



November 6, 2017

Dear CoDev Member,

Thank you so much for your commitment as a member of CoDev. As you may remember, your membership will expire at the end of December 2017. As always we are so grateful for your generosity and would not be able to support our partners without you.

If you are a monthly donor, your membership does not expire.

Your ongoing membership with CoDev reflects your dedicated partnership and solidarity with our Latin American and Canadian partners. **Our partners' vital work is richer and stronger because you are committed to building awareness of global justice in your workplace and your community.** Each time you listen to and share the messages you hear from our partners, you become a stronger advocate for social justice around the world. That advocacy is the best way to spread the message.

Your advocacy matters. It has an impact. It makes a difference in so many ways.

Most of our 23 Latin American partners' work goes far beyond their local communities and contributes towards change at a national level. The projects that CoDev and our Canadian partners support may seem comparatively small, but they are part of that bigger transformative package.

For example, last year with the support of the BCTF, we began a project with indigenous teachers in Mexico. The group is part of the national democratic teachers' movement that launched a national protest against constitutional reforms aimed at privatizing education and penalizing teachers. They were met by violent state repression that left 12 dead, and dozens of others injured or imprisoned. At the request of our partners, when Mexican president Enrique Peña Nieto came to Ottawa in June, CoDev launched a campaign urging Prime Minister Trudeau to condemn the violence against Mexican educators. Hundreds of you responded to our online action, and at a press conference with Peña Nieto, Trudeau did just that. While his appeal for dialogue with the teachers was largely ignored in Canada, it was picked up widely by the Mexican media. Our Mexican partners credit this campaign as the final straw that pushed Peña Nieto to sit down and negotiate with the teachers.

So thank you to those members who responded to the appeal and sent messages to Prime Minister Trudeau.

Last May, when citizens rose up in Buenaventura, Colombia against the death-squad neoliberalism that left most of the population marginalized, threatened, displaced or dead, they were able to articulate their demands due to a series of popular assemblies that our Colombian partner NOMADESC had trained residents in organizing. And, during the 3-week long general strike, NOMADESC's human rights monitors were in the streets documenting the repression by the Colombian government's notorious counterinsurgency police. In the end, the government was forced to negotiate with the Buenaventura General Strike Committee, reaching an agreement to invest 100s of millions in such neglected public services as housing, education, healthcare, infrastructure and water and sewage systems, as well as to take steps to rein in paramilitary violence.

Also last May, Colombia's national teachers' federation FECODE launched a national strike that involved tens of thousands of teachers, and was met by repression that left 3 educators dead. Prominent in the

accords that ended the strike is an agreement by the government to incorporate into the national curriculum new teaching methodologies for Peace and Reconciliation developed by FECODE in a national project supported CoDev and Quebec, Ontario, BC, Surrey and Vancouver teacher organizations.

As members of CoDev, you are a key link in this chain of solidarity between Canadian and Latin American social and labour movements – a link that makes possible deep and lasting change that addresses the people's immediate needs and structural causes of inequality, poverty and marginalization.

Please consider renewing your yearly membership or even better, become a monthly donor (bypass the membership fee and renewals!) and continue your valued connection with CoDev and our partners in Latin America. To do so, **please choose one of the following:**

- Call us with your credit card information (604.708.1495 x112)
- Send us a cheque: CoDevelopment Canada. 260-2747 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, BC V5K 1Z8 with the form below
- Visit: <http://www.codev.org/become-a-monthly-donor/> to become a monthly donor
- Visit: <http://www.codev.org/online-membership-form-paypal/> to renew your membership

We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to your continued involvement in CoDev. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to call or email me any time: 604.708.1495 x112 or cpandini@codev.org. Help spread the word about CoDev via [Twitter](#) and [Facebook!](#)

Sincerely,



Cindy Pandini
Communications & Development Director

/CUPE 1004

CoDev Membership Renewal

Yes, please renew my membership:

- Individual** (\$25/yr.)
- Student or Retired** (\$10/yr.)
- Family** (\$40/yr.)
- Monthly:** Amount per month (min. \$5) _____ (credit card only)
- I have enclosed cash or a cheque payable to CoDevelopment Canada
- I authorize CoDev to charge my VISA/MC card for the cost of the indicated membership type

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-Mail: _____

VISA/MC number: _____ Expiry date: ____ / ____

Signature: _____

CoDevelopment Canada: 260-2747 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, BC V5K 1Z8