

## Join the Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver!

From campuses to suburbs, and everywhere in between, we are committed to working with all organizations and individuals calling for the freedom of these 5 heroes. Our campaign includes forums, petition drives, vigils, and a monthly picket action in front of the U.S. Consulate in Vancouver initiated in 2005. Through this constant work, we have collected over 5000 signatures demanding their immediate release. We have also been joined in this effort by 56 Canadian parliamentarians who signed a letter to the U.S. government demanding freedom for the Cuban Five.

We work as part of over 300 solidarity groups in every continent worldwide. We are committed to continue organizing around their case, and will demand justice for the Cuban Five until they are all free!

Please join us in our bi-weekly meetings, educational events, and our monthly picket actions on the 5th of every month to coincide with activities which take place around the world known as "the 5th of the month for the Cuban 5".



**Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver**  
**604.518.7361**  
**freethe5vancouver@gmail.com**  
**Twitter: @Freethe5\_Van**  
**www.freethe5vancouver.ca**

Have you seen our new websites?

<http://poetry4cuban5.wordpress.com>

<http://vancouver100cuban5protests.com>

**\*\*\*\*\* In Vancouver, Canada: \*\*\*\*\***  
**OUR NEXT ACTION!**

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION! 107<sup>th</sup> MONTHLY PROTEST

**Marking the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the air Cubana flight bombing by terrorist Luis Posada Carriles**

**Terrorist**  
**Luis Posada Carriles**



**THESE 5 CUBAN ANTI-TERRORISTS, SAVED LIVES. YET... 3 REMAIN UNJUSTLY IN U.S. PRISONS**



**FREE ALL THE CUBAN 5 NOW!**

**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**3:30-5PM**  
**U.S. CONSULATE**  
**1075 W. PENDER ST.**

**@FREETHES\_VAN** **f** **FREE THE CUBAN 5 COMMITTEE-VANCOUVER**  
**WWW.FREETHESVANCOUVER.CA**

**FREE ALL THE 5 CUBAN HEROES NOW!**

**THE CUBAN 5**

**Summer 2014**



**Newsletter of the**  
**Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver, Canada**

**WWW.FREETHESVANCOUVER.CA**

**Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver**  
**Delegation joins the 10th Colloquium for the**  
**Freedom of the Cuban 5 in Havana, Cuba!**

### INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COLLOQUIUM BEGINS!

*September 11, 2014*

In order to establish dialogues and facilitate new solidarity actions for the release of Gerardo, Antonio and Ramón, still imprisoned in the U.S., the 5th International Solidarity with the Five and Against Terrorism Colloquium began today, and will run through September 12.

With more than 200 participants from 49 countries, the Colloquium will open with the inauguration of exposition Absueltos por la solidaridad, 16 watercolors painted by Antonio Guerrero from prison; and be followed by a screening of Justice in London, by film maker Roberto Chile - showing the efforts of a London based Investigation Committee into the case of the Cuban Five, and which includes testimonies from witnesses, family members, victims of terrorism, investigators, lawyers and judges. The final conclusions of the investigation will also be read during the event. A panel discussion with the Five's family members and activists will take place in the morning, while the afternoon will be dedicated to another discussion involving family members of victims of terrorism and a summary of the main proposed activities to be included in the

event Plan of Action.

Closing remarks and summaries will be presented Fernando González, vice president of ICAP who, together with Colloquium delegates, will meet with members of Vedado CDRs in the evening.

On September 12, a tour around the University of Computer Sciences (UCI), University of Havana, José Antonio Echeverría Higher Polytechnic Institute and the Union of Cuban Journalists (UPEC) will take place, in order for participants to share experiences and speak with students, teachers and intellectuals.

At 2pm, delegates will visit the exposition No agradezcan el silencio by Alexis Leyva (Kcho), on display in the Museum of Fine Arts, reflecting the inhumane imprisonment suffered by Gerardo, Antonio, René, Fernando and Ramón.

*Reprinted from*  
*www.granma.cu*



## 16 years of Injustice! Free ALL the Cuban 5!

**September 13, 2014 - Vancouver, Canada**  
**All-Day Conference Program**

**2:00 - 2:30pm** - Registration

**2:30 - 3:00pm** - Opening Keynote speaker - Tim Louis, Former Vancouver City Councillor and COPE (Coalition of Progressive Electors) Vancouver City Council Candidate

**3:00 - 3:30pm** - Messages from Fernando Gonzalez of the Cuban 5 and other solidarity greetings from Cuba

\* Live Cultural Performance by Rejean Bussieres from Victoria, BC

\* Greetings from Wilson Muñoz, COPE Executive and Vancouver City Council Candidate

**3:30 - 4:00pm** - Documentary film - The late Leonard Weinglass speaks on the case of the Cuban 5

**4:00 - 5:00pm** - Workshop: "Fighting for the Cuban 5, Fighting for Human Rights - Building the International Campaign to Free ALL the Cuban 5 Now"

Speaker: Thomas Davies

**5:00 - 5:45pm** - Workshop: "Building a Cross-Border Cuban 5 Campaign on the West Coast: Report, Analysis and Discussion from New Openings and Activities in Seattle and Vancouver"

Speakers: Hap Bockelie (Seattle) and Alison Bodine (Vancouver)

**5:45 - 6:00pm** - Two Greetings from U.S. National Committee to Free the Cuban 5 and U.S. International Committee to Free the Cuban 5

**6:00 - 6:30pm** - Live and Direct from Havana, Cuba! Tamara Hansen, Coordinator of Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba Reports from the 10th Colloquium to Free the Cuban 5

**6:30 - 6:45pm** - Live Cultural Hip Hop Performance by MC Abyss from Vancouver

**6:45 - 7:15pm** - Dinner served

**7:15 - 9:00pm** - "5 Heroes Only 1 Heart" An Evening of Poetry Dedicated to the Cuban 5 Heroes

Featuring poems from contributors to the Cuban 5 Poetry Challenge



**FREE THE CUBAN 5 COMMITTEE - VANCOUVER**  
**WWW.FREETHESVANCOUVER.CA**



# Fernando González named Vice-President of ICAP

June 13, 2014

Dear Friends,

Compañero Fernando González LLort, one of the Five Heroes who spent more than 15 years in U.S. prison, and who returned after completing his unjust sentence, has been appointed Vice-President of ICAP (the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples).

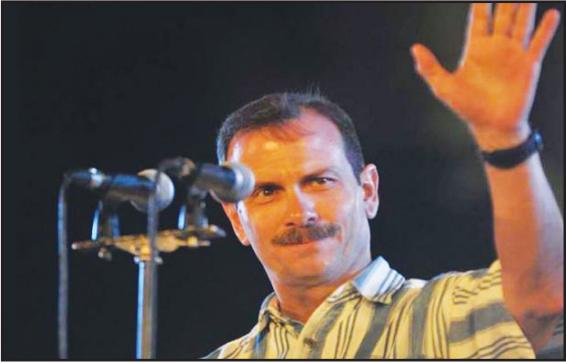
Fernando graduated in 1987 with a Gold Diploma with a degree in International Political Relations at the Higher Institute of International Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1987 to 1989 he participated as an internationalist combatant in the war for the liberation of Angola and the fight against apartheid; he is known for his modesty, simplicity and serenity; his in-depth analysis and extensive knowledge of international affairs; his firmness and discipline; and his proven faithfulness.

This decision strengthens us all; we have to keep challenging creativity after nearly 16 years of their imprisonment and we know the main objective is still before us: getting Tony, Ramón and Gerardo out of those prisons.

In solidarity,

Kenia Serrano Puig

President of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples



# Solidarity Campaign in UK Denounces Visa Refusal to Cuban Anti-terrorist

8 September 2014

The Cuban solidarity campaign has called for emergency protests

The United Kingdom's Cuba Solidarity Campaign called for demonstrations after British authorities denied a visa to Cuban antiterrorist Rene Gonzalez. Gonzalez, together with his spouse Olga Salanueva, was invited to join supporters in London from September 8 to 10.

The U.K. government rejected three legal injunctions to revoke this decision, despite Gonzalez having received an invitation from 29 British legislators to attend a meeting in parliament, and another from the Trade Union Congress in Liverpool.

Gonzalez's European tour is part of a global campaign to support the Cuban



Five and to oppose terrorism. The tour will run from September 4 to October 6.

Last March, Rene Gonzalez was likewise denied entry by the British government in order to attend a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the case of the Cuban Five, as the group is known. The session took place in the British capital.

September 12 will mark the sixteenth anniversary of his arrest. He and his colleagues Fernando Gonzalez, Gerardo Hernandez, Ramon Labañino and Antonio Guerrero were arrested in 1998. The last three are still behind bars.

Reprinted from www.telesurtv.net

# Message from the Cuban Five on the Israeli Assault on Gaza

July 30, 2014

We are indignant at this cruel massacre against the Palestinian people. Israel in its genocidal policy is trying to grab more territory at the expense of the suffering of the people. Please extend our solidarity to our sister Palestinian people, to our beloved Gaza, at the same time that we join the international demand that this Zionist barbarity and genocide cease.

Five hugs,

Ramón Labañino for the Cuban Five

Gerardo Hernández

Antonio Guerrero

Fernando González

René González



# Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver & Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba Joint Report on the 2014 Peoples' Social Forum in Ottawa, Canada

On Thursday August 21, 2014 the Peoples' Social Forum began at the University of Ottawa on unceded Anishinaabe territory in Ottawa, Canada. Under the banner "Build together, win together! The Future is Ours!" thousands of people gathered from across Canada for 4 days of workshops, assemblies, concerts, art exhibits and a march & rally. In fact over 500 workshops and assemblies took place during the forum, and out of those only one focused on the importance and example of the Cuban Revolution, which was the workshop organized by Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC). There were also two excellent events on the case of the Cuban 5 hosted by the Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver and Toronto Forum on Cuba respectively. There was a permanent Cuba solidarity table as part of the information fair which was very popular throughout the forum and shared jointly between Ottawa Cuba Connections, Cubacan Co-Op Ottawa, Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba & Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver. FC5C-Van held the banner for the Cuban 5 high throughout the Unity March as over 2,000 people marched on Parliament Hill.

The first Cuba workshop was on Thursday with the title "Fight for the Cuban 5: Fight for Human Rights." This workshop featured two strong speakers: Don

struggles different groups are working on across Canada. For example, using Cuba as a model in the fight against privatization of healthcare in Canada, in the battle for a more environmentally sustainable future, in the struggle for women's rights, or campaigns for electoral reforms - with almost all social justice issues, connections can be made with the example of the Cuban revolution. It is up to us to keep bringing Cuba as that example and inspiration for how to build a better world. The talk was very well received and many people stayed at the end to buy 10 copies of Tamara's book "5 Decades of the Cuban Revolution: The Challenges of an Unwavering Leadership" or to talk about connecting their struggles to that of Cuba.

The third Cuba event was a film showing of a great speech given by the late Leonard Weinglass, prominent lawyer for the Cuban 5 and other historic political cases in the US. Toronto Forum on Cuba hosted the film showing, which is a comprehensive overview of the deep injustice committed against the Cuban 5. The lecture theater was full and the film was followed by a presentation by Morteza Gorgzadeh of Toronto Forum on Cuba, who also invited Alison Bodine, coordinator of FC5C-Van to explain the work happening in Vancouver and BC. Their talks and the video led to a lively



discussion and many people committing to get more involved in the campaign.

On Friday and Saturday night, Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver organizer and hip hop artist, Joose Justis, was invited to perform at two cultural events "Slam

the System" and "Rhymethink Rap Rebellion". The 2014 Peoples' Social Forum was strongly supported and promoted by the labour movement in Canada, with many key figures, as well as rank and file members in attendance from the Canadian Labour Congress, Ontario Federation of Labour, United Steel Workers, Public Service Alliance of Canada, Canadian Teachers' Federation, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions, among others. It was also a gathering of Indigenous nations and organizations

have been doing since returning to Cuba and how to build a consistent and coordinated campaign for the freedom for the Cuban 5 in Canada and around the world. There was a good discussion of some of the accomplishments of the campaign and an inspiring intervention by Julio Garmendía Peña, the Cuban Ambassador to Canada, who was in attendance along with Miraly González González, the First Secretary of the Cuban Embassy in Canada. At the Cuban 5 workshop there were people in attendance representing BC, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and even the US!

The second Cuba workshop was on Friday, August 22 and entitled "5 Decades of the Cuban Revolution". Tamara Hansen, coordinator of VCSC was the featured speaker and simultaneous French translation was done by Azza Rojbi, an executive member of FC5C-Vancouver. Over 50 people packed into the room to participate in the only workshop at the 2014 Peoples' Social Forum with a focus on the Cuban Revolution. Tamara spoke about how to connect the accomplishments of the Cuban revolution to the local, national and international



fighting for their rights across Canada. Of course, many grassroots groups and political parties, as well as independent people were also in attendance.

Also, important to mention that during these four days of activities we distributed 3,000 leaflets for the Cuba events, along with FC5C-Vancouver newsletters, postcards, posters, and sold books, buttons and t-shirts.

Through the 2014 Peoples' Social Forum Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba & Free the Cuban 5 Committee - Vancouver were proud to work with others from Canadian Union of Postal Workers, Ottawa Cuba Connections, Cubacan Co-Op Ottawa and Toronto Forum on Cuba in support of Cuba's self-determination, the Cuban Revolution and to promote the campaign to free ALL our 5 Cuban Heroes. We believe we all did an important task of bringing the important example of Cuba, the struggle of the Cuban 5 Heroes and the work of the Cuba solidarity movement across the country at the Peoples' Social Forum 2014!