



Society for International Development, Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter



Société pour le développement international, Section Ottawa Gatineau



FOCAL

Canadian Foundation for the Americas
Fondation canadienne pour les Amériques
Fundación Canadiense para las Américas
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**The Society for International Development – Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter
in co-operation with the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) and the
Christian Labour Association of Canada
is pleased to invite you to a presentation and discussion on:**

Trade Unions, Human Rights and Democracy in Cuba: A Prisoner's Perspective

**Speaker: Pedro Pablo Alvarez Ramos,
Independent Cuban Labour Union Organizer**

Time: April 22, 2009, 3 to 4:45 PM

**Place: Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL)
Room 720, Seventh Floor
1 Nicholas Street
Ottawa, Canada**

Pedro Pablo Alvarez Ramos, along with 74 others, was arrested on March 18, 2003 by the Cuban government. He was accused of "Acts Against the Independence and Territorial Integrity of the State." He was tried and convicted on April 5, 2003 and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment. On February 17, 2008 he was released and has been in exile in Spain.

Pedro Pablo has been active in attempting to establish independent trade unions in Cuba since his youth and is a leading advocate for trade union rights in Cuba. He has been active at the ILO reporting on human rights violations in Cuba, specifically violations of the freedom of association. At the time of his arrest, he was General Secretary of the United Workers' Council of Cuba (CUTC), an independent union affiliated with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). He was an independent librarian, running a labour-oriented library and also a Director of the Felix Varela Project.

Please RSVP to Peter Moore pmoore@focal.ca 613-562-0005 ext. 255 no later than April 21, 2009.

Society for International Development, P.O. Box 955, Station B, Ottawa, On K1P 5R1

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