

TORONTO FORUM ON CUBA

January 1, 2023

Our salute to the 64th Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution!

The Cuban Revolution of Jan. 1, 1959 was, is and will always be an inspiration for the whole of humanity. We celebrate its 64th anniversary with joy, pride and the promise to defend its achievements. Since day one what has characterized the Cuban revolution has been its selfless internationalism which Fidel practiced, implementing Marti's ideal "Patria es humanidad" [Homeland is Humanity], and which new generations of leaders like Miguel are continuing.



Achievements in health, education, sports, biotechnology, and... internationalist solidarity have taken place while the cruel and criminal economic, financial and trade blockade of Cuba by the most powerful economic/military power on earth—the U.S.A.—has been relentless this year. Added to this is the ever-growing media war orchestrated by the U.S. government and its spies, including Twitter and Facebook that on the orders of CIA, State Department and other organisms have been censoring Cuban media and public figures.

But it is time to celebrate, as the Revolution has deep roots inside and outside of Cuba. We think of the work of Luis Toledo Sande, a child of the Revolution, who brings José Martí to life in his *Basket of Flames: A Biography of Jose Marti*. where we learn of Marti's sympathy with the indigenous peoples of the hemisphere or his writings on the struggles of the colonized Vietnamese, which remind us that Che

Guevara will urge "...two, three, more Vietnams." We also think of Tomas Diez Acosta's *The Missile Crisis as Seen From Cuba*, where we learn about the animosity of the Empire from the first day and its intentions to assassinate the leaders of the Revolution, about the Empire's defeat at the Bay of Pigs and about the State Department's memorandum stating its goal of "suffocating the Cuban people to cause them to overthrow their government." When we think also of *Red Zone: Cuba and the Battle Against Ebola in West Africa* by Enrique Ubieta Gomez, we know that the revolution is in good hands and is going to continue to move forward with resilience and faith in their historical leader Fidel Castro's ideals.

Cuba is not alone, as here in Canada friends of Cuba like Professors Keith Ellis, John Kirk, Isaac Saney are busy writing about Cuban culture and politics, while Venezuelan Sociologist Maria Paez Victor are outspoken in defending Cuba's ally, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Holocaust survivor--Susan Weiss--does not miss an opportunity to speak out in solidarity with Cuba; and Arnold August works untiringly to expose the lies and hatred thrown at the Revolution. And there are many, many more; and Cuba is not alone, not here in Canada and not in the world.

We in Toronto Forum on Cuba are committed to educate ourselves on issues related to Cuba so that we can take a just stand. That is why we are planning to bring Helen Yaffe, the author of *We Are Cuba*, to Toronto in the coming year; and we will then need your help!

United in our efforts to dismantle the machinery of lies and hatred distracting from the progressive realities of the Cuban revolution,
WE SALUTE THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION!

Morteza Gorgzadeh for
Toronto Forum on Cuba