

Transparency International Canada
Eleventh Annual General Meeting
Report of Executive Director on work of TI-Canada – 2007

June 12, 2008
Bronwyn Best, Executive Director

While TI-Canada membership is always in flux, the number remained at 102, across all membership categories: 6 Charter, 3 Business/Professional, 2 Government, 10 NGO and 81 individuals. TI-Canada welcomed three new Charter Members, Barrick Gold, Talisman and Teck Cominco, and received more in membership revenues than any year since 2000. TI-Canada is particularly grateful for the significant in-kind contribution from the Schulich School of Business, York University.

In March 2007, TI-Canada bid on and won a CIDA-funded tender let through Agriteam Canada Consulting Ltd., “Increasing Transparency and Accountability of Public Procurement/Bidding and Public Information Systems.” A major contributor to TI-Canada revenues for both 2007 and 2008, this is one of 68 China Policy Option subprojects being coordinated by Agriteam. The Chinese partners in this subproject are the Policy Research Office of the CPC Henan Committee and the Development and Research Center of Henan Province. In 2007, the subproject included a Work Planning mission to Henan Province and a study tour of 12 Henan public officials to Canada to study access to information. TI-Canada wishes to acknowledge the contribution of TI-Canada members Heather MacIntosh and Janet Keeping of the Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership, Bruce Bailey and David Simpson to the success of this subproject.

Other TI-Canada main activities in 2007 included:

- Establishment of TI-Canada’s four main goals and the 2007-2008 Action Plan;
- Presentation by Board Member John Willson to the Corruption Forum at the Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary, 24 January;
- Through correspondence, encouragement to the Canadian government to sign on to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI); Canada announced its official report of the EITI on 10 February 2007;
- Preparation by Americas Committee Chair, Bob Olivero, and Americas Committee Member, Sharon O’Regan, of TI-Canada’s Country Report 2007 re. the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (IACC), for the 10th Anniversary conference on the IACC, 12 – 14 February 2007, in Caracas, Venezuela; Ms. O’Regan attended the conference on behalf of TI-Canada;
- Preparation by International Conventions Committee member Michael Davies of the Canadian contribution to the 2007 TI Progress Report on OECD Convention Enforcement;
- Along with Publish What You Pay (PWYP) and various Canadian organizations, particularly Partnership Africa Canada (PAC), work on creating a PWYP coalition position for Canada; PWYP-Canada was launched on 26

- March 2008, with a PWYP-Canada Coordinator working out of the PAC office; TI-Canada ED is on the PWYP-Canada Management Committee;
- Letters sent to various Canadian G8 Ministers and the Canadian Sherpa, urging them to reinforce the anti-corruption measures that are essential for material well-being and human development of the world's poorest and to keep the G8 anti-corruption commitments made since the Kananaskis Summit in 2002;
 - Article submitted by TI-Canada ED to Canadian Human Resources Reporter, "Global Ethical Decision Making: Bribery and Corruption," published in 9 April issue;
 - Successful re-accreditation as a TI National Chapter from the TI Secretariat, carried out on a three-year cycle;
 - Presentation by Bill McCloskey, on behalf of TI-Canada, to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs re. Bill C-48, An Act to amend the Criminal Code in order to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), on 16 May; Canada ratified UNCAC on 2 October 2007;
 - Interview of TI-Canada ED by three students from Albert Campbell Collegiate Institute, in Toronto, re. thoughts and opinions on political corruption, for an Independent Studies Unit for their World Issues course;
 - Annual TI-Canada symposium, "Transparency International's Business Principles for Countering Bribery: How industry, its suppliers and government can work together;" sponsored by Export Development Canada and Gowling Lafleur Henderson;
 - Participation by TI-Canada Vice Chair and ED in the TI Annual Members Meeting, in Bali, October 25 – 29, including various sidebar meetings, on the Americas, APEC, OECD, among others;
 - TI-Canada's Round II MESICIC report, the civil society response to the Organization of American States' Experts' Questionnaire, spearheaded by Board Member Bob Olivero;
 - Submission of an application for charitable status for TI-Canada, prepared by Board Members Bill McCloskey and John Swinden, along with TI-Canada ED - pending;
 - Letter sent to PM Stephen Harper re. allegations of corruption made against former PM Brian Mulroney, encouraging the government to take full action to investigate the allegations and, if necessary, hold a public inquiry.

In 2007, TI-Canada produced three Newsletters, distributed to over 500 recipients. Particular thanks go to Mary Amati and Michael Windle for their assistance in designing the TI-Canada Newsletter. We continue to encourage you to visit www.transparency.ca and www.transparency.org for further information.

Respectfully submitted,

Bronwyn Best