

Report from Air Canada Centre

Dec. 13, 2003

By Larry Wells, Member of the Executive Board, Oakville District Labour Council

The rally was an enormous success; we had about 30 participants from different Colombian groups as well as universities, labour organizations and a high school student. We distributed 4,500 Colombian Coke Float petitions, which highlighted Coke Director and Chief Financial Officer of Dow Chemical J. Pedro Reinhard, who is also on the board of the Royal Bank of Canada.

Even though it was very cold, hockey goers still took the leaflets. The police officers were also very interested in what we were doing.

I did not see any media other than alternative news people, although we had sent out a press release on Tuesday; but that didn't surprise me.

I checked out the Royal Bank of Canada website and they are very involved with hockey in Canada, so it was fitting that we targeted the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey game. This is a great venue to reach 18,000 people. If we can get other labour organizations and other groups to go to other hockey arenas to hand out leaflets, we could reach a lot of people.



Air Canada Centre.



Part of the group demonstrating and distributing petitions at the Air Canada Centre before the hockey game between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the New York Rangers.