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CODEVELOPMENT CANADA E-Bulletin

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CODEVELOPMENT CANADA | BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE

partners IN SOLIDARITY

E-Bulletin: Summer 2009

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Welcome!

Welcome to the summer issue of our *Partners in Solidarity e-Bulletin*. If you are reading this it is because you are interested in CoDevelopment Canada (CoDev) and the work we do. CoDev has been working towards global justice for almost 25 years. We thrive thanks to your interest and support. These e-bulletins come out eight times a year and aim to keep you up-to-date with the CoDev world and incredible people around the world striving for social justice. If you no longer wish to subscribe please go to our [website](#) and unsubscribe (bottom left of our homepage).

August 9th marks the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People (IDWIP). To celebrate this CoDev is focusing this e-bulletin on

Join us for the 2008/9 CoDev AGM!

CoDev invites all members to join us at this year's annual general meeting. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 30th at 7pm**. The location will be announced closer to the date - watch www.codev.org for further details. Not a member? You can join at the AGM!

CoDev/café ético summer e- bulletin contest!

To thank you for being subscribers to our e-bulletin and to entice you to provide us with some feedback we are holding a draw! [Click here](#) to send us a short email telling us what you think about our e-bulletins. Provide us with your full name and we'll enter you in a draw for a free 400g bag of [café ético](#) coffee! If you are

some of the incredible indigenous people that we work with. We are also providing you with some information and links to work being done around the Americas to insure human rights for all. We realize that this is not exhaustive coverage on the incredible efforts happening in the region - please send us links that we can include in our e-bulletin next summer when we celebrate this important event again.

Another important event that we want to highlight in this issue is the current situation in Honduras. As many of you know a coup d'état took place on June 28th and, as of the writing of this e-bulletin, the siege on the Honduran people continues. In this e-bulletin you will find a short article about the situation and some links to further information. Thank you for joining us in solidarity.

Coup in Honduras:

If coup in Honduras succeeds, which country will be next?



Photo: Getty Images

Until the 1990s, military coups and dictatorships in Latin America hardly caused a ripple in the international arena. Devastating as they were - hundreds of thousands of people murdered or disappeared and millions more forced into exile - such events were so commonplace that they tended to be shrugged off by the rest of the world as an integral part of the Latin American political

drawn as the winner we will contact you to offer you a choice of one of our incredible roasts. Thank you for taking a few moments of your time and thank you for being a CoDev e-bulletin subscriber!

Supporting Solidarity

Be a champion for change by donating your Vancity enviro *Visa* reward points to CoDev! Your contribution will support global justice and our work with our partners to defend public education, protect workers' rights and foster strong communities.

For a minimum donation of 2,000 My Visa Rewards Plus points (\$20.00), you will receive an official tax receipt from Vancity Community Foundation. To donate your points to CoDev, sign on to myvisarewardsplus.com and click on 'donate to charity'.

For more information about the My Visa Rewards Plus program, visit the [website](#), or call 604.877.4999 or toll free 1.800.611.8472. Thank you for supporting CoDev!



Resources

The [Alternative Information and Development Centre](#) provides information on political, social, and economic issues to activists, researchers and the wider community. It publishes Alternatives magazine, that focuses on different aspects of

landscape.

But for two decades now, there have been no successful military coups in the region, and in country after country people have successfully used the ballot box to build more inclusive and participatory systems. Latin Americans' faith in democratic processes has grown and many hoped the military monster that had long plagued the region had finally been locked away for good. [Click here](#) to download the full story...

Accurate Coverage

The following links provide access to more accurate coverage of the situation in Honduras: [Upside Down World](#) (English) [Maquila Solidarity Network](#) & [MSN Bookmarks](#) (Eng) [Narco News](#) (Eng) [Rights Action](#) (Eng) [Truthout](#) (Eng) [Minga Informativo](#) (Español) [Telesur](#) (Esp)

Take Action!

CoDev encourages members and supporters to write to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper asking that the Canadian government take a clear stand in support of democracy in Honduras. Your letter should ask Canada to:

1. Issue a clear statement in support of democratically elected President Manuel Zelaya and his unconditional reinstatement in government.
2. Communicate to the de facto government in Honduras asking for an end to the persecution of leaders and members of the civil society movement.
3. Suspend bilateral aid to Honduras until the democratically elected government of Manuel Zelaya is restored.

[Click here](#) to send your letter to Prime Minister Harper today!

Copies of your letter will be sent to: Lawrence

globalization, campaigns and movements mobilizing against neoliberal policies, and alternative perspectives and strategies.

For the [Inter Press Service News Agency](#) information is an agent of change. Since its inception, back in 1964, IPS has believed in the role of information as a precondition for lifting communities out of poverty and marginalization.

The [International Institute for Sustainable Development](#) contributes to sustainable development by advancing policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change, measurement and assessment, and natural resources management. It also works to promote open and effective international negotiation processes.

The [Real News Network](#) is a television news and documentary network focused on providing independent and uncompromising journalism. The staff, in collaboration with courageous journalists around the globe, will investigate, report and debate stories on the critical issues of our times.

Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Peter Kent, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (Americas), NDP Foreign Affairs Critic Paul Dewar and Bob Rae, Liberal Foreign Affairs Critic.

Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples:

Colombians and Canadians Mourn the Loss of an Indigenous Leader



Former BCGEU president, George Heyman, PSAC President John Gordon with NOMADESC Director, Berenice Celeyta and indigenous leader, Robert Guachetá in Cali in July 2008. Credit: CUPE

A man speaks softly to the group gathered in the hot room. People lean forward to hear better over the shouts of people passing by in the street. The speaker recounts recent persecution and community resistance with a clarity of vision and a determination that are both inspiring and humbling.

The group was the Frontlines delegation made up of four Canadian trade union leaders, including CoDev's Barbara Wood as facilitator and translator. The Frontlines group was in Colombia last July to meet with partners and deepen solidarity. The speaker was Robert Guachetá, a leader of the indigenous people of the Honduras reserve in Cauca. We met together in the Cali office of CoDev partner, NOMADESC, a human rights organization that works closely with persecuted sectors of Colombian society including

indigenous communities.

Having met with Robert and visited indigenous communities, the labour delegation had a sense of the violence that is continuously unleashed on those communities and their leaders. It was shocking to have it brought home again with the news that on May 18th of this year, Robert Guachetá was assassinated near his home. [Click here to download the full story...](#)

Fair Trade Coffee & Indigenous Communities

It's no secret that coffee production has a dark past. In Latin America (as in other parts of the world), indigenous peoples have been especially oppressed by the coffee trade: ever since export crops were introduced to the region, indigenous people have been forced to work on agro-export farms, and their traditional lands were seized in order to grow export products such as coffee and sugar.

However, there is a resurgence of indigenous organizations in Latin America, and in some countries fair trade coffee has emerged as a prime means of funding the movement. The [CCDA](#) (Peasant Committee of the Highlands) is a national Mayan organization in Guatemala that helps its members obtain land for coffee cultivation, as well as to export and market their premium fair trade and organic coffee internationally. [Click here to download the full story...](#)

Message from La Chiva...Upcoming Vancouver Events in Support of Indigenous Communications Network in Cauca, Colombia

La Chiva (with the help of many friends) has begun a major fundraising campaign in Vancouver to support the [Tejido de Comunicación of the Association of Indigenous Councils of Northern Cauca, Colombia](#).

The Tejido has asked for our help in raising funds to repair the equipment for Radio Pa-Yumat, their community radio station, which was destroyed last

December by unknown saboteurs, seriously hindering their ability to accompany their communities.

This and many other attacks and threats have come from all of Colombia's armed actors. The attacks are clearly in response to their community's position of non-violent resistance to war and the effectiveness of the Tejido's communications strategy in bringing that message to the national and international scene.

[Click for more information.](#)

Please join us in Vancouver for the events, where you can learn more about the situation in Colombia (and its relation to Canada), support the work of the Tejido, and have a good time while you're at it! For more information, please check out the [Canada-Colombia Project blog](#).

Links in celebration of Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples:

IDEA [Aboriginal Educator's Network](#)

NACLA (July 2009) [Peru's 'Cold War' Against Indigenous Peoples](#)

New Internationalist (April 2008 Issue) [Indigenous Peoples](#)

leftturn (June 2009) [Movement Pachamama](#)

Cultural Survival [Promoting the Rights, Voices and Visions of Indigenous Peoples](#)

[UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#)

[TakingITGlobal's page for IDWIP](#)

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