverage of Idle No More, documenting Chief Theresa Spence's hunger strike and the grassroots political action that spanned across the country.

Our coverage of federal politics was better than ever with Parliamentary Correspondent Karl Nerenberg stepping up, again, to cover the continued assault on democracy by the Harper government and of course the many, many scandals that plagued Parliament. Karl was there throughout the Throne Speech, the Senate Scandal and the robocall scandal.

We happily brought on our second Labour Beat Reporter, H.G. Watson, whose in depth knowledge of young workers' issues shed much light on precarious employment and youth under- and un-employment. H.G. documented the numerous factory closures that happened across Canada and was there to report on the founding convention of the new Unifor Union.

This year we added a new op-ed section called "The Views Expressed" that serves as an outlet for opinion pieces on rabble. This section has been successful in cementing rabble and reader connection and providing another outlet for opinion.

We continued to publish exciting new and established writers in the news and features section. Each writer brings their own unique perspectives and voice to rabble covering issues from the Rob Ford scandal to reproductive rights in Canada to the inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women to the Canada Post cuts.

Some news and features highlights:

Who's influencing reproductive policy in Canada? By Meg Borthwick The perception of Canada as a mild right-wing, 'abortion paradise' is just not true. Though we may not see much evidence of a debate over reproductive rights, it doesn't mean it's not happening.

Women in CanLit rise to the top and elevate literary arts and discussion on gender equality by Jessica Rose

2013 has been a big year for CanLit, specifically women in CanLit. Munro won the Nobel Prize in Literature, Coady won the Giller Prize, Catton won the Man Booker Prize and all got us talking!

'An act of war': Armed RCMP officers carry out militant action against Mi'kmaq and Elsipogtog Nations by Krystalline Kraus

The powerful image of a women with an eagle feather sitting in front of a line of armed RCMP officers encapsulates the Indigenous uprising.

The Young and the Jobless: New CCPA report examines youth unemployment by H.G. Watson

Young people under the age of 24 who have long said that it's hard to find a job now have the proof to back their claims up.

Harper created this mess by cynically appointing non-residents to the Senate by Karl Nerenberg

What was Stephen Harper thinking when he named Mike Duffy and Pamela Wallin to represent provinces in which they did not reside? These appointments were illegal and unconstitutional from the start.

Canada Post is not on life support, it is being murdered by Mike Palecek

The private sector and Harper government are salivating at the prospect of getting their hands on the public post office network because of the money they could make with it.

Top 10 list: How not to respond to Indigenous experiences of racism in Canada by Michelle Reid

A summary of these knee-jerk responses that are always trotted out by the masses when indigenous people describe their experiences of racism, and why you should not use them.

A Tribe Called Red: Dropping beats, fighting against Aboriginal invisibility by Sana Malik

As the fastest growing demographic in Canada, it was only a matter of time Aboriginal influence would infuse urban culture.



news contributors

(not including general contributors or bloggers)

Aaron James Mills Aaron Leonard Adam Kingsmith Ahmed Habib Ajamu Nangwaya Alan Scofield Albert Koehl Alex S. Dori Alex Snowdon Alexa Zulak Alyssa Ashton Amar Shah Amara Possian Anna 7alik Andrea Germanos Andrea Smith Andreas Krebs Andrew Forbes Andrew MacLeod Andrew Nikiforuk Andy Rowell Anita Ogurlu Anne Theriault Anthony Lungu Anton Oleinik April Diamond Dutheil Archana Rampure Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Avvy Yao-Yao Belén Fernández Ben Forrest Ben West Benoit Renaud Betsy Catlin Bill Henderson Bill Phipps Bill Quigley Blair McBride Bonnie Sherr Klein Brad Dunne Brendan McConnell Brendan Smith **Brent Boles Brent Hawkes** Brian Campbell

Brian Van Slyke

Brigette DePape **Bruce Campbell** Buzz Hargrove Cameron Fenton Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Carolyn Egan Catherine Owen Cathi Bond Cathryn Atkinson Celyn Dufay Charles Davis Charles Demers Chaya Ocampo Go Chelsea E. Manning Cheryl McNamara Chris Brisbane Chris Carlson Chris Hedaes Chris Nineham Chris Ramsaroop Chris Webb Chris Wright Christine Boyle Christine Jones Chriz Miller Claire Stewart-Kanigan Clare Demerse Claudio D'Andrea Clay Nikiforuk Clayton Thomas-Muller Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid Common Causes Corinne Ton That Correy Baldwin Cory Collins Crysbel Tejada Dalal Kheder Dana Larsen Daniel Adaszynski Danish Anwar Dante Ryel Dave Coles Dave Vasey

Dave Zirin

David Camfield David Doorey David Heap David Osborn **David Swanson** Deb O'Rourke Debbie Douglas **Dennis Howlett** Derek Nepinak Derek Rasmussen Derrick O'Keefe Diana Bronson Don Kossick Doug Draper Dr. Hasan Turunc Dr. Mehmet Muderrisoalu Dylan Penner Eden Robinson Edward C. Corrigan Ehab Lotayef El Jones Elizabeth Schulte Ella Bedard Ellen Woodsworth **Emily Leighton** Eric Doherty Eve Ensler Faisal Kutty Fernanda Sánchez Jaramillo Fraser Harland Gabriel Nadeau-**Dubois** Garth Mullins Gary Engler Gavin Fridell Geoff Bardwell Gina Starblanket Glen Coulthard Gordon Laxer Graham Cox Grahame Russell Greg Macdougall Greg Mitchell Greg Taylor H.G. Watson

Harsha Walia Haseena Manek **Heather Menzies** Heather Morgan Helen Armstrong Helesia Luke Humberto DaSilva Idil Mussa Isabelle Nastasia Jacob Chamberlain Jahanzeb Hussain Jaime Garcia James Clancy James Clark James Hansen James Rowe Jane Bouey Jane van Koeverden Jason Mogus Jay Pitter Jef Keighley Jeff Wells Jeh Custerra Jen Wilton Jennifer Dales Jenny Carson Jérémie Bédard-Wien Jérôme E. Roos Jerry Dias Jesse Zimmerman Jessica Ellis Jessica Knowler Jessica Rose Jim Davis Joanne Naiman Jodie Evans Jody McIntyre Joel Davison Harden John Atcheson John Calvert John Lewis John McNamer John Rees John Soos John Sorenson

Hannah Renglich

John W. Warnock Jon Queally Jonathan Cook Jonathan Flanders **Jordy Cummings** Josef Jacobson Josh Mandrvk Judy Rebick Julien Delacroix Julien Lalonde June Scudeler Justin Podur Justin Zadorsky Kaanayo Nwachukwu Karabekir Akkoyunlu Karl Flecker Kate Declerck Kate McKenna Kathleen Copps Kathleen O'Hara Kathleen Ruff Kathy Copps Kathy Kelly Katie Nelson Katie Starr Katiusha Cuntrera Katrina Clarke Kel Kelly Kelly Crichton Kelly Holloway Ken Georgetti Ken Lewenza Kendra Coulter Kevin Edmonds Khelsilem Rivers Kimia Ghomeshi Krisna Saravanamuttu Kristen Beifus Kristen Duncan Kristina Virro Krystalline Kraus Krystle Alarcon L'Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante (ASSÉ) Labib Mohammad **EIAli**

Lana Payne Laura Carlsen Lauren McCauley Leanne Betasamosake Simpson Leilani Farha Liam Barrington-Bush Libby Davies Liisa Schofield Linda McQuaiq Lindsey German Lisa Wright Lola Fakinlede Lori Theresa Waller Lynn Gehl Gii-Zhigaate-Mnidoo-Kwe Malalai Joya Manuel Pérez-Rocha Maria Kari Maria Páez Victor Marjorie Cohn Mark Dance Mark Janson Mark Leier Mark Neil Mark Taliano Martha Troian Martin Lukacs Mathew Kagis Matt Moir Matthew Behrens Matthew McKean Matthew Millar Maude Barlow Maya Shlayen MEC members Medea Benjamin Meghan Murphy Mekhala Gunaratne Mel Watkins Melanie Fitzpatrick Mercedes Allen Michael Black Michael Carr Michael Geist Michael Lee-Murphy

Michael T. Klare

Michelle Reid Mick Sweetman Mike Barber Mike Palecek Monique Woroniak Muna Mire Nadine Bloch Natalie Paddon Nathan Schneider Nick Boisvert Nick Fillmore Nik Beeson Niki Ashton Noam Chomsky Norman Solomon Nydia Dauphin Ole Hendrickson Olivia Chow Omer Cavusoglu Ontario Coalition Against Poverty Ontario Federation of Labour Ozan Sakar Pablo Solon Pam Bailey Paul Kahnert Paul Moist Paul S. Graham Paul Tetrault Paul Weinberg Peter Goffin Peter Hogarth Peter Ruah Peter Showler PowerShift BC rabble staff Rahat Kurd Raul Burbano Rex Weyler Rhiannon McRae Riadh Muslih Riaz Sayani-Mulji **RJ** Aquino Robert Animikii Horton Robert Jensen Robert Lovelace Rochelle Johnston Roger Annis Roy Mitchell

Rubab Abid Russell Diabo Ryan Mallough Rvan Meili Sabrina Johnson Sakura Saunders Salimah Valiani Sally Miller Samantha Sarra Samir Shaheen-Hussain Samuel Ramos Sana Malik Sandra Steingraber Sara Kozameh Sarah Boon Sarah Lazare Sarah Marusek Sasha Chabot Gaspe Sean Carleton Sharon Sholzberg-Shawn Whitney Sheila North Wilson Shereen Eldaly Shereen Ginena Shiri Pasternak Shirin Edarechi Shirley Douglas Shit Harper Did Shona Watt Simon Black Solidarity Halifax Sonia Grant Spencer Davis Stefan Christoff Steffanie Pinch Steph Guthrie Stephen Elliott-Buckley Steve Cornwell Steve Price-Thomas Steven Staples Steven Zhou Suey Park Sunera Thobani Suzanne Gallant Suzanne Weiss Svend Robinson Syed Hussan

Tamara Pearson

Tania Ehret

Tansy Hoskins

Tara Mahoney

Tariq Ali

Ted Snider

The Asian Canadian

Labour Alliance

The British

Columbia Civil

Liberties

Association

Thom Hartmann

Tim McSorley

Tobold Rollo

Tom Hayden

Tomas Young

Tony Kaye

Toronto Action for

Social Change

Tria Donaldson

United

Steelworkers

Vincent Gogolek

Voices-Voix

Coalition

Waleed Ahmed

Wayde Compton

Wayne Scott

William Brehl

Wojtek Arciszewski

Yassir Karooka

Yfile

Yves Engler

Zainab Amadahy

columns



Staff: Michelle Gregus, Managing 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 least one column published per day, with approximately five to six columns published each week.

In 2013 our columnists spoke out about a range of issues affecting Canadians, including Indigenous rights, austerity, abortion rights, climate change, Islamophobia, politics and much, much more.

June Chua's regular monthly arts column returned in 2013.

Retiree Matters <u>started a labour series</u> on the importance of unions, published in their monthly column.

The closing of *Straight Goods* brought the migration of new columns previously published on *Straight Goods*:

New column by <u>former SG publisher Ish Theilheimer</u> New biweekly column by <u>ecologist Ole Hendrickson</u> New monthly column by <u>Mehdi Rizvi</u> Start of column by <u>polling expert Marc Zwelling</u>

We also picked up a new reprinted column by <u>environmental</u> <u>journalist Stephen Leahy</u> via *Straight Goods*.

In 2014, look for more progressive analysis from a variety of perspectives. We are in the process of launching at least two new original columns in 2014 and exploring possibilities for more reprints.

2013 rabble original columnists:

Duncan Cameron Elizabeth Littlejohn Ellen Russell

Hennessy's Index (Trish Hennessy)

Ish Theilheimer

Jerry West

Jooneed Khan

Joyce Arthur

June Chua

Marc Zwelling

Matthew Behrens

Mehdi Rizvi

Monia Mazigh

Murray Dobbin

Ole Hendrickson

Pro Bono

Retiree Matters

Thomas Ponniah

Wayne MacPhail

reprinted columns:

Alice Klein

Amy Goodman

Jim Stanford

Linda McQuaig

Naomi Klein

Ralph Surette

Rick Salutin

Stephen Leahy

contributors to exclusive multi-authored columns:

"Retiree Matters"
Angus Ricker
Bob McGarry
Cecile Cassista
David Agnew
Doug Macpherson

Gerry Jones Herb John Julie White

Kevin Collins Pat Kerwin "Pro-bono"
Brian Iler
Kirsten Iler
Laura Bowman
Paula Boutis
Priya Sarin
Shelina Ali

Columns that hold up





2013 column highlights



January

Indigenous rights and the duty to consult

In January, Frog Lake First Nation and Mikisew Cree First Nation launched judicial review cases in the Federal Court to challenge the passage of the now infamous federal government omnibus budget bills. In the Pro Bono legal column, Paula Boutis examined the concept of "duty to consult" as a powerful tool for First Nations and considered what it means for these cases and for Indigenous rights as a whole.

<u>Time for a paradigm revolution: Seeking an</u> alternative to neoliberalism

What is a persuasive, sustainable, socially just, employment-producing alternative to the neoliberal economic model? Thomas Ponniah says this is the key question of our generation and it's time to seriously contemplate it.

February

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

This year, Canada celebrated 25 years of no abortion law. To mark the occasion, Joyce Arthur put together a selection of key works describing the history of the pro-choice campaign, the role of Dr. Henry Morgentaler, the Supreme Court decision, the benefits of having no abortion law, and some personal stories.

March

Freedom of expression for federal librarians and archivists under attack

Although federal public servants have always had a limited right to freedom of expression, certain employees have been subjected to increasingly strict policies which govern their behaviour. Priya Sarin looks at the increasing restrictions on freedom of expression for federal librarians and archivists under the Harper government.

Embodying the transformation of Idle No More: In conversation with Leanne Simpson

Naomi Klein spoke with writer, spoken-word artist and Indigenous academic Leanne Betasamosake Simpson about "extractivism," climate change and what's next for Idle No More.

The ecstasy and the agony of Canadian pensions

David Agnew put Canadian pensions and pension systems under the microscope, and asks: when will Canada catch up with the world by taking steps to bring the pension security of retired Canadians up to date?

April

The cluster bombs of Boston and drone strikes of Yemen

In his analysis following the Boston Marathon bombing, Matthew Behrens argued that the suspects in the bombing were acting no differently than a General in the Pentagon when they detonated a crude version of weapons that are a regular part of many a military arsenal.

May

A number is never just a number: What price, austerity?

Trish Hennessy looked at the high price of austerity in Canada, noting that there will be an estimated \$11.8 billion in government spending cuts by 2014-15 due to the last three austerity budgets.

<u>Design for Democracy: Parks over planes, planes over people</u>

Elizabeth Littlejohn asked why Porter, or any airline, is allowed to expand its operations over treasured public assets -- our parks and lakes -- when it is duplicating international flights already provided by Pearson Airport.

June

Reinventing progressive politics

The political "game" has been designed not to represent the needs of people or communities but to manage capitalism in the interests of the elites, writes Murray Dobbin, which is why it's time to change the system.





Line in the Sand project dissects Northern Gateway pipeline

Dec 18 2013 | With a small stash of funds, Tomas Borsa and four friends hit the road -- gathering information, interviews and creating an interactive site called Line in the Sand.



Seen from the hinterlands: Moore's disdainful comments on child poverty earn Scrooge 2013

Dec 17 2013 | Industry Minister James Hoore wins the Scrooge 2013 Award for Honesty by being frank about his, and presumably his party's, utter lack of accid compassion.



It does not have to be last call for Canada Post

Dec 17 2013 | The announcement that Canada Post will be phasing out door-to-door mail delivery is a logical extension of the deregulation, privatization, free trade, public austerity and tax cuts agenda.



Stephen Harper, Nelson Mandela and whitewashing the past

Dec 16 2013 | Of all the hypocrisies revealed by Staphon Harper, perhaps none are so morally offensive as his sudden, solemn respect for Nelson Mandela.

July

Alberta's floods and corporate power in an age of climate disaster

Linda McQuaig connects the extensive flooding in Alberta this past summer to a dramatic rise in corporate power in recent decades, and suggests that perhaps the only thing more stunning than Alberta's flooding has been the realization that not even a disaster of this magnitude seems sufficient to break the torpor surrounding climate change.

August

Artist probes surveillance and limits of privacy

June Chua looks at artist Kate McQuillen's work "Backscatter," which was triggered by stories she read in 2012 about the extent of the U.S. government's wiretapping program.

Examining Harper's record and spotting a fake economic recovery

The numbers in Stephen Harper's economic record don't add up, says Duncan Cameron, but Harper does not expect Canadians to discover that job performance has been poor and that the economy is not improving, while the standard of living for most Canadians is declining.

September

Funny things keep happening on the way to the war on Syria

Jooneed Khan reflects on the war in Syria, noting that in the two-and-a-half years since the war began, funny things kept happening in global military unilateralism -- and they just keep on accumulating.



Taking Liberties

A monthly look at human rights violations committed in the name of "national security."

By Matthew Behrens

rabble.ca

October

<u>Theatre of the Fiscally Absurd: Auditions now open to run</u> government finances

For Ellen Russell, the throne speech was just one more glamorous soliloquy to remind us who to credit when the hero triumphs just in time to enhance the Conservatives' fortunes in the next election.

<u>Islamophobia or anti-Muslim sentiment? Uncovering the roots of anti-Muslim discourse</u>

Monia Mazigh writes that the debate around the veil or the burqa is not the real culprit behind the sharp rise in anti-Muslim sentiment; it is just the symptom of a tense climate poisoned by an industry that's not easily identifiable.

November

Free trade with Europe in GM crops: A CETA deal-breaker?

Ole Hendrickson looks at a potentially serious obstacle to completing the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union that has received limited attention: genetically modified (GM) crops.

Seen from the hinterlands: Left could grasp defeat from jaws of victory in Ford debacle

The Rob Ford debacle may be humiliating for most Canadians and Torontonians, writes Ish Theilheimer, but it also shows clearly how the Right manages to triumph frequently in the face of reason.

December

Why the wealthy are not like us: Capital gains, wealth and income distribution

Jim Stanford looks at wealth distribution and observes that if there was ever a reason for revolution in the streets, it should be the fact that wealthy Canadians pay tax on only half of the income they derive from flipping stocks, bonds and real estate.

netted news/newswire

In the interest of connecting to and supporting independent media across Canada and the world, *rabble.ca's* netted news is featured above the fold our homepage, and brings RSS feeds from:

Operation Maple, Two Row Times, Toronto Media Coop, The Socialist Project, The Dominion Magazine, Presse-toi à Gauche, Canadian Dimension, Briarpatch, The Tyee, The Bullet, Alternet, This Magazine, The New Internationalist, The Vancouver Observer and The Electronic Intifada.

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

In Cahoots Columnists **Netted News** Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere · Are European tax havens getting illegal Egypt's government resigns state subsidies? The Bullet: The UAW at Volkswagen: Uganda politicians celebrate passing of Workers, Unions and the Left anti-gay laws . The Top Five Things You Need to Know About Email Scandal Enveloping Gov. Scott Pakistan Taliban commander killed by Walker gunmen Russia Feels Double-Crossed over Ukraine - But What Will Putin Do? New evidence delays coroner's ruling on · News Quiz on Some Shocking Events of the death of soldier who said she was raped Week - What Do You Know? Is Sex in Cinema Getting Too Real? Ugandan president signs anti-gay bill Exxon CEO Joins Anti-Fracking Lawsuit After Drilling Threatens His Property Value . What a Victory: How a \$40 Million Attack on Russian court sentences anti-Putin the Middle Class Went Up in Smoke protesters 6 Signs of Psychosis From GOP Fringe This Phishing scam emails, texts on the rise, Robert Reich: WhatsApp Is Everything surveys show Wrong with the U.S. Economy . What's New: The Steel Company and the Malala Yousafzai backs campaign against 1,184 acres stolen from Aamjiwnaang FGM What's New: Tougher Than the Rest At Stake In Ukraine's Drama is the Future Pentagon to propose shrinking US Army of Putin, Russia and Europe · What's New: Israel, Palestine, Occupation more and International Law Children Murdered, Homes Foreclosed: How the Government Makes 'Mistakes' With Impunity

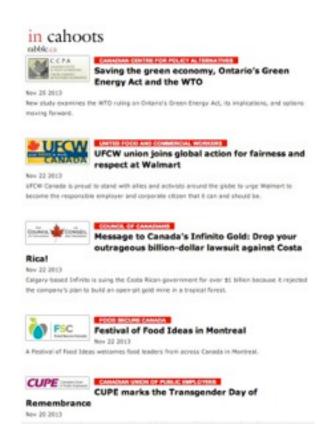
more

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, Meg Borthwick, in cahoots recruitment 2013



in cahoots members 2013:

Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada Africa Files BC Teachers' Federation Beit Zatoun Between the Lines books Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies Canadians for Tax Fairness Canadian Palestinian Educational Exchange Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women Council of Canadians Friends of Toronto Waterfront Birds **InterPares National Farmers Union** Ontario Health Coalition United Food and Commercial Workers

Sustaining Partners 2013:

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





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; Kaitlin McNabb, news coordinator **Volunteers:** Tor Sandberg Livestream, Wayne MacPhail, Alex Lisman Jase Tanner, Humberto DaSilva. Thank you to Anita Kranjc for her work over the years on rabbletv's best of the net!



NOT REX Not Rex: Free Nelson Mandela. Again. Dec 12

2013 | by Humberto DaSilva | The hypocritical words of Stephen Harper and other former "pro-apartheid" politicians are disgraceful. If one really wants to honour Mandela, engage in the same human rights struggles he did.



BEST-OF-THE-NET Conservative Senator Hugh Segal on

why unions are important Dec 10 2013 | by rabble staff |
Conservative Senator Hugh Segal spoke to the Unifor Ontario Region
Council Dec. 7, 2013.



BEST-OF-THE-NET Nelson Mandela's 1994 inauguration

speech Dec 5 2013 | by rabble staff | Nelson Mandela has died at the age of 95. He was South Africa's first democratically elected and first black president. Watch his inauguration speech here.

rabbletv LIVESTREAM highlights



FOLLOW the 2013 WOMEN'S FORUM
LIVE October 29
rabble.ca



2013 events lives events by rabble.ca included:

- Pros/Cons alternative summit -- Streamed live from Calgary. The alternative summit
 to the Conservative Convention featured speakers from a range of provincial and
 national speakers about a different vision from the one being shared at this weekend's
 Conservative convention: one that focuses on progressive policies for people and the
 planet
- The Women's Forum 2013 -- Live-blogged and podcasted in October from Ottawa. Back for a second year, the 2013 Women's Forum, hosted by MP Niki Ashton, is a unique gathering bringing women from across the country together
- PSAC rally: Attacks on collective bargaining are attacks on equality -- Streamed live from Toronto in November, the Public Service Alliance of Canada will rallied against the federal government's proposed changes to collective bargaining, health and safety and human rights
- Violence No More -- Streamed live from Toronto in April, this event was part of a day of programming and the third installment of The Silence is broken: Now What?
- Interpares 2013 Speaker's Series Developing Justice: Natural Resources and Fair Economies -- Streamed from Ottawa in April

not rex





Since 2010 Humberto "Not Rex Murphy" DaSilva has been providing popular video commentary on the issues of the day exclusively for *rabble.ca*. There were 13 Not Rex videos in 2013. Highlights included: <u>Black Megantic</u>, <u>Joe Bangladesh</u>, <u>The Canadian Caper</u>

Humberto also produced two news videos: <u>Porter Blockade</u>, <u>The Coca Cola Strike Secondary pickets "Coke Blows."</u>



indie inside

Featuring music videos from Canadian independent bands, you can find <u>indie inside</u> at rabbletv. indie inside had six features in 2013.

Staff: Tania Ehret, indie inside coordinator



rabble.ca annual report 40

blogs



Staff: Michelle Gregus, interim blogs coordinator (January to April); Michael Stewart, blogs coordinator (April to present); Michelle Gregus, Managing Editor; Meghan Murphy, evening/PST editor

Intern: Christina Turner

The *rabble.ca* blogs section is arguably the most vibrant on the site, with over 2400 blog posts published in 2013. Our network of almost 100 bloggers are able to respond immediately to breaking news and provide analysis to the day's most poignant conversations.

We added over 25 new blogs in 2013, including famed economist Mel Watkins, journalism professor John Miller and our first ever Red Tory, former *Macleans*

Managing Editor Geoffrey Stevens -- the inaugural post of whom, was titled "In Defence of Nigel Wright".

Elsewhere in the Canadian political scene, Christopher Majka landed a comprehensive and candid interview with NDP Federal Leader Thomas Mulcair. Gerry Caplan provided weekly analysis on Ottawa's shenanigans.

We also expanded our feminist blogroll, adding music and pop culture critic Andrea Jackson and queer feminist writer Laura Brightwell to our more established coterie including the prolific Meghan Murphy, curator of "Feminist Current", and Nora Loreto, who delivered dozens of blog posts, a monograph on young workers in the labour movement and one set of fraternal twins in 2013.

We are proud to add Métis artist, educator and author Aaron Paquette to our slate of Aboriginal bloggers. Mi'kmaw lawyer and professor Pamela Palmater, Mi'kmaq human rights expert Daniel Wilson and Métis/Plains Cree education activist and writer âpihtawikosisân documented the 250th anniversary of the Royal Proclamation of 1763, the return of Idle No More and, notably, the brave resistance of the Elsipogtog Mik'maq nation in New Brunswick.

Seasoned author, editor and Canadian feminist legend Penney Kome was on the floor of the 2013 Conservative National Convention in Calgary for rabble.ca, earning our first ever press credentials from the CPC. David Climenhaga, one of the lone chinks in Alberta's armour of conservatism, also covered the Conservative convention, continuing his unyielding campaign against the Wild Rose-tinted glasses of his province.

We were joined by DeSmog Canada founder and former Greenpeace U.S.A strategic director Kevin Grandia. Independent journalist and environmental activist Emma Pullman published a brilliant series on the Tar Sands Healing Walk, breaking the story of the <u>Cold Lake oil spill</u>. Roger Annis was relentless in his coverage of oil-by-train derailments, including, tragically, Lac Mégantic. With David Suzuki and Federal Green Party leader Elizabeth May longtime *rabble.ca* contributors, our environmentally minded bloggers have never been stronger.

Our arts & culture blogs offer a keen tonic to the lacquered, Hollywood-obsessed daze of mainstream entertainment coverage. Holly Adams offers advice to independent artists, Cathy Bond to independent writers. Former Blue Rodeo member Bob Wiseman documents great Canadian leftist songwriters from Kathleen Yearwood to Joni Mitchell while Michael Stewart takes on Don Cherry and the CBC when he's not philosophizing over a McDonald's McRib Sandwich.

Our blog section also serves to distribute the research and analysis of like-minded organizations, including the British Columbia, Manitoba and National bureaus of the Canadian Centre of Policy Alternatives (CCPA), the Progressive Economics Forum and the Council of Canadians.

Our "Campus Notes" blog, in part curated by blogs and books intern Christina Turner in 2013, both assembles the best student writing from Canadian universities across the country and sources original articles on key stories from students, faculty and stakeholders. Stories on academic labour, gender representation on campus (paging David Gilmour) and ongoing cuts to education make this multi-author blog one of rabble.ca's most exciting.

While the rest of the country was seduced by the sheer spectacle and audacity of the neverending Rob Ford scandal, it was our bloggers who provided the most astute analysis. Jesse McLaren linked Fordlandia's horrorshow with <u>neoliberal austerity politics</u> while Michael Laxer argued that Ford's antics <u>betrayed right-wing hypocrisy</u> (and the mainstream's complicity) over addiction and working-class representation.

Our annual "Earth Week Vegan Challenge," a multi-author series highlighting the politics of our nutritional choices, was joined this year by books coordinator and news coordinator Kaitlin McNabb's fabulous "Eat Local!" series, asking contributors to share their tips and experiences with maintaining a locally sourced diet.

The stellar "Activist Communiqué" blog deserves special mention, *rabble.ca's* source for grassroots activism penned by the indefatigable Krystalline Kraus. The mainstream media can't report on the work Krystalline makes public, let alone won't -- they simply don't have their ears to the ground the way we do.

You can find our bloggers across the country and they continue to be the best sources for local progressive news -- with writers in Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Toronto, Quebec City, Halifax, Whitehorse and Yellowknife, to name a few. Our bloggers' geographical diversity means that *rabble.ca* is primed to take on Stephen Harper and Big Media anywhere in Canada during the lead-up to next year's Federal Election.

Select rabble blog highlights:

Erika Shaker (Behind the Numbers)

<u>Canadians aren't buying the banksplaining about the Temporary Foreign Worker Program,</u>
April 16

David P. Ball

Judy Rebick: Henry Morgentaler was a 'lightning-rod for the women's movement', May 30

Gerry Caplan

The world will be poorer without Nelson Mandela, June 17

Toby Sanger (Progressive Economics)

Twelve reasons why union-busting Bill C-377 is the worst, June 24

Franke James (bound but not gagged)

Are you on Harper's Enemy List?, July 27

Nora Loreto

Scoring political points with Québec's secularism charter, September 10

Meghan Murphy

My abuser called himself a feminist, October 10

Âpihtawikosisân (Chelsea Vowel)

Everything you need to know about Elsipogtog, November 5

Eva Bartlett

<u>Suffering, tragedy, joy and hope: Observations from occupied Palestine, part 1</u>, November 5

Sved Hussan

Life and Death: Waljis, Migrant Strike and Political Will, November 19

Eric Girard (Campus Notes)

If you're poor, don't come to law school, December 3

Mike Palacek (The Views Expressed)

Canada Post is not on life support, it is being murdered, December 17

rabble bloggers

Aalya Ahmad Aaron Paquette Activist Communiqué

Adventures in the eBook Game

Alberta Diary Alexandre Boulerice Am Johal Andrew Brett Andrew Frank

apihtawikosisan Artful Change

Battered Women's Support

Services blog

Behind The Numbers

Ben Powless Blair Redlin

Blind Man with a Pistol

Bob Wiseman

bored but not broken Bound but not gagged

Brent Patterson Brian Topp Cafe DMZ Campus Notes

Canadian Association of Labour

Media (CALM) canpalnet Cat Reporter Charlie Angus

Child Care Canada Now Christine Saulnier Christopher Majka

Climate Action Network Canada Code Pink Canadian Delegations

to Gaza

Common Frontiers
Corvin Russell
Council of Canadians
Daniel Tseghay
Daniel Wilson
Dave Coles
David Bush
David Lundy
David Suzuki
Democracy Watch
Dented Blue Mercedes

Derrick O'Keefe

Diary of a Lipstick Terrorist

Dionne Brand
Dogwood Initiative
Don Tapscott
Donald Gutstein
Earth Rising
Eat Local!

Economic Democracy Elizabeth May

Emma Pullman Enter Up Left Eric Mang

Eva Bartlett In Gaza Feminist Current

Film Festivals in Toronto (FFIT)

FLOSS
Fred Wilson
Gerry Caplan
Global Exchange
Graeme Stewart
Hadani Ditmars
Haiti-Canada
Healthy Skepticism
Hello Cool World
Hill Dispatches

How they play the game

Ian Capstick

Independent Jewish Voices Indigenous Nationhood

James Laxer
Jennifer Prosser
Jerry Diasg
Jessica Bell
Jim Quail's
John Bennett
John Bonnar's
John Warnock
Joshua Kahn Russell

Left Hook

Letters to Ryan Leef

Maher Arar
Making Waves
Maude Barlow
Media Watch
Mel Watkins
Michael Laxer
Michel Lambert
Midnight Politico
MiningWatch
more pamusement
Murray Dobbin
Narrative Resistance
Nathan Cullen

Nathan Cullen Nick Day Nima Maleki No One Is Illegal Nora Loreto

Northern Plains Drifter Northwest Notes On The Other Hand One Female Canuck

Open Media

Our stories from the summit

Parkland Institute Peggy Nash Pierre Beaudet Policy Note Policyfix Praxis: A popular economics

blog

Progressive Economics Forum

Publisher

Pulpit and Politics rabble.ca's staff

Raffi Rick Harp

Robert Chernomas Roger Annis Romeo Saganash Scott Piatkowski Sharmeen Khan Sharon Fraser

She who holds the pen...

Sheila Block

Solidarity: from Occupy Toronto

to Attawapiskat

Song of the Watermelon

Stephen Kimber Steven Shrybman StopWar

Syed Hussan Tariq Jeeroburkhan The activist toolkit

The Canadian Boat to Gaza
The Closet Feminist
The Journalism Doctor
The Left Coast Post
The Mainlander

The Media Consortium
The Media Studies
The Muckraker
The New Era
The Otesha Project
The Regina Mom
The Roz Blog

The Views Expressed The whirling girlish The Whole Picture Thomas Saczkowski

Tikkunista!
Time for change
Tonya Surman
Transforming Power
Tria Donaldson
Trish Hennessy
Uzma Shakir

Vegan Challenge for Earth Week

Velcrow Ripper Vern Edwards Voices North Word of the Rings

Your Heart's On The Left Yves Engler's Blog

Karl Nerenberg

rabble's reporter on the Hill

People looking for Parliamentary news know that rabble has the scoop. Through crowdfunding on *rabble.ca* and through Indiegogo, *rabble.ca* raised funds to have award-winning journalist and filmmaker Karl Nerenberg cover the Hill for the rest of us.

Karl posts his "Hill Dispatches" several times a week and his work <u>can be found in the Politics in Canada section of rabble</u>. You can read about who has <u>blocked progress on First Nations issues</u>, how Harper's Senate appointments <u>were unconstitutional</u>, how the government <u>demonizes the environment</u> and much more.



Why has the Official Opposition not gained the respect it should have earned?

Jun 25 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | Virtually everybody who watches Parliament regularly says NDP leader Tom Mulcair has done a masterful job of interrogating the Harper government.



Harper's mortal sins hidden by all the attention to the venial kind

Jun 19 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | The list of the Harper government's mortal sins is long, and it includes sins against democracy itself.



Harper's policy on vulnerable refugees is wildly inconsistent -- and cruel

Jun 18 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | From Syria to Sri Lanka, the Harper government has turned a blind eye to the suffering of refugees. Now it's even cutting health care for those who manage to reach Canada.



Harper loses his best hope for a Conservative MP from Montreal

Jun 17 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | The Conservatives only snared a second place finish in one Montreal and area riding: the riding of Mount Royal. Their candidate was Saulie Zajdel, who was arrested on Monday.



How jazz explains Harper's tone deaf damage control

Jun 12 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | The fact is, though, that the Conservative strategy these days is to quite deliberately obscure the underlying melody, and try to play out the clock.



Why Harper's secret million dollar fund is a matter of real concern

Jun 7 2013 | by Karl Nerenberg | The public has very little way of knowing what Nigel Wright, as the Prime Minister's Chief of staff, did



When Karl isn't writing for rabble, he somehow also finds time to make important films. In 2013 Karl won the Canadian Ethnic Media Association Award for Best Television Documentary. Congratulations Karl!

Karl Nerenberg, our reporter on the Hill, wins documentary prize

BY RABBLE STAFF | JUNE 28, 2013



"Karl Nerenberg has emerged as one of the real bright thinkers on Ottawa politics. You won't read this analysis in the mainstream media." - MP Charlie Angus

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The first reporter we asked you, the rabble readers, to support was Karl Nerenberg. We promised Karl would deliver news from Parliament Hill for the rest of us, giving you the stories and analysis that you won't find elsewhere. rabble.ca readers along with the Canadian

Union of Public Employees and the Ontario Nurses Union came through with funding support and Karl has been delivering great stuff ever since.

Karl's extensive reporting includes coverage of the issues and challenges facing the Roma people, including **hostility from the Canadian government and media**.

Readers may not know that outside of his work at rabble Karl is a filmmaker. We are pleased to report that Karl recently won the Canadian Ethnic Media Association Award for Best Television Documentary (2013) for Never Come Back, a film exploring the persecution of the Roma people in Eastern Europe and their struggles to be accepted as refugees in Canada.

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.



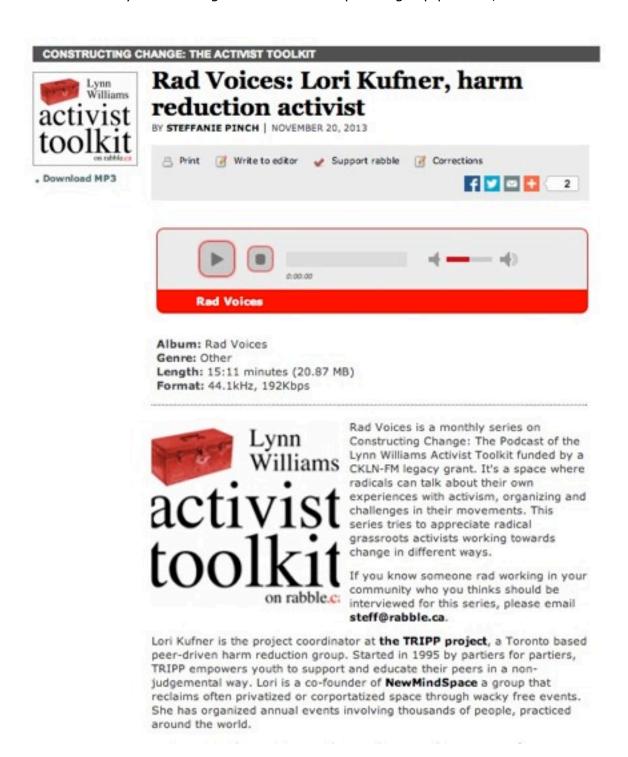
The rabble podcast network expanded its reach with new podcasts from Canada's coastal cities: "Habitat" based in Halifax, and "Democracy North," a podcast produced from the W2 space in Vancouver by David P. Ball.

This year the rabble podcasters produced over 600 podcasts on progressive issues from breaking coverage of Idle No More, to coverage of Toronto Film Festivals, to veganism in professional hockey.

The rabble podcast network continues to be a destination for producers and listeners alike. It provides a venue for the progressive journalists and audio producers who bring their audio artistry to *rabble.ca* whenever they can.

RPN interns continue to work in audio production after leaving us -- Leif Larsen who was an rpn intern last year has been working steadily at CBC Winnipeg since he left the rpn.

Special projects in 2013 included the revitalization of the Lynn Williams activist toolkit podcast produced by Steff Pinch and Meghan Senese, "Rad Voices", along with a regional specialty podcast produced by Matt Adams and intern Lindsay Presswell -- "Film Festivals in Toronto." We also collaborated with Vancouver's Chinatown Night Market and included a documentary about Canada's only outdoor night market in the rpn's flagship podcast, "rabble radio."



the popular vote

Particularly popular podcast episodes of 2013:

Talking Radical Radio

Getting Women's Studies into Ontario high schools: A grassroots feminist victory

The F Word

The objectification and sexualization of breasts

Feminist Current

Lierre Keith on One Billion Rising and creating a culture of resistance

John Bonnar Audio Blog

Canadian mining company confronted with fierce opposition over Greece projects

Needs No Introduction

2013 B.C. election: The missing news

Needs No Introduction

Chris Hedges on Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt

Progressive Voices

Dear Hamilton Slutwalk Organizers

Talking Radical Radio

Towards a new model for worker organizing: The Immigrant Workers Centre in Montreal

Feminist Current

Collective Shout and Talitha Stone take on the virulent misogyny of Tyler, the Creator

Feminist Current

Street harassment, men's rights activists and hate speech: An interview with Michael Laxer

John Bonnar Audio Blog

Several hundred Toronto activists march in solidarity for elephants Pigs suffer horrific injuries during extreme cold weather in Toronto

Talking Radical Radio

Two-spirit indigenous women getting organized in Edmonton

Redeve

Leaks confirm fears about Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement

Democracy North

<u>DEMOCRACY NORTH: Jan 18 -- CSIS watchdog's Enbridge job -- Battered women on trial -- Canada Post cuts</u>

rabble podcast network

Staff:

Meagan Perry, Executive Producer, rabble podcast network

Meghan Murphy, interim Producer, rabble podcast network

. Matthew Adams, Producer, rabble radio

Intern: Tanya Hill

rpn hosts 24 podcasts produced by over 50 podcasters. Below are the podcasts and the regular podcasters from 2013:

Podcasters:

Aiyanas Ormond

Alert Radio: Michael Welch, Mitch Podolak

Andrew Wong

Asia Pacific Currents Collective

Cathi Bond Dan Kellar David Peck

Democracy North Collective: David P. Ball, Derrick O'keefe, Jane Bouey, Irwin Oostindie Dispatch Collective: Ian Hussey, Kyle Dupont

Emily Slofstra Erica Butler

F-Word Collective: Nicole Deagan, Ellie

Gordon-Moerschel
Heather Yundt
Helen Caldicott
Ian Hussey
Irwin Oostindie
Jasmin Williams
Jennifer Efting
Jiselle Hanna
John Bonnar
Lynn Thompson

Mark Brooks MaryCarl Guiao Matthew Adams

Meghan Senese

Meagan Perry Meghan Murphy

No One Is Illegal Collective: Robyn Maynard,

Jaggi Singh

Redeye Collective: Jane Williams, Manuel Schulte, Mordecai Briemberg, Peter Driftmier

Piergiorgio Moro Riaz Sayani-Mulji Stephanie Pinch **PODCASTS**

Africafiles: The Pulse

Alert! Radio from Canadian Dimension

Alternatives Podcast Asia Pacific Currents

Aw@l

Citizen Science

Constructing Change - activist toolkit

Democracy north

F Word

Film festivals in Toronto

Feminist Current

Habitat

John Bonnar Audio Blog Living On Purpose Migrant Matters Needs No Introduction No One Is Illegal People's Health Radio

People's Health Radio Progressive Voices radio book lounge

rabble radio Redeve

Talking Radical Radio

Watch me: movie reviews with Cathi Bond

(see Appendix A for more)

rabble news comes to you!



For years rabble has been bringing news to people where they are. We have a weekly enewsletter, a daily general e-newsletter and this year we introduced five themed-based weekly e-newsletters: politics in Canada, labour, arts & culture, environment and Indigenous issues. You can sign up to them and manage your subscriptions here: http://goto.rabble.ca/ps?sid=I:16i

We also have a Twitter feed with over 22,000 followers, a Facebook page and group with more than 11,000 fans/members between them. You can also find us on Google Plus, as well as a YouTube channel, a Livestream and Vimeo channel and a Flickr page.

rabble is also a newsfeed source around the web and we have an RSS feed that can be found on newsreaders. Subscribe right now!

And if you are on the move you can get rabble feeds on mobile devices -- open your mobile device's browser and download our Google Currents app. 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. You can also, of course, add rabble's rss feed to your favorite mobile news reader.

In 2010, with the technical know-how of Spreed.Inc, we launched an iPhone/iPad app which can be downloaded here.

And don't forget, you can also download our award winning <u>Best of rabble.ca</u> multimedia edition.



We got issues



You think you've got issues? Well, check out ours. Issues at rabble.ca highlights the hot topics you want more of and brings together some of the best content and resources on the issues that matter most. Issue pages are more than "browse by topic" navigation. They draw together all rabble content on a particular topic, as well as curated content from other sources. They are your one stop shop for a source of for news, analysis and resources on the issues that you want to be on top of.

Our issue pages continue to be popular on rabble.

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. issue 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.

In 2013 we had 18 issue pages revamped by news coordinator Kaitlin McNabb. Watch for more to come in 2014!

indigenous



labour



Loretta Saunders' tragic death sparks calls for national inquiry



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Native Appropriations late No Hore

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Activists from CCPE locals stand together with Operation Solidarity Bonfield

Criminal employers are employers too, Alberta government spokesman says, but illegal strikes are still illegal | lim 10 2014 | Danti J. Omentage | if like you might be thinking about taking about taking about thinking about sinking Reguly, you will be deat with severals

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Labour Reporter Labour Rights



issues on rabble ca

politics in canada



Loretta Saunders' tragic death spurks calls for national inquiry



Parliament, let's look back on the year | Doc 30 2013 | rooms and | rooms are performance

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issues on rabble.ca

environment



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issues

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Policy Note:

issues

arts & culture



Charlie Angus & Grievous Angels



of Theatre | Dec 17 2013 | Fee Allers | Arts and Dd. Nurth protein

BACOUTE HOME Six key lessons in social

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Living On Purpose



indie inside!

- Buffi's Blog
- Needs No Introduction India Inside



Video: Day of Action against the Truss-Pacific Partnership and Corporate Globalization

Canada's broken telecom market | Dec 18 2013 | Doce Arderon | Openfields is cating to acteins companies like Eng to be

Let's talk about solutions - for

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Other Worlds Sum of the

the book lounge

The rabble book lounge continued to develop and expand as a dynamic and multifaceted platform this year.

We continued our ever-present focus on Canadian authors and publishers in our book reviews section, seeking out the best from independent outlets and writers here at home as well as highlighting other fantastic work coming out of international presses. Book reviewers this year completely outdid themselves with in depth critiques of both personal experience and political awareness.

The books blog, "bound but not gagged," continued to produce provocative posts ranging from David Gilmour's <u>sexist comments</u> to the <u>renoviction</u> of Spartacus Books to the results of CWILA's <u>annual book review</u> count. We also highlighted some of the great wins in the CanLit column: Alice Munro's <u>Nobel Prize win</u>, David Austin's <u>groundbreaking book</u> Fear of a Black Nation and Lynn Coady's Giller prize win for <u>Hellgoing</u>.

Our babble book club continues to hum along in the babble book lounge with an increasing number of members participating in babble discussions. A few authors stopped by the book lounge to discuss their books with some of our participants including Richard Van Camp and Pasha Malla.

A few changes were afoot in the book lounge as well! We welcomed former intern Kaitlin McNabb as our new books coordinator in May, the books landing page and descriptions received a facelift and at the end of the year new intern Christina Turner signed on as the blogs and books intern.

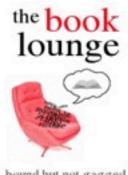
Staff: Kaitlin McNabb (May 2013 to present) Derrick O'Keefe (January to May 2013)

Intern: Christina Turner

2013 Reviewers: Aaron Leonard Al Engler Augusta Dwyer Claudio D'Andrea Cathi Bond Dr. Theresa Turmel Greg Macdougall Harsha Walia Haseena Manek Jeff Miller Jessica Rose Joan Baxter Joel Harden Judy Rebick Kathleen Yamazaki Meghan Murphy Muna Mire Nathanial G. Moore Niranjana Iyer Ramona Wadi Steffanie Pinch Yutaka Dirks



Highlights of 2013's rabble book lounge reviews:



bound but not gagged

In the rabble.ca book lounge you can find a great book review, a book club you can go to in your pyjamas, and much more. Learn



The Paper Hound

TOP 5 INDIE BESTSELLERS

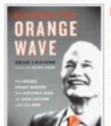


September 19, 2013

The Paper Hound

The Paper Hound is the newest addition to Vancouver's Book Row on West Pender Street. An eclectic and well-appointed array

FEATURED BOOK REVIEW



POLITICS

Beyond Politics? The Origins (and Future) of the NDP's Orange Wave | DEC 5 2013 | Joel Harden I 'Building the Orange Wave' recounts the history of the NDP and their rise to Official Opposition. Joel Harden ponders the difference between that NDP and the present NDP and if the wave has collapsed?

RECENTLY REVIEWED



ANTI-OPPRESSION

'Undoing Border Imperialism' contextualizes urgency of migrant justice issue | NOV 28 2013 | Niranjana Iyer | Activist Harsha Walia writes on border imperialism drawing her critique from an

anti-oppressive framework and stating that borders are an unfair global capitalist system causing global displacement.



BLACK HISTORY

'Fear of a Black Nation' pulls Black voices out of Canadian historical erasure | NOV 21 2013 | Muna Mire | 'Fear of a Black Nation' documents an impressive amount of history about how race operates in modern

North America and the actions of the Canadian Black Power



POLITICS

'Svend Robinson: A Life in Politics' reflects on a brilliant activist and a courageous politician | NOV 14 2013 | Judy Rebick | Judy Rebick reflects on the new book 'Svend Robinson: A Life in Politics' and her

political and personal relationship with former MP Svend

BABBLE BOOK LOUNGE

babble book club reading "reader's choice" selections of Alice Munro

Canada Reads: Is anyone here actually watching?

Three new short stories by J.D. Salinger

read more

BOOK IT! EVENTS

Ottawa

Dec 8 2013 - 11:00am

Reading group: The Temptation of Morality in Freud, Lacan, and Nietzsche

Ottawa

Dec 12 2013 - 7:00pm

Book launch: Public Sector Unions in the Age of Austerity

Toronto

Dec 14 2013 - 6:00pm

Book Launch: Who's Afraid of the Black Blocs? Anarchy in **Action Around the World**

Toronto

Dec 14 2013 - 7:00pm

GTWA Coffeehouse:

Luxemburg, Lenin, Levi: **Rethinking Revolutionary**

Jan 29 2014 - 6:30pm

The Kama Reading Series Presents: Feminist Writing and

'Undoing Border Imperialism' contextualizes urgency of migrant justice issue by Niranjana Iyer

Why it's great: Reviewer Niranjana Iyer carefully dissected Harsha Walia's magnum opus on migrant justice and border policies to make the heavy theory accessible and contextualized some of the activism present in No One is Illegal. Iver's mix of opinion, humour and statistics makes this read exceptional.

'Everything Is So Political' interprets 'What is political?' into a diverse and memorable marriage of art and politics by Jessica Rose

Why it's great: Reviewer Jessica Rose considered the complex question "what is political" throughout this review and, spoiler alert, determined that everything is so political. Rose leaned on her CanLit credentials when discussing the strengths of each story and ultimately decided it is those stories that seem the simplest that ultimately shine through.

Beyond Politics? The origins (and future) of the NDP's Orange Wave by Joel Harden

Why it's great: Reviewer Joel Harden pulled no punches as he took a deep, personal look at the NDP past and present. Harden recounted the NDP history presented by Brad Lavigne, Jack Layton's rise to Leader of the Official Opposition and pondered what the future of the NDP is given all the recent disappointments.

<u>'Fear of a Black Nation' pulls Black voices</u> <u>out of Canadian historical erasure</u> by Muna Mire

Why it's great: Reviewer Muna Mire poured her heart into this review connecting hyperacademic theory and Canadian history with shrewd observation. The review is more than a book review -- it is an incredible in depth (and at times complex) critique of the representation of the Black Power movement in Canada.

You can do it! 'Stay Solid!' lays the groundwork for the next generation of radical youth by Steff Pinch

Why it's great: rabble's activist toolkit coordinator Steff Pinch brought her expertise and excitement for youth activism to this review and weighed out the good with the potential missteps. Pinch commended the diversity of opinion, topic and writing style and championed this book as a great tool for activist in your life, regardless of age.

Why '1996' is one of the most important Canlit books of 2013 by Nathaniel G. Moore

Why it's great: Reviewer Nathaniel G. Moore set out to accomplish the task of redefining Canadian poetry's reputation from inaccessible prose to accessible writing, and boy did he succeed. Moore used '1996' as the stepping stone for Canada's new style poetry, and reflected on how the evolution of emotion developed.

Decolonizing mind and soul: 'They Called Me Number One' is a powerful read about residential schools and systemic racism' by Dr. Theresa Turmel

Why it's great: Reviewer Dr. Theresa Turmel used her vast experience working with residential school survivors to provide the inspiring foundation to this review. Turmel's analysis is spot on and finds the balance between discussing the book and describing personal experiences.

'Army of Lovers' embodies community spirit of a Toronto queer icon by Jeff Miller

Why it's great: Reviewer Jeff Miller was a former friend of the late Toronto queer artist Will Munro and wrote this review with two perspectives: a discussion of the importance of Munro, the artist and his contributions, and a remembrance of his friend, a passionate and inspiring person.

'Svend Robinson: A Life in Politics' reflects on a brilliant activist and a courageous politician by Judy Rebick

Why it's great: Founding rabble publisher Judy Rebick stepped up, big time, to write about her personal and political relationship with Svend Robinson. The results were enlightening: a portrait of a complex man and politician, and ultimately an ode to that passion and commitment that, at times, is sorely lacking in Canada's political scene.

'Wielding the Force' establishes the interconnection between science and social movement theory by Harsha Walia

Why it's great: Reviewer Harsha Walia shared her personal experiences with activism, particularly with the ideas of emergence theory and the need for self care. Walia commended the book for reclamation of the word science and emphasis on healthy movements being built on a paradigm of relationality.

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	top			
*	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	community			
*	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
1	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
7	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
*	rabble reactions Topical questions and comments about the site only.	434 2 new	15169	Why are both by Unionist Feb 21 2012 - 11:56pm
53)	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
*	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

rabble.ca features a 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 tens of thousands of registered users discuss a not surprisingly wide range of issues.

Our most populated discussions are, as usual, largely to do with Canadian politics and as Canadians, in 2013 we've seen no shortage of subject matter. The Senate scandal, the ongoing robocall debacle, the looming disaster that is the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal, the bizarre and disturbing antics of Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, all have generated

lively discussion. While many of these issues saw wall-to-wall coverage in the mainstream media, the discussions were anything but mainstream.

babblers were quick to remind us that the Ford train wreck was less important than the destructive tea party-like policies and bullying he and his brother used to foist their right wing agenda on the city. Mulcair's performance in Question Period received mixed reviews in threads about the Senate scandal, and several of our contributors offered up links to media coverage of all things pipeline and tar sands, links that lend themselves to analysis from a progressive perspective. Fraud during the last Federal election, a now almost invisible issue in the mainstream media, was kept alive and well by our "folks who just won't shut up." Sadly, however, we lost one of our folks, a veteran babble contributor, liked and respected by all. Boom Boom, you are missed.

The issues discussed in babble forums were as diverse as their participants, reminding readers everywhere that there is more to news and information than can be had watching *Power and Politics* at dinner time, more going on in the world than can be read online in *The Star*, far more progressive views than can be seen in the *Huffington Post*. As always, babblers are pleased and proud to be pat of that wonderful thing that is *rabble.ca*

TO INCID	g the talk			
*	activism Share strategies, calls to action, and success stories here.	675 6 new	10957	Towards a by Rebecca West 19 hours 58 min ago
*	aboriginal issues and culture Aboriginal insights, issues and initiatives.	588 2 new	9630	Parliament by epaulo13 Mar 14 2014 - 11:21pm
*	anti-racism news and initiatives Discuss issues of race and racism from an anti-racist point of view.	618 1 new	13315	The limits by Slumberjack Mar 17 2014 - 10:54an
1	disability issues Discuss disability issues from an inclusionary, anti-ablist point of view	45	657	Regarding by theleftyinvestor Jan 27 2014 - 3:11pm
*	feminism Feminists discussing feminist issues from a feminist point of view.	829 3 new	20233	Defense of by susan davis 2 hours 10 min ago
*	labour and consumption Discuss work and economic issues from a pro-worker point of view.	593 3 new	12704	Canada Post by epaulo13 1 day 50 min ago
*	LGBTQ Discuss all issues LGBTQ from an LGBTQ-positive perspective.	211 2 new	2761	Walt Disney by abnormal Mar 1 2014 - 9:33am
*	environmental justice Discuss earth-friendly initiatives and issues here.	735 3 new	16070	Fracking by NDPP 1 day 16 hours ago
*	sex worker rights A place for sex workers and their allies to discuss issues around, and advocacy of, sex workers' rights.	137 2 new	1815	Informative by fortunate 1 day 16 hours ago
1	youth Issues The rabble school cafeteria.	175 1 new	3097	Early by Aristotleded24 Mar 6 2014 - 11:50am

the Lynn Williams activist toolkit



Staff: Steffanie Pinch, activist toolkit coordinator

Interns: Belinda Ellsworth (winter 2012-2013), Meghan Senese (summer 2013), Megan Stacey (fall/winter 2013-2014)

Democracy goes hand and hand with grassroots activism. In 2013, we were excited to launch the newly designed Lynn Williams activist toolkit, a radical wiki-style space for organizers to share, discuss and create tools for organizing from the ground up. Lynn Williams is a labour organizer, activist and the first president of the United Steelworkers. The toolkit reflects William's dedicated work as a life-long activist, providing organizers and communities with access to guides, workshop outlines, open source software, copy-left images, activist histories and more. The toolkit's blog and podcast keep lived experiences at the forefront of these resources.

The Lynn Williams activist toolkit continued to help connect activist to tools in 2013, with tools for the <u>Anniversary of Idle No More</u>, surviving the <u>holidays</u> and organizing against the <u>tragic death of Sammy Yatim</u>.

We also introduced a new section on the toolkit: <u>3 Minute Actions</u>. These actions show what it means to be an activist in everyday life, <u>supporting campaigns</u> and challenging <u>the status</u> <u>quo</u>.

Thanks to support from a CKLN Legacy grant, The Lynn William's activist toolkit also started a special monthly podcast series in 2013. Rad Voices is a space for radicals to talk about their own experiences with activism, organizing and challenges in their movements. Listen to Marty Fink, a prison abolitionist talk about their organizing with queer and trans* folks in prison.

supporting membership

community supported media

Members get mags.









Become a supporting member of rabble.ca (\$5/month) by July 12 and get an indie print magazine subscription as our thanks!

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 2013, rabble continued our partnership with independent print magazines. rabble finished 2013 with over 740 members contributing between \$5 and \$50 a month.

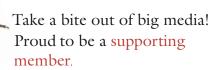
We kick off each fundraising drive with an old school mailing campaign (we get a good return!).

This year we sent along a rabble refrigerator magnet ("take a bite out of big media" -- see graphic below).

Our mailing depends on volunteers to help us stuff envelopes. There is always great conversation and good snacks. Thanks to our volunteers!

Also thank you to Unifor for covering our mailing postage for the donation drive.

CORPORATE MEDIA





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 2013 including <u>Beacon Bike Lights</u> and even a year's supply of fair trade virgin olive oil from <u>Beit Zatoun</u>.

We introduced "change the conversation" and encouraged others to come up with ideas on a special page. Kim Elliott, Matt Adams, Wayne MacPhail and Stephanie Pinch worked on the donation drive committee.



Change the Cl conversation con

Support rabble.ca with your donation today!

Change the conversation

Support rabble.ca with your donation today!













advertise@rabble.ca

Looking for the MOST VISITED alternative online NEWS source in Canada?

Welcome to rabble.ca

We offer competitive rates to reach large audiences. Contact us at advertise@rabble.ca.

Marketing



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

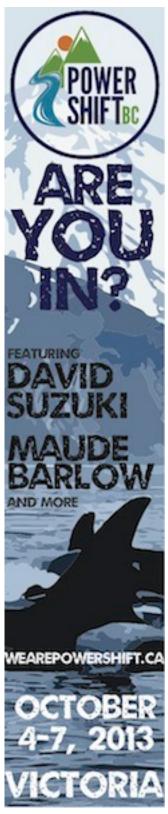
rabble staff and board are in demand to present and participate in conferences. Parliamentary Correspondent Karl Nerenberg spoke on panels, including one at Carleton University on the Quebec Charter of Values and at an event on alternative media in Canada. Managing Editor Michelle Gregus judged and presented a student Journalism award at the Canadian University Press Conference. Publisher Kim Elliott was a judge for the Canadian Online Publishing Awards and was on the program committee for the Media Consortium. Conferences that rabble participated in and/or presented at included:

Alternative Media Fair, Toronto
Canadian Association of Journalist conference
Canadian University Press conference
Canzine Vancouver
CEP convention, Quebec City
CUPE National Convention
HEU convention
LeftWords Festival of Books and Ideas, Toronto
Lessons from the Quebec Student Strike talk, Toronto, Vancouver
Media Democracy Day Vancouver
NDP convention
Northern Voices Blogging conference
OPSEU convention, Toronto
Steelworkers National Convention
The Word On The Street, Toronto and Vancouver

Each year rabble partners with community organizations and sponsors events. While we don't have any funds to offer, we provide promotion to our large audience. We offer free advertising on the site and promotion on our social media accounts and in our e-newsletter(s) to events we sponsor.

The advertisements over the next few pages showcase the events that rabble sponsored in 2013.







The Jack Layton Book Club Presents

Pride Prejudice and Politics

JACK LAYTON

and the LESSONS of CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE'S EDWARD II

with Dr. JASON BOYD

Wednesday April 10 5:30

Ryerson Library Archives 3rd Floor 350 Victoria Street

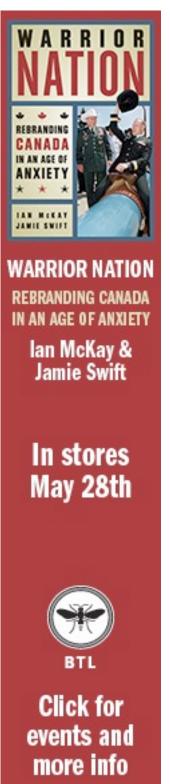


Presented by Octopus Books and the Council of Canadians

MEET THE AUTHOR

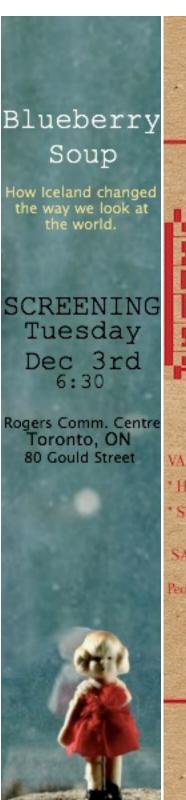


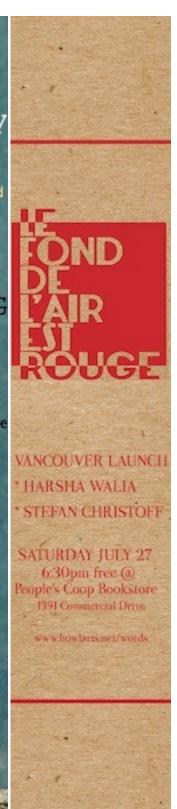










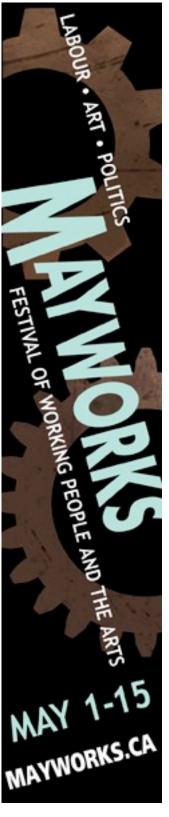




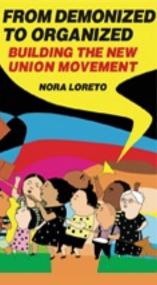




www.taxfairness.ca







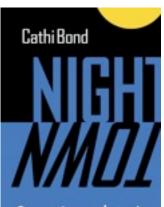
Canada-wide Book Launches

Oct. 8 Winnipeg Mondragon 7:30

Oct. 10 Vancouver Peoples' Coop Bookstore 7:30

Oct. 17 Toronto Ram in the Rye Ryerson 6:30

Oct. 28 Ottawa Café Nolstagica 7:00



Sometimes there's no explaining the unspeakable things we do for love.

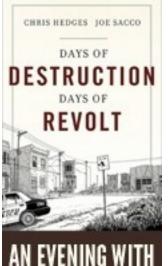
BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

May 13, 2013 6-8pm, FREE Imperial Pub 54 Dundas St West Toronto

50% off ebook @ iguanabooks.com coupon:lilyandgabe April 30 - May 14



OCTOPUS BOOKS



JUNE 14 7:00 PM

Southminster United Church 15 Aylmer Ave.

TICKETS

\$10 in advance \$15 at the door Can be purchased at both Octopus Books locations, or on-line at octopusbooks.ca

The General's **Son**

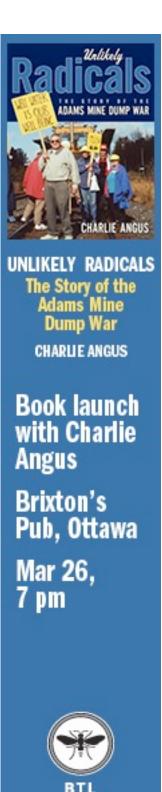
Miko Peled



Equality for Jews and Palestinians

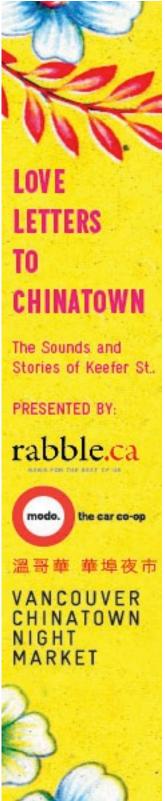
> Vancouver Public Library Feb 7, 7pm

rabble.ca



www.btlbooks.com







Memberships



a

rabble.ca is a 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."

r

rabble.ca is also a founding member of the Canadian Independent Online 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.

k

rabble.ca is an active member of the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI) in Toronto, 25OneCommunity in Ottawa and were active in W2 Media and Community Arts in Vancouver, where we hosted "desks." In 2013 rabble moved to the co-working space, The Hive.

6

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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Indignados

FRANCE, 2012, 88 minutes

DIR Tony Gatlif
CAST Mamebetty Honoré Diallo, Isabel Vendrell Corte, Fiona Monbet, Norig,
Nawel Ben Kraiem, EXEC PRODS Tony Gatlif, Delphine Mantoulet, Claudie
Ossard PRODS Cribs Bolli, Georgas Fernandez, Romain Malboss CSC Tony
Gatlif CAM Colin Houben, Sébastien Saadoun ED Stéphanie Pédelacq MUS Valentin Dahmani, Delphine Mantoulet PROD CO Princes Films /

urowide Film Production / Hérodiade / Rhône-Alpes Cinéma PRINT/SALES Les Films du Losange FORMAT DCP

Canadian Premiere

Canadian Premiere

Long a champion of the marginalized, Tony Gatlif (Latcho Drom, Esiles) fashions a sumptuously visual and typically musical docudrama from 94year-old French Resistance veteran Stephane Hessel's surprise anti-capitalist best-seller Indignez-voust, a pamphlet that served as a call to arms for the young people of France. Gatlif's film is an equally impassioned or de cour in support of the Outrage/Occupy movements worldwide.

Motivated by Sarkozy's 2010 speech demonizing France's Rom, Gatlif develops a loosely structured drama that has him following the plight of a young tilegal immigrant from Africa named Betty (Mamebetty Honore Diallo) as heis is caught up in the European-the (Mamebetty Honore Diallo) as heis is caught up in the European-the Company of the Sarkon of the Order of the Company of the Political Company of menco dancer, leaflets raining down upon her, gives her all in the courtyard below. A heart-soaring moment that—like all of Indignados—could only have come from the heart of Tony Gatlif.

Selected Filmography The Princes (83), Pleure pas my love (89), Latcho Drom (93), Mondo (95), Swing (02), Exiles (04), Freedom (09)

Promotional exchanges and giveaways

Readers of our e-newsletters get the most opportunities to win cool stuff like books, show tickets and CDs. For example in 2013 we gave away:

- A pair of tickets for the Read and Believe Ball in celebration of Literature for Life
- A pair of tickets in Toronto for Baltasar Kormákur's film The Deep
- Pair of tickets to the Toronto Comedy All Stars show in Kitchner Waterloo
- Passes to the film Aatsinki: The Story of Arctic Cowboys at the Vancouver International Film Festival
- A copy of the book Banned on the Hill by Franke lames

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 11,000 people connect with rabble on Facebook and over 22,000 on Twitter.

Wed, Oct 10, 9:30pm, GR2 Fri, Oct 12, 1:15pm, GR2



rabble food challenges

Once again, *rabble.ca* sponsored the Vegan Challenge and had some staff, contributors and interns taking part to eat vegan during Earth Week 2013. The challenge included resources, reflections, recipes and more.

Take rabble.ca's 2013 Vegan Challenge for Earth Week April 16-22!



make every day Earth Day!

Consider taking the Vegan Challenge and getting your co-workers and workplace involved so you can all take the VC together. It'll make it more fun and also gives you an opportunity to share your nutritious and delicious recipes!

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, animals, and your health.

10 tips on taking the vegan challenge at your workplace

rabble food challenges

In 2013 rabble added the Eat Local! food and sustainability challenge. Like the Vegan Challenge we offered tips, resources and of course reflections and analysis.

Join rabble's Eat Local! food and sustainability challenge September 29 to October 6



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 up to two weeks for your event to be displayed on the website.

View upcoming events | Add an event

City	Event	Time
Toronto	Mary Pitawanakwat Fund for Children Re-Launch and Fundraiser	Sun, Nov 3, 2013
Vancouver	World Peace Forum Society Teach In 2013: If Capitalism Doesn't Work, What Does?	Sat, Nov 2, 2013
Ottawa	March against corruption in Ottawa	Sat, Nov 2, 2013
Surrey	Word to Your Motherland: Performance and workshop tour	Mon, Oct 28, 2013 - Sat, Nov 2, 2013
Calgary	Pros and Cons: Policies for People and the Planet	Fri, Nov 1, 2013
Toronto	25th Anniversary of the McClelland & Stewart Journey Prize Anthology at IFOA	Thu, Oct 31, 2013
Toronto	Peter Langille - The Initiative for a UN Emergency Peace Service	Thu, Oct 31, 2013
Toronto	Two weeks of 'witchy' art	Wed, Oct 23, 2013 - Thu, Oct 31, 2013
Toronto	Writers' Trust Fiction Prize finalists reading at IFOA	Wed, Oct 30, 2013
Yellowknife	Watch LIVE: Maude Barlow launches Blue Future in Yellowknife	Wed, Oct 30, 2013
	MAWO'EEN! Evening Marking a Decade of Antiwar Organizing	Tue, Oct 29, 2013
Ottawa	Women's Forum 2013	Tue, Oct 29, 2013
Vancouver	Voices of the Drug War: Mexico and Canada	Mon, Oct 28, 2013

Tech reflections



rabble.ca has grown significantly since the early days.

As demand increases for our content, the server architecture has matured. With the additional staff hours and hardware available to us, we've begun to shift from an underresourced crisis management focus to one of refinement and planned improvements of the site.

We comfortably serve content to numbers well beyond what we were once able to without seeing much of a blip in the site performance. Multiple upgrades this year have served us well. As has the implementation of tech support shifts to ensure a wider weekly coverage of available support.

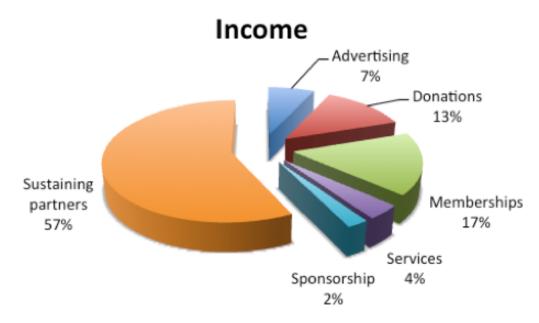
While there is a tech role behind much of anything new and improved on rabble that you'll read about elsewhere in this report, of note are the enhanced issue pages, upgraded newsletters and statistics for our users. There are constant small improvements to site content and layout with an eye towards the dominating world of social media, shares and mobile. And we've done an extensive reworking of our development process to better incorporate occasional developers and support staff.

Since our last upgrade from Drupal 5 to 6, we've made many of our tech decisions with a best practice approach for future upgrade paths. We're very excited to have begun the next phase of major upgrades to Drupal 7, and bringing a smoother more responsive experience to our users in the coming year.

Financial reflections

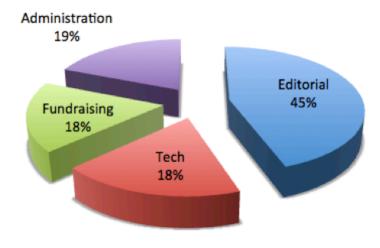
The total operating budget for rabble in 2013 was \$358,486.

2013 Sustaining Partner commitments represented 57 per cent of rabble's total income. Membership support increased to 17 per cent of the annual budget, donations were up to 13 per cent and advertising sales and services accounted for 11 per cent of our total budget.



Fourty five per cent of rabble's expenses covered editorial costs, including nearly \$50,000 in writer fees. Eighteen per cent of rabble's budget was spent on fundraising staff and 18 per cent on tech staff and server fees. Nineteen per cent of our 2013 budget was spent on administration costs, which included in postage, printing, promotion, rent and legal and accounting services.

Budget distribution



Measuring website traffic

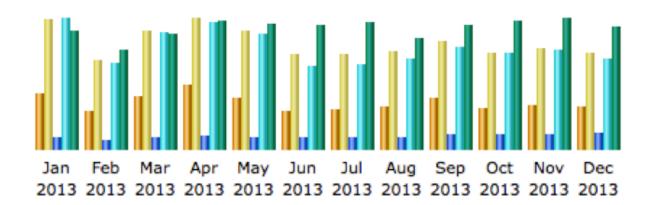
rabble uses AWStats and Google Analytics to measure website traffic. While the programs measure different variables (log files vs. javascript), together they provide a helpful view of traffic trends.

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.

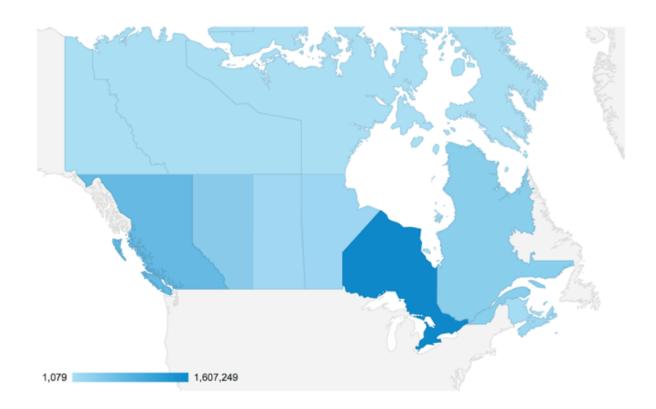
In 2013, rabble had an average of 225,000 unique visitors per month, an average of 368,000 visits per month and about two million page views per month¹. The website reached a high of 515,000 visits during in January 2013, with our coverage of Idle No More.

The average time spent on the site in 2013 was 2.08 minutes per visit.

The graphic below, drawn from AWStats, is an indication of the traffic trends over the seasons of 2013.



¹ What is the difference between unique visitors and visits? In simple terms, unique visitors refer to the number of IP addresses, or individual computers, that visited the site over a period of time. The number of visits 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.



In 2013 *rabble.ca* had 4,419,421 visits from 229 countries/territories. Seventy seven per cent of traffic to the site came from Canada. Of those, 59.1 per cent were returning visitors, with 40.9 per cent new visitors.



people at rabble.ca

rabble operates with 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 2013, we had editorial staff in British Columbia, in Ontario, in Quebec and in New York. We have columnists, bloggers, podcasters and video makers coast to coast and beyond the Canadian borders. In 2013 the staff got together in person for a retreat to reflect and plan. Special thanks to our hosts in Ottawa!

rabble is a member of the Centre for Social Innovation 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 W2 Community Media and Arts Centre and in Ottawa you can find us at 250ne Community centre in Ottawa

Board

Dave Lundy
Diana Bronson
Diane Touchette
Duncan Cameron
Elaine Bernard
Fred Wilson
Holly Solomon
Tria Donaldson
Wayne MacPhail

Editorial Advisory

Dave Mitchell John Urquhart Linda McQuaig Lynn Coady Sharon Fraser

Thanks to:

250neCommunity CSI - Spadina Google Currents Livestream.com Olivia Chow Phillip Smith Spreed Inc The Hive What Counts

People

Kim Elliott, Publisher

Meagan Perry, Editor-In-Chief (Oct 2013-), rpn Executive Producer

Derrick O'Keefe, Editor (until September 2013) **Michelle Gregus,** Managing Editor

Kaitlin McNabb, book lounge coordinator, news coordinator (Oct. 2013-)

Karl Nerenberg, Parliamentary Correspondent **Wayne MacPhail**, Director Emerging Media **Michael Stewart**, blogs coordinator and babble moderator, editor *best of rabble*

Meg Borthwick, babble moderator

Matthew Adams, Program and Special Projects coordinator, in cahoots Editor,

Shirley Marquez book-keeping and administration H.G. Watson, Labour Beat Reporter (August 2013) Lori Waller, Labour Beat Reporter (until May 2013) Steffanie Pinch, Lynn Williams activist toolkit coordinator

Frank Preyde, babble moderator
Jessica Rose, Copy Editor, best of rabble Editor
Matt Dusenbury, design best of rabble multimedia
Meghan Murphy, rpn Producer

Krystalline Kraus, Activist Communique

Tania Ehret, indie inside coordinator, Contributing Editor

Amira Elghawaby, Contributing Editor Larkin Schmiedl, Contributing Editor Brian Sharpe, technological support Allan Graham, technological support Star Company, Accounting Logan Katz, Accountant Iler Campbell, Legal

regular volunteers & advisors

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Andreas Krebs
Cathi Bond
Deborah Konecny
Derek McLeod
Emily Hill
Frank Preyde
Greg MacDougall
Humberto DaSilva
Mandy Bergman
Sally Miller
Suzanne Gallant
Tor Sandberg

Yee-Guan Wong

rabble by the numbers 2013

```
# of feature contributors 390
# of columns approximately 400
# of livestream video minutes watched on rabblety 174,073
# of podcast shows 24
# of community events sponsored by rabble 28
# of podcast episodes over 600
# of posts on babble in 2013 Way, way too many to
 count. You try it.
# of original book reviews 49
# of sustaining partners 13
# of Not Rex videos 13
# of blog posts on rabble over 2,400
# of supporting members over 740
# of average unique visitors a month 225,000
# of visitors to rabble in 2013 4,419,421
# of countries/territories visitors came from 229
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Appendix A: rpn shows 2013



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



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



Meekly Canadian news and current affairs not heard on mainstream radio



Democracy North
A grassroots, independent
Canadian and global news hour.



Alternatives Journal
Canada's informed voice on
environmentalism



Explores varied aspects of feminism through discussion and interviews



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



Film Festivals in Toronto
Focusing on community film
festivals



Peace and social justice discussions from campus radio Waterloo



Feminist Current
A progressive, feminist
perspective on everything



Citizen Science
A special series by the
Western University Citizen
Science Project



Habitat
Conversations about
how we live



John Bonnar Audio Blog

Independent journalist with social justice stories in and around Toronto Ontario



Progressive Voices

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



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



radio book lounge

Author readings, interviews, book reviews, storycasts and more



Needs No Introduction

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



Redeve

On the political social and cultural issues of the day



No One Is Illegal

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



Talking Radical Radio

Grassroots voices from across Canada



People's Health Radio

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



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?

- Become an individual rabble member for \$5/month by visiting www.rabble.ca/membership. rabble depends on memberships to survive and thrive. We offer great thank you gifts for all members. Of course, we also accept donations. See https://secure.rabble.ca/supportrabble
- Sign up for our FREE news summary: www.rabble.ca/alerts
- Have your organization join in cahoots -- our sponsored portal of news from civil society groups in Canada. See: http://www.rabble.ca/incahoots Contact business@rabble.ca
- Have your organization become a Sustaining Partner. Sustaining Partners provide financial support to rabble and receive a fantastic advertising package and promotion from rabble. Contact business@rabble.ca
- Advertise on rabble.ca. rabble is Canada's largest independent online news site. Contact advertise@rabble.ca
- Tell us your news, share a story! If you have news or a story let us know! Contact editor@rabble.ca
- Spread the word and tell your friends, colleagues and networks about rabble and encourage them to visit. You can email articles with a touch of button
- Join our Facebook page
- Follow us on Twitter

A special thank you to our Sustaining Partners

























A word from our friends at the 250neCommunity organization!



Work In Community

Connect with an exciting network of like-minded social change-makers. Share resources, ideas and workspace in a centralized sustainable location.

Options

Rent flexible workspace – private office ranging from 3 – 15 people or a personal desk. Perfect for nonprofits, freelancers, entrepreneurs and consultants. Private offices, starting at \$1000/mo. Permanent desk, \$500/mo. Even hot desks are available!

Includes

High-speed Internet Phone service with unlimited Canada-US long distance
Access to fax machines, photocopiers and printers
Use of meeting rooms, kitchen and lounge
And more!

Come for a visit!

Call 613-566-3448 or email info@25onecommunity.ca for a tour of our space! Or just drop by! 25OneCommunity, 251 Bank St., 2nd floor (corner of Cooper St.), Ottawa, Ontario

rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US



I rely on rabble to bring me the real debates that are shaping our country. I also depend on rabble to bring my columns to a remarkable community of Canadians.

Naomi Klein rabble.ca

Finds us at:

Centre for Social Innovation 215 Spadina Ave Suite 400 Toronto ON M<u>5T 2C7</u> 250neCommunity 251 Bank St, 2nd Floor (corner of Cooper St) Ottawa ON K2P 1X3 The Hive 128 W Hastings St #210 Vancouver BC V6B 1G8

