

# URGENT COMMUNICATION >>>>>

## PLEASE RESPOND IMMEDIATELY

**FROM:** Bruce Campbell, Executive Director  
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

**RE:** CCPA on the Conservative hit list?

Dear Erin,

Thanks to your generous support, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives is Canada's leading independent voice researching and promoting policies on economic, social and environmental issues.

Unfortunately, the vital research you make possible is in danger as the Conservative government ramps up their attacks against those who question or disagree with their policies. **And as an outspoken critic, I worry that the CCPA will be targeted for removal of our charitable status — an important tool for funding our research.**

The Harper government has demonstrated its disregard for policy-making based on sound research and evidence, but instead is making decisions based on narrow-minded ideological priorities — regardless of what's best for Canadians like you and me.

The Conservative government has taken unprecedented actions to silence alternative points of view and stifle the free flow of information that is vital to a modern democracy. These include:

- Major cuts to Statistics Canada and elimination of the compulsory long-form census — the most crucial policy tool available for analyzing poverty and inequality in Canada.
- Abolishment of the National Council of Welfare, a federal agency whose authoritative reports on issues like welfare incomes, child poverty, pensions and the justice system have been widely used both inside and outside of government for sound policy-making.
- Removal of funding of prominent arms-length social and labour market policy research institutes — forcing their closure.
- Drastic weakening of environmental assessment rules allowing easier approval of risky new projects like pipelines with little or no public input allowed.
- An aggressive campaign against non-profit organizations critical of the government, threatening to remove their charitable status and ability to issue tax receipts.
- Pushing through a massive Omnibus budget bill with far-reaching consequences while providing minimal time for Parliament to discuss or debate the issues.

These attacks have already had a chilling effect on those speaking out for a democratic and just society... they are silencing dissent.



*(Please send your Reply Memo and vital gift to the CCPA today. Thank you.)*

*Over...*

**YES BRUCE, I WANT TO EMPOWER PROGRESSIVE VOICES!** Here's my gift to help the CCPA produce the vital research necessary for a healthy democracy:

\$100       \$200       \$250       Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to pay by:

Cheque (payable to the CCPA)

OR  VISA       MasterCard

Erin Spencer  
200-1 Wesley Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 4C6

Card #

Expiry Date

Signature

12S1-c 34324

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives  
@ UnderOneRoof Properties  
251 Bank Street, 2nd Floor, Ottawa, ON K2P 1X3

**We will not be silenced.** But in order to ensure the CCPA's voice is amplified and we continue to provide the important facts, figures and analysis that progressive Canadians rely on to show that alternative policies are not only possible, but practical and affordable, I need your help.

**Please take a moment right now and send your vital contribution of \$100, \$200 or even \$250 to the CCPA in the postage-paid envelope enclosed today.**

Your support allows us to produce more top-notch research and present it forcefully in public debates. Our work provides the fuel for all who fight for democracy, sustainability, justice *and* economic well-being.

Last year at this time the CCPA was facing a deficit and we were looking to lay off staff and cut back our research capacity. I was deeply moved by the overwhelming response of members like you. Your support brought us back from the brink. Thank you again for making it clear that you believe the work of the CCPA is crucial to a healthy and thriving country.

**But our work is far from done and the need to expand our research capabilities is more urgent than ever.**

Thanks to your generosity, the CCPA doesn't have to rely on precarious government funding — you provide the independent financial support vital to our survival. But in the face of government decimation of autonomous policy capacity, I'm turning to committed supporters like you again for help.

The devastating loss of so many research institutions has increased pressure on the CCPA to fill the void, and our resources are stretched as never before. At the same time, corporations and right-wing foundations have greatly increased their funding to big business think-tanks like the Fraser Institute, the Manning Centre and the CD Howe Institute.

And these right-wing think-tanks are all singing from the same songbook: cut public services; privatize and deregulate; eliminate environmental protections; cut wages and limit workers' rights; and give tax cuts for the rich and large corporations. They want Canadians to believe that there is no alternative to their big business-friendly agenda.

Thankfully you and I know better. **With your help the CCPA can provide the evidence needed to show that we can create a sustainable and economically strong democratic country that treats its citizens with fairness, compassion and respect.**

Thank you in advance for your crucial support. With your help we can not only continue, but will expand the research that is absolutely essential to good policy-making. Let's not allow fear and greed to prevail. Help raise our voice even louder to fight for a just Canada and the better world we know is possible.

Bruce Campbell

**P.S. I believe the CCPA is on the Conservative hit list — but we won't be intimidated by attempts to silence us! Please send your vital donation of \$100, \$200 or even \$250 in the postage-paid envelope enclosed today to ensure the CCPA can speak with a strong voice. Thank you very much.**

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*(Please detach bottom portion and send with your donation today. Thank you!)*

**URGENT REPLY MEMO**

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**