

## Haiti: Commemoration of February 29, 2004 Coup d'Etat: Canada Owes Haiti More Than Apology, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, New Glasgow NS

Speaker Mario Joseph

By Jean Saint-Vil Global Research, February 28, 2014

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Region: Canada, Latin America &

Caribbean

Theme: Crimes against Humanity, Law and

<u>Justice</u>

Please read and sign the Letter @ www.apologytohaiti.ca (I already did!)

As we approach the 10th anniversary of the February 29, 2004 Coup d'Etat that toppled Haiti's democratically-elected president Jean-Bertrand Aristide, hundreds of Canadians, across the country, have signed a letter of apology to Haiti for the role they say Canada played in the violent overthrow.

University of Ottawa Professor of Economics Michel Chossudovsky says the Canadian Government should, in fact, face legal action for the part it played in the Haitian 2004 Coup d'etat, " a crime against humanity" (<u>plus que des excuses</u> – AUDIO Excerpt of Bouyon Rasin, Feb 23, 2014 Interview, in French)

In the online Letter of Apology ( <a href="www.apologytohaiti.ca">www.apologytohaiti.ca</a>), the authors cite <a href="Records of the Canadian Parliament">Records of the Canadian Parliament</a> which show that on March 10, 2004, ten days after the coup, Conservative MP Stockwell Day, then-foreign affairs critic for the opposition, declared in Parliament:

"... we have an elected leader Aristide. We may not have wanted to vote for him... But the (Canadian) government makes a decision that there should be a regime change. It is a serious question that we need to address. That decision was based on what criteria? We must have this discussion...This was clearly a regime change. Whether we like to admit it or not, we took part."

Haiti solidarity actions, commemorating the Coup d'etat are held in several Canadian cities, this week.

http://canadahaitiaction.ca/content/speaking-tour-canada-haitian-human-rights-defender-mario-ioseph

Haiti's most prominent human rights defender, Attorney Mario Joseph, will speak in:

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Montreal: Sunday, Feb. 23, 4 pm (en français), 10007 rue Parthenais, organized

by CUMAJ and Haïti Action Montreal; and <u>Thursday</u>, <u>Feb. 27</u>, <u>7 pm</u>, 1212 rue Panet (anglais et français), organized by Haïti Action Montreal, others.

- Toronto: Monday, Feb. 24, 7 pm, at U of T, 45 Willcocks St. (New College).
  Organized by Toronto Haiti Action Committee.
- Ottawa: Friday, Feb. 28 (Press Conference @ 11 am Videotron Press Room, 25 Laurier Ave., Gatineau, & Discussion @ 7 pm, 233 Gilmour St., one block west of Elgin. Organized by Akasan, Kozayiti/Ottawa Haiti Solidarity Committee, others. Info: Contact Jean Saint-Vil (613) 482-2549

A closing Haiti Solidarity event will take place in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia: Saturday March 1, a protest organized by The Atlantic Regional Solidarity Network







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