



Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

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Major Conference on NAFTA: Globalization's Blueprint **Civil Society leaders from Mexico, Canada and the U.S. to attend**

MINNEAPOLIS — As the three participating countries await the final provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to go into effect in 2008, academic experts and farm, labor and environmental leaders will gather in Minneapolis in October to evaluate the controversial trade agreement and develop a new fair trade agenda.

“Lessons from NAFTA: Building a New Fair Trade Agenda,” will be held October 22 and 23rd at the Minneapolis Convention Center, (details at: iatp.org). The conference will feature national and international experts on NAFTA and globalization, including:

- John Nichols – political columnist for *The Nation* (keynote).
- Maude Barlow – author and President of the Council on Canadians
- Mark Ritchie – Minnesota Secretary of State and former President of IATP
- Elizabeth May – Green Party Leader – Canada
- Dan Magraw – Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
- Victor Suarez – former Mexico legislator and director of Asociación Nacional de Empresas Comercializadoras de Productores del Campo (ANEC)
- Peter Riggs – Forum on Democracy and Trade
- Martha Ojeda – Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras (CJM)
- David Bacon – author of *Children of NAFTA*

The conference will explore NAFTA's impact on food and farming, immigration, labor, the environment, energy and future trade agreements. A partial list of speakers includes:

Food and Farming - Daniel de la Torre Ugarte – Agricultural Policy Analysis Center; Victor Quintana – Mexican legislator and of Frente Democratico de los Campesinos de Chihuahua ; Darrin Qualman – National Farmers Union-Canada; Yves LeDuc – Dairy Farmers of Canada; Martha Ojeda, Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras (CJM); Olegario Carillo – UNORCA/Via Campesina North America.

Immigration - Amy Shannon – Director of Enlaces America; Oscar Chacón – Executive Director of the National Alliance of Latin American & Caribbean Communities (NALACC); Laura Carlsen – Americas Program of the Center for International Policy (CIP); Ted Lewis – Global Exchange.

Environment and Energy- Sarah Anderson – Institute for Policy Studies; Dan MacGraw – President of the Center for International Environmental Law; David Morris, Vice President at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance; Alejandro Villamar, Red Mexicana de Acción Frente al Libre Comercio (RMALC).

The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy works globally to promote resilient family farms, healthy communities and