

rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US



Annual Report
2011

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

live and pre-recorded video

Canada-wide event calendar

a plethora of podcasts on issues of
the day

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

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

blogs from writers and activists
across Canada (and beyond)

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 & President Duncan Cameron

“No one could have known that when a Tunisian fruit vendor set himself on fire in a public square, it would incite protests that would topple dictators and start a global wave of dissent. In 2011, protesters didn’t just voice their complaints; they changed the world.”

~Time Magazine announcing “The Protester” as the Person of the Year

You know things are happening when a mainstream media organization like *Time Magazine* declares “The Protester” as the Person of the Year. At *rabble.ca* we have been covering democratic movements and struggles since day one over 10 years ago. As a media site, *rabble.ca* just isn’t like the other guys. We tell the stories of activists, of social movements, of workers, of communities fighting for change. That’s why we aren’t surprised that we remain Canada’s most popular national source of independent progressive news and views.

In April of 2011, rabble had its 10th anniversary and we celebrated by looking to the future by launching a special year-long series [Reinventing democracy: Reclaiming the commons](#), a progressive dialogue on Canada’s future. This series, curated by Murray Dobbin, posted 32 stories exploring a progressive future.

Coincidentally, not long after we launched the series, the amazing Occupy Wall Street phenomenon launched a world-wide protest focused on one of the most pernicious and most obvious effects of globalization: the almost unbelievable levels of inequality that the last 30 years of liberating the “market” has wrought. We are proud to report that *rabble.ca* was the first media in Canada to have a special [section dedicated to the #Occupy movement](#) bringing together all of our coverage plus links and feeds of coverage elsewhere. We continue to cover the #Occupy movement closely.

It was a federal election year in Canada in 2011 and the intense interest in our elections coverage led us to [create an “elections” page](#) on our site last year, including coverage of the seven provincial elections. We curated special blogs just for the elections and had coverage across the site. Interest was high, during the federal election an all time high of 350,000 unique visitors used our site.

In general, our audience grew, with rabble now getting over 2 million page views a month and averaging over 150,000 individuals visiting rabble every month. We also deliver the news through our e-newsletters (daily and weekly), our iPad app, Facebook presence and our popular tweets.

In 2011 there was also the passing of NDP leader Jack Layton. Like millions of Canadians, we mourned his loss and reflected on his life’s work. We maintain a page dedicated to [memories of Jack Layton’s life](#).

Additionally, we took a leadership role in [following the NDP leadership](#) race with extensive news and analysis, including exclusive conversations with candidates on our discussion board babble.

News and Features Editor Cathryn Atkinson departed *rabble.ca* in 2011 in order to focus on her writing; something we are glad to report is that she will be doing writing on occasion for rabble. Thank you to Cathryn for all her great work curating “news for the rest of us.” We will also miss Tor Sandberg who did great work with rabbletv (and remains as an advisor to rabble) who left to do communications work with a union. Last year also saw us welcome [Elaine Bernard](#), Executive Director of the Labour and Worklife Program at Harvard University to our board and [Fred Wilson](#), assistant to the President of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union to our board.

We welcome all of you to learn in these pages about *rabble.ca*.



Kim Elliott
Publisher



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!

2011 Sustaining Partners:

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

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

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



rabble.ca 2011 annual report

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rabble.ca:

Covering more issues that matter in 2011.

The remarkable, evolving Occupy movement

BY MURRAY DOBBIN | NOVEMBER 21, 2011

More than empty promises: Canada's military still fighting Indians today

BY PAMELA PALMATER | OCTOBER 13, 2011

Labour's coming showdown with Harper

BY FRED WILSON | NOVEMBER 17, 2011

The impact of labour disputes vs. real threats to economic recovery

BY JIM STANFORD | JULY 4, 2011

Five basic things you need to know about the Vancouver civic election

BY TRISTAN MARKLE | NOVEMBER 11, 2011

Climate change, capitalism and the transformation of cultural values

BY NAOMI KLEIN | NOVEMBER 11, 2011

Kevin Neish: Why I am joining the new flotilla to Gaza

BY KEVIN NEISH | JUNE 14, 2011

Quebec gets another political option - from the right

BY DUNCAN CAMERON | MARCH 1, 2011

Hill Dispatches: Year's end brings with it the beginning of a new battle for health care

BY KARL NERENBERG | DECEMBER 26, 2011

What financial crises teach us about economic democracy

BY ELLEN RUSSELL | AUGUST 15, 2011

The mother of crime is poverty

BY RYAN SPARROW RIAZ SAYANI-MULJI | AUGUST 3, 2011

Something brewing beneath transphobic ads in Ontario

BY MERCEDES ALLEN | OCTOBER 5, 2011

We were the first media in Canada to feature coverage of the #Occupy movement.





ON RABBLE.CA
Occupy movements challenge business agenda
OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By Rick Salutin | I think I know what the Occupy movements mean to say and over which they are reproached by ill-wishers and well-wishers alike (e.g., "vast potential... untethered to many real-world goals").
**Activist Communique: Student walk-out in solidarity with Occupy Toronto -- Friday** OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By Krystalline Kraus | Disgruntled by skyrocketing tuition and fee hikes? Mounting debt? Enormous classes? Lack of job security and program funding? Take your frustration to the streets!
Wealth and income in the top 1 per cent OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By Marc Lee | One thing I really like about the Occupy movement is that it is reclaiming mental space. I'm thinking of the focus on the riches gained by the top 1 per cent, and of namino and shamino capitalism.

ON BABBLE
Occupy Vancouver last comment by epaulo13
"Occupy Toronto" Part of the Democratic Renaissance? last comment by howeird beale
Occupy Winnipeg last comment by milo204
Call to action: #OCCUPYWALLSTREET 3 last comment by Rebecca West
OCCUPY TORONTO VIDEO - WATCH last comment by Catchfire
Citibank arrested protesters for trying to close their Accounts last comment by Tommy_Paine
Where do the unions stand on the #OCCUPY movement? last comment by Unionist
Its not really 99% last comment by Uncle John
What demands should

From Wall Street to Bay Street, and hundreds of cities and towns around the world, a movement is underway to reclaim the commons and to challenge corporate power. Follow the latest on this page.
RABBLE.CA FEEDS
 Occupy rabble feed
 Krystalline Kraus
RABBLE ROUSER
#Occupy Canada
Download the **rabble rouser** special issue.

SITES WE LIKE
Occupy Toronto
Occupy Love
OccupyWallSt.org
OccupyTogether.org

#Occupy coverage included producing a special **rabble rouser** print edition.

Greg MacDougall was instrumental
in this project

the rabble rouser:
Occupy edition
a publication of rabble.ca

WE ARE THE 99%
ECONOMIC JUSTICE IS OVERDUE

From Wall Street to Bay Street, and hundreds of cities and towns around the world, a movement is underway to reclaim the commons and to challenge corporate power. This special rabble-rouser is rabble.ca's contribution to this new and overdue public dialogue.

A Message From Occupied Wall Street (Day Five) • OccupyWallSt.org

Note: Our use of the one demand is a rhetorical device. This is NOT an official list of demands.

On September 21st, 2011, Troy Davis, an innocent man, was murdered by the state of Georgia. Troy Davis was one of the 99 percent. Ending capital punishment is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, the richest 400 Americans owned more wealth than half of the country's population. Ending wealth inequality is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, four of our members were arrested on bogus charges. Ending police intimidation is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, we determined that Yahoo! lied about occupywallst.org being in spam filters. Ending corporate censorship is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, roughly eighty percent of Americans thought the country was on the wrong track. Ending the modern gilded age is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, roughly 13% of Americans approved of the job Congress was doing. Ending political corruption is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, roughly one sixth of Americans did not have work. Ending joblessness is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, roughly one sixth of Americans lived in poverty. Ending poverty is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, roughly fifty million Americans were without health insurance. Ending health profiteering is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, America had military bases in around one hundred and thirty out of one hundred and sixty-five countries. Ending American imperialism is our one demand.

On September 21st, 2011, America was at war with the world. Ending war is our one demand.



*photo: Silvana Rippner
OccupyWallSt.org*

To the people of the world,

We, the New York City General Assembly occupying Wall Street in Liberty Square, urge you to assert your power.

Exercise your right to peaceably assemble; occupy public space; create a process to address the problems we face, and generate solutions accessible to everyone.

To all communities that take action and form groups in the spirit of direct democracy, we offer support, documentation, and all of the resources at our disposal.

Join us and make your voices heard!

excerpted from: [Declaration of the Occupation of New York City](#),
accepted by the NYC General Assembly (nyga.nyc) on September 28, 2011

For updates about Occupy actions in Canada: rabble.ca/occupy

On April 18, 2011, rabble celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Like many things that get older, we got bigger, and we took a look at our past with a special series by Noreen Mae Ritsema

RABBLE.CA SERIES - TEN YEARS OF RABBLE.CA



On April 18, 2011, rabble turned 10. Highlighting 10 important moments of rabble's history over the course of the year, current and former people who have been involved with rabble have been asked to share their personal highlights from their time with rabble. This rabble history series elaborates on some of the most common highlights submitted.

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: Redefining citizen journalism -- babblers cover 9/11
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | OCTOBER 6, 2011

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: launching during the Quebec City FTAA protests
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | JULY 14, 2011

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: Frontline coverage of the G20 protests
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | NOVEMBER 3, 2011

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: babble -- TI and soul of rabble.ca
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | JUNE 19, 2011

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: rabbletv joins the anti-war movement
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | OCTOBER 12, 2011

RABBLE SERIES
rabble turns 10! Our story: Introducing radio free radio
BY NOREEN MAE RITSEMA | AUGUST 9, 2011

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

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

Not only was rabble.ca covering the protests, rabble was part of the protests.

As the Iraq war was looming in 2003, mainstream media outlets were intent on justifying the invasion. Much news coverage consisted of government propaganda designed to support the U.S. position. In Canada, rabble.ca was one of the **few alternative sources of war information**, offering informed articles and news, as well as a place for people to discuss the situation in the rabble discussion forum.

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

We also know that many of you have your own highlights from rabble's 10 years and we want to know what you think. Share how you'd like to see us grow in the comments section below.

As podcasts began taking the digital world by storm in late 2004, rabble.ca saw opportunity. Judy Haddock, rabble's founder, recalls the foresight that led to rabble development as staff contemplated its growth in 2005.

"We had many discussions about how to expand rabble. A lot of people wanted to see rabble move into multimedia. But in our staff discussions we decided instead to go more into multimedia." So we decided to have a discussion about the idea of an online podcast network.

Wayne MacPhail, currently a member of rabble's board, proposed that rabble d

We threw a **party**, of course.



Cathryn Atkinson, Ben Powless, Olivia Nuamah, Mark Surman and Judy Rebick at our 10th anniversary party at the Gladstone Hotel in Toronto.

And we looked to the future
with a special **year-long
series** on democracy.



A progressive dialogue on Canada's future

This is an extended series on the Canadian left -- Reinventing democracy, reclaiming the commons: A progressive dialogue on the future of Canada -- a look at where it stands after the recent federal election, and what the future can hold. The series will run in this, rabble.ca's 10th year, and is curated by journalist Murray Dobbin.

A progressive dialogue: Building a progressive feminist movement in neo-liberal times | OCTOBER 28, 2011 | By *Meghan Murphy* | Desperation, coupled with the growing influence of neo-liberal discourse, has led mainstream feminism to look for empowerment where there is none.

A progressive dialogue: Occupy -- What can it teach the left? | OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By *Murray Dobbin* | Reinventing democracy is a complicated process, but as for reclaiming the commons? It is exactly what the Occupy movement has been about. A reinvented democracy rests on a reclaimed commons.

A progressive dialogue: Occupy the future -- A new generation reaches for the emergency brake | OCTOBER 14, 2011 | By *Dave Oswald Mitchell* | Everywhere you look you'll find capitalism, and everywhere you look you'll find the problems caused by it -- and the seeds of its successor.

A progressive dialogue on the future: Six questions for leftists | OCTOBER 7, 2011 | By *Justin Podur* | Leftists don't spend enough time or energy working on important strategic questions. If we could resolve a handful of these, even tentatively, and try out some solutions, we would be more successful.

Collaborative dialogue sharpens civic decision-making | SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 | By *Charles Dobson* | The simple beauty of grassroots democratic solutions to pressing problems is not lost on those who bring together opposite sides in disputes, handing citizens more control over decision-making.

Beyond the cultural fabric of baby boomers: Youth and political

We also looked to the past,
releasing the
“Best of rabble.ca 2010.”



2011 was an election year and elections matter, so we offered extensive **election coverage** of local, regional and national elections.

issues
on rabble.ca

Elections 2011

CA | BC | AB | Prairies | ON | QC | Atlantic | Territories



Share your photos!

rabble
rouser
print. share.


Voters' Guide

ON RABBLE
NDP surging situation in BC last comment
by Anonymouse

Dix raisons
de voter contre le
candidat de Harper dans
votre circonscription

Ten reasons
to oppose the
Harper candidate
in your riding

ON RABBLE.CA

Whatever happens tomorrow, the NDP surge is a sign of hope for Canada MAY 1, 2011 | By David J. Climenhaga | Whatever happens tomorrow, the unexpected surge of the NDP in the spring of 2011 is a sign of hope for Canada.

It is time for greens to join the Orange Wave last comment
by contrarianna

Seat Projections (3) last comment by Jamie Delth

Kahnawake not voting in federal election


Don't be blinded:
follow media watch

Strategic voting is more important than ever MAY 1, 2011 | By Murray Dobbin | Analysts and activists are still

More than **350,000** people
(unique visitors) visited
rabble during the federal
election.



Elections 2011

CA | BC | AB | Prairies | ON | QC | Atlantic | Territories



Share your photos!

ON RABBLE

New Liberal Cabinet last comment by Peter3

Alberta politics, election thread last comment by Lou Arab

More Electoral Maps last comment by toaster

Libby Davies answers questions on NDP leadership race last comment by Tommy_Paine

A reporter on the Hill for the rest of us. Meet Karl.



IN CAHOOTS



ON RABBLE.CA

Time to cooperate: A modest proposal for a progressive alliance on electoral reform OCTOBER 19, 2011 | By Lynn McDonald | The NDP and Liberal leadership races are opportunities for debate about both proportional representation and climate change, issues where the Conservatives are at odds with the majority of Canadians.



#VanElxn: Occupy City Hall, decolonize Vancouver OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By David P Ball | In this week's Vancouver elections coverage, The Left Coast Post joins #OccupyVancouver downtown and profiles the only city council candidate camping out.



Saskatchewan: What happened to the NDP? OCTOBER 13, 2011 | By John Warnock | The conservative Saskatchewan

Which Conservative Will The Ontario Liberals Try To Tempt To Cross The Floor? last comment by edmundconnor

NL Election 2011, continued last comment by dacckon

An answer to low voter engagement last comment by Northern Shoveler

NL Politics Pot-Pourri, Newfoundland Labrador elections last comment by Rebecca West

Election outcome signals time to rebuild public services OCTOBER 7, 2011 | The election signals an opportunity to rebuild public services after years of neglect and public sector job losses.

more

ELECTION VIDEOS

more videos

Submit your story tips, pitches and articles to editor@rabble.ca.

Election coverage included “the rabble rouser” a weekly print special. Thanks again to Greg MacDougall!

The rabble rouser! Election 2011 coverage in print!

[Write to editor](#) [Support rabble](#) [Corrections](#) [SHARE](#)

the rabble rouser Vol 5, Issue 2 

REPRESENTING MIDDLE CLASS CANADIANS IN THE FEDERAL ELECTION

Apathy, big lies, contempt and electoral dysfunction

By Greg MacDougall

Contempt

The widening gap between the very rich and the very poor is another measure of democratic and moral failure.

rabble.ca/rabblerouser == weekly election issue: print, share

Election matters

check out rabble.ca's election matters [rabble.ca](#)

Hot off the press, this is the latest copy of the rabble rouser!

It's a two-page pdf, produced weekly during the federal election.

The rabble rouser is designed for printing double-sided onto a single piece of paper (and for making copies and distributing). But it is also good for reading online.

Click here to download the PDF. (For technical reasons, the image is not linked to the PDF)

And then please print and share!

Read on for more information about this initiative, and for a full list of downloads.

Are you concerned about the coming Canadian Election and what it could mean for you, your family, friends, community and this country?

Are you also concerned about the obviously slanted mainstream media election coverage that promotes corporate interests over the public good?

Election coverage included live video election shows.



Host Trish Hennessy (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives researcher and author of the Hennessy Index) was joined by Canadian Auto Workers economist Jim Stanford, Infoscape Research Lab Director and Bell Globemedia Research Chair Greg Elmer and Atkinson Foundation's Olivia Nuamah.

This first panel responded to the leader debates and the campaign so far, as well as tackled the issue of strategic voting.

Another live video election show.



rabble.ca *NEWS FOR THE REST OF US*

Present:

The morning after

(the 2011 Federal
Election)

**THURSDAY
MAY 12
6-8PM @ W2
111 WEST HASTINGS**

Join Libby Davies (MP Vancouver East),
Jamie Biggar (LeadNow), Itrath Syed
Duncan Cameron (rabble.ca), Scott Clark (UNN)
and Derrick O'Keefe (StopWar)
Moderated by: Charlie Smith, Editor, The Georgia Straight

There has been a lot of talk about the post election blues. Was
this election hot and cold for you? Good and bad? Do you wake
elated for a moment, then with dread?

Join in a post-election discussion in Vancouver to make sense of
what the new Canadian political landscape is and to strategize
for what comes next.

Co-sponsored by OpenMedia.ca



On May 12 we had a live
roundtable discussion in
Vancouver to debrief on the
2011 election and strategize for
the next four years. This event
was shown live on rabbletv.

The Morning After featured:
Libby Davies, Jamie Biggar,
Duncan Cameron, Scott Clark
and Derrick O'Keefe.

This Vancouver forum was
moderated by Charlie Smith
from *The Georgia Straight*.



And another live video election show.

On May 30 we had another live roundtable discussion, this time in Toronto, to debrief on the 2011 election and strategize for the next four years. This event was shown live on rabbletv.

Beyond the Ballot Box: Strategizing for the Next Four Years featured: Peggy Nash, MP Parkdale-High Park; Rathika Sitsabaiesan, MP Scarborough-Rouge River; Judy Rebick, writer/activist; Pamela Palmater, Centre for Indigenous Governance, Ryerson University; Adam Shedletzky, Co-founder of *leadnow.ca* and Grace Edward Galabuzi, Dept. of Political Science, Ryerson University.

This Toronto forum was moderated by Winnie Ng, CAW-Sam Gindin Chair and Rodney Diverlus, Vice President Equity for the Ryerson Students' Union.

CAW-Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice & Democracy, Ryerson Students' Union, Rabble.ca, and the Ryerson Faculty Association present

Beyond the Ballot Box:

Strategizing for the next 4 years!

Monday, May 30, 2011

Thomas Lounge -

Ryerson Student Centre
63 Gould St. Toronto

6:30 to 9pm

A roundtable discussion with:

Peggy Nash, Member of Parliament of
Parkdale-High Park

Rathika Sitsabaiesan, Member of
Parliament of Scarborough-Rouge River

Judy Rebick, Writer/Activist

Pamela Palmater, Centre for Indigenous
Governance, Ryerson University

Adam Shedletzky,
Co-founder of *leadnow.ca*

Grace-Edward Galabuzi,
Dept of Political Science & Public
Administration, Ryerson University

A forum to debrief on the federal election, make sense of the new political reality, and to strategize for change.

Refreshments will be provided

Co-moderated by Winnie Ng, Sam Gindin Chair, and Rodney Diverlus, Ryerson Students' Union's VP Equity.



rabble.ca

CAW-Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice & Democracy

Ryerson University

RSU Ryerson Students' Union



Our **iPhone** app was a popular source for election coverage.

It was featured on the iTunes "Canada Votes" apps.



Speaking of popular,
we were **pleased to be cited**
on “shit Harper did.”

The majority of the human body
is water, the majority of Stephen
Harper's body is cruel.

In the 2011 budget, the Harper government failed to allocate any new funding for drinking water on First Nations reserves. 100 First Nations communities currently have water advisories, including 49 communities which are high risk. Harper also refuses to sign the UN Declaration designating clean water as a human right.

[Read about it at Rabble](#)

Seriously? Tell me some other shit!



Send me new videos!

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ShitHarperDid.com on Facebook

✓ Like

You like this.



712

rabble was honoured at the
first annual Empathy
Awards for our coverage of
vegan and animal rights
issues.

empathy∞unlimited



We honoured the memory of **Jack Layton** with a special tribute page.



Jack Layton 1950-2011

A special tribute page on rabble.ca

JACK'S PAGE ON RABBLE.CA



My friends, love is better than anger.
Hope is better than fear.
Optimism is better than despair.
So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic.
And we'll change the world.

Jack Layton, August 20, 2011

Jack Layton passed away on August 22, 2011.

Dedicated to tributes, thoughts, anecdotes and discussion drawn from across rabble.ca

Not Rex: Brother Jack | SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 | By Humberto DaSilva | This week, Not Rex's Humberto DaSilva remembers the late Jack Layton: his impact on the NDP, politics in Canada and the average Canadian.

Can the NDP reinvent itself -- and save the country? | SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 | By Murray Dobbin | Murray Dobbin ponders the constellation of potential candidates who could offer Jack Layton's vision of the NDP, and the country.

Promises, not only condolences for Jack | SEPTEMBER 5, 2011 | By Ted Sprague | Canadians from coast to coast have not stopped at sending condolences to Jack's family. They have been making promises to continue his legacy as they envision it, a legacy of hope and optimism.

Layton's state funeral could backfire on Harper | SEPTEMBER 2, 2011 | By Frances Russell | Was the flow of emotions at Jack Layton's death fleeting? Something more profound? If the former, political normalcy will return soon. If the latter, the state funeral could be Harper's Big Mistake.

Jack's letter to Canadians inspires 'Turning Point' movement | SEPTEMBER 2, 2011 | By LeadNow | A Turning Point for Canada? Inspired by Layton's letter, almost 1,000 Canadians sign up with Leadnow.ca to host 55+ gatherings to organize for change.

That Hopey-Changey Thing: Thoughts on citizenship, affect, cancer and the Layton funeral | SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 | By Marusya Bociurkiw | Is the contagious affect circulating around Layton's death antithetical to grassroots organizing?

The two processions that made up Jack Layton's cortege | AUGUST 31,

And we even deliver
(no charge).



Our daily news digest gets highlights to thousands of Canadians.

rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US

**rabble.ca daily e-news for
Monday 13th of June 2011**

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

Alison Redford's 'high-risk as it gets' Tory campaign: Two outta three ain't bad!

June 13, 2011 | by David J. Climenhaga

When Alison Redford expresses popular sentiments, this is deemed dangerous and nutty. When Ted Morton speaks for banks and tax-dodging corporations, this is the final word in sanity. Explain, please!

Air Canada bargaining and the fight for middle class jobs

June 13, 2011 | by Jim Stanford

The union has portrayed the fight at Air Canada as symbolic of the broader challenge we face to defend middle class jobs in the whole labour market.

Canadian Drug Policy Coalition head: Ideology has no place in drug policy

June 13, 2011 | by Cathryn Atkinson

Donald MacPherson, the director of the new Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, talks to rabble about the implications of criminalization and inaction for Canada.

Women's Worlds 2011 interview: Nicole Schwab

June 13, 2011 | by Meghan Murphy

Because we live in a globalized world, Nicole Schwab and The Gender Equality Project saw and jumped on the opportunity to work with multinational companies and have a real impact on these issues.

If Harper thinks asbestos is safe for export, he should put it back in his home

June 13, 2011 | by rabbleTV

The Canadian government removed asbestos from Parliament and the prime minister's home. Despite all this, Canada is still a leading exporter of asbestos to developing countries.

Libby Davies talks about the battlefield of community health care in Canada

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

25 Nov 2011

Hello rabble readers,

rabble.ca is pleased to be livestreaming '[Secure the future of medicare: a call to care](#)', which takes place in Ottawa on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m.

Are you following rabble.ca on social media? Check out our [Facebook page](#) and [Facebook group](#), as well as rabble.ca's [Twitter feed](#), for links to stories, photos and comments and tweets from contributors.

And finally...

This year is the 10th anniversary of the New Politics Initiative, a coalition that pushed for a more activist progressive political party. In Nov. 2001, it submitted a resolution to a special NDP convention on party renewal. Starting Monday, Nov. 28, rabble.ca begins a series on the NPI -- what it was and what happened. Look out for it!

This week's top news

[Out of the parks, into our lives: Move beyond Occupy](#)

The gains made by Occupy are huge. They are nothing short of the discovery of an alternative model for society. So whatever happens next, I applaud the Occupiers with all my heart.

By Laura Kaminker

[A progressive dialogue: Occupy -- The struggle within](#)

I have been energized, above all, by the people supporting the Occupy movement who I would never expect to see at the rallies, people who I felt I would never be able to make common cause.

By Aalya Ahmad

[Gender and chemicals: A Canadian tale of poisoning women](#)

The federal government is failing Canadian women when it comes to considering gender in the determination of whether a chemical can be officially listed as "toxic" and harmful.

By Dayna Nadine Scott

[The forbidden fruits of industrial food production](#)

In this issue

[news](#) [blogs](#) [columns](#) [podcasts](#)
[rabbletv](#) [books](#)

Upcoming events

[Toronto](#) [NDP socialist caucus annual federal conference](#)

Annual federal conference for the socialist caucus of the NDP

By [NDP Socialist Caucus](#)

[Ottawa](#) [Stop crime bill c-10: Canadian families for fiscal and social responsibility](#)

Stop crime bill c-10: Canadian families for fiscal and social responsibility

By [Coalition to End Crime Bill C-10](#)

[Vancouver](#) [Ghetto Palestine: Resisting Israel's Occupation with Jon Elmer](#)

Writer and photojournalist Jon Elmer, based in Bethlehem, speaks about Palestine, the Wall, political prisoners, and the future for Palestinian resistance to Israeli occupation.

By [Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights - UBC](#)

This week's top in cahoots

[Reduction in child poverty stalled in Nova Scotia](#)

For the first time since 2003, the child poverty rate increased and now stands at 8.2% of all children under the age of 18 in Nova Scotia, which translates to 14,000 children living in poverty.

By [Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives](#)

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



news and features

The screenshot shows the rabble.ca website interface. At the top, the logo 'rabble.ca' is prominent, followed by navigation links: 'About | Support | Advertise | Contact | Log-in'. A search bar and a 'Browse by issue' dropdown are also visible. Below the header, a banner encourages users to 'Join the conversation' with a link to 'womensworlds.ca' and a photo of a woman. The main content area is divided into sections. On the left, a large article titled 'CUPW: A cautionary tale of union-busting, with a little help from the media' is featured, accompanied by a photo of a streetcar. To the right, a sidebar titled 'TODAY'S TOP PICKS ON RABBLE' lists several articles, including 'Orange Wave to Orange Crush: Looking forward to a stable, effective New Democrat government', 'Equatorial Guinea ratifies the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa', 'Action alert: Your help needed to stop proposed mega-quarry', and 'European Commission proposes implementing Robin Hood Tax'. Each article snippet includes a brief description and a date.

Staff: Cathryn Atkinson -- News and Features Editor, Alex Samur -- Managing Editor, Kim Elliott -- Publisher, Michelle Gregus -- East Coast Editor **Interns:** Mick Sweetman, Scaachi Koul

"Oh, I like that . . . rabble . . ."

~ Slavoj Zizek to rabble contributor Aaron Leonard when the latter introduced himself at Occupy Wall Street, Oct. 2011

rabble.ca's daily news and features scheduling in 2011 reflected what was going on in the world of progressive action and politics. It was a very busy, revolutionary year, full of major events. We were kept on our toes, doing our best to keep up in a changing progressive environment.

Firstly, it was *rabble.ca's* 10th birthday. The early part of the year was, in part, a build up to celebrations in April. Written reflections and our history became part of our stories, not least because it made those of us who run *rabble.ca* mindful of our roles and responsibilities to the website, to our readers and to the voices and ideas that we promote.

There was continuous pressure through the year to publish an increasing number of stories on a wide variety of subjects, partly because of events in Canada and beyond, and partly to satisfy an astronomical increase in readership. Staff and volunteers worked extremely hard to accomplish this, and the successes were gratifying. Aboriginal rights, climate change and the environment as well as many other topics fought for prominence on the website.

A select monthly review of 2011's news and features:

January

At *rabble.ca*, we were already planning ahead for the election:

Ten reasons to oppose the Harper candidate in your riding

rabble.ca kicked off 2011 with this piece by Kathleen O'Hara, naming in detail the attacks Stephen Harper and his Conservative Party were making on the social fabric of Canada as a minority government, with the aim of giving a taste of what could happen if they were handed a majority.

The Arab Spring takes flower . . .

Egypt: Days of anger in the age of terror

Protests start in Tunisia and begin moving on to Egypt and elsewhere in the region, inspiring the world and causing us all to hold our breaths. Sarah Ghabrial writes about the extraordinary moment in Egypt and support within Canada.

February

Groups petition for limited spots in Missing Women Commission

Wally Oppal, the head of the inquiry into missing and murdered women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, heard petitions from the families, Aboriginal leaders and women's rights groups for representation at the commission. Representation at the inquiry was a struggle for these groups throughout 2011, ending

with disappointment and anger.

Bev Oda and Kairos: What is 'not' being achieved now

John Lewis, the international human rights co-ordinator of Kairos, writes about their struggles to continue their work after the now-infamous pen stroke by the Conservative Minister for International Cooperation, Bev Oda, which cancelled their federal funding.

March

Will Canada be trapped inside Fortress North America?

Steve Staples writes about the security perimeter talks between the Harper government and the Obama administration, in theory aimed at easing border trade but which will also leave Canada sacrificing its ability to have an independent security policy -- and trapped inside a U.S.-dominated continental fortress. It was signed at the end of 2011.

Harper's 16 to 29 billion reasons for sending fighter jets to Libya

In taking part in the NATO attack on Libya, the prime minister is on his way to justifying the cost of his purchase of the F-35 fighter jets, and the media already helps with justification propaganda, says Yves Engler.

April

Sun News to shine on Conservatives



From Wall Street to Bay Street, and hundreds of cities and towns in between, a movement is underway to reclaim the commons. **Read about it here.**
rabble.ca

Donald Gutstein follows the people, money, power and connection trail of Canada's new right-wing television channel dedicated to selling their ideology to the public, which launched in April.

Happy birthday, *rabble.ca*!

rabble turns 10! Our story: Launching during the Quebec City FTAA protests

For much of the year, [Noreen Mae Ritsema](#) has been writing stories about *rabble.ca* on the occasion our 10th anniversary (we were founded on April 18, 2001), and highlighting 10 important moments of rabble's history by interviewing current and former activists and journalists who have been involved.

The 2011 federal election campaign begins . . .

Harper plays the phony percentages of first-past-the-post

The federal election campaign is in full swing, and [Radha Jhappan](#) reminds readers of the unfairness of our electoral system. In 2008, Conservatives got twice as many votes as the NDP -- 5,204,468 to 2,516,935 -- but almost four times as many seats. They did not 'win' the last two elections: they just lost them less badly.

May

The federal election takes place . . .

Quebec is to be thanked for propelling the NDP forward

The federal election results are in and Stephen Harper has his majority, the

Ignatieff Liberals are shredded and Jack Layton's NDP get their finest-ever result, especially in Quebec. [Gary Engler](#) offers his thoughts.

Harper's majority: What's left for us

Murray Dobbin considers the future: a Conservative majority will usher in wrenching change in Canada and we will have to witness the worst Stephen Harper has to offer. Progressives need to decide how they want to proceed in response.

Canada's real electoral map: A surge for the left

[Jesse McLaren](#) writes an optimistic piece that puts Harper's depressing win into a nicer looking frame for the left.

There has been a shift in consciousness. Looking at the NDP and the combined Tory/Liberal vote, a picture emerges of an eroding but concentrated corporate vote, and a surging NDP vote.

Reinventing democracy, reclaiming the commons: A progressive dialogue on the future of Canada

[Murray Dobbin](#) launches this new series on the Canadian left, a look at where it stands after the federal election, and what the future could hold for the advancement of progressive ideals. It ran weekly until mid-December 2011 and expressed a broad range of ideas and views. To see all the stories in the series, [click here](#).

June

[Prescription opiate abuse now a public health crisis in Ontario](#)

[Ann Silversides](#) writes a four-part series on prescription drug abuse: "An inquest into the deaths of two friends in Brockville places a magnifying glass on the downward spiral of those trapped by addiction to prescription drugs and neglected by authorities."

[Women's Worlds 2011 interview: Mary Simon](#)

In celebration of Women's Worlds in Ottawa, *rabble.ca* runs a series of interviews with speakers. [Noreen Mae Ritsema](#) interviews Mary Simon, president of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, who talks about her personal journey to her current leadership position as well as challenges that women face in Inuit communities.

July

Activists try to break the Israeli blockade around Gaza:

[The Tahrir, Canada's boat to Gaza: Two arrested, other activists remain on board to avoid arrest](#)

[Cathryn Atkinson](#) interviews Canadian activist Dylan Penner, who describes what has happened to The Tahrir, its crew and international activists since it made a dash to leave Greece for Palestine early Monday. Later in the year the boat is intercepted by Israeli authorities as it [tries again to reach Gaza and the crew are imprisoned for a week](#).

[Why indigenous and racialized struggles will always be appended by the left](#)

[Zainab Amadahy](#): Leftist philosophies are like a one-size-fits-all dress that only a minority feels comfortable in. Such frameworks are useful but they are not our historic starting place and this matters.

August

Progressive Canada loses an inspiring leader:

[Jack Layton's letter to Canadians](#)

[Jack Layton's](#) moving request to his fellow citizens, made days before his death from cancer on Aug. 22: "My friends, love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic." Read Jack's last letter to Canadians.

[Stephen Lewis's eulogy for Jack Layton](#)

[Stephen Lewis's](#) moving eulogy, given on Aug. 27 at Jack Layton's funeral, has the former Canadian diplomat saluting his close friend and comrade.

September

[What's next for the NDP?](#)

Deputy leader of the federal NDP and Vancouver East MP Libby Davies reflect on the challenges ahead for the NDP after the death of Jack Layton.



The politics of oil and Canada's climate change goals
A four part series by Fred Wilson

rabble.ca
NEWS FOR THE REST OF US

Thinking outside the ballot box: Stop Harper

People power creates fundamental change, says [Brigette DePape](#), the ex-page who took her protest of the prime minister's autocratic tendencies to the floor of the Canadian Senate. This story is part of a series for the Council of Canadians, reprinted in *rabble.ca*.

October

The Occupy movement begins . . .

New York minutes: Observations and aims in Occupy Wall Street

In New York City, journalist [Aaron Leonard](#) writes about the Occupy movement for *rabble.ca*. Made in Manhattan: in a way both calculated and accidental, this movement literally settled on the 'ground zero' of where the U.S. finds itself in the world, at the intersection of empire and capital.

And spreads to Canada and beyond.

A progressive dialogue: Occupy the future -- A new generation reaches for the emergency brake

As part of the Progressive Dialogue series, Dave Oswald Mitchell writes: "Everywhere you look you'll find capitalism, and

everywhere you look you'll find the problems caused by it -- and the seeds of its successor."

November

The international Occupy movement inspires broad discussion -- and immediately comes under attack:

Intergenerational lessons for the Occupy movement

[Emma Pullman and Judy Rebick](#) bring together their combined experience as activists: "We have much to learn from each other. We don't have to choose old or new ways of thinking and doing -- we can choose to create a fusion of both. We can forge an alloy stronger than its separate parts."

Occupy Vancouver: Support for us, for every Occupy site, is so important

[Jasmine R. Rezaee](#) of Occupy Vancouver talks about the pressures the movement has faced: "Inequalities and injustices are growing. Occupation does not seek permission to exist in a space. It is about physically taking it over and forcing public discussion on pressing social concerns."

NDP  NPD
Federal leadership race 2012

Stay informed
on [rabble.ca](#)

Reinventing democracy, reclaiming the commons

A progressive dialogue on Canada's Future

Also under attack, as are many Canadian organizations and programs that do not fit the neoliberal framework of the Harper government, is the CBC:

Creating the CBC in order to build a nation

Marc Raboy writes that given it is under attack, the hoopla surrounding the 75th birthday of the CBC provides a good occasion to recall how and why Canada got a national public broadcaster.

The history of the New Politics Initiative: Movement and party, then and now

Economist Jim Stanford curated a series on the 10th anniversary of the New Politics Initiative proposal at a special NDP convention: "We argued the success of progressive political parties ultimately depends on whether we are winning that day-to-day battle of ideas in society, and connecting with those fighting for social change."

December

The scandal of Attawapiskat finally goes national, thanks to the persistence of the region's MP, Charlie Angus, and others:

Attawapiskat: Firing back at the racist rants and ignorant responses with facts

Blogger [Âpihtawikosisân](#) deconstructed the numbers and claims being made about the "waste" of federal money at this beleaguered First Nations community in

northern Ontario: "With the numbers behind the catastrophe of Attawapiskat, we can educate Canadians and even if we can't reach the most vocal bigots, we can reach the average person. This is essential now."

The Occupy movement looks to future options . . .

Occupying housing from the Pope Squat to Occupy Toronto

[Mick Sweetman](#) looks at housing activism 10 years apart. With over 87,000 people on housing waiting lists in Toronto in 2011, Occupy activists kicked out of public parks are starting to squat in empty buildings.



The popular vote.

Top viewed stories on rabble 2011:

[CBC's Kevin O'Leary gets schooled on #Occupy Wall Street movement by Chris Hedges](#)

[Ten reasons to oppose the Harper candidate in your riding](#)

[Senate page explains her brave Stop Harper protest on floor of Senate today](#)

[Attawapiskat: Firing back at the racist rants and ignorant responses with facts](#)

[CTV Journalist Kai Nagata has quit his job -- and he wants you to know why](#)

[Letter to Occupy Together Movement](#)

[A response to Michael Ignatieff on his statement about Israeli Apartheid Week](#)

[How the forums are displayed on the main page](#)

[Jack Layton's letter to Canadians](#)

[CBC's Vote Compass is mis-calibrated. Have you noticed? babblers have](#)

[Ralph Nader: Open letter to Stephen Harper on Canada-U.S. 'deep integration'](#)

[Activist Communique: The Occupy Canada movement -- Info and city directory](#)

[Slutwalk: To march or not to march](#)

[Ezra Levant vs. reality -- A prelude to Fox News North](#)

[Vancouver's hockey riot: How to understand it](#)

[Has the National Post declared a fatwa on 9/11 studies?](#)

[Stephen Harper's firing range: A list of 87 organizations and people attacked in five years](#)

[The morning after: Where are we and where do we go from here?](#)

[Five reasons to support postal workers](#)

[Election 2011: Maude Barlow on the election results](#)

[Noam Chomsky on the state-corporate complex: A threat to freedom and survival](#)

Columnists

In addition to original news stories, in-depth features, provocative interviews, commentaries and more, rabble publishes 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.

Alice Klein

Am Johal

Amy Goodman

Duncan Cameron

Ellen Russell

Jerry West

Jessica Yee

Jim Stanford

Jooneed Khan

Linda McQuaig

Matthew Behrens

Murray Dobbin

Naomi Klein

Ralph Surette

Rick Salutin

Steve Anderson

Trish Hennessey

Tricia Hylton

Wayne MacPhail

columns rabble.ca

Unions are democratic alternative and challenge to business model

OCTOBER 28, 2011 | By *Rick Salutin* | My mind keeps drifting back to the recent Air Canada flight attendants' strike that never happened, as a result of threats from the Harper government.

From Tahrir Square to Liberty Plaza, protests are spreading around the world

OCTOBER 26, 2011 | By *Amy Goodman* | The winds of change are blowing across the globe. What triggers such change, and when it will strike, is something that no one can predict.

Occupy movement makes unbridled greed controversial OCTOBER 25, 2011 | By *Linda McQuaig* | The power of social movements to sweep away ideas solidly embraced by the established order seems to be intuitively grasped by the Occupy Wall Street crowd.

The NDP leadership race needs Peggy Nash OCTOBER 25, 2011 | By *Duncan Cameron* | In May, Jack Layton looked at his 102-member caucus and asked Nash to take on the important role of Finance critic for the Loyal Opposition. She would bring more focus on economic issues to the race.

The Occupy movement has a place in the NDP leadership debate OCTOBER 24, 2011 | By *Murray Dobbin* | Will the NDP elect a leader who will choke on the word 'capitalism' for fear of scaring people or someone who can connect with Occupy, the only movement in 40 years that targets capitalism explicitly?

Taking liberties: When elite representatives define 'national security'

OCTOBER 24, 2011 | By *Matthew Behrens* | The first in a new column series on national security and civil liberties in Canada and abroad looks at a Montreal conference on Canadian rights in the post 9/11 world.

Occupy movements challenge business agenda OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By *Rick Salutin* | I think I know what the Occupy movements mean to say and over which they are reproached by ill-wishers and well-wishers alike (e.g., "vast potential... untethered to many real-world goals").



Time is on Occupy movement's side OCTOBER 20, 2011 | By *Alice Klein* | The fact that the Occupy Wall Street movement has been able to sustain its occupation over time has been the ground on which this global movement has arisen.

What CETA would mean for Canada's auto industry OCTOBER 20, 2011 | By *Jim Stanford* | Canadian free trade negotiators are going all-out to get a deal with the EU on a new free trade agreement. What would a Canada-EU deal mean for the auto industry?

Martin Luther King Jr.'s arc of moral justice extends to Occupy Wall

Street OCTOBER 19, 2011 | By *Amy Goodman* | The national memorial to Martin Luther King Jr. was dedicated last Sunday. What Obama left unsaid is that King, were he alive, would most likely be protesting Obama administration policies.

Tom Mulcair plays a terrible hand on trade OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By *Duncan Cameron* | NDP leadership contender Thomas Mulcair has boxed himself in by saying he supports NAFTA. Many party activists who had been looking forward to his entry into the race are going to be disappointed.



Occupy Together: It's about time! OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By *Jim Stanford* | It's about time the lopsided burden of the crisis and its non-recovery sparked a populist rebellion from the progressive side of the spectrum.

features contributors

(not including general contributors, bloggers)

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Canadian Federation of
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Canadian HIV/AIDS
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Canadian Peace
Alliance
Canadian Wheat Board
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Friends of Wild Salmon
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 Michelle Porter
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 Native Women's
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Nick Van der Graaf
 Niki Ashton
 No One is Illegal -
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 People's Commission
 Network
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 Tar Sands Action
 Tariq Jeeroburkhan
 Ted Sprague
 The Beit Zatoun
 collective
 The Canadian Centre
 for International
 Justice
 The Cofounders of the
 New Politics Initiative
 The Collective for Syria
 in Montreal/Collectif
 pour la Syrie a
 Montreal
 The Defenders of the
 Land
 The Fifth Floor
 Fourteen
 The Indigenous
 Environmental
 Network
 The Indigenous
 Environmental
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 Toronto Coalition to
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 Toronto International
 Women's Day
 Organizing Committee
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Tyler Morgenstern
 Tyler Shipley
 UK Tar Sands Network
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 Vannina Sztainbok
 Velcrow Ripper
 Wayne Scott and
 Albert Koehl
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 EVA BC
 Wikileaks
 Will McMartin
 Women's Legal
 Education and Action
 Fund
 Yves Engler
 Zachary Stockill
 Zainab Amadahy
 Zev Tiefenbach

netted news/newswire

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

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

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

Moody's cuts Europe outlooks to negative
Al Jazeera - 10 min 48 sec ago

Triple-A of France, UK and Austria downgraded along with Italy, Portugal, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia and Malta ratings.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Toronto outside workers vote on contract offer
CBC Canadian News - 36 min 46 sec ago

Toronto's outside workers are holding a ratification vote on a new four-year contract with the city.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Jordanian preacher released from British jail
Al Jazeera - 37 min 5 sec ago

Abu Qatada, who is fighting extradition to Jordan, is subject to a 22-hour-a-day curfew at his home in London.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Israel blames Iran for embassy attacks
Al Jazeera - 42 min 23 sec ago

Tehran denied involvement and accused Israel of carrying them out itself in India and Georgia.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

HMCS Corner Brook collision damage extensive
CBC Canadian News - 57 min 9 sec ago

The damage done to HMCS Corner Brook when it hit the ocean floor off B.C.'s coast last summer was more extensive than first reported, CBC News has learned by obtaining exclusive pictures of the submarine.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Mandatory gun sentence struck down by Ontario judge
CBC Canadian News - 1 hour 33 min ago

An Ontario Superior Court judge has struck down a mandatory minimum sentence for a first offence of possessing a loaded firearm.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Father, son recall close call on ice road
CBC Canadian News - 1 hour 36 min ago

The unsanctioned ice route between Saint John and the Kingston Peninsula is closed after two vehicles ran into problems over the weekend and its future is now uncertain.

Categories: **Newswire: Top Headlines Elsewhere**

Man pleads guilty to murder of stepdaughter, 17

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
rabble.ca

B.C. TEACHERS' FEDERATION

A huge victory for B.C. teachers

APRIL 14, 2011 | In a landmark decision by the British Columbia Supreme Court the court declared the legislation that stripped teacher collective bargaining rights in 2002 unconstitutional and invalid.



TAGS: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BCETF B.C.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES

New study shows corporate tax cuts don't stimulate investment

APRIL 13, 2011 | A new CCPA study examines historical data on business investment and cash and finds no evidence in the historical data that lower taxes have directly stimulated more investment.



TAGS: TAXATION CORPORATE TAX CUTS CCPA

COUNCIL OF CANADIANS

Council of Canadians release voter's toolkit

APRIL 12, 2011 | Want to help make a difference in your community by taking action during the federal election campaign period? Check out the Council's new Voter's Toolkit.



TAGS: COC ELECTION FEDERAL ELECTION 2011 VOTING DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Bump minimum wage to \$11 an hour in Nova Scotia

APRIL 12, 2011 | CUPE argues that a decent minimum wage is a boon to the local economy and it ensures people are paid decently for the work they perform.



in cahoots members 2011:

[Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada](#)
[Africa Files](#)
[BC Teachers' Federation](#)
[Beit Zatoun](#)
[Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies](#)
[Canadians for Tax Fairness](#)
[Canadian Palestinian Educational Exchange](#)
[Council of Canadians](#)
[Friends of Toronto Waterfront Birds](#)
[InterPares](#)
[National Farmers Union](#)
[United Food and Commercial Workers](#)
[Socialist Worker](#)
[Vancouver and District Labour Council](#)
[Working TV](#)

Sustaining Partners 2011:

[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](#)
[Douglas-Coldwell Foundation](#)
[Hospital Employees' Union](#)
[Manitoba Government and General 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](#)
[United Food and Commercial Workers](#)

rabbletv



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: Tor Sandberg, rabbletv program director (until June 2011) Volunteers: Anita Kranjc, Jase Tanner, Humberto DaSilva, Lisa Santonato, Adriana Byrne and Adam Bemma

rabbletv highlights

[The role of youth in Tahrir Square](#)
(Jase Tanner)

[Canadians, it's time to wake up about postal worker dispute](#)
(Greg MacDougall)

[Dick Cheney unwelcomed in Vancouver](#) (Jase Tanner)

[Veggie dog giveaway in front of Quality Meat Packers](#)
(Anita Kranjc)

[Interview with Occupy Toronto Librarian](#) (Mick Sweetman)

[Judith Butler speaks on free speech at Israeli Apartheid Week Toronto](#) (Anita Kranjc)

[Outside the courtroom: Jaggi Singh trial](#) (Anita Kranjc)

[rabble.ca does the Webbys!](#)
(Roz Allen)

[Breaking cycles: Tanya Tagaq at Women's Worlds 2011](#)
(Greg MacDougall)



BEST-OF-THE-NET
Occupy Winnipeg comes to an end
DECEMBER 23, 2011 Conservation officials removed the last of the Occupy camp in Memorial Park on December 21, citing safety concerns.



NOT REX
'Twas the Night Before Class War
DECEMBER 22, 2011 In Toronto, the night before Christmas brings no peace to thousands of families who face massive job losses due to the Ford cuts.



BEST-OF-THE-NET
Canada Boat to Gaza on CBC Power and Politics
DECEMBER 17, 2011 Ehab Lotayef

rabbletv highlights



Behind the scenes at rabble's livestreaming of the Council of Canadians AGM.

[NDP strategist Brian Topp on strategic voting](#) (Tor Sandberg)

[Barbara Gowdy challenges rabble readers to go vegan](#) (Anita Kranjc)

[Not Rex: Song of Norway](#) (Humberto DaSilva)

[Not Rex: Toronto emergency public warning](#) (Humberto DaSilva)

[Not Rex: Fair treatment for queer refugees, Alvaro Orozco and beyond](#) (Shawn Syms)

rabble.ca also streamed live video for 14 events in 2011, a few samples:

[Livestream: Celebrating northern women](#) (George Lessard)

[Livestream: Beyond the ballot box](#) (event organized by rabble in Toronto)

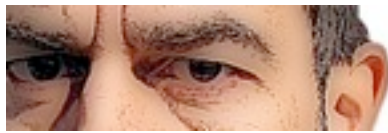
[Livestream: Yellowknife all candidates debate \(federal election\)](#) (George Lessard)

[Livestream: Secure the future of Medicare: A call to care](#) (Lisa Santonato & Kim Elliott)

[Livestream: The morning after](#) (event organized by rabble in Vancouver)

[Livestream: Unlawful access townhall](#)

not rex



Rex schmex

Meet Humberto DaSilva
killer commentary rabbletv



In 2010 rabble launched the [*Not Rex \(Murphy\)*](#) feature to challenge the monopoly Rex Murphy has on CBC's The National. After an engaging contest, Humberto DaSilva emerged as our official "Not Rex" providing regular and highly produced video commentary. Humberto isn't greedy though, and rabble features guest *Not Rex* commentaries such as those by [*Lalo Espejo*](#) and [*Shawn Syms*](#). Find *Not Rex* commentary on rabbletv.




indie **inside**

Featuring music videos from Canadian independent bands, you can find [Indie Inside](#) at rabbletv.

Indie Inside: Amai Kuda

BY **RABBLETV** | SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

 Print  Write to editor  Support rabble  Corrections

 SHARE   

Amai Kuda is a Toronto based singer/songwriter, community activist and the mother of a young child. The name Amai Kuda means "mother to the will of the creator" in the southern African language Shona. A popular singer within progressive political circles and the diverse women's cultural scene in Toronto, Amai Kuda is releasing her first CD on October 7, 2011, the self-produced album called "Sand from the Sea." Daughter of the internationally awarded writer, Nourbese Philip, who has used her work to speak out about all kinds of injustice, Amai Kuda grew up going to demonstrations and listening to her elders passionately discuss the history and future of African peoples. As well as her music work Amai Kuda is a co-founder and co-coordinator of three organizations, Moyo Wa Africa, Seven Directions and R3, dedicated to the decolonization of African peoples and to indigenous solidarity respectively.

Amai Kuda - All My Fine Shoes

by ablazaj



blogs

The screenshot displays the 'blogs' section of the rabble.ca website. On the left, a sidebar lists 'RABBLE.CA BLOGGERS' with 16 entries, each featuring a small profile picture and name: 2010 Homelessness Hunger Strike Relay, Aaliya, Alice Klein, Amjahal, Andrea Carson, Andrew Brett, Anita Krajnc, Ariel Troster, A_picazo, Behind The Numbers, Beisan Zubi, Ben Powless, Blair Redlin, Bound But Not Gagged, Brian Topp, and Campus Notes. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'FEATURED BLOGS', contains three articles: 'Beyond protest: Mainstreaming the movement' by RAPI CHOUHAN (Oct 26, 2011), 'A directory to #Occupy Canada' by KRISTALLINE KRAUS (Oct 25, 2011), and 'Occupy Canada: Weekly news' by TISH HENNESSY (Oct 24, 2011). The right column, titled 'MOST RECENT POSTS', contains four articles: 'Hill Dispatches: Emotion and rhetoric on long guns; more urgency on First Nations' (Oct 26, 2011), 'Killing the gun registry: It's about the Conservatives' deeply cynical politics, not about waste' (Oct 26, 2011), 'rabble on the podium for the Canadian Online Publishing Awards' (Oct 26, 2011), and 'In case you were wondering: A primer on how things still work in Alberta' (Oct 25, 2011). Each article includes a small thumbnail image, a headline, a byline, a date, and a 'Read more' link.

Staff: Alex Samur (Editor), Michelle Gregus (Assistant Editor), Kim Elliott (Publisher)

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

Volunteer: Nathan Rambukkana (Copyeditor)

rabble's blog section is a vibrant network of nearly 100 bloggers. The blog section fosters commentary, analysis and breaking news from progressive writers, thinkers and activists from across Canada. Blogs are highlighted on the front page and also can be found in a blog section as well as appearing in appropriate "issue pages" (see below).

The blog section on rabble was instrumental in breaking and covering major activist and political events including Slutwalk, the 2011 federal election, provincial and municipal elections and the Occupy Wall Street movement.

We also hired a Hill Reporter, Karl Nerenberg, who has been providing coverage of politics from Ottawa, Ontario -- more below on Karl.

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

2011 rabble bloggers

Aalya Ahmad
Activist Toolkit (launched by Steffanie Pinch)
Alexandra Samur
Am Johal
Andrea Carson
Andrew Brett
Anita Krajnc -- Vegan Challenge for Earth Week
Alheli Picazo -- Sun Media Watch
Behind the Numbers
Ben Powless
Bob Chandler
Bound but not Gagged
Brian Topp
Campus Notes
Canadian Boat to Gaza
CanPalNet
Cathryn Atkinson
Child Care Canada Now
Chris Shaw
Climate Action Network Canada
Code Pink Canadian Delegations to Gaza
Council of Canadians
StopWar.ca
David Lundy
David P. Ball
Democracy Watch
Derrick O'Keefe
Dionne Brand
David Climenhaga
Don Mitchell
Donald Gutstein
Emma Pullman
Eric Mang
Ethan Cox
Eva Bartlett
Fred Wilson
Gary Shaul
Gen Why Media
Gerry Caplan
Griselda Grumpfuttock
Hadani Ditmars
Hello Cool World
Hussan Syed
Ian Capstick
J. Maureen Henderson
James Laxer

Jesse McLaren
Jessica Bell
Jim Quail
John Bonnar
Joshua Kahn Russell
Judy Rebick
Kaj Hasselriis
Karl Nerenberg
Kim Elliott
Krystalline Kraus
Lewis Rifkind
Linda Leon
Making Waves (Meera Karunanathan and Emma Lui from Council of Canadians)
Maher Arar
Marc Gionet
Marusya Bociurkiw
Maude Barlow
Mercedes Allen
Michael Stewart
Murray Dobbin
Nathan Cullen
Nick Day
Maha Zimmo
Open Media
Pamela Palmater
Parkland Institute
Pierre Beaudet
Policy Note
Progressive Economics Forum
rabble staff
Raffi
Rick Harp
Robert Chernomas
Roger Annis
Romeo Saganash
Scott Piatkowski
Sharon Fraser
Steven Shrybman
The F Word Collective
The Mainlander
The Media Consortium
Tikkunista
Tria Donaldson
Tyler McCreary
Trish Hennessy
Velcrow Ripper

Select rabble **blog** highlights:



[The morning after: Where are we and where do we go from here?](#)

By Judy Rebick

[A step-by-step guide to fighting Harper](#)

By Syed Hussan

[Letter to Oprah Winfrey on 'Ethical Oil' ads](#)

By Emma Pullman

[Message in Harper's back to work law against CUPW is that labour will be put in its place](#)

By Fred Wilson

[The bombs in Afghanistan have landed in Norway](#)

By Jesse McLaren

[The Occupy Calgary story you're not seeing elsewhere](#)

By Mercedes Allen

[In Vancouver, Occupy was already alienated](#)

By Michael Stewart

[An open letter to the one per cent: You cannot evict an idea whose time has come](#)

By Derrick O'Keefe

[Unbelievable but undeniable: Genocide in Canada](#)

By Pamela Palmater

[Occupy Wall Street: Noooo Canada](#)

By Aalya Ahmad

[We hate the niqab: Minister Kenney and Barbara Kay protect 'Canadian values' from Muslim immigrants](#)

By Nick Day



JUST reporting. Not just reporting.

Want parliamentary reporting for the rest of us?

Support rabble reporting on the Hill right now!

Karl Nerenberg

rabble's reporter on the Hill

I've known Karl Nerenberg since our time at the McGill Daily. Over those years, he has been consistently progressive and principled as a journalist. When he produced The House for CBC, it was the best place to get the real story on what was happening on Parliament Hill. I am thrilled that he has agreed to lend his phenomenal skills, knowledge and experience to the rabble team. I can't think of anyone who could better translate the workings of Parliamentary politics to rabble's readership.

-- Judy Rebick

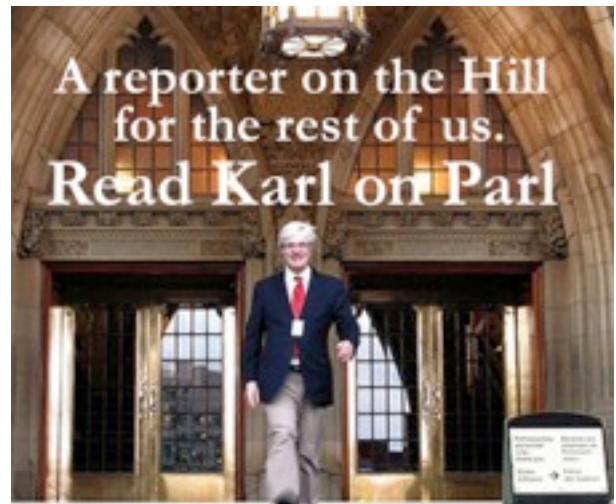
In the summer of 2011, rabble decided that there needed to be a rabble reporter on Parliament Hill and appealed to rabble visitors and supporters:

"*rabble.ca* is ready to take on Parliament, getting the stories you won't get from conventional and corporate media, giving context to political moves, covering the political events that matter and making a difference in what Canadians know about what is really happening on the Hill.

We want to put a rabble reporter (and not just any reporter, see below) on Parliament Hill with access to the Press Gallery, the lobby, committees, politicians, political staff and spokespeople. We need 'just reporting,' not just reporting: now more than ever we need Parliamentary reporting for the rest of us."

rabble readers agreed and together with donations from CUPE, CEP and the CAW contributed more than \$10,000 over a short period to help fund the position.

Karl posts his "Hill Dispatches" several times a week: <http://rabble.ca/blog/25111>



A reporter
on the Hill
for the
rest of us.

Meet Karl.



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

Karl has been awarded a Gemini award, a Best International Documentary Series award (from "la communauté des télévisions francophones"), a CBC Radio Award for Best New Series (*C'est la vie*) among others. As a broadcaster, Mr. Nerenberg produced and directed television series and documentaries in a wide range of genres and on a great variety of subjects -- from civil war in Central America, to the crisis in South Africa's Apartheid system.

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

Hill Dispatches: Officials answer AG criticism of First Nations services with process talk, frustrating a Tory MP | OCTOBER 20, 2011 | By Karl

Nerenberg | "This is the most frustrating, disappointing time of an MP's existence!" Tory MP tells Aboriginal Affairs officials.

Hill Dispatches: Attack dog tactics trump an adult discussion of public transit | OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By Karl Nerenberg

| The head of CUPE tries to discuss public transit with a House Committee. Tory members bait him and ask how he got to the meeting. "I walked", he replies.

Hill Dispatches: Indian Affairs officials must answer to the AG's scorching critique at Committee | OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By Karl Nerenberg

| The AG condemned the federal government's failure to deal with First Nations issues. Federal officials now must answer to a House Committee.

Hill Dispatches: Dollars for polluting industry; cuts for science and environmentalists | OCTOBER 14, 2011 | By Karl Nerenberg

| The government believes that the oil and gas industry needs taxpayer money to help it promote its own interests, while scientists and advocates for the environment can look after themselves.

Hill Dispatches: Cut their money and maybe nobody will stand up for the

rabble podcast network

The rabble podcast network continues to draw together the voices of people across Canada and the world who are working toward social justice. The podcast network does not whisper. It shouts.

Meagan Perry,
Executive Producer, rabble podcast network

The rabble podcast network has always been at the forefront of covering issues that the mainstream media ignores. Last year was no exception, but the difference was that *rabble.ca* podcasters were setting the news agenda with our quick responses to stories like the Tahrir Square protests and Occupy Wall Street.

Our *rabble.ca* style, good reputation among social justice advocates and a decade of building connections at rabble made it possible for us to gather progressive viewpoints quickly, while the mainstream media struggled to keep up.

In 2011 we brought several new programs to the network including a podcast from Dr. Helen Caldicott on nuclear safety, *People's Health Radio* (a podcast focused on the social determinants of health), we launched an all new set of movie reviews with progressive views and a *Journalists for Human Rights* podcast which draws in material from JHR chapters across Canada.

This year, with the eye of the mainstream media very much focused on activism, the rabble podcast network was able to offer a wide variety of podcasts that helped to create a more nuanced view of activism, what it can accomplish and how it is happening worldwide.

As well, we presented several podcasts that grew out of specific events, including coverage of COP 17 via a podcast from the Canadian Youth Delegation to that event, and, as we have for several years in a row now, we produced a series of lectures recorded at the Congress of the Humanities.

2012 will be the year where we bring other parts of the site into the podcast network. We've begun with a new podcast featuring the issues and tools identified from the Activist Toolkit. The first episode was launched in early January, and features discussions around sex work issues, and an online tool that offers resources and techniques for sex workers who want to create a safer stroll.

Likewise, the radio book lounge is featuring audio interviews with authors and is the first host of a new program for in cahoots members.

rabble podcast network

Staff: Meagan Perry, Executive Producer, podcasts

Interns: Meghan Murphy and Ellie Gordon-Moerschel, Leif Larsen

Podcasters: *There were just over 600 podcasts produced by the 30 active podcasters on the network in 2011. Below are the podcasts and the regular podcasters.*

PODCASTERS

Adam Bemma
Ariana Barer
Aiyanas Ormond
Allan Jensen
Alex Samur
Asia Pacific Currents Collective
Cathi Bond
Chris Picek
Christine Wong
Cy Gonick
Dan Kellar
David Fraser
Dr. Helen Caldicott
Ellie Gordon-Moerschel
Esther Hsieh
Heather Yundt
Jane Williams
Jasmin Williams
John Bonnar
Journalists for Human Rights
Judy Rebick
Laura Lamb
Laura Wood
Leif Larsen
Lorraine Chisholm
Lynn Thompson
Manuel Schulte
Maria Persdotter
Mark Brooks
Mark Lindy
MaryCarl Guiao
Matt Soltys
Matthew Adams
Meagan Perry
Meghan Murphy
Michael Bell
Michael Welch
Mordecai Briemberg
Nicole Deagan
Noreen Mae Ritsema

Paul Ryan
Peter Driftmier
Peter Mills
Riaz Sayani-Mulji
Robyn Maynard
Rohith Bhargavan
Rowan Lipkowitz
Ryan Sparrow
Scott McWhinney
Sean Mullen
Stark Raven Media Collective
Stephen Benedetti
Tommy Allen
Victoria Fenner
Wayne MacPhail

PODCASTS

Africafiles: The Pulse
Alert! From Canadian Dimension
Alternatives Podcast
Asia Pacific Currents
Aw@I
F-Word
Green Planet Monitor
I Read The News Today, Oh Boy!
If you Love This Planet
John Bonnar Audio Blog
Journalists For Human Rights (national omnibus podcast)
Living On Purpose
Maker Culture
Needs No Introduction
No One Is Illegal
People's Health Radio
Pivot Legal Society
Progressive Voices
Radio Book Lounge
Redeye
Stark Raven: Prison Justice
Street Cred
The Dispatch
The Roaming Ear
The Ruckus
Watch Me: Movie reviews with Cathi Bond
Who are you?
Who's on Second
Youth Delegation to COP 17
(see Appendix A on page 83 for more)

OUR PODCASTS

-  Africafiles: The Pulse
-  Alert! from Canadian Dimension
-  Alternatives Podcast
-  Asia Pacific Currents
-  Aw@l
-  Constructing change: the activist toolkit
-  F Word
-  Green Planet Monitor
-  If you love this planet
-  I Read The News Today, Oh Boy!
-  John Bonnar Audio Blog
-  Journalists for Human Rights
-  Living On Purpose
-  Maker Culture
-  Migrant Matters
-  Needs No Introduction
-  No One Is Illegal
-  People's Health Radio
-  Pivot Legal Society
-  Progressive Voices
-  Rabbledocs
-  rabble radio
-  radio book lounge
-  Redeye
-  Stark Raven: Prison Justice
-  Street Cred
-  The Dispatch
-  The Dominion
-  The Roaming Ear
-  The Ruckus
-  Watch me: movie reviews with Cathi Bond
-  Who's on Second?
-  Who Are You?

A few **rpn** highlights:

THE FEDERAL ELECTION

rabble radio

[#124 -- The Canadian election, it's sweetness and light, right?](#)

Pivot

[No mention of national housing strategy in leaders' debate](#)

I Read The News Today, Oh Boy

[Can the orange crush the blue wave? Elections, polls, pols and politics](#)

F-Word

[Where are the women on the ballot? Women's \(under\) representation in politics](#)

JACK LAYTON REMEMBRANCE

rabble radio

[#129 -- Jack Layton's funeral](#)

[#128 -- Remembrances of Jack Layton from those who knew him](#)

Needs No Introduction

[Raffi sings Layton's 'Letter to a Nation'](#)

ARAB SPRING

Redeye

[Changing dynamics in the Middle East](#)

[Firsthand account of protests in Tahrir Square](#)

rabble radio

[#119 -- Special interview from Cairo](#)

JAPAN NUCLEAR CRISES

If you love this planet

[The Fukushima nuclear power plant](#)

Redeye

[Understanding the nuclear crisis in Japan](#)

OCCUPY

John Bonnar Audio Blog

[Police evict Occupy Ottawa from Confederation Park](#)

rabble radio

[#131 -- Who are those that #Occupy?](#)

OTHER ISSUES

Redeye

[Five Canadian men still fighting security certificates](#)

Needs No Introduction

[Women in science and engineering](#)

Canadian Youth Delegation to COP 17

[COP17: Waves of despair, tides of change](#)

rabble radio

[#132 -- Home and away: Abdelrazik, Pikangikum and Attawapiskat](#)

The Ruckus

[#72 -- And in conclusion, The Ruckus presents some crazy cover songs](#)

The Council of Canadians

['National telephone town hall' with Maude Barlow](#)

Progressive Voices

[Canadian mining companies: Development or exploitation?](#)

The Roaming Ear

[Street music manifesto](#)

People's Health Radio

[Healing trauma in our movements: A spotlight on the Kindred Collective in the Southern United States](#)

Reel Women

[DVD Review: Women take action -- union action -- to exact true story change](#)

The Dispatch

[Angela Davis at the University of Regina](#)

rabble news comes to you!



More and more people want the news to come to them. rabble has had a weekly email newsletter for a few years and in 2009 introduced a daily newsletter. Together our lists reach more than 20,000 people. We also have a [Twitter](#) feed with over 10,000 followers, a [Facebook page](#) and [group](#) with more than 5,000 fans/members between them, as well as a [YouTube channel](#), a [Livestream](#) and [Vimeo](#) channel, and a [Flickr](#) page -- it is getting hard to miss us.

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

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



We got issues.



In 2011 rabble continued to develop our ["issue"](#) pages. These pages are theme-based aggregates of rabble columns, blogs, video, 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.

For example, we launched a special series on the history of the [New Politics Initiative](#) (see below) as well as a remembrance page for [Jack Layton](#).

We don't have a "business section," we feature stories on **labour** and other issues.

issues on rabble.ca LABOUR

Bringing Canada's
labour movement into
focus.

ON BABBLE

**Harper Changing
Labour Code: economy
an essential service** last
comment by Northern
Shoveler

**Where do the unions
stand on the #OCCUPY
movement?** last comment
by Unionist

**Air Canada union serves
strike notice** last comment
by Rebecca West

**Who's jobs are on strike
for the college support
staff in Ontario?** last
comment by Nada

Regarding Gravy last
comment by Gabriel Sinduda

Slavery in the UK last
comment by WilderMore

Hello from The Redneck

UNION GROUP ON FLICKR



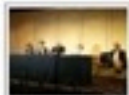
ON RABBLE.CA



Women in the labour movement

OCTOBER 24, 2011 | By Sean Mullen |
Joey Hartman is the first woman to be elected
president of the Vancouver and District Labour
Council in its 122-year history.

**Police attack Hanjin shipyard workers in
Korea** OCTOBER 22, 2011 | By Jiselle Hanna | Diana
Beaumont | Labour news from the Asia Pacific region and
an interview with Clive Tillman, about the police attack on
Hanjin shipyard workers in South Korea. Recorded at 3CR.



Indignez-vous: Public

Forum OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By rabble
staff | Indignez-vous - a public forum hosted
by the Council of Canadians - opened on Friday
evening with guests Maude Barlow, Ellen

Gabriel, Louis Roy and Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois.



Not Rex: unFAIR CANADA OCTOBER
20, 2011 | By Humberto DaSilva | Lisa

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

Asia Pacific Currents

The Labour Show

IN CAHOOTS

The Canadian Labour
Congress

United Steelworkers

CEP

National Union of Public and
General Employees

Canadian Union of Public
Employees (CUPE)

Ontario Public Service
Employees Union

Public Service Alliance of
Canada

The Toronto & York Region
Labour Council

BC Government & Services
Employee Union

Hospital Employees Union

OSSTF

National Farmworkers
Union

MGEU

issues on rabble.ca

Indigenous Rights

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

ON BABBLE

February 14 National Day of Action - No More Silence Toronto vigil and rally details last comment by Krystalline Kraus

February 14 National Day of Action - No More Silence Toronto vigil

issues on rabble.ca

Environment

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

CURATE THIS PAGE!

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

ON BABBLE

Natural gas drilling in Quebec last comment by KenS

Activist Communique: The current nuclear crisis in Japan is NOT just about people – don't forget Mother Earth last comment by Krystalline Kraus

TOP PICK ON RABBLE.CA



TODAY: Indignez-Vous! Hope in Resistance conference: Watch LIVE OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By **Michel Lambert Maude Barlow** | From the Arab Spring to the North American Fall there is hope in resistance, and a conference in Montreal Oct. 21 and 22 explores the actions and potential of this remarkable year.



Indignez-vous: Public Forum OCTOBER 21, 2011 | By **rabble staff** | Indignez-vous - a public forum hosted by the Council of Canadians - opened on Friday evening with guests Maude Barlow, Ellen Gabriel, Louis Roy and Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois.

Occupy(ed) Canada: The political economy of Indigenous dispossession in Canada OCTOBER 20, 2011 | By **Shiri Pasternak** | As the DND spies on the activities of Indigenous organizations, it is apparent that the questions at stake are not that of security but of Indigenous protest and land reclamation.



#VanElxn: Occupy City Hall, decolonize Vancouver OCTOBER 18, 2011 | By **David P Ball** | In this week's Vancouver elections coverage, The Left Coast Post joins #OccupyVancouver downtown and profiles the only

ON FLICKR



ON RABBLE.CA



Join rabble.ca's Vegan Challenge for Earth Week! MARCH 23, 2011 | By **rabble staff** | Join rabble.ca in taking the Vegan Challenge during Earth Week from April 17-23.



World Water Day: A message from Maude Barlow MARCH 23, 2011 | By **Maude Barlow** | Today is World Water Day and a time to reflect on the gift of water that sustains all life on Earth.

FLICKR FEED



RABBLE.CA FEEDS

Jessica Yee's blog
 Ben Powless's blog

SITES WE LIKE

Ottawa Algonquin First Nation

APTN

Indigenous Enviromental

RABBLE.CA FEEDS

Council of Canadians
 Ben Powless
 Alice Klein
 Joshua Khan Russell

IN CAHOOTS

Council of Canadians
Environmental Defence
CEP
Greenpeace

SITES WE LIKE

no highlights have been submitted.

ON TWITTER

Was 2010 the hottest ever?
<http://t.co/be15r0j> #Auspil
#AGW #Climategate #Climate
#Eco #Green #Cop16 #CO2
#GlobalWarming
#ClimateChange

The green home makeover



November 2011 marks the 10th Anniversary of the New Politics Initiative, a coalition of individuals and organizations that called for the formation of a new and more activist progressive political party in Canada.

The NPI was concerned with the relationship between progressive social movements and progressive parties, trying to better understand and strengthen the links between electoral and extra-parliamentary left activism.

In light of the Occupy movement and the NDP leadership race, we at rabble thought this was a good time to review the themes and lessons of the NPI, and consider their relevance for the future directions of the left. On this special page, we re-post the NPI's founding document, its Vision Statement. We have also invited several activists who were involved in the initiative to share their reflections with us. Additional contributions to this dialogue are also welcome. Please contact the **editor**.

The New Politics Initiative created space for real, open political debate

| DECEMBER 5, 2011 | By *Libby Davies* | The NPI, like Occupy, was not about one big tent where everyone agreed, but meaningful relationships that produced effective and progressive change, especially in today's world of failed capitalism.

New Politics Initiative at 10: Time to look forward | NOVEMBER 30, 2011 |

By *Mel Watkins* | It is important to remember the NPI and Waffle, but looking forward this is arguably the time for those on the left to support the NDP and to hold it to the progressive politics of Jack Layton.

Occupy, the New Politics Initiative and reclaiming the commons |

NOVEMBER 30, 2011 | By *Murray Dobbin* | Imagine that a New New Politics Initiative reconstituted itself, examined the new political landscape, and perhaps engaged with the new Occupy forces -- or emerged out of it.

The history of the New Politics Initiative: Movement and party, then and now | NOVEMBER 29, 2011 | By *Jim Stanford* | We argued the success of progressive

political parties ultimately depends on whether we are winning that day-to-day battle of ideas in society, and connecting with those fighting for social change.

the book lounge



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

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

In 2011 the book lounge had 25 contributors who did 50 reviews and interviews. Interviews included a [talk with Carmen Aguirre](#) on her book *Something Fierce* (recent winner of *Canada Reads*) by rabble intern Noreen Mae Ritsema. Kaitlin McNabb, our other book lounge intern, launched a [new babble book club](#) which features not only member discussions, but will also have guest appearances by authors beginning in 2012.

2011 featured a wide range of titles reviewed, from books on Stephen Harper, to veganism, to comics, to cars, to issues of race, the environment, crime and more. See some review highlights below.

Staff:
Alex Samur

Interns:
Noreen Mae Ritsema
Kaitlin McNabb

2011 Reviewers

- Derrick O'Keefe
- Matthew Behrens
- Ellie Gordon-Moershel
- Michael Wheeler
- Joanna Chiu
- Nathaniel G. Moore
- J. Zimmerman
- Eric Doherty
- Jessica Rose
- Cara Waterfall
- Sonia Edworthy
- Emma Lui
- Zainab Amadahy
- Al Engler
- Dave Mitchell
- Humberto DaSilva
- Stefan Christoff
- Niranjana Iyer
- Trevor Norris and Gavin Fridell
- Janet Newbury
- Joan Baxter
- Charles Demers
- May Lui
- Am Johal
- Yves Engler

Highlights of 2011's [rabble book lounge](#) reviews:

January: [Understanding Stephen Harper](#)

review by Am Johal

Johal dissects two books on Stephen Harper, *Harper's Team* by Tom Flanagan and *Harperland* by Lawrence Martin, that tackle the rise of the Conservative Party in Canada and how our country can begin to envision and rebuild a social democratic vision that will inspire the country.

February: [Mixed race women speak out](#)

review by May Lui

Lui reflects on the personal essays, poetry and visual art in *Other Tongues* edited by Adebé De Rango-Adem and Andrea Thompson, a collection that brings to light the heartening and frustrating experiences and issues of women of mixed race identities.

March: [Celebrating comic subversives](#)

review by Charles Demers

Demers delves into his own experiences and those of writer Dan Dion -- along with Paul Provenza -- of *Comedians, Contrarians, Raconteurs & Vulgarians*, and celebrates those comedians who choose to straddle the line between politically minded satire and wise-cracking blows and their engaging critiques.

April: [Veganize it!](#)

review by Jessica Rose

Rose enters into the book lounge's second installment of *rabble.ca*'s vegan challenge with four books with different approaches on veganism. *The Complete Guide to Vegan Food Substitutions* by Celine Steen and Joni Marie Newman; *Vegan Freak: Being Vegan in a Non-Vegan World* by Bob Torres and Jenna Torres; *May of Mud Creek* by Caitlin Black; *Generation V: The Complete Guide to Going, Being and Staying Vegan as a Teenager* by Claire Askew.

May: [Driving for a car free future](#)

review by Stefan Christoff

Christoff travels the narrative of car culture and capitalism with *Stop Signs: Cars and Capitalism: On the Road To Economic, Social and Ecological Decay* by Bianca Mugenyi and Yves Engler, a book that fuses hard facts and history of the car industry with North America's dirty relationship with cars.

June: [Stuff white people smash](#)

review by Dave Mitchell

Mitchell adds personal colour to his review of *Black Bloc, White Riot: Anti-Globalization and the Genealogy of Dissent* by AK Thompson, recounting the first day of demonstrations at the Summit of Americas protests in Quebec City, foreshadowing the uncrossed threshold that is the anti-globalization movement and the limitations and possibilities of street protests as critical to revolutionary transformation.

July: [Introducing the next eco warriors](#)

review by Derrick O'Keefe

O'Keefe passionately sides with Emily Hunter and the collection of short stories she has assembled in *The Next Eco Warriors: 22 Young Women and Men Who are Saving the Planet*, with the notion that hope is not a distant dream and this generation of environmental activists can create an opportunity for a stronger and more inclusive global environmental movement.

August: [How to organize and stay sane](#)

review by Sonia Edworthy

Edworthy champions *Come Hell or High Water: A Handbook on Collective Process Gone Awry* by Delfina Vannucci and Richard Singer as a necessary critical analysis of the egalitarian collective process because it provides refreshing clarifications, critiques

and deconstructions of this process for those already immersed in it.

September: Remembering Chile's 9/11
review by Noreen Mae Ritsema

Ritsema relates the courage and bravery of Carmen Aguirre expressed in memoir *Something Fierce: Memoirs of a Revolutionary Daughter*, a story of both Aguirre's personal involvement in the Chilean resistance movement from the age of 11 and Chilean history, which Aguirre insists is an important part of Canadian history because of the Canadian involvement in the resistance.

October: Lynn Coady tackles the male psyche in 'The Antagonist'

review by Joanna Chiu

Moore imagines visions of Oscar Wilde and business executives' luncheons during his review of *The Antagonist* by Lynn Coady, a revealing dissection of the male psyche nestled in cultural stereotypes and male entitlement.

November: How to say 'yes' to shame-free sex

Review by Joanna Chiu

Chiu takes an honest look at Jaclyn Friedman's *What You Really Really Want: The Smart Girl's Shame-Free Guide to Sex and Safety*, revealing that the interactive guide's dismantling of insidious ideas about sex and dating is not only possible, but fun and transformative.

December: Fearmonger and Through the Glass: Books that undermine Harper's omnibus crime bill

review by Matthew Behrens

Behrens compares two drastically different books and their outlooks on the Harper Government's omnibus crime bill -- *Through*

the Glass by Shannon Moroney and *Fearmonger: Stephen Harper's Tough on Crime Agenda* by Paula Mallea. Moroney champions a need for support for those in the system to address the root causes of their crimes, but also for the families left behind by the court system. Mallea's in-depth analysis dissects each of the crime agenda's proposals based on her own extensive background in criminal law, expert voices and common sense arguments to conclude that punishment for punishment's sake will only result in costly billions and a less safe society.















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](#)

mark all forums read

Forum	Topics	Posts	Last post
first stop			
 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			
 rabble news features Read it on rabble, then talk about it here.	248 7 new	6689	Peggy Nash ... by autoworker 1 hour 2 min ago
 news by the rest of us You post your original article; we comment!	225 4 new	3125	so they ... by Slumberjack Feb 7 2012 - 10:15am
 babblers helping babblers Do you have a pet idea or project? Would you like help or feedback? Or are you trying to track down some information? Work with each other.	491	7374	Evo Morales ... by Grandpa_Bill Feb 20 2012 - 3:29pm
 babble banter For when you are so far off topic, you were never even on it.	311 1 new	6821	Gross Food by Catchfire 47 min 21 sec ago
 rabble reactions Topical questions and comments about the site only.	434 2 new	15169	Why are both ... by Unionist Feb 21 2012 - 11:56pm
 activist toolkit	21	189	Activist ... by sppinch Jan 5 2012 - 9:39am
current 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. Volunteer moderator: Frank Preyde.













One of the most distinctive and popular aspects of *rabble.ca* is its unique, fully moderated discussion board, babble. Unlike most media sites, babble is completely integrated with the front-page content of *rabble.ca*, and provides a communal, interactive space where its over 22,000 registered users discuss not only site content, but anything from [Sun TV's latest embarrassment](#) to [socialist boulevards in Berlin](#). Where else can you find all of Canada's labour issues and union struggle news in one place, like the CAW-CEP merger or the [Canada Post strike](#)?

Like in 2010 when we had the best coverage of the G20 protests and fallout, 2011 showed us that babble had hands-up the best #Occupy coverage in Canada, with on-the-ground reports from [Halifax](#), [Montreal](#), [Toronto](#), [London](#), [Winnipeg](#), [Calgary](#) and [Vancouver](#).

As always, babble's election coverage is unmatched. We were among the [first to skewer CBC's highly flawed Vote Compass](#) during this year's federal election. Policy wonks and push-poll punks can get their fix with comprehensive election coverage of every riding in Canada. And of course, when the Orange Wave hit Canada this past May, the only pundits who didn't deserve to lose their jobs were babblers.

Some of the [most touching and moving testimonials after Jack Layton's passing this fall](#) were found on our site. Jack's loss reverberated across the board as [babblers bonded together to share memories, anecdotes and experiences of this great Canadian](#).

And of course, babblers always maintain the highest standards of erudition and discourse, [even when the air gets a little blue](#) (with apologies to [Pat Martin](#)).

walking the talk			
 activism Share strategies, calls to action, and success stories here.	540 12 new	8604	Join The ... by NDP 8 hours 47 min ago
 aboriginal issues and culture Aboriginal insights, issues and initiatives.	515 3 new	8169	Land Rights ... by NDP 23 hours 34 min ago
 anti-racism news and initiatives Discuss issues of race and racism from an anti-racist point of view.	560 1 new	12444	Toronto jail ... by RevolutionPlease 10 hours 24 min ago
 disability issues Discuss disability issues from an inclusionary, anti-ablist point of view	6 2 new	124	Monsters by RevolutionPlease 10 hours 17 min ago
 feminism Feminists discussing feminist issues from a feminist point of view.	706 7 new	17641	Manarchism by Maysie 3 hours 21 min ago
 labour and consumption Discuss work and economic issues from a pro-worker point of view.	452 6 new	10090	BC Teachers ... by Catchfire 22 hours 35 min ago
 LGBTQ Discuss all issues LGBTQ from an LGBTQ-positive perspective.	157 4 new	2134	Systematic ... by RevolutionPlease 9 hours 36 min ago
 environmental justice Discuss earth-friendly initiatives and issues here.	678 4 new	15086	Climate change ... by Doug 1 day 9 hours ago
 sex worker rights A place for sex workers and their allies to discuss issues around, and advocacy of, sex workers' rights.	86 1 new	1040	On Rush ... by Tommy_Paine 1 day 13 hours ago
 youth issues The rabble school cafeteria.	162 3 new	2779	"OUSA" ... by Caissa Mar 1 2012 - 2:46pm
rabble life			
 humanities & culture Don't be a passive audience. High brow, low brow, no brow.	517 5 new	16107	Holocaust ... by CMOT Dibbler 10 hours 17 min ago
 science & technology Jack in and add it up. Re: volution.	664 5 new	17920	Oxycontin to ... by Sineed 2 hours 45 min ago

the activist toolkit



Activist Toolkit

sponsored by:
Douglas-Coldwell Foundation
Fondation Douglas-Coldwell

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

- Toolkit Home
- rabblepedia
- How-To Guides
- On This Day
- Software Tools
- Workshop Outlines
- Media Commons

FEATURED: ON THIS DAY



International Women's Day

March 8 is IWD but how did it all get started?

[read more...](#)

FEATURED: GUIDE

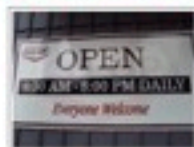


Balloon Banners

A graphical guide about how to put together a balloon banner

[read more...](#)

FEATURED: GUIDE



Starting a co-operative

How to form any kind of co-op from the ground up

[read more...](#)

FEATURED: SOFTWARE



QR codes

What are QR codes and how activists can use them

[read more...](#)

TOOLKIT

- About Toolkit
- User Guide
- Moderator Guide
- Toolkit Policy
- Feedback

3 MINUTE ACTION

All Together Now

February 6, 2012

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

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

Interns: Paula Millar (summer 2011) and Steffanie Pinch (fall 2011/winter 2012)

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

The Activist Toolkit is a wiki for the rest of us, and thanks to the innovation of Steffanie Pinch, the toolkit is supported with a blog and podcast.

membership community supported media

rabble gets your voice heard!

Strengthen our voices
Become a member today!



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 2011, rabble continued our partnership with independent print magazines from Canada and the U.S.. All members receive a magazine subscription as a thank-you gift from *rabble.ca*.

rabble finished 2011 with over 700 members contributing between \$5 and \$50 a month. We also held our annual donation drive for those that want to support us with a one-time donation. *rabble.ca* offers a prize draw for the donation drive.

2011 partner magazines:

Briarpatch, Broken Pencil, the Dominion, Canadian Dimension, Middle Eastern Report, ricepaper, Yes!, This Magazine, Our Times, Herizons, Geist, Alternatives Journal, Beaver Magazine, Corporate Knights, Fuse Magazine, Watershed Sentinel, New Internationalist

House parties

In 2011 we went beyond the membership and donation drives and piloted a fundraising house party, with Judy Rebick. We had a special appearance by singer-songwriter Raffi Cavoukian who shared some music with the local attendees!

More house parties to come in 2012!



Raffi Cavoukian and Judy Rebick at the *rabble.ca* benefit.



rabble.ca invites you to an intimate social gathering at the home of Ruth Herman and David Chudnovsky to share conversation with special guest Judy Rebick, and rabble staff and board members.

AN EVENING WITH JUDY

Judy is in Vancouver as a keynote for Media Democracy Day, and we are hosting this evening to have some stimulating conversation and raise awareness and support for rabble.ca. This special evening is being held in support of rabble.ca and financial contributions to support rabble.ca's work will be warmly received!

Please join us for drinks and refreshments on Sunday, November 13th, from 5 to 7, at 992 East 22 Avenue in Vancouver

Please RSVP to: kim@rabble.ca

NOV 13

5:00PM - 7:00PM

Directions: 992 East 22 Ave. is 3 blocks east of Fraser between Kingsway and King Edward at the corner of Windsor.

Advertise@rabble.ca

Pinpoint your ad
with geo-tagging
at rabble.ca



Looking for the most visited alternative online news source in Canada? **Welcome to *rabble.ca*.**

rabble.ca can now "geo-tag" ads so they only appear in select areas of the country (or world), allowing for local issue-advertising. This feature has attracted some clients and *rabble.ca* has been promoting it on rabble and through our social media tools.

As in the past, *rabble.ca*'s advertising space is used not just as a revenue-generating stream, but as a service to our Sustaining Partners, our fundraising partners (magazines that donate subscriptions to our membership drive) and to those organizations whose events we sponsored.

With rabble's growing number of features, we also promote specific sections of the site through ads, and of course, our own products.

Want to learn more? See: www.rabble.ca/advertise



Who comes knocking? We want answers!

Answer our visitors survey and you can win a flip camera!

rabble.ca
NEWS FOR THE REST OF US

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

a In 2011 we ran a visitor survey to find out more about who was visiting rabble and why. This survey not only gave us a sense of what people like (or not) on rabble but also a good demographic report of who visits rabble, the issues they care about and their demographics.

r rabble participated in numerous advertising exchanges, including exchanges with the *Vancouver Observer* and the magazines *Broken Pencil*, *The Dominion* and *Upping the Anti*.

k Media sponsorships, conferences and events

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

rabble sponsored a number of events in 2011 including:

- t**
- Mayworks Festival of Working People and the Arts (Toronto)
 - Remixology
 - Women's Worlds Conference
- i**
- Israeli Apartheid Week Toronto
 - Be Heard (Campaign against F-35)
 - Beyond the Ballot Box
 - Status of Women Council of the NWT
- n**
- Women, Action and the Media
 - Toronto Palestinian Film Festival
 - No One is Illegal Toronto May Day Assembly
 - Vancouver Media Democracy Day
- g**
- Gen Why: Bring Your Boomers
 - Amai Kuda CD launch celebration
 - Thinking Outside of the Ballot Box for Social Justice with Bridgette DePape
 - Media Democracy Day
 - G20 Hearings with CCLA
 - G20 One Year Anniversary
 - Power Camps -- Climate Justice and Action Camps
 - Thinking Outside the Ballot Box with Brigette DePape



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

Publisher Kim Elliott and Managing Editor, Alexandra Samur attended the U.S. Progressive Media Consortium meeting in Oakland, California, in October.

rabble co-organized and livestreamed a Toronto and a Vancouver "morning after" debrief post-federal election 2011, bringing together MPs, academics and activists. We also livestreamed a "real issues" panel during the

federal election, with guests Jim Stanford, Olivia Nuamah, Trish Hennessy and Greg Elmer.

We hosted a 10th anniversary birthday bash in Toronto, at the Gladstone, including a panel discussion with Mark Surman, Judy Rebick, Olivia Nuamah and Ben Powless (the event was also livestreamed).

We hosted a reception with MPs and NGOs at the Parliament Pub to welcome our new Parliamentary reporter, Karl Nerenberg.

In Vancouver, rabble hosted an evening with Judy Rebick and special guest, Raffi, in November 2011.

Managing Editor Alex Samur attended the Northern Voices conference in Vancouver along with the Women, Action and Media conference. rabble was also part of Media Democracy Day in Vancouver 2011.



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CAW-Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice & Democracy, Ryerson Students' Union, Rabble.ca, and the Ryerson Faculty Association present

Beyond the Ballot Box:

Strategizing for the next 4 years!

Monday, May 30, 2011

Thomas Lounge -

Ryerson Student Centre
63 Gould St. Toronto

6:30 to 9pm

A roundtable discussion with:

Peggy Nash, Member of Parliament of
Parkdale-High Park

Rathika Sitsabaiesan, Member of
Parliament of Scarborough-Rouge River

Judy Rebick, Writer/Activist

Pamela Palmater, Centre for Indigenous
Governance, Ryerson University

Adam Shedletzky,
Co-founder of leadnow.ca

Grace-Edward Galabuzi,
Dept of Political Science & Public
Administration, Ryerson University

A forum to debrief on the federal election, make sense of the new political reality, and to strategize for change.

Refreshments will be provided

Co-moderated by Winnie Ng, Sam Gindin Chair, and Rodney Diverlus, Ryerson Students' Union's VP Equity.



rabble.ca

CAW-Sam Gindin Chair in
Social Justice and Democracy

rfa

RSU Ryerson Students' Union
and its member institutions of learning

fresh media. ReMixology

the **REVOLUTION** WILL NOT BE
TELEVISED
CELEBRATING VIDEO INNOVATION
with **BRETT GAYLOR**

AWARD-WINNING
DOCUMENTARY
FILMMAKER OF

rip!
A REMIX MANIFESTO

+ join media innovators, technologists,
artists and the online community
for ReMixology #4 as Brett Gaylor,
hosts an interactive talk about
the future of videos on the web

+ MODERATED BY GLORIA LEUNG
{REGIONAL WEB DEVELOPER FOR CBC}

+ DJs + FOOD + CASH BAR

W2 Community Media Arts

OPEN
FILE

OPEN
media.ca

rabble.ca

Granville

CiTR
90.1 FM / CTR.ca
Own your frequency

net
TUESDAY

VO
THE VANCOUVER
OBSERVER

THE TYEE
LET I KNOW FOR REAL, BEYOND ANY DOUBT

OCW
MAGAZINE

VANCOUVER IS
AWESOME.COM

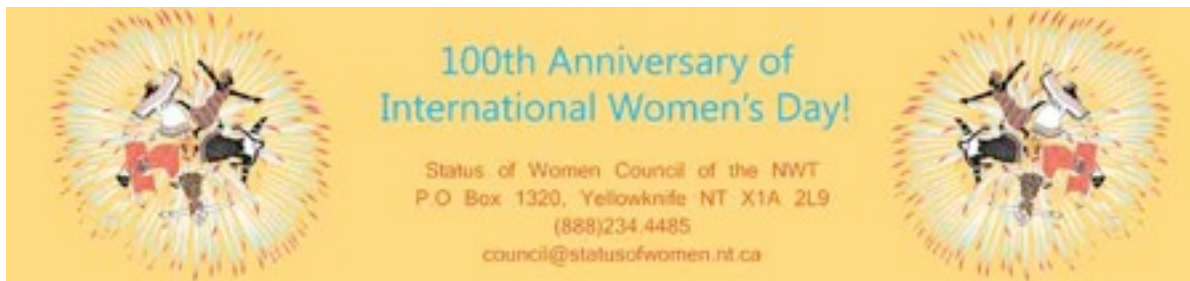
CJSF
90.1 FM

DISCORDER

friday february 25 • doors 7pm • W2 storyeum • 151 w cordova
tickets \$5 advance • \$10 door • FYI we sold out last time!

WWW.FRESHMEDIA.ME • TWITTER @FRESHMEDIAME • WWW.NETTUESDAY.CA

FRESHMEDIA IS A CELEBRATION OF INNOVATION & INDEPENDENT MEDIA, AND A RE-IMAGINING OF MEDIA & JOURNALISM



The Council would like to thank their sponsors for their support:



W O M E N , A C T I O N & T H E M E D I A



**Women, Action,
& the Media**

{Beyond the Bylines}

**WAM! FIRST ANNUAL
Vancouver's CONFERENCE**

WAMI is an international community of journalists, media makers, artists and activists who collaborate to advance gender justice and promote women's media participation, ownership and representation.

WAMI Vancouver's first annual conference will launch the first WAMI chapter in Canada. Join us as we work to create a supportive network, share knowledge and build skills!

Speakers and workshop presenters will include journalists Fatima Jaffer and Harsha Wallia, and from the Vancouver Media Co-op, Tami Starlight and Sandra Cuffe. Topics will include The Media and Intersectionality: Why do we need WAM?, Overcoming Racism in the Media, How to Harness the Media for Social Justice Activism and Advertising's Image of Women.

The conference will also feature a lunchtime networking fair. Free tables are available for your publication or organization upon request.

WHERE

The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
Stikine Room
Level 2
1961 East Mall

University of British Columbia

Wheelchair-accessible, transit stipends available upon request

WHEN

Sunday, March 27

10 am-6 pm

Doors open 9:45 am

Participants welcome to stay after the event for open brainstorming/networking

REGISTER

Email us at wamvancouver@gmail.com to download a printable registration form, or visit our website at wamvancouver.wordpress.com

ADMISSION BY DONATION

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10



Judy Rebick giving Keynote at Media Democracy Day 2011 in Vancouver.



Judy Rebick and Michael Stewart at the *rabble.ca* info table at Media Democracy Day.

Join
rabble.ca
in taking
the



Vegan Challenge

Earth Week
April 17-23

rabble.ca

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

BY **RABBLE STAFF** | MARCH 23, 2011

Print Write to editor Support rabble Corrections

SHARE



Join rabble.ca in taking the **Vegan Challenge** during Earth Week from April 17-23.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Below are some tips with a Canadian focus. You can also visit the Vegan Challenge website on Oprah.com (yup, we like something on Oprah!): Your Vegan Starter Kit.

rabble.ca sponsored the vegan challenge and had some staff, contributors and interns taking part to eat vegan during Earth Week 2011. This coverage was one contributing factor to rabble being recognized in the first annual Empathy Awards.

Memberships

M

Over the past six years, *rabble.ca* has been an observer member of the U.S. [Progressive Media Consortium](#). This year *rabble* became an Associate Member. 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.”



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

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rabble is an active member of [OpenMedia.ca](#), and donated ad space to their campaign, as well as Remixology and Media Democracy Day events in 2011. *rabble* is also an active member of the Center for Social Innovation (CSI) in Toronto and W2 Media and Community Arts in Vancouver, where we host “desks.” In 2012, we’re looking forward to opening a desk space in Ottawa, at “Under One Roof.”

e

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 center of our editorial operations to B.C., we have been approved for voting membership.

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Information tables:

We spread the word about our work at conferences and meetings and in 2011 we tabled at a number of events including:



- The Word On The Street in Toronto and Vancouver
- OPSEU Convention in Toronto
- The Canadian Labour Congress Convention in Vancouver
- Media Democracy Day in Vancouver
- Car Free Day (Commercial Drive)
- University of Toronto Orientation Media Fair

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e-newsletter, Twitter, Facebook

rabble offers a daily and weekly newsletter, both contain links and summaries to all our features with our weekly newsletter featuring contests and giveaways. Over 5,500 thousand people follow rabble on Facebook and over 10,000 on Twitter.

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Promotional exchanges and giveaways

Readers of our email newsletter get the most opportunities to win cool stuff like books, show tickets and music CDs. Music CDs are often artists that are featured in our rabbletv feature *Indie Inside*.

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As a sample, our giveaways in 2011 included:


- Tickets to the Vancouver International Film Festival
- Passes to the Mayworks Festival of Working People and the Arts (Toronto)
- Passes to the Toronto-Palestinian Film Festival (TPFF)
- Tickets to Hot Docs
- Copies of Lynn Coady's *The Antagonist*
- *DOXA tickets*
- Tickets to screenings of *Forks Overs Knives* (in Edmonton and Calgary)
- Tickets to Planet in Focus Environmental Film Festival (Toronto)

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

rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US

News, politics and
arts and culture
for the rest of us.
rabble.ca/issues/arts-culture

[Check past events](#)

[Add an event](#)

[iCal](#) 

[Event feed](#) 

City	Start Time	Event
Toronto	Nov 11 2011 - 3:30pm	Remembrance Day for all: Lie down on College Street
Winnipeg	Nov 11 2011 - 12:00pm	Remembrance Day reception at Occupy Winnipeg
Vancouver	Nov 11 2011 - 10:00am	Fourth international Che Guevara conference with Dr. Aleida Guevara
Nanaimo	Nov 11 2011 - 10:00am	A peace of occupy: Remembrance Day at Occupy Nanaimo
Vancouver	Nov 11 2011 - 12:00am	Vancouver World Peace Forum Teach In
Toronto	Nov 10 2011 - 7:30pm	Ride the Cyclone
Vancouver	Nov 10 2011 - 6:30pm	Wade Davis at the Vancouver International Writers Festival
Toronto	Nov 10 2011 - 6:30pm	(In)Equality Matters: Social justice and the economy - Toronto
Toronto	Nov 10 2011 - 6:00pm	Annual Dame Nita Barrow lecture: Shanthi Dairiam speaking on women's human rights
Windsor	Nov 10 2011 - 3:00pm	Open House at Occupy Windsor: share your stories!
Toronto	Nov 9 2011 - 5:00pm	Media Literacy Week 2011: Digital Citizenship Workshop for Adults
Toronto	Nov 9 2011 - 3:30pm	Free Favourites at Four presents The Trenches and John McCrae's War: In Flanders Fields
Toronto	Nov 8 2011 - 7:00pm	Solidarity Tuesday: City Workers at Occupy Toronto
Sudbury	Nov 8 2011 - 5:30pm	Rally and protest at the City Council meeting
Toronto	Nov 7 2011 - 5:00pm	Blood on the Tracks: An evening with peace activist and Vietnam veteran S. Brian Willson
St. Catharines	Nov 7 2011 - 4:00pm	General Meeting - Occupy Niagara

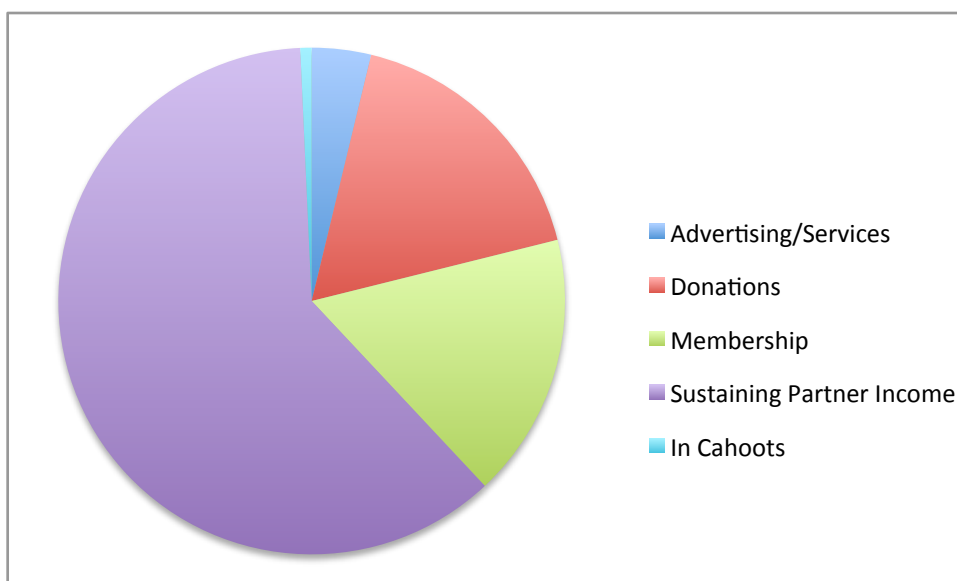
All of our sponsored events, plus events from around Canada can always be found on our popular calendar *what's up*. Free to post and read.

Financial reflections

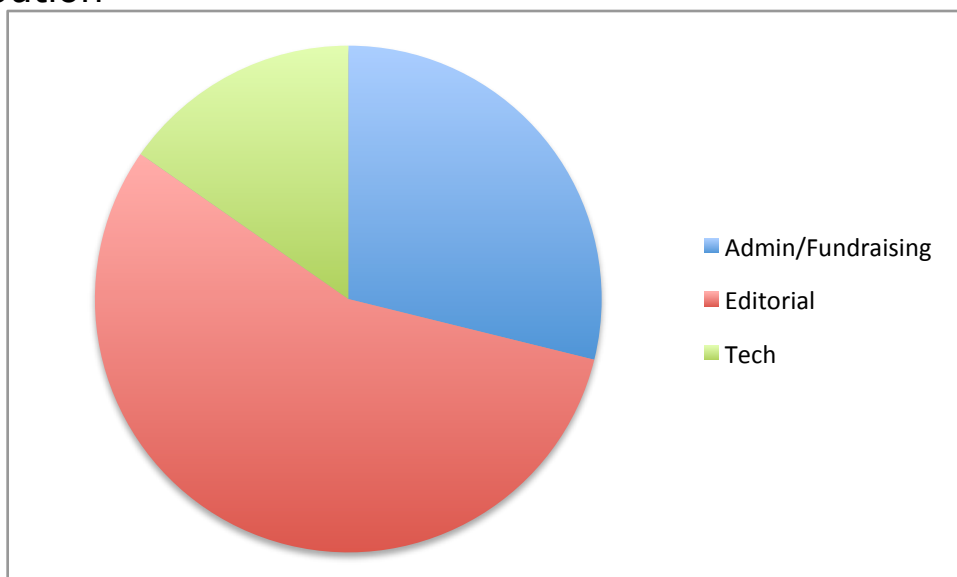
The total operating budget for rabble in 2011 was \$266,000.

rabble's reliance on Sustaining Partner income was represented in 61 per cent of our total income. Membership support accounted for 17 per cent of the annual budget, donations were up to 17 per cent and advertising sales and services accounted for only four per cent.

Income



Expense distribution



78 per cent of rabble's expenses are staffing and contributor costs. Within that staffing expense, 56 per cent is attributed to editorial costs, 29 per cent to fundraising and administration and 15 per cent to technical support.

Measuring website traffic

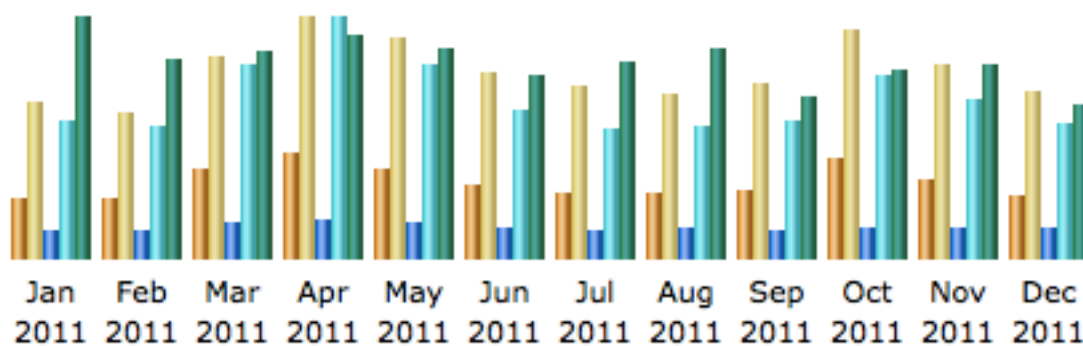
rabble uses AWStats and Google Analytics to measure website traffic. While the programs measure different variables (log files vs. javascript), together they provide a helpful view of traffic trends.

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

rabble had an average of 156,000 unique visitors per month, an average of 277,000 visits per month, and about 2 million page views per month. The website reached a high of 315,000 unique visitors during the 2011 federal election.

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 visits¹ represents the number of individual sessions initiated by all the visitors. From a Google Analytics standpoint, visits are the most basic measure of how effectively a site is performing.

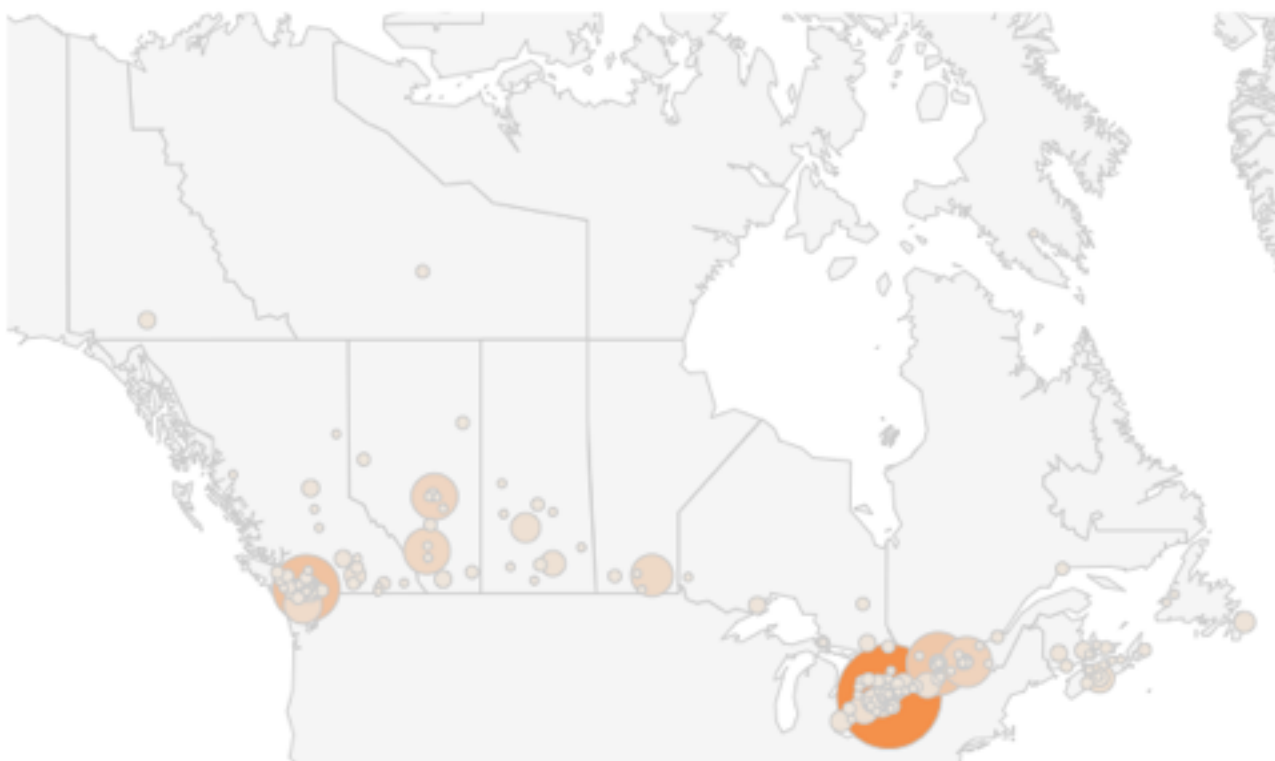
The average time spent on the site in 2010 was 3.29 minutes per visit.



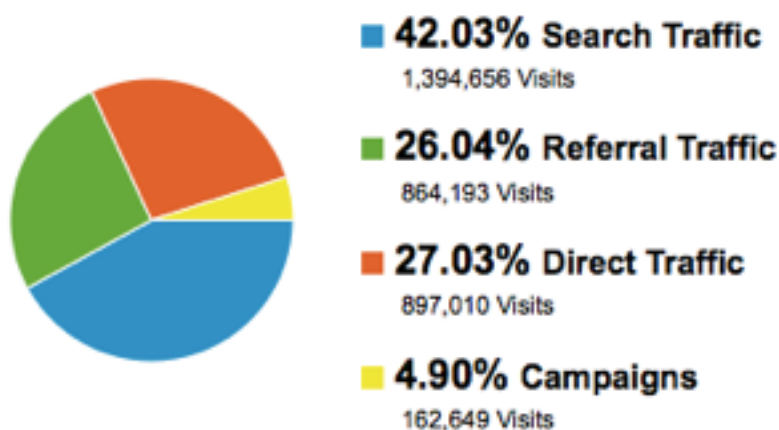
The above graphic, drawn from AWStats, is an indication of the traffic trends over the seasons of 2011.

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

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



In 2011 *rabble.ca* had 3,318,000 visits from 219 countries/territories. 82 per cent of traffic to the site came from Canada.



The above graphics indicate the primary methods by which people come to *rabble.ca*. In a switch this year, more than 40 per cent of traffic to the site came from Google, while nearly 28 per cent of the traffic came directly to the site. *rabble.ca*'s top referrer in 2011 was Google, with Facebook, Feedburner, StumbledUpon and Twitter among the top 10 referrers.

people at rabble.ca

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

You can read biographies on key people at rabble 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 2011, we had editorial staff in British Columbia, in Ontario and in the Yukon. We have columnists, bloggers, podcasters and video makers coast to coast and beyond the Canadian borders. In 2011 the staff had a rare opportunity to get together in person for a retreat to reflect and plan. Special thanks to our hosts in B.C.!

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 is a member of the [W2 Community, Media and Arts Centre](#) where we also have an office.

Board

Dave Lundy
Diana Bronson
Diane Touchette
Duncan Cameron
Elaine Bernard
Fred Wilson
John Urquhart
Michael Goodman
Wayne MacPhail

Advisory Committee

Dave Mitchell
John Urquhart
Linda McQuaig
Lynn Coady
Sharon Fraser

Interns

Ellie Gordon-Moerschel
Kaitlin McNabb
Kristen Hanson
Leif Larsen
Paula Millar
Meghan Murphy
Mick Sweetman
Noreen Mae Ritsema
Scaachi Koul
Steffanie Pinch

Thanks to:

Centre for Social
Innovation
Livestream.com
Speed.inc
W2

Staff

Kim Elliott, Publisher
Murray Dobbin, Guest Senior Contributing Editor
Cathryn Atkinson, News and Features Editor
Alex Samur, Managing Editor, Book Review Editor
Wayne MacPhail, Director Emerging Media
Meagan Perry, rpn Executive Producer
Tor Sandberg, rabbletv producer
Matthew Adams, Program and Special Projects Coordinator, in cahoots Editor (Start Nov 2010)
Laurel Smith, Administration and Membership Coordinator
Matthew Adams, in cahoots Editor
Deborah Brewster, publisher assistant
Michelle Gregus, East Coast Editor
Frank Preyde, babble moderator
May Lui, babble moderator
Jessica Rose, copy editor and best of rabble editor
Michael Stewart, babble moderator
[The Anarres Worker Co-op](#), Technological support

regular volunteers & advisors

Anita Kranjc
Bill Wittur
Cathi Bond
Courtney Kirkby
Deborah Konecny
Derek McLeod
Mackenzie Konecny
Dawn Buie
Elizabeth Littlejohn
Frank Preyde
Greg Johannson
Gretchen King
Humberto DaSilva
Kathryn Harvey
Kim Ford
Lou Arab
Nathan Rambukkana
Phillip Smith
Sally Miller
Tariq Jeeroburkhan
Yee-Guan Wong
Yumi Hotta
Alheli Picazo
Greg MacDougall
Emily Hill
Jeffrey Vicq
And a special thanks to the CUPE Ontario Division Youth Camp!

rabble by the numbers 2011

media to offer a special section on the #Occupy movement before *rabble.ca* **0**

of feature contributors **350+**

of events rabble streamed live on rabbletv **14**

of podcast shows **30**

of podcast episodes **600+**

of posts on babble in 2011 **well over 100,000**

of book reviews **50**

of sustaining partners **14**

of Not Rex videos **27**

of bloggers on rabble **92**

of paid members **(we need more!)**

of average unique visitors a month **150,000**

of unique visitors to rabble during the federal election **350,000**

of countries/territories visitors came from **219**

of page views on average per month **2,000,000**

Appendix A: rpn shows 2010



Asia Pacific Currents

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



House of Sound and Fury

Arts in community building and cultural vitality



Alert Radio

Weekly Canadian news and current affairs not heard on mainstream radio



If you love this planet

International guests? Yes.
Generation-defining issues? Absolutely.



Alternatives Journal

Canada's informed voice on environmentalism



I Read the News Today (oh boy!)

News and views on politics in Canada, the U.S. and beyond



Aw@L

Peace and social justice discussions from campus radio Waterloo



John Bonnar Audio Blog

Independent journalist with social justice stories in and around Toronto Ontario



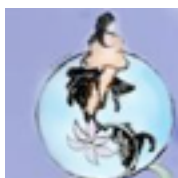
F Word

Explores varied aspects of feminism through discussion and interviews



Journalist for human rights

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



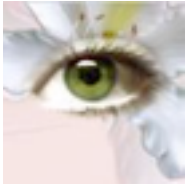
Green Planet Monitor

In Asia, Africa, Latin America people use local knowledge to solve problems – stories/news



Labour Show

An up close and personal look at the labour movement today



Living On Purpose

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



Pivot Legal Society

Law reform, legal education and strategic legal action



Maker Culture

Taking things into our own hands.



Podcast DIY

Tips and tools on creating your own podcast



Migrant Matters

The issues that limit people moving across borders of all kinds



Progressive Voices

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



Needs No Introduction

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



rabble radio

Our own mix of politics, music, art and more!



No One Is Illegal

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



radio book lounge

Author readings, interviews, book reviews, storycasts and more!



People's Health Radio

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



Redeye

On the political social and cultural issues of the day



Reel Women

Judy Rebick and Cathi Bond
dive into the DVDs



The ruckus

An exploration of Canadian
music: from prairie folk, to
hip-hop, to alt rock



Stark Raven

A critical look at incarceration
and criminalization in Canada
and around the world



The Speakeasy

Smart perspectives on stories
both familiar and unheard of



Street Cred

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



Watch me: Movie reviews with Cathi Bond

Cathi Bond talks about unusual
new releases not to miss.



The Dispatch

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



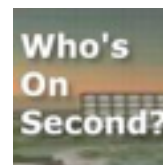
Who RU?

An exploration of identity on
the edge of tech



The Dominion

News from the grassroots



Who's on Second?

Interviews and stories about
Second Life



The Roaming Ear

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



Youth Delegation to COP 17

A delegation of young
Canadians at the UN climate
change talks

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 few final words from our supporters



"Over the last two decades, at least, corporate speech and state speech, in tandem, have narrowed the public space pushing us into ever disappearing, ever meagre definitions of the communal. Contesting that hegemony, over language and politics, rabble reclaims and widens the space of citizenship."

JOIN DIONNE BRAND — SUPPORT rabble.ca



"We lefties need lots more education, information, dialogue and debate in order to figure out how to beat back the Neanderthals. And in my books, there's no better place than rabble.ca to get it."

JOIN JIM STANFORD — SUPPORT rabble.ca



"The world needs to hear a lot less from the mainstream media, and a lot more from [rabble](http://rabble.ca)."

JOIN LINDA McQUAIG — SUPPORT rabble.ca



"rabble.ca is needed because it is one of the few places to offer the chance for substantive analysis and discussion on the issues that matter most."

JOIN BEN POWLESS — SUPPORT rabble.ca



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

JOIN JUNE CHUA — SUPPORT rabble.ca



"rabble is a crucial resource for achieving media democracy in Canada, in this era of increasing corporate media centralization. That's why the Council of Canadians supports rabble.ca."

JOIN MAUDE BARLOW — SUPPORT rabble.ca

rabble.ca

NEWS FOR THE REST OF US

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Toronto Ontario M5T 2C7