

## Reflections on Canada Day 2011

Now that the euphoria over the royal visit and the intoxicating celebrations of Canada Day are past, it may be time to consider sober reality.

Five short years ago, I could travel through the world proudly displaying the Canadian Maple Leaf flag on my pack. Today I would cringe with shame while trekking abroad, aware that my Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, had authorized his emissaries to resist all efforts to curb an encroaching environmental disaster in the form of “Global Climate Change.” Those repeated acts of environmental sabotage have earned for my country the ignominious award of “fossil of the year” for several years in a row from those more conscious of their responsibilities to the global environment. Harper’s uncritical support for Zionist Israel, departing from decades of well-justified neutrality in the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, has made the Canadian Maple Leaf unwelcome in several Muslim states. The list of Harper’s affronts to the spirit of democracy at home is long: prorogation of parliament to preserve his political hide in acts reminiscent of Oliver Cromwell, scorn for parliamentary privilege that has earned his government the first open rebuke for “contempt of parliament” in history, secret deals, attacks on the reputations of honorable civil servants, attacks on the hard-won collective bargaining rights of workers, shameless abuse of public funds to promote his own political agenda, un-tendered sweetheart deals to sell off Canadian assets, un-debated behind the scenes negotiation with the USA for a “joint perimeter security” deal that will sacrifice our sovereignty, immoral and unethical support for the export of deadly asbestos—a proven carcinogen that has killed tens of thousands, an un-tendered offer worth billions to buy a “stealth fighter” that is unsuitable for defence of our arctic lands, “free trade” pacts with dictatorial regimes, failure to stand up to American abuses of the NAFTA, etc. etc.

In any country other than blissfully apathetic Canada, the man would have been booted out if not charged with treason. I don’t know how he can face his own children knowing the damaged land he will bequeath to them. No. I am no longer a proud Canadian, just a very sad one. In time, all Canadians will come to realize how badly they have been betrayed. In time, even those in servile media that have sustained this petty egotist may feel shame. I can only hope that time will come before the final pitiful remnants of the Canada I inherited from my ancestors have been destroyed beyond all prospect of recovery.

So, I hope you enjoyed your “Canada Day.” Unless our government abandons its hidden agenda of total integration with the USA, there won’t be many more of them. You all, have a real great day now, yuh heah.