

Anarchy Camp: REBEL! REBUILD! REWILD! August 18 - 20



Dear eco-warriors, land defenders, guerrilla gardeners, survivalists, nature-lovin' radicals & free-thinkers,

We live in the midst of a storm of crises – climate change, mass extinction, ocean acidification, peak oil, land theft, and class war, just to name a few. Harper's vision for Canada is of a vast resource colony, where natural resources are exploited as rapidly as possible, for the profit of the world's largest corporations. We are called to challenge this vision with a vision of our own.

We welcome you to attend a three-day action camp this Summer, from August 18-20, on unceded and unsundered Algonquin Territory (50 kilometres North of Ottawa).

Our ambition is that this gathering will strengthen the movement for ecological sanity by providing hands-on, skill-based education on how to campaign effectively against the destruction of the natural world. This camp will be fun, meant to nourish the spirit as well as educate the mind. There will be time for hiking, swimming, and enjoying the splendour of the wild, which is still very much alive and well on this occupied Algonquin Territory.

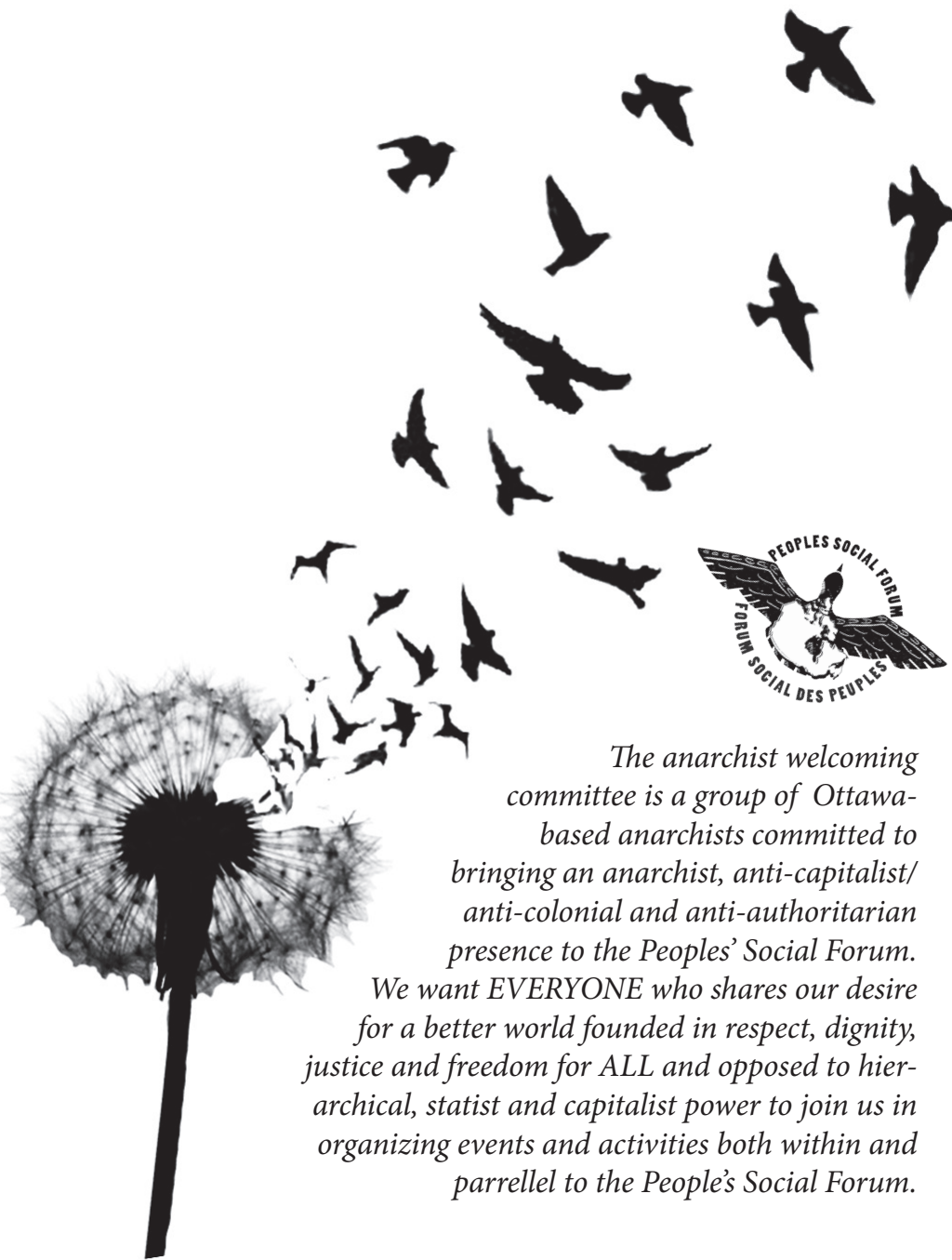
There will be workshops on direct action, anti-oppression, security culture, decolonization, Indigenous solidarity, and more. We are now accepting submissions for workshops, presentations, talks, and skillshares. Please write us to confirm attendance, submit ideas, and help organize at RebelRebuildRewild@riseup.net

Anarchist Welcoming Committee for the Peoples' Social Forum



To The Roots of the Problem! Aug 21 – 24, 2014

totherootsoftheproblem.wordpress.com
totherootsoftheproblem@gmail.com



The anarchist welcoming committee is a group of Ottawa-based anarchists committed to bringing an anarchist, anti-capitalist/anti-colonial and anti-authoritarian presence to the Peoples' Social Forum.

We want EVERYONE who shares our desire for a better world founded in respect, dignity, justice and freedom for ALL and opposed to hierarchical, statist and capitalist power to join us in organizing events and activities both within and parallel to the People's Social Forum.

What is the structure of the organizing? How are decisions made?

There are many local expansion committees from coast to coast involved in organizing this forum. There are also national committees and caucuses broken up into sectoral (POC, Indigenous, Labour, Queer, Women, DisAbility, Youth, Quebec) and work (Logistics, Communications, Mobilization, Arts&Culture, Finance). A representative from each committee and caucus and region is invited to participate in a bi-weekly steering committee call. Some committees and caucuses choose to have a point person that handles this, others chose to rotate the role.

How do we make sure that we are not legitimizing and reinforcing regressive political tendencies?

The best way to avoid reinforcing authoritarian and oppressive politics in the PSF is by participating in the forum both in the official programming and through autonomous organizing. It is important to be present and actively engaged in the discussions and debates that will be taking place. The Social Forum is an open and inclusive process for all social movements and activists to participate in. There will be room for mutual and constructive criticism, as well as to identify points of unity. If we fail to organize and intervene in strategic manners, we risk having the rest of the left and progressive forces come to consensus on ways forward that don't include us and further marginalize us and other radicals. This means encouraging anarchist organizers to participate in the PSF.

Why organize an anarchist presence at the Peoples Social Forum?

We think it is essential that anti-capitalist/anti-colonial and anti-authoritarian movements engage in the forum and mobilize in order to raise awareness about the organizing we do every day, to learn and grow as people and as movements, to challenge the political status quo and to push for real alternatives to the capitalist, colonialist and oppressive institutions that dominate Canadian society. If you agree with this, we want you to come and organize the anarchist presence at the People's Social Forum. And if you disagree, we want you to come and tell us why.

What roles are labour and NGOs playing in organizing the PSF?

Many unions have financially contributed towards the forum's costs. They are mobilizing their members to attend, and supporting the transportation of grassroots activists from cities across the country. Several NGO's have endorsed the forum and are actively involved in organizing towards it in collaboration with social movements and unions. While they have played an important role in getting the process going, it is important to clarify that this is not their event any more than it is ours.

What would be most useful in terms of anarchist organizing and interventions?

- anarchist movement assembly
- a stream of workshops on anarchisms
- anarchist cultural/musical events
- an anarchist bookfair (as part of the alt. Media fair)
- actions such as a prison demo, a masquerade, a reclaim the streets party, and collaborations with other groups and organizers.
- debate-styled panels with representatives from other movements

An Anarchist FAQ

What is the Peoples Social Forum?

The PSF is the first ever Social Forum for all the nations and territories in present-day "Canada". Modeled on the World Social Forum, it is a conference that is self-organized by its participants. It will be a coming-together of progressive people and social movements to both celebrate the diversity of our struggles and find points of unity with which to move forward.

What will be happening during the forum?

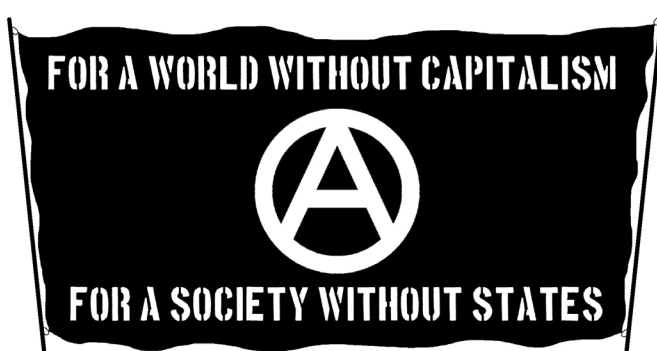
The forums are flexible and spontaneous and what happens will depend a lot on what we and others decide to make happen. There will be thousands of people attending. There will be hundreds of workshops, movement assemblies, actions, demonstrations, concerts, a pow-wow, alternative media, and more.

Why is it important to have an anarchist presence at the Peoples Social Forum?

We have many things to learn from, and to teach, our social movement allies. We are a crucial social force in many of the movements participating in the forum. Progressive people are increasingly interested in our ideas, visions, strategies, and tactics. There will be thousands of people there looking for inspiration and points of entry to fight for a better world and we need to be there to engage with them. Anarchists will be attending regardless of whether there is an organized anarchist element or not. Engaging in an organized way will help us grow the anarchist movement in Canada.

Which other groups and movements are involved?

There will be participants and representatives from all or almost all the social movements present in Canada. Unions, Indigenous peoples, grassroots activists, students, POC organizers, disability activists, queer folks, youth, artists and women's organizations are involved.





Crashing:

Come prepared to camp! For those who cannot or do not want to camp we are also helping to organize a billeting system! We will do our best to pair you up with appropriate and like-minded billets. Check www.peoplesocialforum.org for the housing forms starting in mid-June.

Socializing:

The Anarchist Welcoming Committee will be organizing a pop-up social centre during the forum. We encourage you all to bring zines and other materials for the library and distribution. This space will primarily be a space to relax, drink tea, eat snacks, and plot revolution. It will also house ongoing conversations on anarchy, spontaneous assemblies, and some workshops.

Partying:

You are invited to Ottawa's first ever-street masquerade party. Imagine a critical mass combined with a reclaim the streets combined with a costume ball. Friday night fun! No cover, No guest list, No mask law.

Teaching:

We are organizing an anarchist workshop track as part of the Peoples Social Forum to reach out to our allies in social movements and share our perspectives on issues relating to all 17 themes. We are soliciting workshop proposals towards this end.

Send a proposal for your workshop to: totherootsoftheproblem@gmail.com.

**You can also propose workshops directly through the Peoples Social Forum website but there is a small fee to book workshop space there.*

Tabling / Distros :

There will be many areas for tabling during the forum. We are looking to have many anarchist distros and projects represented in these spaces. Apply through the website to become a vendor! Or email psf.mediafair@gmail.com

Artists:

Do you sing, paint, rap, do theatre, spin fire, tell jokes, dance, make film, write, or otherwise express your radical politics through art? The arts and culture committee of the PSF is awaiting your proposals for creative artistic

interventions throughout the 4-day gathering. There will also be nightly events in up to a dozen venues as after-parties for each day. We encourage you to get involved. Shoot us an email and we'll work with the Arts and Culture Committee to hook you up.

Actions:

There will be all kinds of groups organizing their own actions as part of the forum. We encourage you to organize something with your crew or group to call attention to the movements you are part of. If you require any support for your action get in touch with us.

Volunteer!

Both The Peoples Social Forum, and the Anarchist Welcoming Committee will need volunteers to make this event work. We need volunteers now for a wide variety of tasks and will need volunteers during the forum as well. Some ways we need support is: simultaneous translation, promotion, web, sound tech, design, ASL, transportation, inter-city co-ordination, food, and more.

Childrens Social Forum:

Throughout the forum there will be a space set up for children aged 5-13. The Children's Social Forum will allow for kids to organize their own activities but will also have many progressive parents, childhood educators and teachers there to help out and also provide workshops and educational outings and activities. For kids aged under 5 there will be a child-minding centre. For youth 13 and up there will be an autonomous youth-run space organized by the youth caucus. We encourage young anarchists and radicals to join this caucus.

Movement Media Centre:

There will be an alternative media centre at the social forum, complete with a live radio broadcast and a daily broadsheet covering the forum. All media-makers are encouraged to participate and work with journalists and producers from around the country! On the third day of the forum, there will be a movement assembly dedicated to strategies on building movement media. Contact sakura.saunders@gmail.com (general) or Aaron at news@ckut.ca (radio) to get plugged into the media centre.