<u>Transparency International Canada</u> <u>Twelfth Annual General Meeting</u> <u>Report of Executive Director on work of TI-Canada – 2008</u>

June 10, 2009 Bronwyn Best, Executive Director

TI-Canada maintained its membership number at 102. A new membership category of Crown Corporation was created, when Export Development Canada joined. A listing of all Members can be found at: <u>www.transparency.ca/Members/Members.html</u> Notification in late 2008 that TI-Canada would receive charitable status in early 2009 means that those members, who are eligible, will receive charitable tax receipts as of 2009.

We remember, with deep sadness and great gratitude, two former members, who died in 2008: long-time and very active member, Chris Brown, and former Board Member, Arthur Kroeger.

TI-Canada had another active year, working on a number of fronts. Highlights include:

- Completion of the Second Study Tour of senior officials from Henan Province to Ottawa, Toronto and Calgary, as well as the Final Seminar in Zhengzhou, China, for Policy Option Project (POP), "Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Government Procurement/Bidding and Access to Information";
- Awarding of a second POP, "Establishing the Long-term Mechanism for Anti-Corruption Supervision and Formulating the Performance Audit Measures for Public Financial Funds of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region," and carrying out of the Work Planning Mission;
- Participation by ED Bronwyn Best in the launch of Publish What You Pay (PWYP)-Canada and the Canadian launch of the TI "Report on Promoting Revenue Transparency," in which two TI-Canada Charter Members, Nexen Inc. and Talisman Energy Inc., were featured;
- Co-sponsorship, with the ethicscentre.CA, of Members Only Breakfast presentation by TI-Canada Board Member, David Shugarman, "Update on the *Federal Accountability Act*: What has happened; what still needs to happen";
- Presentation by Chair and President, Clare Bonnell, on "Reducing Municipal Exposure to Fraud and Corruption," to Toronto Ethics Practitioners Association of Canada Trillium Roundtable; and presentations by ED on "Corruption Across Cultures: Transparency International – an Agent for Positive Change in Today's Business Environment, to University of Toronto's 3rd Annual China Conference, and to annual meeting of AIESEC;
- TI-Canada annual symposium, "The Anatomy of Canadian Corruption: Its Causes and Prevention";
- Presentation by TI-Canada Board Member Bill McCloskey, to the Committee of Experts of the Organization of American States, in Washington, D. C., on TI-Canada's Round II submission on Canada's response to the "Follow-up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption"; the

submission had been prepared, on behalf of Canadian civil society, by TI-Canada Board Member Bob Olivero, in December 2007;

- Participation by Chair and President and ED in TI Annual Meeting and 13th International Anti-Corruption Conference, "Global transparency: fighting corruption for a sustainable future," held in Athens, Greece;;
- Presentation by TI-Canada member David Simpson, at conference on Corporate Social Responsibility, organized by Canadian Embassy in Chile;
- Preparation of the Canadian contribution to the 2008 TI Progress Report on OECD Convention Enforcement by TI-Canada members Michael Davies and Bruce Futterer; and contribution to the TI G8 Progress Report.

Two Newsletters were produced in 2008. There was continued correspondence with the Canadian government on TI recommendations for the establishment of a review mechanism for effective implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption and the 2008 Accountability Report: Implementation Review of G8 Anti-Corruption Commitments. We are grateful for the constant in-kind support provided by the Business Ethics Office, Schulich School of Business, York University, and, in particular, the kind services of Mary Amati. We would also like to thank the offices of Gowling Lafleur Henderson for their in-kind contribution towards the Canadian registration of the TI and TI-Canada logos.

Respectfully submitted,

Browing Best

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