“We owe a huge debt to future generations in the form of a better world. It has to be a better world; one in which the rights of every individual are respected, one that builds on past aspirations for a good life, and one that enables every individual to optimally develop their potential. That world is definitely possible. Through efforts like the one you are engaged in now, this world will become a reality.”

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A big thank you to all our partners!
And to conclude ... and transmit!
Presentation

From 9 to 14 August, 2016, the 12th edition of the World Social Forum (WSF) took place in Montreal (Quebec, Canada). The event brought together some 35,000 participants from 125 countries in a spirit of international solidarity to build a better world based on social and environmental justice, a social economy, participatory democracy and the recognition of the equal dignity of all.

The WSF is the largest gathering of civil society seeking solutions to the challenges of our time. Born in January 2001 in Porto Alegre (Brazil), it has a Charter of Principles which defines policy and values. The 2016 edition in Montreal continued this process while seeking to be more innovative. First of all, it was the first edition to be held in a country "of the North." In addition, it was based on an organizational logic that emphasized horizontality. These twin conditions provided both challenges and opportunities that must be evaluated in order to draw lessons allowing us to continue the necessary work of social transformation deployed at local and global levels. For the last 15 years, a multiplicity of actors in the alter-globalist movement have been gathering in these social forums.

This report, prepared by the organising group, presents the results of the 2016 WSF, as well as its organizational process. It is addressed to all its partners, as well as to all those wishing to contribute to the construction of a world of social and environmental justice.
### 2016 WSF BY NUMBERS

#### PARTICIPATION
- **35,000** participants
- **1,182** organisations
- **125** countries

#### ORGANIZATION
- **15,000** volunteer hours
- **750** volunteers
- **180** facilitation meetings
- **39** financial partners
- **24** self-managed committees
- **8** working groups
- **7** summer jobs
- **6** annual jobs
- **6** days of activities
- **3** years of work

#### PROGRAMMING
- **1,049** self-managed activities
- **147** cultural activities
- **45** activities at distance
- **23** assemblies of convergence
- **22** grand conferences
- **8** parallel forums
- **72** actionable initiatives
Profile of participants at the 2016 WSF

**Occupation**

- Workers: 52%
- Students: 22%
- Retirees: 13%
- Unemployed: 6%
- Student-Workers: 7%

**Under 35**

- 50.4%

**Women**

- 60.2%

**Francophones**

- 62.4%

**University educated**

- 72.3%

**Countries most represented**

1. Canada
2. France
3. USA
4. Morocco

**Type of Participants**

- Curious Participants: 42.90%
- Delegates of organizations: 29.90%
- Volunteers: 14.90%
- Speakers: 7.70%
- Artists: 2.40%
- Journalists: 0.80%
- Researchers: 0.20%
Origins of participants

- North America: 58%
- Europe: 21%
- Africa: 9%
- Asia: 5%
- Latin America: 7%

Origins of North-American participants

- United States of America: 10%
- Montreal: 38%
- Province of Quebec: 36%
- Rest of Canada: 16%

Years of involvement of participants in social causes

- First experience: 9.60%
- 3 years and -: 22.20%
- 4-9 years: 22.40%
- 10 years and +: 45.70%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The 5 most popular causes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Human rights and social justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. International solidarity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Fighting inequality between the sexes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The 5 most popular forms of action:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Signing a petition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Volunteering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Responsible consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Acting on social media</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This data was obtained from a field survey by a team of student researchers at the University of Ottawa (Canada). From August 8 to 14, 2016, the 12-member research team collected 1,372 questionnaires (consisting of 31 questions relating to quantitative and qualitative data) in various locations in downtown Montreal (Parc Lafontaine, UQAM, Esplanade Clark–Quartier des spectacles, Cégep du Vieux-Montreal, McGill University, Concordia University, Société des Arts technologiques, Maison du développement durable, Complexe Desjardins, Place Pasteur, Monument national, Parc Jarry, Place des arts, Gîte du Plateau Mont-Royal and the 2016 WSF Quartier des ouvriers). The comprehensive results from this survey is available in the report "Profile and commitments of the participants in 2016 WSF in Montreal," to be published in January 2017.
**SECTION A: 2016 WSF**

1. World Social Territory (WST)

The location in which the 2016 WSF took place, the World Social Territory (WST), stretched over 2 km² in downtown Montreal. It also had some extensions in several peripheral neighbourhoods (Parc Jarry, Montreal North...). Most indoor facilities (nearly 200 classrooms and a dozen larger venues) and outdoor areas (8 public squares and parks) included in the WST zone were provided freely by different partner institutions. This greatly assisted the operations of the 2016 WSF.
1.1. Global Social Village

The Global Social Village (located at Esplanade Clarke) was the outdoor heart of the WST. In the centre of the Village, space was allocated for performance art, both planned and spontaneous, creating a warm and friendly meeting place. This space was designed to allow room for creativity and collaboration between people who wanted to share their visions of the world through artistic actions.

1.2. Thematic zones

30 thematic zones helped build the content of the 2016 WSF. They were the result of a process of convergence operating all through the preparatory phase of the 2016 WSF. Contributions came from many different groups, organizations and collectives working with various self-managed committees. The goal of these thematic zones was to gather activities based on similar issues in the same place to facilitate connections between participants and organizations, stimulate convergence of the different combats underway and foster common understanding of the issues involved.

### INDOOR FACILITIES

**Université du Québec à Montreal (UQAM)**
- 128 classrooms + 2 auditoriums

**CÉGEP du Vieux Montreal**
- 58 classrooms + 1 auditorium

**McGill University**
- 49 salles de classe

**Concordia University**
- 1 auditorium

**Complexe Desjardins**
- Place centrale

**Société des Arts technologiques (SAT)**

**Monument national**

**MAI (Montreal, arts interculturels)**

**Maison du développement durable**

**Théâtre Ste-Catherine**

### OUTDOOR AREAS

**Place des Festivals**

**Parc Lafontaine**

**Parc Jarry**

**Esplanade Clarke**

**Parc Hydro-Québec**

**Place du Métro St-Laurent**

**Rue Ste-Catherine (St-Urbain/St-Laurent)**

**Place Pasteur**

**Carré De Sève**

**Place de la Paix**

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education zone</th>
<th>Fair trade zone</th>
<th>Social work zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth zone</td>
<td>Dear Capitalism zone</td>
<td>Water zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zones for people and the planet before profit (committees on extractivism, transnational power and free-trade agreements, environnement, convivial degrowth, Palestine solidarity, agriculture and food)</td>
<td>Artists for peace zone</td>
<td>Alternative social economy and solidarity zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working-class district</td>
<td>Library zone</td>
<td>Commons zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health zone</td>
<td>The closet (diversity, genres and sexuality zone)</td>
<td>Peoples’ self-determination zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration and mobility zone</td>
<td>Communautés en cercle</td>
<td>Free media zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emancipation zone</td>
<td>International solidarity zone</td>
<td>Place to B (participatory press room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Handicapped, deaf culture and society without barriers zone</td>
<td>Global Social Creativity Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feminist zone</td>
<td>Global Social Visual Arts Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Innovation zone</td>
<td>Cabaret of the WSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Telecentre and initiatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.3. The kiosks

150 information booths were rented to organizations and artists to enable them to raise awareness among participants about their causes and campaigns, as well as to present their products and creations. They were located in different places of the TSM, assigned at random. Kiosks were put for hire via the website from June 2016 and the majority of the spaces was quickly sold.
2. Programming of the 2016 WSF

2.1. A methodology for moving from reflection to action

The 2016 WSF aimed to provide participants with a methodology promoting convergence towards actions of social and environmental change. Starting from a diversity of self-managed activities designed to enable everyone to present their analyses, claims and proposals, this methodology proposed the development of action plans that were placed in a shared calendar. This process presupposed the formulation of action-oriented initiatives, preparation of assemblies of convergence for such actions, and the holding of an agora to consider acting on initiatives to create another world.
2.2. The themes of the 2016 WSF

The themes of the 2016 WSF were developed through a process of collaborative work from September 2015 to February 2016. This work proceeded in several stages, combining working seminars in Montreal (October 1-3, 2015 and December 16, 2015), two international consultations via Internet (September and December/January 2015), a working seminar at the thematic World Social Forum in Porto Alegre (Brazil, January 19-23, 2016), the meeting of the International Council of the WSF (IC) that followed (January 23-24, 2016) and finally two meetings via Internet with the IC Liaison Group (February 5 and 18, 2016).

These themes were designed to facilitate construction of programming for the 2016 WSF, and guide people wishing to propose activities via the self-directed process. They were also intended to allow participants to better understand the structure of programming for the 2016 WSF, and to identify themes that interested them.

THE 13 THEMES IN THE PROGRAMMING OF THE 2016 WSF

- Economic and social alternatives, and solidarity in the face of the crisis of capitalism
- Democratisation of knowledge and the right to communication
- Culture of peace and the combat for justice and demilitarisation
- Decolonisation and self-determination of peoples
- Defense of the rights of nature and environmental justice
- Global combats and international solidarity
- Human and social rights, dignity and the combat against inequality
- Combating racism, xenophobia, the patriarchy and fundamentalism
- Combating the dictatorship of finance and support for resource sharing
- Migration and citizenship without borders
- Democracy, social and citizen movements
- The working world faced with neoliberalism
2.3. Event schedule

2.3.1 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 9</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 10- THURSDAY 11- FRIDAY 12</th>
<th>SATURDAY 13</th>
<th>SUNDAY 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parc Lafontaine and Place des festivals</td>
<td>Downtown Montreal</td>
<td>Parc Jarry</td>
<td>Parc Jarry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9h – 18h: Inscription

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9h – 11h30:</th>
<th>11h30-13h:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-managed activities</td>
<td>Meal break and networking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14h – 17h: Creative citizenry gathering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>13h – 15h30:</th>
<th>15h30-16h:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-managed activities</td>
<td>Networking break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17h30 – 18h30: Opening Day march

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>16h-18h:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of convergence for action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18h30 – 23h: Major opening event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>18h – 19h30:</th>
<th>19h30 – 20h30</th>
<th>20h30 – 1h</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand conferences</td>
<td>Networking break</td>
<td>Cultural programming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19h-21h: Evening of the sages

21h-23h: Festive evening

The entire programming is available online, including the list of the self-managed activities for the 2016 WSF: [https://fsm2016.org/activites_liste/](https://fsm2016.org/activites_liste/) and [https://fsm2016.org/programmation/](https://fsm2016.org/programmation/)

2.3.2. Opening day: August 9, 2016

The 2016 WSF began a day of protest and festive gathering. The events were organized by several groups that worked together to make it a day of welcome for the participants, and involved a balance between art, inclusion and social commitment, providing the hope and strength needed to build a better world together. The opening day took place in several stages.
2.3.2.1 The creative gathering (14:00 – 17:30)

The creative gathering took place in Lafontaine Park and was attended by nearly 5,000 people. The objective of this activity was to gather in a friendly way and create posters and structures for the opening of the 2016 WSF March. This enabled participants to make a first contact in a festive atmosphere and to launch the opening of the 2016 WSF by means of a march of solidarity.

2.3.2.2 The march of solidarity (17:30 – 18:30)

The march of solidarity brought together some 15,000 people. It started at 5.30 p.m. southwest of Parc Lafontaine and went up to the Place des Festivals on a 2.6-kilometre route. Since the march took place during rush hour in downtown Montreal, it enjoyed great visibility and helped to create a dynamic environment in which the various social movements in Québec were able to demonstrate.

Opening day marches are a highlight at each World Social Forum, allowing a concrete demonstration of the dynamism of civil society and the social movements striving to build a world better through a variety of causes. The procession was opened by Aboriginal people, followed by various contingents representing causes or specific organizations.

The opening of the 2016 WSF March received the support of Quebec trade unions (FTQ, CSN and CSQ). The experience and commitment of these actors were crucial in the planning and implementation of this major event.
2.3.2.3. The opening night (18:30 pm — 23:00)

Opening night was held at Place des Festivals, at the culminating point of the march. Lasting 4.5 hours, it included more than 50 artists on stage, all of whom appeared on a voluntary basis. The shows were also enhanced by video projections. The evening, organised in collaboration with the First People’s Festival, began with a message of welcome by representatives of the First Nations to this unceded territory, as well as a moment of recognition and gratitude from the Collective to the Indigenous nations.

The concert was free thanks to the participation of:

MOE Clark + Nina Segalowitz  Face-T  Sébastien Lacombe
David Rovics  Universal Empress  Kumbia Gypsy orchestra
Karen Young + Coral Egan  ILAM  House Band SolidGround
Mélisande  Flo & the House of the Rising Sun  Anit Ghosh
Tara Baswani  Mamselle Ruiz  Sylphir Soulayf
Mohamed Ben Slama (Sextet)  Tomas Jensen  Carminda Mac Lorin
Collective Creart...2016 WSF  BIA  Aurélien Tomasi
mission
Ivy
Meryem Saci

2.3.3. Self-managed workshops: August 10-12, 2016

Most of the content of a WSF is produced by participants during the self-managed workshops. It is one of the major features of the WSF to build on this principle of self-programming. While the mission of the 2016 WSF Collective was to facilitate logistics, it was up to local and global organizations from civil society to invest this space by providing their own content.

Several types of activity (conferences, round tables and discussion workshops) were proposed to the organizers in order to indicate the nature of the interactions and the desired degree of participation of participants. It is interesting to note that more than half (546) the self-managed activities at the 2016 WSF chose the more participatory interaction of discussion workshops.

Breakdown of workshops by type of activity
In addition to cultural and artistic performances (147), 1,049 self-managed workshops were organized by 1,182 organizations registered on the site of the 2016 WSF. The proportion of activities for each of the 13 programming themes reflects the importance these had for organizations that took part in the 2016 WSF.

**Breakdown of activities by theme**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of themes</th>
<th>Number of Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Economic &amp; social alternatives, &amp; solidarity in the face of the crisis of capitalism</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Democratisation of knowledge and the right to communication</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Culture of peace and the combat for justice and demilitarization</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Decolonization and self-determination of peoples</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Defense of the rights of nature and environmental justice</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Global combats and international solidarity</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Human and social rights, dignity and the combat against inequality</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Combating racism, xenophobia, the patriarchy and fundamentalism</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Combating the dictatorship of finance and support for resource sharing</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Migration and citizenship without borders</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Democracy, social and citizen movements</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. The working world faced with neoliberalism</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Cultural, artistic and philosophical expressions to make another world possible</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feedback received concerning attendance at workshops showed generally strong participation. Certainly, there has been criticism about the large number of workshops and the lack of cohesion between the self-managed activities. It is obvious that everyone wanted to have the widest possible audience to promote their causes and actions. And even if it is clear that the mobilization by organisers of activities in their own networks had a significant impact on participation, a reduction in the number of proposed workshops could also have had an effect. However, it should also be noted that the principles of inclusion and diversity had to be respected, which was intended to allow the largest number of participants to put forward their causes and actions. A balance should therefore be struck between these two principles.

For two years, the 2016 WSF Collective undertook logistical negotiations with its institutional partners (universities and one CÉGEP) based on a modest estimate of the number of self-managed workshops proposed by participants. The basis for comparison was between 1,200 (figures from the last WSF in Tunis in March 2015) and 4,000 workshops (from the WSF in Porto Alegre in 2005). As a result of agreements reached in 2016, we had the logistical capacity to cater for 1,300 self-managed workshops. If the number of activities proposed had exceeded that number (as was the case for the WSF in Tunis where the organizers received 2,200 proposals for activities and had to engage in a strict process to reduce this number to 1,200), we would have resorted to a similar process. Since the demand did not exceed our logistical capabilities early on, we decided to allow late proposals of activities, and to make only a very basic reduction in very obvious cases of redundancy.
2.3.4. Convergence assemblies: August 10-12, 2016

The convergence assemblies were intended to allow participants of the 2016 WSF to present and share their policy initiatives. These meetings were designed to expand coalitions from civil society who are working in related areas and wish to act together.

They were a step toward building or strengthening a global network of agents of change whose priorities included action. Several of these meetings were planned well in advance of the WSF, particularly by self-directed committees.

One of the unique qualities of the programming of the 2016 WSF was to allow organisers to continue their meetings over two or three days in order to give them more time to exchange, meet and develop opportunities for convergence. Several assemblies selected this option, including No. Vox International on the right to housing, trade union networks on inequalities and the fight against austerity, and those actors working on the issue of a guaranteed minimum income.

These assemblies of convergence were designed to result in the collective construction of initiatives and action plans that would subsequently be submitted at the final Agora and recorded in the shared calendar.

List of the convergence assemblies proposed during the 2016 WSF meetings:

1. The future of the WSF
2. BDS campaign
3. Fair trade
4. Defence of democracy
5. Disarming finance: tax justice
6. The right to education
7. The right to housing, the city and the Earth
8. Elimination of civilian and military nuclear
9. Socio-economic inequalities, exclusion and for a just ecological transition
10. Commodification, access to public services and fight against austerity
11. Income, a non-medical cure?
12. Free trade and power of the transnationals
13. Migration
14. Digital transition and right to communication
15. Alternative savings
16. Post-capitalist transition
17. Guaranteed minimum income
18. Militarisation, peace and refugees
19. Agro-ecology and organic food
20. Struggles and visions of Indigenous peoples
21. Climate justice and energy transition
22. The people’s social forum
23. Personal and social transformation
2.3.5. Major conferences: August 10-12, 2016

22 major conferences were held as part of the 2016 WSF. These were intended to create awareness in the general public to the challenges of the times and generate media attention. The popular appeal of these conferences was confirmed, because most posted full houses on the evenings of August 10, 11 and 12. For participants attracted by the presence of notable public figures, the major conferences proved a useful gateway to other activities at the Forum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10</th>
<th>THURSDAY, AUGUST 11</th>
<th>FRIDAY, AUGUST 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People and the planet before profit! Voice of resistance and alternatives.</td>
<td>Eco-citizenship and environmental education: the art of living together</td>
<td>In the face of Israeli apartheid: the role and goals of BDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To do away with social inequalities</td>
<td>Palestinians under apartheid, occupation and under siege</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax havens at the heart of the crisis of inequality</td>
<td>The age of humanity: building the political community of humanity united in its diversity</td>
<td>CREATION AND RESILIENCE The precious power of the inconsolable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond the private sector: How can the plural sector organize collectively?</td>
<td>Another digital world is necessary: with free software, it is possible!</td>
<td>From Africa to the Americas, women are fighting for their</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An education of quality for everyone, everywhere: from dream to reality</td>
<td>Change the system, not the climate!</td>
<td>The Arab spring, 5 years after. The Egypt as an example</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The impact of neoliberalism and its policies on health and social inequality</td>
<td>Beyond hate: achievements and struggles to come for the LGBTQ community</td>
<td>Audism and ableism: these two 'ISMS' too often left out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make war fail: Syria gripped in the vice</td>
<td>Truth and lies about the public debt</td>
<td>The guaranteed minimum income as a major social innovation of the 21st century</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In partnership with Hoodstock: "Strange Fruit - make common cause for a world free of racism" with Jennie-Laure Sully, Rose Brewer, Kali Akuno, Viviane Michel and Fatima Tifa

- In partnership with the World Federalist Movement - Canada; The Institute for the Study of International Development and McGill University’s Faculty of Law: "From global to local: the importance of the Declaration of the United Nations on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to the reconciliation with Canada," with Senator Murray Sinclair, the Hon. Warren Allmand, Prof. Catherine Read, Prof. Payam Akhavan.
List of speakers:

- **Ali Abunimah** Palestinian-American journalist.
- **Hon. Warren Allmand**, President of the World Federalist Movement.
- **Gilbert Achcar**, Director of the Centre for Palestine Studies at the University of London.
- **Payam Akhavan** Professor at the Faculty of law of McGill University.
- **Kalpona Akter**, Director of the Centre of Bangladesh for the solidarity of the workers.
- **Augustin Antoine**, Coordinator of the center of Education and Social Intervention of Haiti.
- **Michèle Asselin**, Director of the Quebec Association of International Cooperation organizations.
- **Rami Ayari** a founding member of Without Restrictions for the rights of LGBT in Tunisia.
- **Maha Azzem** President of the Revolutionary Council of the Egyptian.
- **Maud Bailly** joint General Secretary of the Belgian Committee for the abolition of illegitimate debts.
- **Manon Barbeau**, founder of Wapikoni mobile.
- **Omar Barghouti** founder of the Palestinian National Committee for BDS.
- **Ahmed Ben Amor**, Vice-President of the Association Shams in Tunisia.
- **Rutger Bergman**, Dutch writer and journalist.
- **Marcus Brancaglione**, libertarian activist for basic income and direct democracy.
- **Bertita Cáceres**, daughter Berta Caceres, environmentalist and activist murdered in Honduras in 2016.
- **Nora Carmi**, Palestinian Christian of Écumenique Sabeel Liberation theology.
- **Nkateko Chauke**, Institute of studies on poverty and inequality in southern Africa.
- **Marianne Corvellec**, Director of April in France.
- **Erika Dayle**, Director of the secretariat of the Independent Commission for the reform of international corporate tax.
- **Alain Deneault**, philosopher and essayist.
- **Mama Koité Doumbia**, President of the National Coalition for the ICC /Mali against impunity.
- **Pamela E. Witcher**, Visual artist and videographer, poet in sign language.
- **Stefanie Ehmsen**, Co-Director of the Foundation Rosa Luxembourg in New York.
- **Zahia El-Masri**, Palestinian refugee born in Lebanon and militant Palestinian-Canadian.
- **Álvaro García Linera**, Vice-president of Bolivia
- **Basel Ghattas**, Palestinian Christian activist for Palestinian rights.
- **Itzel González**, activist for the rights of women in Mexico.
- **Shalmali Guttal**, Executive Director of Focus on the Global South in Bangkok.
- **Anne Céline Guyon**, Stop activist against Energy East pipeline.
- **Sergio Haddad**, Director of Ação Educativa in Sao Paulo (Brazil).
- **Jamal Jom’a**, Coordinator of the Palestinian organization Stop The Wall.
- **Naomi Klein** journalist, author and activist, altermondialist.
- **Ron Labonté**, Director of the Research Chair on globalization and health equity.
- **Robert Litzler**, President of the Quebec Association for the promotion of environmental education.
- Maite Llanos, Unionist Member of Trade Unions for Energy Democracy.
- Ehab Lotayef, President of the Egyptian coalition for democracy.
- Catherine Read, Professor at the Institute of international development from McGill University.
- Moyses Martins, Brazilian rapper and activist against discrimination of people with disabilities.
- Alex Megelas, Director of the University of the Streets Café at Concordia University.
- Henry Mintzberg, Chairholder Cleghorn in administration at McGill University.
- Melissa Mollen Dupuis, Co-founder of Idle No More QC.
- Tadzio Müller, co-host of the climate in Germany 21 Coalition.
- Mamadou Ndoye, trade unionist and former Minister of education of Senegal.
- Zakariah Odeh, Director of the Civic Coalition for the rights of Palestinians in Jerusalem.
- Laurence Parent, Member of the Working Group in critical studies on disability from Concordia University.
- Riccardo Petrella, political scientist, Economist and ecologist of Italian origin.
- Mittendrein, Professor of financial economics at University Paris XIII and member of Attac France.
- Maria Elena Saludas, from ATTAC Argentina and coordinator of CADTM for Latin America.
- Chantal Santerre, Member of the Board of Directors of Attac Québec.
- Lucie Sauvé, Professor at UQAM and coordinator of the scientific group on the issue of shale gas in Quebec.
- Haroon Siddiqui, Editor Emeritus of the Toronto Star.
- Murray Sinclair Senator and former President of the Commission of Truth and Reconciliation of Canada.
- Richard Stallman, President and founder of the Free Software Foundation in the United States.
- Nicole Teke, international coordinator of the French movement for a basic income.
- Clayton Thomas-Muller, former spokesman of Idle No More in charge of 350.org campaign
- Maurice Thomlinson, Jamaican law professor and activist for the rights of homosexuals in the Caribbean.
- Claude Vaillancourt, novelist and president of ATTAC-Quebec.
- Patrick Viveret, former adviser to the Court of Auditors (France) and co-founder of Dialogues in Humanity.
- Alexandre Warnet, founder of Humanity United.
- Karl Widerquist, Professor at Georgetown University and co-Chair of the Basic Income Earth Network.
- Chico Whitaker, co-founder of the WSF and recipient of the Right Livelihood Award (2006)
- Cathy Wong, Chair of the Board of the Montreal citizen’s council.
- Samar Yazbek, writer and activist of the revolution in Syria.
2.3.6 Agora of initiatives: August 13, 2016

One of the objectives of the 2016 WSF was to invite participants to engage in concrete actions for social transformation. The methodology of the 2016 WSF was designed to facilitate the move from reflection to action, to stimulate synergy between organizations and offer opportunities of engagement to participants. The Agora of initiatives was the final moment in this process. The Agora took place in two parts at Parc Jarry in Montreal North.

In the first part (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.), facilitators and participants from each Assembly of Convergence led thematic discussion circles to present the results of their meetings and exchange about the proposed initiatives. Participants circulated freely between the various circles in order to take part in those that fit their own engagements most closely.

In the second part (3 to 5 p.m.), after these sessions in thematic circles, a moment of collective ownership of action plans and construction of the calendar of shared actions took place. This activity took place in a plenary session, during which proposers of initiatives gathered in front of the main stage to report on their proposals for action. All initiatives were recorded at the "kiosk of initiatives" to ensure complete documentation and allow creation of the shared calendar.

In addition to fostering convergence around action initiatives and the construction of a shared calendar, the Agora was also intended to reach the general public. The
partnership with Ecosphere and the fact the activity was at Parc Jarry in a multicultural and residential area outside the WST, facilitated the participation of other audiences. However, wet weather largely limited the scope of this event outdoor event, despite the large tents, and the majority of hearings at the Agora were attended mainly by participants and organizations already involved in the 2016 WSF.

For a complete list of initiatives of action and shared calendar, visit: [https://fsm2016.org/actions/](https://fsm2016.org/actions/)

### Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INITIATIVE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accès aux droits des migrants à Calais (France) et Lesbos (Grèce).</td>
<td>2016-08-15</td>
<td>Intervention et permanences juridiques dans les camps de Calais et Lesbos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti NATO Demonstrations</td>
<td>2017-09-09</td>
<td>Démonstrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brainstorming workshop Eco-Response-Ability</td>
<td>2016-10-08</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cérémonie interculturelle du &quot;Vivre ensemble&quot; dimanche 14 août à midi</td>
<td>2016-08-14</td>
<td>Cérémonie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counter Summit on Refugee’s rights at the G7 summit in Sicily - Spring 2017</td>
<td>2017-05-26</td>
<td>Événement - Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a permanent body to coordinate and account for visa requirements for future WSFs.</td>
<td>2016-10-15</td>
<td>Instance permanente</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaration WSF 2016 - Déclaration FSM 2016 - La Via Campesina Delegation</td>
<td>2016-08-13</td>
<td>Déclaration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declarations about demineralisation</td>
<td>2016-08-13</td>
<td>Declaration avec invitation à signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denounce corporate media participation in brazilian “coup d’état” and defend public media in Brazil EBC</td>
<td>2016-08-31</td>
<td>Denunciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disarm Finance - Achieve Tax Justice</td>
<td>2016-08-13</td>
<td>Declaration crafted from the convergence assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disseminate the world charter of free media</td>
<td>2016-11-01</td>
<td>Start of campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future-Proofing Society with Post-Carbon Engineering</td>
<td>2016-09-01</td>
<td>Workshops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4. Global social creativity

Through their art, artists made significant contributions to raising the hopes and dreams of humanity for a better, fairer and more equitable world, one that is more respectful of its environment and its inhabitants. At the WSF, we wanted to have the whole Canadian and global arts community mobilize and take a lead in organizing parts of the 2016 WSF. An invitation was given to artists to collaborate with social groups to transpose the content of their communications artistically, serving to amplify the various messages.

- 147 cultural and artistic activities in different areas:
- The Monument-National, became the space of global social creativity, hosting performances of music, theatre, dance, artistic cabarets and creative workshops;
- The Société des Arts technologique (SAT) was turned into a festive space where concerts, performances and DJs enabled participants at the Forum to end their evenings in an atmosphere of unity;
- An outdoor stage located in the global social Village, as well as two areas for street performance, welcomed various artistic productions;
- The “World Social Visual Arts Festival” hosted:
  - 12 film screenings (at MAI and Théâtre Ste-Catherine);
  - 34 exhibitions mounted in several places (at MAI, Monument-National, Théâtre Ste-Catherine, self-managed spaces, etc.).
- “Brigades of fun and creative actions” (multi-disciplinary artists) interactive cultural and artistic performances presented throughout the WST during the event.
- Not to mention the opening and closing events, where the cultural presence was both central and essential.
Some workshops could not take place because of problems obtaining visas or multiple constraints on the part of the artists. However, the majority of slots which were released due to cancellations were quickly filled by proposals from other artists present at the Forum willing to contribute in a spontaneous way to the rich art and culture of the WSF.

Hundreds of artists from around the world were welcomed to contribute to the 2016 WSF by presenting their creations. Thanks to the work of members of the world social creativity working group, the enthusiasm and generosity of the artists and the interest of participants at the WSF, cultural programming was one of the Forum’s successes.

2.5. Parallel forums

The parallel forums were autonomous thematic events that occurred during the same period as the 2016 WSF. These thematic forums have the same objectives of sharing knowledge and building convergence as the WSF, but on specific issues, and around specific players. Despite their thematic programming and event logistics was organised entirely separately, these forums benefited from the same visibility in the programming of the 2016 WSF.

WORLD FORUM ON THEOLOGY AND LIBERATION – RESIST, HOPE, INVENT: ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE

The World Forum on Theology and Liberation is a joint ecumenical meeting between groups and citizens who criticise the many forms of domination and oppression, and who are building another necessary and possible world. The WFTL establishes a relationship between “theology” and “liberation” by creating links and promoting networking between different theologies on the world stage that fit into this perspective. Begun in Brazil, the WFTL held its 7th edition at the 2016 WSF in Montreal.

From August 8 to 13, 425 people registered for the 2016 WFTL and took part in many activities organised by 25 groups or organizations. Nearly 70 speakers took part in plenary sessions, workshops and roundtables, as well as a play, presentation of a documentary, spaces for sharing and symbolic celebrations. The Réseau Œcuménique Justice, Écologie et Paix (ROJEP) supported the organization of this event in collaboration with the general Secretariat of the WFTL based in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The 2016 WFTL was made possible thanks to the commitment of the 40 members of the Organizing Committee, volunteers and the financial support of solidarity organizations. For more information: http://justicepaix.org/fmtl-Montreal-2016-2/
2ND WORLD SOCIAL FORUM THEMATIC FOR A WORLD RELEASED FROM CIVIL AND MILITARY NUCLEAR FISSION

In order to pursue commitments made at the 1st thematic World Social Forum against civil and military nuclear fission in Tokyo and Fukushima from March 23 to 28, 2016, Montreal was the host of the 2nd forum against nuclear fission, on the occasion of the 2016 WSF. Its purpose was to continue the dynamics of creating a global network with access to a service of intercommunication, mutual support and the launch of joint actions for a world free of the nuclear threat, of either civil or military origin.

Dozens of workshops were organized on this topic, allowing some 130 anti-nuclear activists from Quebec, Canada and America to get in contact and strengthen links with European and Asian movements. Following the thematic forum in Montreal, it was decided to hold the 3rd thematic social forum against nuclear power in France in 2017. A Montreal Declaration for a World Free of Nuclear Fission concluded this forum. Read the Montreal Declaration (in French) here: www.artistespourlapaix.org/?p=11362

WORLD FORUM OF FREE MEDIA

From August 7 to 14, 2016, the 5th edition of the World Forum of Free Media (WFFM) took place. Free media includes media oriented toward the development of associative communities. It is engaged in the struggle for free access to knowledge and alternatives to communication patterns driven by the monopolies and economic powers. Their purpose is to highlight the use of licenses favourable to collective exchanges by means of mechanisms and visions that differ from projects with a purely economic objective.

This edition of the WFFM brought together hundreds of participants around the issues of communication and new technologies (freedom of expression, Indigenous media, Internet policies, community radio, struggles against the reactionary media, production of license-free technologies). Journalists and communications activists from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Honduras, Palestine, Morocco and from First Nations in Canada reflected and debated the role of information and technology as support for political and social struggles. For more information: http://www.FMML.NET
WORLD PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

The World Parliamentary Forum brought together progressive elected officials from several countries for a day (August 10, 2016). They exchanged views on the common challenges facing political parties and social movements on the left and suggested possible solutions. The Forum produced a final declaration dealing with contemporary issues and challenges and the role of political parties in the global process of social transformation. In addition to progressive Quebec and Canadian parliamentarians, the FPM brought together others from Europe, South America, Africa and Asia. For more information and to read the final Declaration: [http://fpm2016.com](http://fpm2016.com)

THE FIRST NATIONS FORUM

The First Nations Forum created a space for members of Aboriginal communities to share their history and knowledge of the land, and to attend the 2016 WSF artistically. In both outdoor and indoor activities, including a ceremonial gathering on Mont-Royal, workshops and discussions were held under a tent and on the outdoor stage at the Global Social Village, in the seniors’ room at the Monument-National, and at various other locations in the WST. The First Nations Forum created a spirit of openness toward the initiatives, issues and struggles faced by all First Peoples of the Earth.

HOODSTOCK / TOP BLACK

The Black Summit held in Montreal North on August 13, was the 3rd edition of Hoodstock, a local social forum to mobilize the strengths of communities with workshops, performances and moments of exchange by, with and for members of the black and racialized communities. This Summit is an inspiring example of mobilization intended to combat social discrimination in Quebec and elsewhere. It was held in a neighbourhood consisting of a population of over 60% of citizens from racialized communities. A rich program helped to entrench the 2016 WSF in the local reality, to raise awareness among stakeholders of global civil society to the realities of systemic racism in developed societies and thus create links to "Organize to rise," the motto of Hoodstock. For more information: [http://www.hoodstock.ca/Sommet-Noir](http://www.hoodstock.ca/Sommet-Noir)
PLACE TO B
Following the success of Place to B at the COP21 in Paris in December 2015, the experience was reproduced in Montreal for the 2016 WSF. The aim of Place to B-Canada was to pool the resources of "narrators of change" (journalists, bloggers, artists, activists...) that are bringing a new perspective to news and influencing the media and cultural landscape, so as to cover the 2016 WSF in a constructive and positive way. This alternative, participatory and creative press room brought together more than 4,000 people at the Société des Arts technologiques (SAT) in Montreal from 9 to 12 August.
For more information: [http://www.placetob.org/Evenement/Canada-FSM/](http://www.placetob.org/Evenement/Canada-FSM/)

THE CHILDREN'S FORUM
The children's Forum, the WSF day camp, was intended to allow our children to be heard and to engage for a better world concretely, by providing a daycare for participants. For three days (August 10-12), 100 children between 5 and 11 years old took part in this mini-WSF, taking part in three thematic courses (arts and culture, justice and peace, environment). The team of 10 animators – leaders and coordinators – provided a memorable experience of social commitment for children at the 2016 WSF. Young people had the chance to attend a range of very popular workshops. They participated in a solidarity march (a mini-demonstration!) and attended part of an Assembly of Convergence.

2.6. The WSF reaching out via Internet
Beyond distance, visa barriers and cultural, socioeconomic and political differences, WSF participants were able to interact with activists from anywhere via Internet. Whether via chat discussion circles, meetings on Skype, webcasting, etc., all participants had the chance to communicate with other groups and create networks transcending borders.

The 2016 WSF had the objective of including these mechanisms of exchange and ways of bridging distance via an Internet participation in the organizational process. This took place in a transparent and open

Achievements:
- More than 50 exchange circles bringing together a thousand people on Skype
- More than 100 pre-event activities in more than 30 countries.
- Online broadcast of the 5 preparatory assemblies of the WSF 2016 Collective in three languages with more than 400 participants
- 45 remote activities during WSF 2016
- Over 80% coverage of convergence assemblies
manner, but also with a view to improving and developing the communication interface continuously.

The high number of rejected visas resulted in an increase in the participation rate remotely via Internet. The Internet connectedness meant the WSF was able to make up for this systemic barrier in part, and open a broader although reduced involvement for stranded participants. As a follow-up, the Open WSF website was intended to ensure continuation and centralization of the dynamic expansion of the WSF: [OpenFSM](#).

### 3. Services to participants

The 2016 WSF made history by being the first one to take place in a northern country. This provided strategic opportunities but also raised logistical challenges, thanks to the systemic political (visas) and financial (cost of living, accommodation, etc.) barriers that hindered the mobility of certain participants from several countries. We therefore implemented several services to participants by dedicating one person full time to coordinate these different aspects, in order to facilitate the widest possible participation in the 2016 WSF.

#### 3.1. Registration

Three registration fees were fixed in order to find a balance between three not always reconcilable objectives: self-financing of the 2016 WSF as far as possible to ensure greater independence from governments and economic powers; to allow maximum participation without imposing a financial barrier; to boost mobilization around the event as soon as possible.

The $10 solidarity rate was designed to allow maximum participation without economic barriers. The $20 early bird rate was intended to stimulate early registration for the event, both to mobilize groups and provide liquidity to the Organization more than six months prior to the event. The pre-registration period spanned 100 days (December 2015 to March 2016). Beyond this date, registration was priced at the regular rate of $40 per person. Most of the inscriptions were made online through the secure website of the 2016 WSF. For logistical reasons, such as managing lists of participants, online registration was no longer possible after August 5. Therefore,
after this date, registration was made in person at dozens of kiosks across the WST. A system of handwritten receipts and registration forms allowed the accounting of final registrations on-site.

Registration entitled participants to wear the WSF tag which provided entrance to events. However, the extent of the WST made it difficult to control all entrances, except during the major conferences in the evenings. Also virtually no controls were made at points of access to buildings, which meant that many participants to the 2016 WSF were not registered.

### 3.2. Accommodation and food

A partnership was agreed with the company **TRIBE OSP** to set up a reservation central and manage relationships with Montreal hotels for the 2016 WSF. 58 agreements were negotiated several months in advance with hotels and university residences on the island of Montreal in order to benefit from preferential rates for participants. Median price for rooms reserved via our reservation central was $50.

In the end, about 1,250 participants at the 2016 WSF used our reservation central on our website for accommodation. 2,267 nights were reserved with 21 partner hotels and 5,166 in seven housing complexes at the four Montreal universities (at a more affordable rate). Altogether, 7,433 nights were booked via the reservation central managed by **TRIBE OSP**. Most of the reservations (65%) were made by groups linked to international organizations from France, Germany, Kenya, Switzerland, Nigeria, Belgium, Philippines, and others.

According to a survey conducted by Tourism Montreal with participants during the WSF, only 60% of participants requiring accommodation for the WSF went through our reservation central. For the remaining 40%, a third used the services of AirBnB, a third benefited from solidarity accommodation with friends or family, and a were third housed in institutions with which no partnership had been previously arranged.

Despite several months of attempting to find a location, we were unable to organize the youth camp that traditionally accompanies each edition of the WSF. We failed to get the necessary permission or meet the requirements of the health regulations imposed on us to hold this camp on the island of Montreal.

With regard to food services, we failed to mobilize

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**Selection Criteria for Food Suppliers of WSF 2016:**

- Procurement of local, biological or fair trade products
- 100% vegetarian menu
- Significant ecological effort
- Emphasis on vocational integration
sufficient resources to ensure access to healthy food of quality at a reduced rate for the
duration of the 2016 WSF for all participants. We therefore focused on offering meals to
volunteers doing more than five hours per day at the 2016 WSF, throughout the event.
We were also able to arrange a one-off food distribution to participants at the Agora of
initiatives which took place on August 13 at Parc Jarry. Three different food sources
were established: caterers, college and university cafeterias and Disco Bouffe (bouffe =
food).

Disco Bouffe is an original and participatory initiative developed in order to test a
solution to the problem of food waste in societies of opulence. It was made possible
through the mobilization of volunteers who have recovered, cooked, and distributed
free meals throughout the Forum. In all, more than 800 sandwiches made almost
entirely from recovered food were distributed at the Agora of the initiatives on August
13. 20 volunteers and several social actors involved in the food sovereignty network
participated in this initiative of sharing and ensuring eco-responsibility. This activity has
allowed volunteers to work in partnership with the local company Second Life (which
gets products directly from farmers and sells them at lower
cost), the Maison des grands-
parents de Villeray (a community
organization which opened the
doors of its kitchen), and also
with the frigos communautaires
du Québec and SOS itérances,
whose organizations are working
against food insecurity amongst
the needy and homeless.

3.3. Crowdfunding

The collective was very aware of the financial
difficulties facing attendees at the 2016 WSF in
Canada. One of the tools developed to facilitate
participation was crowdfunding. The 2016 WSF
Collective teamed up with a web platform, Ulule, to
encourage groups and citizens that wanted to
participate in the 2016 WSF through crowdfunding.

The originality made of the use of the mechanism of
crowdfunding for the 2016 WSF resided in the
application of the principle of equitable distribution
of resources among all those who submitted a
project. Traditionally, on this kind of platform a
project that does not reach its fundraising goals,
loses everything that was received at the end of the campaign, while a project that
exceeds its objectives retains its surplus donations. In the case of the 2016 WSF crowdfunding, excess amounts received were redistributed to other groups to enable them to reach their goals. Moreover, the 2016 WSF Collective has helped stimulate the effort of crowdfunding campaigns by creating a fund to ensure at least 50% of the funding for projects which were close to reaching their goals.

### 3.4. The visa campaign

The question of the discretionary power of the Canadian government to grant or not the right to foreigners to enter our territory has become highly political in recent years. There is not a group, association or collective organizing an event of international significance in Quebec and Canada that has not been confronted with this policy of denial. For the 2016 WSF, something of a gamble was taken. We couldn’t let the deterrence of the Canadian Government override our will to build a more just, sustainable and supportive society. The visa campaign visa
carried out by the 2016 WSF Collective aimed to deploy a strategy that would facilitate the efforts of plaintiffs.

A team of 40 people was established in order to assist applicants in their efforts. A complete and detailed guide translated into four languages (French, English, Spanish and Arabic), was developed as of end of year 2015 to guide participants through the steps of obtaining a Canadian visa. The 2016 WSF received an official registration number from Global Affairs Canada in March 2016, allowing it to publicise the 2016 WSF in Canadian consular networks and thus to facilitate the granting of visas. Furthermore, we invited Quebec and Canadian civil society organizations to sponsor their southern partners’ visa applications. Finally, the visa campaign team issued 1,967 official letters of invitation to nationals of 75 countries requiring visas for entry to Canada.

Despite all these efforts, a majority of visa applications were unfortunately not granted. Our current estimate (as of September 29, 2016), and as a result of a survey of more than a third of the 1,967 recipients of our letters of invitation, 70% of visa for the 2016 WSF applications have been refused.

According to these same respondents, the average response time to a visa application was 25 days (this varied between 4 and 68 days). The average cost of administrative procedures (including the translation of documents and travel expenses) was $500. In addition, applicants had to face several other challenges such as the queues (sometimes involving violence) for access to the Immigration Office, the lack of accessibility to immigration agents to answer questions, and the complexity of the application forms.

It is clear that the 2016 WSF Collective was unfortunately not able to build an effective strategy to limit arbitrary conditions under which visas were granted by the Canadian Government. The media exposure for the 2016 WSF due to the magnitude of visa refusals nevertheless helped launch the debate in the public arena. This could fuel advocacy campaigns in times to come with a view to relaxing Canadian visa...
3.5. Simultaneous translation

Translation is a key issue for the WSF because of the great diversity of origins and languages that coexist within this space. Several logistical and coordination challenges hindered the organization of interpreting services. This unfortunately led to the withdrawal of the organization Babels, which generally contributes to interpretation for the WSF, one month prior to the event. It forced us to recruit new volunteer interpreters urgently, which greatly reduced our ability to supply the service as we had anticipated.

**Simultaneous translation by numbers for the 2016 WSF:**
- 3 languages (French, English, Spanish)
- Sign language available on some occasions
- 67 volunteer interpreters (50 from Canada and 17 others)
- 31 professionals with 5 or more years of experience

The original goal was to offer a free interpretation service to any organization requesting it so as not to create an unjust situation by providing it only to those who could afford this expensive service. Unfortunately, equipment rental costs in addition to the reimbursement of travel and living expenses for the volunteer interpreters weighed heavily on the WSF budget, and led to the charging of fees to organizations wishing to benefit from interpretation in their self-managed activities ($900 for three languages, and $700 for two languages). This very partial contribution to the overall interpretation budget still allowed us to provide free interpreting services to organizations that had supported Grand Conferences and part of the Convergence Assemblies. Interpreting in sign language was also an issue for the WSF. The opening show and some self-managed workshops were interpreted by volunteers, particularly those within the activities of the disability, deaf culture and barrier-free society committee. We would like to reiterate the importance of providing this service in our spaces to promote the inclusion of all.
4. Mobilization Campaign

In terms of mobilization, the objectives set were sizable. We wanted to make the WSF known as widely as possible and thus mobilized locally (Quebec), regionally (North America) and worldwide in order to ensure broad participation in Montreal in summer 2016. We set targets for participation from projections based on a comparison with previous Forums. Since the first WSF in Porto Alegre (Brazil) in January 2001, participation has fluctuated between 20,000 and 150,000 participants. The two latest Forums held in Tunis were attended respectively by 70,000 (2013) and 45,000 participants (2015). The last WSF in 2015 brought together some 5,000 organizations from civil society for nearly 1,200 separate activities. Since its inception, the number of countries represented in the WSF has ranged between 80 and 140.

Number of activities that have benefited from interpretation provided by the WSF 2016

- 32 Self-managed activities
- 19 Grand conferences
- 10 Convergence assemblies

Number of participants at WSF
These figures served as a guide in determining our targets. There was, however, an important element impacting participation in the 2016 WSF that had to be taken into account. It was the first event of this kind to be organised in a country of the North, in new and different cultural and political context. So it was quite difficult to evaluate participation in Montreal based on previous Forums elsewhere. We had figures from the participation in two smaller social forums held in Montreal in 2007 (5,000 participants and 350 activities) and 2009 (3,500 participants and 400 activities), and the People’s Social Forum held in Ottawa in August 2014 (6,000 participants and 500 activities).

Moreover, the 2016 WSF was structured according to different modalities of financing than previous Forums. Generally, the costs of participation for local populations is, if not nonexistent, at least less significant (1 Tunisian dinar equivalent to 0.50¢ Canadian for the 2015 WSF in Tunis). This has the effect of greatly stimulating local participation (80% of the participants of a WSF typically come from the country where it is organised). This was unfortunately not the case in Montreal, where registration fees accounted for a significant part of the funding and so had the potential to limit local participation.

The mobilization campaign by the 2016 WSF Collective was conducted at different levels, by combining rePresentation in international events and participation in the processes of social forums elsewhere in the world, with much more localised actions.

**The targets of the WSF 2016:**
- Between 50,000 and 80,000 participants
- 5,000 participating organizations (on-site or by extension)
- 1,500 self-managed activities
- 120 countries represented
- 1,000 citizen-involved in the organizational process

Entre 50 000 y 80 000 participantes
4.1. Participation in international events

The presence of members of the 2016 WSF Collective at different international events linked to the process of various social forums elsewhere in the world, as well as to emerging mobilizations (particularly regarding environmental issues), was important in order to promote the event on the world scene and continue the work of networking and partnership consolidation. From March 2013 to July 2016, the 2016 WSF Collective had a presence in more than 20 international events, on four continents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-18 December 2013</td>
<td>Casablanca (MOROCCO)</td>
<td>Meeting of the WSF international Council. Tabling of the candidature of Montreal for the 2016 WSF (3 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-26 January 2014</td>
<td>Porto Alegre (BRAZIL)</td>
<td>Thematic social forum on the crisis of capitalism, democracy and social and environmental justice (1 person).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-10 June 2014</td>
<td>Sarajevo (BOSNIA)</td>
<td>Thematic social forum on initiatives for peace and human security. Participation in the Quebec Civil Society Collective (35 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-18 January 2015</td>
<td>Taipei (TAIWAN)</td>
<td>International workshop on social progress organized by Fondation Hao Ran (1 person).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-28 March 2015</td>
<td>Tunis (TUNISIA)</td>
<td>11th World Social Forum. Participation in the Quebec Civil Society Collective (100 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5 July 2015</td>
<td>Sao Paulo (BRAZIL)</td>
<td>Thematic social forum on political reform for the democratization of power (1 person).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-13 December 2015</td>
<td>Paris (FRANCE)</td>
<td>COP21 Parallel Summit. Participation in the Quebec Civil Society Collective (30 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-28 March 2016</td>
<td>Tokyo (JAPON)</td>
<td>Thematic social forum on nuclear issues in Tokyo and Fukushima (2 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 April 2016</td>
<td>Chicago (USA)</td>
<td>Labor Notes Conference (2 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-10 April 2016</td>
<td>Detroit (USA)</td>
<td>North-American forum on social economy and solidarity (NASSE) (3 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22 May 2016</td>
<td>New York (USA)</td>
<td>Left forum 2016 (12 persons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 July 2016</td>
<td>Lyon (FRANCE)</td>
<td>Dialogues in humanity (2 persons).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2. Canada-wide mobilization and regional tour of Quebec

In order to ensure broad local large participation in the 2016 WSF, it was fundamentally essential to mobilize at both the Canadian and Quebec levels, by investing in events linked to the social forum process, as well as going out to meet with people and groups in Quebec regions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Type of event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 oct. 2013</td>
<td>Joliette</td>
<td>Social forum of Lanaudière</td>
<td>Local social forum (2nd edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24 August 2014</td>
<td>Ottawa (ON)</td>
<td>People’s social forum</td>
<td>National social forum (3rd edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-21 September 2014</td>
<td>St-Mathieu de Rioux</td>
<td>Lower Laurentians social forum</td>
<td>Local social forum (2nd edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11 July 2015</td>
<td>Toronto (ON)</td>
<td>People’s social forum of Toronto</td>
<td>Local social forum (2nd edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 nov. 2015</td>
<td>Rivière-du-Loup</td>
<td>Metalworkers union</td>
<td>Annual General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 nov. 2015</td>
<td>Ottawa (ON)</td>
<td>100% possible</td>
<td>Climate action march</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 févr. 2016</td>
<td>Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu</td>
<td>Union paysanne</td>
<td>Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 March 2016</td>
<td>Sorel-Tracy</td>
<td>Wall of Women against pipelines</td>
<td>Demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March 2016</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>Réseau FS-QCA</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March 2016</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>FECQ</td>
<td>Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 March 2016</td>
<td>Gatineau</td>
<td>Wall of Women against pipelines and tar sands of Outaouais</td>
<td>Demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>CUPE</td>
<td>Executive Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Joliette</td>
<td>CRÉDIL</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 mai 2016</td>
<td>Toronto (ON)</td>
<td>LabourStart Conference</td>
<td>Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 mai 2016</td>
<td>Longueuil</td>
<td>Comités Logement Rive-Sud et Beauharnois</td>
<td>Day of occupation for the right to housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 mai 2016</td>
<td>Matane</td>
<td>CSN Bas-St-Laurent</td>
<td>Congress of the Central Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 mai 2016</td>
<td>Sherbrooke</td>
<td>CSN Eastern Townships</td>
<td>Congress of the Central Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mai 2016</td>
<td>St-Paulin</td>
<td>ENJEU</td>
<td>Cégep-Vert Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 mai 2016</td>
<td>Roberval</td>
<td>CSN Saguenay</td>
<td>Congress of the Central Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 mai 2016</td>
<td>Carleton-sur-mer</td>
<td>CSN Gaspé</td>
<td>Congress of the Central Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 mai 2016</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>Écosphère</td>
<td>Eco-responsible Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 mai 2016</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>Musée de la Civilisation</td>
<td>Opening of the exhibition “25 x La révolte!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June 2016</td>
<td>Trois-Rivières</td>
<td>Centre de solidarité Trois-Rivières</td>
<td>5 to 7 solidarity get-together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 June 2016</td>
<td>Trois-Rivières</td>
<td>INM</td>
<td>Congress of the APAVECQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June 2016</td>
<td>Val David</td>
<td>Gypsy Kumbia Orchestra</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June 2016</td>
<td>St-Sauveur</td>
<td>L’Olympe</td>
<td>Kiosk and presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June 2017</td>
<td>Québec</td>
<td>Festival Nomad</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June 2024</td>
<td>Laval</td>
<td>Comité local Fête nationale</td>
<td>Québec National Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 June 2016</td>
<td>Val d’Or</td>
<td>Centre d’amitié autochtone de Val d’Or</td>
<td>National Aboriginal Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A regional tour of Québec was organized in summer 2016 in order to interest both citizens and groups in participating in the 2016 WSF. An initial strategy aimed at contacting the general public by means of participation in large-scale events. A second strategy involved consolidating the mobilization already underway by going to meet with groups already relatively aware of the 2016 WSF process.

From April to July 2016, the regional mobilization campaign contacted local organizations and actors from unions, universities, municipalities and communities, as well as citizen citizens and activists in 15 administrative regions of Québec. The regional tour passed through the towns of Joliette, Val-d’Or, Rouyn-Noranda, Malartic, Trois-Rivières, Québec City, Ste-Rose-du-Nord, Jonquières, Chicoutimi, Tadoussac, Rimouski, Trois-Pistoles, Kamouraska and Val-David. We participated in regional congresses of the CSN Central Council (Matane, Sherbrooke, Roberval and Carleton-sur-mér). We also visited two Anishnabe reserves in Abitibi (Lac-Simon and Kitcisakik) as well as the Atikamekw community at Wemotaci, in Mauricie.

4.3. Local activist groups

We have also called upon the strengths of local activists involved in the 2016 WSF process. More than 80 persons were trained in in-the-field campaigning and mobilization between February and June 2016. These sessions allowed participants to exchange about their experiences, standardize key messages and techniques and reinforce their skills in order to transmit their passion to the World Social Forum. These activist groups distributed materials and information during events and demonstrations, organized pre-Forum events to enhance visibility, participated in all sorts of activities (workshops, training sessions, information meetings, conferences, festive evenings, marches, demonstrations, general assemblies, projections, courses...).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Type of activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 August 2015</td>
<td>Chaire de recherche du Canada sur l’Évaluation des actions publiques à l’égard des jeunes et des populations vulnérables - CREVAJ/ENAP</td>
<td>Conférence dans le cadre de l’École d’été</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Sept. 2015</td>
<td>WSF Collective</td>
<td>Workshop on Indigenous realities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Oct. 2015</td>
<td>Front commun contre l’austérité</td>
<td>Demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Oct. 2015</td>
<td>Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale - AQOCI</td>
<td>Concertation associations Québec sans frontières</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Oct. 2015</td>
<td>Bureau de consultation jeunesse - BCJ</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nov. 2015</td>
<td>Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale - AQOCI</td>
<td>Annonce à la soirée d’ouverture des JQSI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Nov. 2015</td>
<td>École de travail social de l’UQAM</td>
<td>Presentation in a seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Réseau étudiant pour la justice environnementale au Québec (REJEC) - Concordia University</td>
<td>Rencontre REJEC avec représentants d’associations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Université du Québec à Montréal - UQAM</td>
<td>Tournée d’information des 18 associations étudiantes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>School of Community &amp; Public Affairs</td>
<td>Conference Dimitri Rousopoulos - WSF promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Conference Ban Ki-Moon - WSF promotion (Télévision)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Marche des peuples pour la terre-mère</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Information kiosk at Salon of volunteering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Concordia University</td>
<td>Tournée d’information des 15 associations étudiantes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>UQAM - Cœur des sciences</td>
<td>Participation au Panel : Écocitoyenneté - Pourquoi s’engager?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Université du Québec à Montréal - UQAM</td>
<td>Presentation dans Cours du programme de géographie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Jan. 2016</td>
<td>Collectif FSM – Locaux de Pied Carré</td>
<td>WSF festive evening - world social creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montréal</td>
<td>Kiosque d’information durant la Semaine de l’Action Humanitaire et Communautaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montréal</td>
<td>Presentation in Cours de Géographie Politique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Groupe de recherche d’intérêt public - GRIP/UQAM</td>
<td>Participation on Pane : Sharing the fight against Enbridge’s Line 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Association facultaire étudiante de langues et communication - AFELC/UQAM</td>
<td>Presentation to the Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Presentation in Cours sur le Post-Humanisme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Coalition contre l’Austérité</td>
<td>Intervention durant la Rencontre de la coalition contre l’Austérité</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec - FTQ</td>
<td>Presentation to the General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>JeFaisMt!</td>
<td>Networking meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale - AQOCI</td>
<td>Presentation to the Special General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 March 2016</td>
<td>Nima foundation</td>
<td>Information session for the Iranian diaspora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 March 2016</td>
<td>Gypsy Kumbia Orchestra</td>
<td>Intervention lors du spectacle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 March 2016</td>
<td>Institut du nouveau monde</td>
<td>Intervention durant l’École d’hiver de l’INM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 March 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montréal</td>
<td>Presentation in Cours de fondements communicationnels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 March 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montréal</td>
<td>Presentation in Cours de politique Canada, Québec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 March 2016</td>
<td>Forum mondial des médias libres - Alternatives</td>
<td>Presentation to the Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 March 2016</td>
<td>École de travail social de l’UQAM/UQO/Lausanne</td>
<td>Presentation during the Séminaire de réflexion sur les stages internationaux en travail social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 March 2016</td>
<td>Collectif FSM – Galerie Freshpaint</td>
<td>WSF festive evening - world social creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 March 2016</td>
<td>Solidarité pour les droits humains des Palestiniennes et des Palestiens - UQAM</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March 2016</td>
<td>YMCA du Québec</td>
<td>Information session in the community sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Apr. 2016</td>
<td>CEGEP du Vieux Montreal</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Apr. 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montreal</td>
<td>Presentation in Cours de Communication politique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Université de Montreal - Action humanitaire et communautaire</td>
<td>Information kiosk during the Day of Volunteer Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 avr. 2016</td>
<td>CEGEP du Vieux Montreal</td>
<td>5 to 7 Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Commission scolaire de Montreal</td>
<td>Presentation to the General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Nuit Debout</td>
<td>Gathering in front of the French consulate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 avr. 2016</td>
<td>Collectif FSM – Bar L’Alizé</td>
<td>WSF festive evening - world social creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 avr. 2016</td>
<td>L’Esprit Libre</td>
<td>Presentation at An evening of reflection on pipelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 avr. 2016</td>
<td>En marche!</td>
<td>Kiosks and workshops at Événement En marche!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 mai 2016</td>
<td>Comité intersyndical Montreal Métropolitain - CIMM</td>
<td>Major march in Montreal on the theme“ On a le Québec à cœur!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 mai 2016</td>
<td>La Passe</td>
<td>Annonce durant la tournée anticoloniale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 mai 2016</td>
<td>Centre d’éducation et d’action des femmes de Montreal</td>
<td>Meeting: « Parle, parle, jase, jase » (Talk, talk, chat, chat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 mai 2016</td>
<td>Collectif QSF au FSM</td>
<td>5@7 mobilization des stagiaires QSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 mai 2016</td>
<td>Organisme d’aide aux Nouveaux arrivant-e-s La Maisonnée</td>
<td>Participation at” Colloque de La Maisonnée sur la médiation culturelle”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 mai 2016</td>
<td>Réseau québécois de l’Action communautaire autonome RQ-ACA</td>
<td>Presentation to the General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 mai 2016</td>
<td>École de technologies supérieure - ETS</td>
<td>Networking: World Biomaterials Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 mai 2016</td>
<td>Comité Espace Santé</td>
<td>Fundraising evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 mai 2016</td>
<td>Comité Décoissance</td>
<td>Activité Pétanque et réseautage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 mai 2016</td>
<td>La Maison de l’Amitié</td>
<td>Community meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 mai 2016</td>
<td>Festival Underpressure</td>
<td>Participation in the art competition: Beaux Dégâts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 mai 2016</td>
<td>Fédération nationale des enseignantes et enseignants du Québec - FNEEQ</td>
<td>Presentation to the General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 June 2016</td>
<td>Comité Décoissance</td>
<td>Dance and financing evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 June 2016</td>
<td>Patro Le Prevost</td>
<td>Projection of documentary &quot;Pipelines, pouvoir et démocratie&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June 2016</td>
<td>Réseau québécois sur l’innovation sociale - RQIS</td>
<td>Participation at “RDV de l’Innovation sociale”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 June 2016</td>
<td>Réseau des Écoles vertes Brundtland</td>
<td>Seminar on Reflection on the state of education regarding the environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 June 2016</td>
<td>FEM International, Aide internationale pour l’enfance (AIPE), CISO</td>
<td>Kiosque durant la Journée mondiale contre le travail des enfants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 June 2016</td>
<td>Maison du développement durable</td>
<td>Presentation during the Festival: innovative environmental and social practises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 June 2016</td>
<td>ATTAC- Québec</td>
<td>Evening about the Montreal WSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 June 2016</td>
<td>L’R des centres de femmes</td>
<td>Presentation during the annual congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June 2016</td>
<td>Comité pour les droits humains en Amérique latine - CDHAL et le Réseau québécois sur l’intégration continentale - RQIC</td>
<td>Information evening: &quot;Perspectives de résistances : les Amériques face aux accords de libre-échange&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 June 2016</td>
<td>CARI Saint-Laurent</td>
<td>Information session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June 2016</td>
<td>Institut du Nouveau Monde - INM</td>
<td>Participation at Sommet GEDI 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June 2016</td>
<td>Groupe Monnaie locale complémentaire</td>
<td>Mobilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June 2016</td>
<td>Pavillon d’éducation populaire</td>
<td>Mobilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 June 2016</td>
<td>Collectif FSM – Village au Pied-du-Courant</td>
<td>WSF festive evening - world social creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June 2016</td>
<td>Mouvement Action Justice</td>
<td>Presentation to the General Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Furthermore, to incite interest among youth for the 2016 WSF, a major step was to go directly into schools, universities and cégeps to contact students on site.

Extra effort was put into contacting various organizations, milieux and Amerindian communities, including: Comité jeunesse RÉSEAU and RCAAQ, Native Immigrants, Montreal’s First Peoples’ Festival (Land InSights), Québec Native Women, Ondinnok, Wapikoni Mobile, Indigenous Caucus of the Peoples’ Social Forum, Odaya, Artistes Métis, Idle No More Québec and Idle No More Canada, Mikana, Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, Cercle des premières nations de l’UQAM, the Council of Canadians and Alternatives North. Links were also created with two longhouses at Kanawake, the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, the Atikamekw of Manawan Band Council and several communities in the Val d’Or region.

Lastly, these activist groups organized the poster campaign “Thousands of posters in our streets!” in various districts in Montreal and regional townships. The total population reach of these groups is estimated to have been 60,000 persons.

4.4. Commitment to the Social Forums process

We firmly believe that a Social Forum is not an end in itself, but rather a means of promoting convergence of solutions and energies in order to build another world. Therefore, for us, the process is just as important as the event. For that reason, we recognized the need to create links with other social forums at the local, regional and international levels, and made it one of our central preoccupations.

4.4.1. Links with social and thematic forums worldwide

Montreal’s candidature for the 2016 WSF was the child of the WSF process worldwide. Most of those persons involved with the 2016 WSF Collective have participated in other World Social Forums since 2004. The idea of staging a WSF event in Québec was first discussed at the WSF in Dakar in January 2011. The idea was first brought to the attention of the WSF International Council in Paris in May 2011, but the Tunisian proposition was selected instead. Montreal’s candidacy was brought up again at the first Tunisian WSF, in March 2013. Since then, the various World Social Forums (Tunis in 2013 and 2015) and thematic forums (FSM-Paix in Sarajevo in June 2014; the thematic
WSF in Porto Alegre in 2014 and 2016; the thematic WSF on political reform in São Paulo in July 2015 and the Nuclear-WSF in Tokyo-Fukushima in March 2016) have all been occasions to promote the 2016 WSF in Montreal and broaden alliances between the different organizations in civil society at the local and international levels.

4.4.2. Outreach links and the dynamic of West Africa

During the process of preparing the 2016 WSF, work was also done to promote the World Social Forum process elsewhere and to contribute to making it possible for as many people as possible to participate, particularly those in regions with low representation at the WSF. Let us repeat that extending the reach of the Forums via Internet appears to us to be an essential development in order to allow the presence of people unable to attend Forum sites in person. Furthermore, ever since its creation, we have been collaborating with the Collectif Afrique de l’Ouest leading up to the 2015 and 2016 WSF events, in the hope that it will continue to expand and that it may inspire this type of initiative elsewhere in the world. This regroupment of organizations has in fact organized a Peoples’ Social Forum in Agbodrafo, Togo in August 2015, in order to create a space for convergence that will promote the values put forward by the WSF movement, facilitating the mobilization of a vast number of Africans in the World Social Forums process. Indeed, thanks to the outreach mechanism, we have been able to participate at distance in different international Social Forums (Iraq, Egypt, Togo, Dakar).
4.4.3. A call to revitalize the WSF process in South Asia

During the International Council meeting in Casablanca in 2013, a South Asian party wishing to propose an upcoming edition of the WSF in this region became known. We sincerely hope that this initiative can be reinforced by once more launching an appeal for collaboration between the different regions holding WSF events.

4.4.4. Links with the Social Forum in the United States (Philadelphia, June 2015)

We have made fruitful contacts with organizers of the 3rd Social Forum of the United States (USSF) held in June 2015 in a polycentric format. We also participated in the event held in Philadelphia. Our presence at the USSF was backed up by our participation at two editions of the Left Forum in New York (2015 et 2016), and the North-American Social Economy and Solidarity Forum held in Detroit in April 2016. This North-American mobilization has certainly facilitated the participation of our neighbours to the south at the 2016 WSF in Montreal. It has also opened up avenues for collaboration to be reinforced in the future in order to contribute to the growth of the anti-globalization movement in North America, as well as links to emerging movements that are mobilizing in the region (around environmental and Indigenous rights questions in particular).

4.4.5. Links with the Peoples’ Social Forum (Ottawa, August 2014)

Our collective also aspired to mobilizing civil society within Canada, and to that end we were counting on the support of the network in the Peoples’ Social Forum (PSP), a pan-Canadian event held in August 2015 in Ottawa. The PSP marked a particularly important stage in the Social Forum process in Canada. With an estimated participation of some 6,000 persons (who attended more than 500 workshops and 20 convergence assemblies), the PSP was a great success, releasing the kind of inspiring energy for which social forums are so well known. The presence of different peoples cohabiting on this vast territory was palpable and the atmosphere was one of close networking.

The 2016 WSF Montreal Collective became actively involved in the PSP process, particularly by its participation in all meetings of the PSP Québec Expansion Committee.
as of May 2013 until the event was held, but also by organizing about 15 activities for the PSP, including a Peoples’ Summer University credited by the University of Ottawa, and a Convergence Assembly aimed at encouraging links between the PSP and the 2016 WSF. The PSP process and the mechanisms of coordination it set up could have been an essential foundation for pan-Canadian mobilization looking towards the 2016 WSF in Montreal. It is of fundamental importance to us that the 2016 WSF in Montreal should have been supported by the dynamic process started at the PSP, in addition to all the other forums that preceded it. These events together contributed to the process of creation of zones of convergence between all the forces working for change.

4.4.6. Links with regional Social Forums in Québec and Canada

Lastly, it was also important to build mobilization toward the WSF in Montreal starting from the base, particularly those regional Social Forums held in Québec and elsewhere in Canada. With this in mind, the 2016 WSF Collective participated in the 2nd Social Forum of Lanaudière (Joliette, October 2013), the 2nd Social Forum of Bas St-Laurent (St-Mathieu de Rioux, September 2014), and the People’s Social Forum of Toronto (Ontario, July 2015).

5. The communications campaign

**Presence in the media**

298 accredited media from 29 countries
11 press conferences by the Collective
131 interviews given by the Collective
More than 200 articles during the WSF
More than 400 articles/programs in total

**Social media impact**

Facebook: 13,000 subscribers
Twitter: 2,055 subscribers
Instagram: 154 subscribers
Twibbon: 611 supports
12,418 reached by the infoletter

5.1. Media relations

Media visibility often poses a major challenge for Social Forums. The aim is to make the event widely known, to transmit the content that it produces so that anybody interested in the social issues that are brought up during the event can have access, and that all the others can be made more aware of the need for social change. So relations with the media involve various objectives of these kinds.
During the official launch of the communications campaign for the 2016 WSH in October 2015, we enjoyed good media coverage, including 10 articles published in Québec within one week. After that, it was about one week prior to the event that genuine media interest began to be felt. On August 5, 2016, a press release written in collaboration with a number of partner organizations, denouncing the problematic situation of the high visa refusal rate for participants at the Forum, had significant impact in the media. The team gave about ten interviews on the subject prior to the start of the event.

During the WSF, we counted some 75 interviews that allowed us to present the WSF, describe its structure, the social issues it was concerned with, etc. Journalists were also redirected toward contact persons within partner organizations and self-managed committees in order to give them some public exposure and allow them to transmit their own content. In addition to the press conferences announcing and ending the Forum, daily press conferences gave journalists access to the main speakers at major events ensuring distribution of diverse content. Between 8 and 26 journalists were present at these daily conferences. A number of articles were written in the weeks that followed. In total, the 2016 WSF received coverage on every continent, as much via traditional as alternative media.

PRESS REVIEWS: https://fsm2016.org/revue-de-presse/
Communication tools and visual identity

The communications team set up various tools to facilitate the transmission of a clear message. The main communications tool was the website fsm2016.org, which will be covered separately in this report due to its complexity and scope. The 2016 WSF image was first created as a logo, with a graphic chart developed after that. Generic tools were printed for use by the mobilization team and made available to the public via the website.

The communications tools were created in a spirit of eco-responsibility by limiting print runs to the strict minimum and in function of the publics at whom they were aimed. The great majority were printed using vegetable ink on recycled or FSC-certified paper. This choice was made in spite of the higher costs involved and our low budget. The few tools in vinyl (banners) were later sent to organizations that recycle vinyl products.

A visibility campaign targeted at the general public was planned two months ahead of the Forum. This campaign included posters in restaurants, cafés, in the streets, on websites, social media and search engines. The public at large was aimed at as well as those interested in social change. So we carried out a campaign based on the themes of change and hope but using a different image from that used in previous tools.

5.3. The website

Communication tools of the WSF 2016
- Logo and charter
- Website
- Facebook page
- Twitter page
- Instagram Account
- Brochure for COP 21
- WSF leaflet
- Post card
- Vertical drop-down banner
- Large Poster
- Small Poster
- Program
- Application for activities
- Signaling

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The website was used as a tool for information, mobilization, interaction, and collaboration between participants (citizens and organizations). It included tools allowing for the transmission of information, facilitating mobilization and interactions, managing registration (participating citizens, organizations, activities) and supplied the internal programming team with the information it needed.

The website was developed in two phases, starting in August 2015, thanks to a team varying between three and six members. The first phase went online in December, 2015, and consisted of a site for registration payments as well as a communications tool for users registered on the site. The second phase (April 2016), consisted of putting programming tools online so that organizations and self-managed committees could register, and users could subscribe to self-managed workshops. Other functions were added after that, such as reservations and payment for kiosks, socio-financing, the CI solidarity fund, carbon offset program and finally recording of the initiatives.

The production and integration of content required a lot of energy because since it was the main communications tool compiling all the information concerning the event process. The website allowed us to communicate throughout the whole year. In spite of some difficulties with navigation and the transmission of information, the site nevertheless attained its objectives, with the number of users on a single day reaching the 20,000 mark.
5.4. The mobile app

A mobile app available on Google Play was developed by a volunteer on the website team. Despite rather limited deployment, it was downloaded more than 1,000 times!

The app was originally designed to have a number of functions: display of activities, a search function, facilitated choice of activity using Favourites and display of an activity calendar for participants. The mobile app was also linked to the WSF website, allowing access to user accounts. It provided the most up-to-date information about activities.
SECTION B: The 2016 WSF process

Organizing a WSF event is not an end in itself. Since its creation, the WSF has provided a means of strengthening movements that work for social transformation, becoming both a catalyst of energy, center of innovation, opportunity for networking, popular education tool, space in which to put forward certain demands and a ferment of critical thought. Over and above the event itself, the WSF is a process that nourishes aspirations and encourages mobilization toward the building of another world.

Since its first edition in 2001, the WSF has always been held in a country in the South. The symbolism of this fact has always been obvious. By opposing popular participation by the masses from the South to the financial power of the elite in the North (as represented by the World Economic Forum in Davos), the fracture between the two hemispheres that has been constantly increasing thanks to the neoliberal project could hardly be more clearly highlighted. But the world has changed since 2001. The basic dynamics have not changed and social inequality has continued to increase. However, periods of crisis are now multiplying (be they economic, environmental, famine- or security-related...) and shaking up the current world order. Today, the old North-South distinction no longer makes much sense. We now have the “North” in the “South” and the “South” in the “North.” It is now becoming urgent and essential to mobilize solidarity against the worldwide oligarchy and the rise of extremes, and to rally all social movements and activists in the North to the dynamic potential of the WSF process.
With this in mind, the 2016 WSF Montreal Collective wanted to participate in the broader process of social transformation being fostered by the Social Forums at different levels, by organizing the first WSF event in the North. The Collective also wanted to experiment with its transformative principles even beyond the event itself, taking place from August 9-14, 2016 in Montreal. This is what allowed us to combine our skills and desires into a firm engagement with the WSF process, by means of organizational structures that aspired to be non-hierarchical.

1. Creation of the Collective, Montreal’s candidature and relations with the WSF International Council

Several years after the experience of two social forums held in Québec (2007 and 2009), Montreal launched a bid to hold the next WSF event. Already in 2011, three Montreal-based organizations were enthusiastically preparing to make the case for holding the WSF in 2013. But those behind the project decided to withdraw their proposal and support Tunisia’s candidature instead. Tunisia was then evolving in a volatile yet inspiring geopolitical context that was about to give birth to the Arab spring.

During the 2013 WSF in Tunis, there was a significant amount of encouragement for the candidature of Montreal. On May 5, 2013, the first open assembly was held at Place Émilie-Gamelin in Montreal, bringing together a number of the actors in the anti-globalization movement involved in various activist, community, cultural and academic groups, in order to find out the degree of interest existing for the organization of a WSF event in the city. The obvious enthusiasm felt at this meeting led to the creation of a Collective that would facilitate the preparation of an application for candidature that was presented to the WSF International Council eight months later, in Casablanca in December 2013.

Central points in the candidature:

- To reaffirm the necessity of convergence of local and worldwide civil society against the increasingly dangerous excesses of neoliberalism and neoconservatism;
- To highlight the pertinence of holding a WSF event in the “North” – in the heart of the system from which numerous global scourges are emanating, as a proof of global solidarity;
- To affirm the creativity and resilience of the Québec and Canadian populations, and its collective hope for that change that is both possible and necessary;
- To emphasize the contributions made by social struggles that have emerged in recent years.
The initial position expressed by the IC in Casablanca in 2013, was: “We have positively received and accepted the engagement of the Collective from Québec to work toward the organization of a WSF event in August 2016 in Montreal”. The “Collective for a WSF in Québec” was officially constituted (as a not-for-profit organization/registered NFP, NEQ: 1169855443) on February 20, 2014 with the aim of facilitating the legal, administrative and financial management of the 2016 WSF.

Nearly two years later, during the Forum held in Tunis in March 2015, Montreal’s candidature for the 2016 WSF – now supported by some 200 organizations from Québec, Canadian and the worldwide civil society – was officially accepted by the IC.

The IC is made up of one hundred members coming from diverse organizations, movements and regional Forums around the world. It is the body that oversees the WSF process and sees that its Charter of Principles is respected. It is the IC that chooses each location for the WSF.

Support from the IC for organizers of the World Social Forum is essential in order to reinforce the capacity for local mobilization and consolidate the scope of the WSF process. Links between the Collective and members of IC outside official IC meetings

**Attendance of the WSF 2016 Collective at IC meetings**

- **December 2013, Casablanca**: 1st presentation of the Montreal application. Agreement in Principle of CI
- **January 2014, Porto Alegre**: Participation in the informal meeting of the CI in Brazil
- **November 2014, Hammamet**: Progress report on the WSF 2016 process at the IC meeting in Tunisia
- **March 2015, Tunis**: Presence of thirty Quebeckers at the meeting of the IF at the WSF 2015 in Tunis. Final acceptance of the Montreal application
- **October 2015, Montréal**: Organization of the international seminar on the thematic axes of the WSF 2016
- **November 2015, Salvador de Bahia**: Participation in the meeting of the CI and last progress report of the project
- **January 2016, Porto Alegre**: Participation in the informal meeting of the IF following the Forum "15 years of the WSF"
- **April 2016, Montréal**: Organization of the international seminar on methodology and mobilization
- **August 2016, Montréal**: Organization of the IC meeting at the end of WSF 2016
occurred from time to time prior to the start of 2016. A 2016 WSF support group was formed during the meeting that took place in Porto Alegre in January 2016. It met via Internet five times between January and April, allowing five to 10 persons from the Collective and the IC to dialogue on each occasion. This group’s main tasks were to accompany the Collective in consolidating the themes of the 2016 WSF Montreal, and to support the Collective in its international mobilization (particularly with respect to the writing and distribution of an international appeal for participation at the 2016 WSF).

The 2016 WSF Collective took charge of the organization of the official IC meeting held in Montreal on August 14 and 15. There was an important delegation from the IC at this meeting. However, this did not compensate for absences due to visa refusals, particularly for members from Africa and Asia. A numerous public from participating movements attended these debates. The sentiment of the political importance of these meetings and debates involving the IC and the WSF was, over and above any divergences that might have been expressed, generally shared by all.

The next meeting of the IC took place in Porto Alegre, Brazil from January 20 to 22, 2017. It was organized to take place at the same time as the thematic World Social Forum on peoples’ resistance and the fight for democracy and human rights. This IC discussed preparations for the next WSF event (propositions included: Dakar, Porto Alegre, Barcelona, Kobané in Syrian Kurdistan, polycentric forum).

2. The 2016 WSF Collective

The 2016 WSF Collective held meetings during a 3-year period with young and not-so-young members, activists, professors, workers, artists and citizen actors from civil society concerned about contemporary planetary issues affecting children, women, men and the environment on all five continents. The organizational process behind the 2016 WSF was conceived as a collective and human process. It was inspired by a desire to multiply open spaces promoting horizontality, transparency and openness, to be perceived as a lever in the struggle for respect for people and the environment.

The organizational culture of the Collective was intended to act as a laboratory for a new form of participatory democracy, based on civil participation and an exploration of the possibilities of self-
management. It goes without saying that there were many challenges to face: the logistics of a major event largely based on volunteering, creation of an inspiring, secure and accessible environment (WST), non-hierarchical collaboration between citizens and organizations from different backgrounds... To lead the organizational process of the 2016 WSF to a conclusion was an exploit in itself!

2.1. Composition of the Collective

One of the Collectives greatest assets was the diversity of citizens involved. Although about one third were age from 15 to 35, there was nevertheless an intergenerational element. The Collective was also intercultural, welcoming persons from various countries daily (in Montreal or at distance), but different cultural organizations as well (community organizations, NGOs, unions, political parties, social movements, etc). Finally, one of the most interesting aspects was that for many of us, it was the first personal involvement in a World Social Forum.

Values were initially defined as of the summer of 2013, to serve as guides for the collective work leading into this new organizational culture that we were experimenting with. In addition, the 2016 WSF Collective worked in collaboration with a host of organizations, collectives and citizens, sharing some of their tools used to promote awareness, which led in the spring of 2016 to greater clarification of the commitments toward building an event that respected basic principles.

2.2. Facilitation meetings

Facilitation meetings allowed us to develop the process that would later give life to the 2016 World Social Forum. Through these meetings, the Collective ensured communication and coordination between the various bodies involved. The 2016 WSF Collective met for the first time on May 5, 2013, and every Wednesday following, for a total of 180 facilitation meetings lasting 4 to 5 hours with an average of 20 participants. Decision-making was done on a consensus basis.
3. Organizational structure and governance

In order to attain its objectives of combining organizational efficiency and respect for the values of openness, inclusion and participation, the Collective set up a number of sub-committees and tools aimed at ensuring that the success of the 2016 WSF was fully realized. These sub-committees were open to all citizens or delegates from organizations who intended to contribute to the success of the 2016 WSF. Their aim was to promote convergence of solidarity, initiatives, resources and skills. The functions of these sub-committees and their reports are outlined in the Charte constitutive du FSM 2016 – adopted by the founding Assembly on March 14, 2015. This foundation text outlines the pillars, principles, objectives, and basis of the organizational methodology for the 12th edition of the WSF.

Furthermore, the 2016 WSF Collective expressed its firm resolve not to tolerate any form of harassment and ensure a respectful and safe milieu in which to engage for one and all, exempt from any physical, psychological or sexual violence, including verbal threats. The feeling committee and the anti-oppression brigade are sub-committees created to contribute actively to the application of the Charte de vie collective.

3.1. The board of the not-for-profit

The board of the not-for-profit was composed of 5 persons (Samuel Champagne, President; Louis-Philippe Lizotte, Treasurer; Thérèse Guay, Secretary; Pierre Lemay and Alexandre Warnet, Administrators). Its mandate was to ensure the good governance of the finances et les liens d'employabilité avec les membres de la permanence. Beyond these specific areas, its power was subordinate to the orientations as stated by the facilitation Collective.
3.2. Open assemblies

The open assembly brought together those citizens involved in the organizational process of the 2016 WSF, either through the facilitation Collective, the working groups or the organization of activities within the framework of the 2016 WSF programming, as well as delegates from organizations supporting the process. An open assembly provided opportunities for informing and concertation, allowing those present to discuss issues, make observations and find collective solutions to certain problems related to the organizational process. It was the key to the transparency of the process which made it possible to report publicly on the progress of the work. All members and participants at an open assembly enjoyed an equal right of speaking and being heard.

3.3. The permanent committee

The permanent committee was made up of six persons who were, for the most part, employed full-time from August 17, 2015 to the end of September 2016. Carminda Mac Lorin and Raphaël Canet jointly occupied the position of general co-ordination of the Collective; Carolinne Larouche and then Katia Stuart-Gagnon were successively in charge of communications; Raphaël Assor was responsible for developing partnerships; Safa Chebbi was responsible for services for participants and Etienne Maruejols was in charge of mobilization.

The permanent committee had to ensure constant monitoring of all files and that tasks were shared equitably. It would have been desirable to hire permanent staff for programming and logistics, but this proved impossible financially. This was to some extent made up for thanks to the support of several organizations that liberated their employees to come and work with the WSF Collective (particularly in the case of the logistical group and several self-managed committees). Traineeships and summer jobs subject to federal government grants were also provided full-time support during the latter months of the organization.

3.4. The alternautes: volunteering at the heart of the 2016 WSF process

Volunteers were at the heart of the 2016 WSF construction process. Indeed, besides the six permanent employees who ensured the organizational continuity of the process, the 2016 WSF was made possible thanks to the unpaid commitment, sometimes timely and sometimes on a daily basis, of dozens of persons who became involved in all aspects of
the process (working groups, self-managed committees, facilitation meetings, CA, festive evenings, international and internal seminars, etc.).

The Alternautes were the persons involved in the daily organization of the 2016 WSF event. This expression refers to a combination of meaningful fields, combining anti-globalization, alternatives, otherness, etc. The Alternautes were citizens engaged on a volunteer basis with the eight working groups, whose aim was to make the 2016 WSF process operational. Furthermore, the term Alternaut crystallized a certain desire on the part of those involved to be seen as more than just volunteers, a term that has a potentially passive connotation, and to embody the idea of being agents or actors of change who are trying to influence their milieu and its structure.

3.5. The working groups (WG)

Eight Working Groups (WG) were started in spring 2015 to make the 2016 WSF process operational. They shared eight specific thematics between them, each one with a mandate for one part of the event’s general organization. Members in each working group participated in facilitation meetings in order to coordinate their actions. Between 80 and 120 persons were involved over the months in the various WG of the 2016 WSF Collective.

**Reception WG:** Its mandate was to welcome and accompany any new Alternautes (at both the local and international levels) as they became integrated and involved in the 2016 WSF organizational process, in function of their availability, willingness, skills and interests. It was the first time in the history of the WSF that such a team was set up to participate in a Forum’s organizational process.

**Logistics WG:** Its mandate was to conceive, plan and coordinate the logistical requirements (interior and exterior) of the World Social Territory. The work of this committee became particularly intense in the months leading up to the event.

**Programming WG:** Its mandate was to prepare and coordinate programming for the event by matching the activities, conferences, available spaces and themes of the Forum. It also had to communicate with the various self-managed committees and ensure that the results of the 2016 WSF were compiled at the end.
Services to participants WG: Its mandate was to ensure the best possible conditions for as large and varied a participation in the 2016 WSF event. It had to foresee and respond to the needs of participants (information, accommodation, meals, daycare...) during the event, particularly by offering support for participants applying for visas.

World Social Creativity WG: Another original committee for the 2016 WSF, whose mandate was to allow the arts to obtain a central place within the 2016 WSF organizational process and to encourage the presence of socially committed artists during the event.

Communications WG: Its mandate was to develop the tools, along with a strategy and message that would bring people together and ensure the maximum possible visibility for the 2016 WSF (social networks, website, mobilization tools, translation, media relations, etc.).

Mobilization WG: This working group’s objective was to extend and reinforce the network of citizens and organizations supporting the 2016 WSF process. It had to ensure ongoing relations relations with different partners at the local, national and international levels. It also lent support to the work of self-managed committees.

Financing WG: Its basic mandate was to seek the funds required so that the 2016 WSF could be successfully carried out, in line with a respect for its principles and values. With this in mind, it also ensure an ethical control over the financing of the 2016 WSF.
3.6. International seminars

The international seminars provided privileged moments for collective work aimed at answering the main challenges being faced in the World Social Forum process. They became places in which various actors from Québec civil society and elsewhere could become actively involved together.

1-2 October 2015: First seminar concerned with the thematic axes and identification of the main speakers at the 2016 WSF

16 December 2015: Local and international consultations on the thematic axes of the WSF

22-23 April 2016: Seminar concerned with international mobilization and the methodology behind the 2016 WSF

3.7. Self-managed committees: une innovation porteuse du FSM 2016

The self-managed committees made an important contribution to the WSF process. These committees, composed of 10 to 30 persons on average, brought together organizations, groups and citizens who wished to make a specific contribution to the 2016 WSF (a thematic, objective, strategy for action, a specific public or territory...).

The self-managed committees had the tri-fold mission of: promoting the 2016 WSF event within their activist networks and informing them of the different types of participation possible; proposing a structured and specific programming during the 2016 WSF; coordinating and animating a physical space centred around a specific thematic during the event.

Any organization, network or citizen’s collective could propose the creation of a self-managed committee. The 2016 WSF Collective could provide accompaniment as needed for the creation of such committees (defining of objectives, missions and modes of functioning). The committees could also act in collaboration with the other bodies (WG) in the 2016 WSF Collective in order to fulfill their missions as best they could, yet they remained autonomous and self-managed. This meant a significant methodological learning curve for many of them.
In the end, 24 self-managed committees based in Montreal, as well as five others based outside Montreal (Québec City, Guinea, Iraq, Tunisia, Togo) were created. More than 400 activities were registered at the 2016 WSF and prepared and planned by self-manage committees, making up about 40% of Forum programming. The largest of these self-managed committees was made up of more than 60 organizations. Most of them (19 committees) were structured around 2 to 5 organizations. 12 self-managed committees were made up of non-institutionalized citizens and collectives.

These self-managed committees constituted a methodological innovation méthodologique in the organizational process of the 2016 WSF. They aimed at attaining the major objectives of the WSF: promoting convergence between actors, developing and articulating various combats and reinforcing civil society in its capacity for alternative propositions to the dominant model. They have nourished the programming and especially, given greater scope to a number of the 2016 WSF Convergence Assemblies, by allowing the work of concertation to begin several months before the event itself. We strongly recommend that this methodology be further explored in future WSF events.
4. Financing and budget

The organizational and budgetary planning for the 2016 WSF revolved around three principles that made it possible to hold this first World Social Forum in the North. It had to be organized with means that were extremely limited compared to the normal cost of running an event of this size in a city in a G8 country.

- Limiting the financial requirements by putting emphasis on the strength of a volunteer movement by people of good will wishing to act in a concrete manner to transform society.
- Establishing relations and partnerships with organizations that, rather than being involved in financial considerations, could supply services (premises, communications, etc.).
- Gaining inspiration from experiences derived from mobilization strategies used during the Quémeuc maple spring (2012), Occupy, Idle No More and other activist groups, who showed that it is possible to mobilize tens of thousands of people at very little cost.

Furthermore, an Ethics committee was formed by the Financing WG in order to ensure that the financial resources mobilized by the 2016 WSF respected the values promoted by its Charter of Principles. The Ethics committee set our four main criteria in order to orient its search for financing among non-governmental actors. The institutional profile of each potential of private financing was analyzed in order to see if the following elements, detailed for each criterion, could be found in the policies of the organization in question:

1. **Sustainable development**: Environmental certifications; Sustainable development policy or plan; published annual report or financial statements.
2. **Solidarity with the milieu**: Community involvement; Respect for human rights (concerned parties); Donations/foundation/volunteering.
3. **Equality**: Wage parity; Representivity (multiculturalism, male/female equality, handicapped persons); Code of ethics.
4. **Respect for workers**: Social benefits and EAP; Health and safety (policy, ISO 9000); Universal accessibility.

### 4.1. Financial statements and global cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>ACTUAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial statements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>1 259 000 $</td>
<td>1 007 605 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1 256 354 $</td>
<td>1 002 480 $</td>
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<td>Balance</td>
<td>2 646 $</td>
<td>5 125 $</td>
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<td>Contributions in services</td>
<td>894 000 $</td>
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<td>Volunteering</td>
<td>225 000 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>EST. GLOBAL COST OF 2016 WSF</td>
<td>2 121 480 $</td>
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</tr>
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![Global cost of 2016 WSF](chart.png)
### 4.2. Income summary for the 2016 WSF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solidarity support, donations and sponsorships</th>
<th>Revised objectives May 2016</th>
<th>Actual income October 2016</th>
<th>Relationship between actual income and objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partners in change</td>
<td></td>
<td>276 270 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committed partners</td>
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<td>70 000 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobilized partners</td>
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<td>30 000 $</td>
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<td>Solidarity partners</td>
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<td>26 000 $</td>
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<td>Solidarity collaborators</td>
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<td>12 500 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donators</td>
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<td>2 175 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>295 000 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>416 945 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>141%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment grants (Canada)</td>
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<td>21 197 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government of Québec</td>
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<td>106 000 $</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Montreal</td>
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<td>30 000 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>400 000 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>157 197 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>39%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social financing</td>
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<td>Social financing campaign</td>
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<td>15 366 $</td>
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<td>Self-generated income</td>
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<td>Regular registration fees</td>
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<td>215 275 $</td>
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<td>Pre-registration fees</td>
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<td>77 760 $</td>
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<td>Solidarity registration fees</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 240 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiosk rentals</td>
<td></td>
<td>28 000 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service of simultaneous translation</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 822 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of products</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 000 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>564 000 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>418 097 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>74%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND-TOTAL INCOME FOR 2016 WSF</td>
<td><strong>1 259 000 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 007 605 $</strong></td>
<td><strong>80%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Financing objective

- **Sponsorships**: 23%
- **Self-generated**: 45%
- **Subventions**: 32%

#### Received funding

- **Sponsorships**: 41%
- **Self-generated**: 41%
- **Subventions**: 16%
### 4.3. Summary of expenses for the 2016 WSF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget items</th>
<th>Revised budget May 2016</th>
<th>Actual Expenses October 2016</th>
<th>Relationship between actual and budgeted expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources (wages for 13 employees + social security costs)</td>
<td>503 481 $</td>
<td>349 536 $</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees (external accounting and auditing services)</td>
<td>22 500 $</td>
<td>9 876 $</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations (office, office supplies, representation)</td>
<td>54 360 $</td>
<td>40 927 $</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB-TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>580 341 $</td>
<td>400 339 $</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WORLD SOCIAL TERRITORY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General programming (program, management tools)</td>
<td>15 000 $</td>
<td>32 148 $</td>
<td>214%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General logistics (signage, security, maintenance, communications...)</td>
<td>83 400 $</td>
<td>65 488 $</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended social forum (technical equipment)</td>
<td>18 200 $</td>
<td>2 705 $</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-programmed social forum – Universities (technical support)</td>
<td>46 700 $</td>
<td>37 832 $</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-programmed social forum – Outdoor sites (equipment hire, technical support)</td>
<td>52 000 $</td>
<td>34 059 $</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth camp (setting up)</td>
<td>20 000 $</td>
<td>0 $</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSF cabaret (technical support)</td>
<td>24 000 $</td>
<td>35 763 $</td>
<td>149%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other spaces or activities (March, Agora, children’s forum...)</td>
<td>58 000 $</td>
<td>47 973 $</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco-responsibility for the event (participants+organizations carbon offset)</td>
<td>0 $</td>
<td>4 745 $</td>
<td>not budgeted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB-TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>317 300 $</td>
<td>260 713 $</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SERVICES FOR PARTICIPANTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception and services on site (food, interpretation)</td>
<td>80 000 $</td>
<td>144 496 $</td>
<td>181%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-2016 WSF services (accommodation)</td>
<td>37 000 $</td>
<td>35 261 $</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration (registration system and transaction fees)</td>
<td>27 000 $</td>
<td>19 610 $</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product sales (2016 WSF T-shirts)</td>
<td>30 000 $</td>
<td>34 062 $</td>
<td>114%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOUS-TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>174 000 $</td>
<td>233 429 $</td>
<td>134%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobilization (regional tour, representation)</td>
<td>18 000 $</td>
<td>4 840 $</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNICATIONS (website, graphic tools, publicity, distribution lists)</strong></td>
<td>80 500 $</td>
<td>40 902 $</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total of expenses</td>
<td>1 170 141 $</td>
<td>940 223 $</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEXPECTED COSTS</td>
<td>117 014 $</td>
<td>62 257 $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND-TOTAL OF EXPENSES FOR THE 2016 WSF</strong></td>
<td>1 287 155 $</td>
<td>1 002 480 $</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A big thank you to all our partners!

Partners of change

- Brot für die Welt
- Université du Québec à Montreal
- Gouvernement du Québec
- Tourisme Montreal
- Cégep du Vieux Montreal
- Rakam
- Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ) and affiliates:
  - Syndicat des Métallos
  - Syndicat des travailleurs et travailleuses des postes (STTP)
  - Alliance de la fonction publique du Canada (PSAC-AFPC)
  - National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE)
  - TUAC Canada
  - UNIFOR
  - Teamsters Canada
  - Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique (SCFP-PSAC)
  - Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union (COPESEPB)
  - British Columbia Teacher’s Federation (BCTF)
  - Syndicat québécois des employées et employés de service (SQUEES-298)
  - Congrès du travail du Canada (CTC)

Committed partners

- Projet Écosphère
- Développement et paix
- Ville de Montreal
- Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI)
- Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN)
- Caisse d’économie solidaire Desjardins
- Université McGill
- Monument National

Mobilized partners

- Société des Arts Technologiques
- Maison du développement durable
- Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ)
- Fonds de solidarité FTQ
- Uniterra : un programme CECI et EUMC

Solidarity partners

- Global Health through Education, Training and Service (GHETS)
● Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec (FIQ)
● Fédération autonome de l’enseignement (FAE)
● 99%Média
● Fondaction
● Rouleau-Paquin design
● UNI-Alter
● Coopérative l’Empreinte

Solidarity collaborators
● Fédération nationale des enseignantes et enseignants du Québec (FNEEQ-CSN)
● Syndicat de la fonction publique et parapublique du Québec (SFPQ)
● Under Pressure
● Montreal, Arts interculturels
● Syndicat des chargées et chargés de cours de l’UQAM (SCCUQ)
● Syndicat des professeurs et des professeures de l’Université du Québec à Rimouski (SPPUQAR)
● Réseau québécois de l’action communautaire autonome (RQ-ACA)
● Syndicat des conseillères et conseillers de la CSQ (SCC-CSQ)

Donators
● Bâtirente
● Groupe d’entraide internationale Spirale
● Syndicat des professeures et des professeurs du Collège Édouard-Montpetit (SPPCEM)
● Syndicat des professeurs du Collège Marie-Victorin (SPCMV)
● Syndicat du personnel enseignant du cégep de Sherbrooke (SPECS)
● Comité de solidarité Trois-Rivières
● Association pour la défense des droits sociaux du Montreal métropolitain (ADDS-MM)
● Amir Khadir, député de Mercier
● Marie Montpetit, députée de Crémazie
● Guy Desrosiers
● Denis Langlois
● Ariane Bilodeau
● Carmen Nunez
● Yveline Ghariani
● John Bradley
● Pamela Walden Landry
And to conclude... and transmit!

All those involved in the organizational process of the 2016 World Social Forum were inspired by a desire to bring people together and multiply the spaces in which horizontality, transparency and openness could flourish, all perceived as indispensable levers needed to move toward a more just, united and ecological world.

To do more with less, by emphasizing humane values, mutual aid solidarity in order to build a better society together, this is what the 2016 WSF process intended to bring about by providing a structure in which each person could find a place corresponding to their talents and availabilities. For us, it was a fundamental necessity that the process leading up to the 2016 WSF should reflect these values and be a concrete experiment in line with what we are attempting to build.

Numerous challenges cropped up during the organization of the WSF in a country like Canada, particularly in terms of access to territory, human and financial resources, as well as que de mobilization local and international mobilization. But the one thing we must keep in mind is that these challenges remain important for all social forums and other anti-globalization mobilizations. A proactive attitude is required to allow and encourage broad and inclusive participation, particularly among marginalized populations, Indigenous peoples and the vast population that remains outside the orbit of activists and other mobilized groups.

We live in a period in which communications are developing at high speed thanks to the expansion of new information and communication technologies (NTIC). Use of the
Internet is an important avenue to explore in the process to come, in order to contribute to the animation and consolidation of networks in civil society that are organized and committed toward transition. Faced with the *Grand Regression* being imposed by the worldwide oligarchy, let us build together the *Necessary Transition* toward a world of justice, solidarity and ecological responsibility.

The work space that the 2016 WSF has engendered is in itself an exceptional success. Thousands of hours of involvement generously offered by a multitude of people animated by the hope of seeing the project carried out, has led to this collective accomplishment. Thanks to the energy of each one, we have been able to demonstrate the strength and beauty of a citizens’ initiative that has highlighted the value of everyone’s contribution and rallied the force and expertise of numerous organizations from civil society and elsewhere. A simple thank you does not really suffice because without all this energy and solidarity, the 2016 WSF in Montreal would have remained a dream.

Very sincerely, we, members of the 2016 WSF Collective, would like to say:

To each alternaut, thank you!
To each volunteer, thank you!
To each participant, thank you!
To each partner, merci !
To each actor in change, thank you!

*Assembling, Inspiring, Acting*
## Reference documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation texts (mainly in French)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Contact
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