



CCPA

CANADIAN CENTRE
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES
MANITOBA OFFICE

RESEARCH • ANALYSIS • SOLUTIONS

FAST FACTS

October 15, 2007

Putting Knowledge to Work for Social Justice CCPA- Manitoba Celebrates 10th Anniversary

In December 1995, Professors Errol Black and Jim Silver talked about the need for a progressive research body to support the work of social and political activists

in Manitoba.

Wayne Antony joined them and together they established the Manitoba Institute for Social and Economic Research.

Soon after, the board entered into discussions with the Canadian Centre for

Policy Alternatives (CCPA) in Ottawa, a well-established national research institute with a similar mandate. In November 1997, CCPA Manitoba was born. A Letter of Understanding with CCPA left the board members with significant autonomy but within the framework of a progressive national research organization.

Born of Need and Commitment

“From the beginning, we said we wanted to be the kind of research institute that didn’t just publish things to be left to gather dust on

a shelf. We wanted to be politically engaged; we wanted our research to make a difference politically. This meant doing high quality research on matters of importance to

Manitobans, and making

an effort to distribute the results of our research as widely as possible,” says Silver.

Research and publications done in those early years set the tone for what CCPA-MB would do over the next decade and showed how high quality research can make a political impact on matters of importance to Manitobans. For example, when Evelyn

*Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Manitoba
Celebrating 10 years of progressive policy research in Manitoba*

Monday November 12, 2007
Pantages Theatre, 185 Market Avenue

Stephen Lewis, Former Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa
**Research and Social Justice
in a Sound-bite Society**

The film *In Their Own Voices* will also be shown.

6:00 pm – Wine & Cheese Reception - \$100
7:00 pm – Program - \$25

Tickets available at Assiniboine Credit Union or from the CCPA - MB



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FASTFACTS continued ...

Shapiro wrote a paper pointing out the perils of the privatization of home care, and Jim Silver warned about the provincial government contracting out home care services in Winnipeg, reaction was swift. Two hours after the reports' release,, the Minister of Health announced the termination of the experiment in home care privatization.

We now publish 6-8 monographs a year, plus a bi-weekly opinion piece on various current issues. To monitor ongoing issues, we have also produced analytic series on the annual provincial budget; the state of the Manitoba economy; and the state of public services. We have produced numerous publications on inner-city and Aboriginal issues and our annual *State of the Inner-City Report* is among the most downloaded of CCPA reports across the country. The 2006 report was downloaded by more than 16,000 readers.

In 2002 we received an \$895,000 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grant (SSHRC) to fund research on community economic development (CED) in the New Economy. This research has added significantly to the value and importance of CED in the renewal and revitalization of Manitoba communities.

This research resulted in the publication of over 40 reports, 2 books, 20 monographs and the documentary video *In Their own Voices* by award winning Aboriginal filmmaker Coleen Rajotte.

Research and Transformative Goals

Recently, CCPA-MB in collaboration with university and community partners, received a 5-year grant from SSHRC to continue with research on inner-city and Aboriginal

issues. The knowledge generated will help to better understand how the important development work being done can lead to more transformative outcomes.

CCPA-Manitoba uniquely engages in multiple forms of research. More traditional forms of historical and quantitative research are enhanced with research that is more participatory and community based in nature. This is in keeping with our aim to engage the community in research that has meaning to them. We currently have several community organizations actively engaged in research projects.

CCPA-MB is governed by a 12 person Board comprised of labour, academic, and community activists. The Board sets direction and assists in defining research activities. A Director, an Office Manager, and a Project Coordinator/Research Associate carry out the organization's mandate. Students and volunteers are also an integral part of the work that we do.

CCPA-Manitoba will celebrate our 10th Anniversary on Monday, November 12th at Pantages Theatre, 185 Market Street.

We are very pleased to have **Stephen Lewis**, former UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa and one of Canada's most respected commentators on social affairs, international development and human rights as our key note speaker.

Tickets are available at Assiniboine Credit Union or at CCPA-MB. For more information call 927-3200.

- Dennis Lewycky

Dennis Lewycky is a Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Manitoba board member.



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