

for immediate release

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QUÉBEC'S 2 CITIZEN MEDIA RENDEZ-VOUS
An International Gathering of Media Experts

Montréal, Monday, July 26, 2010 — CitizenShift, Parole citoyenne, the Institut du nouveau monde (INM), Media@McGill, Alternatives and Communautique invite bloggers, engaged filmmakers, photographers, citizen journalists, media experts, independent media practitioners and others to the 2nd **Citizen Media Rendez-Vous** on Monday, August 23, 2010 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal. This international event begins at 8:30 am and runs until 6:00 pm, with networking sessions, 2 panel discussions, a Cinema Politica Rendez-Vous screening room and a multimedia exhibit of posters from 40 years of social movements in Québec related to media. The event is open to the public and will provide a venue for discussing topics such as content creation using diverse technology platforms and applying collaborative models for citizen media.

Participatory media projects that include multiple platforms, genres and issues are adding diversity to conversations at a speed and across distances that are changing the way people communicate with one another. A goal of the **Citizen Media Rendez-Vous** is to encourage a collaborative exchange to learn about, and advance the practices of, citizen media that cultivate inclusive participation and social justice.

Panelists, moderators and participants will discuss the central question: How is citizen media being used by civil society, independent journalists, media practitioners and others to better inform the public, and to what effect? To review this question from multiple angles the 2010 **Citizen Media Rendez-Vous** is divided into two central panel discussions. The morning panelists will consider how accessing and appropriating citizen media can better inform and mobilize the public. Panelists include: **Norman Cohn**, co-founder IsumaTV; **Tim McSorley**, editor Media Co-operative; **Georgia Popplewell**, Managing Director Global Voices; **Craig Silverman**, Managing Editor MediaShift & OpenFile. Discussions will be encouraged between panelists and the audience by moderator, **Patricia Bergeron**.

The afternoon discussion will focus on the citizen use of new media for the defense of human rights. Panelists include: **Jaroslav Valuch**, Haiti Project Manager Ushahidi; **Priscila Néri**, Program Coordinator, Witness; **Shubhranshu Choudhary**, CGNet Swara.

The event is bilingual and simultaneous translation will be available in English and French. For more details about this not-to-be-missed event visit: < <http://citizen-media.ca> >. Online registration is free but mandatory.

This independent one-day conference is being held in parallel to CIVICUS' 9th World Assembly from Aug. 20-23. The World Assembly is a place for information exchange and debate to best identify practices that will attain a wider global social justice. To register for CIVICUS: <https://www.civicassembly.org>. Benefit from a 3 for 1 registration offer for Canadian civil society organizations until July 30.

For further details, contact:

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