

**WE'VE BEEN
ROBBED!**



Over the last four decades, the rich have got richer and the rest of us have got poorer. Public and private debt have soared.

Our money system has been hijacked and used to buy governments, media, and the commons, and to infiltrate academe.

Our debt is then used as an excuse to diminish public infrastructure essential to social justice-education-democracy-the environment.

If stealing money from a bank is news, why doesn't stealing a bank make it to the media?

"The powers of financial capitalism had another far-reaching aim, nothing less than to create a world system of financial control in private hands able to dominate the political system of each country and the economy of the world as a whole. This system was to be controlled in a feudalistic fashion by the central banks of the world acting in concert, by secret agreements arrived at in frequent meetings and conferences. The apex of the systems was to be the Bank for International Settlements in Basel, Switzerland, a private bank owned and controlled by the world's central banks which were themselves private corporations. Each central bank . . . sought to dominate its government by its ability to control Treasury loans, to manipulate foreign exchanges, to influence the level of economic activity in the country, and to influence co-operative politicians by subsequent economic rewards in the business world."

-Carroll Quigley,
Tragedy & Hope:

A History of The World In Our Time

Compared to other issues, how important is Monetary Reform?

"The reform of the debt-based monetary supply system is the single most important area of reform confronting us."

Reforming the financial system is more important than the war against poverty . . .more important than the movement to protect the environment . . .the fight against drugs and racism, and the battle for social justice and welfare.

Financial reform is more important than all these problems for the simple reason that the current financial system is responsible, both directly and indirectly for causing, or at least exacerbating them."

-Michael Rowbotham,
The Grip of Death

"Could anything be more insane than for the human race to die out because WE COULDN'T AFFORD TO SAVE OURSELVES?"

-Dr. John Hotson,
Co-Founder of COMER

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COMER

The Committee on Monetary and Economic Reform

COMER was established in the 1980s as a think tank, by Canadians concerned about our debt-based monetary system, which is unsustainable.

COMER's primary aim is to promote an understanding of why monetary reform is essential to democracy, economic justice, and the preservation of our environment, and to encourage active support for an alternative political economy.

Banque du Canada



Bank of Canada

"Anything physically possible and desirable can be made financially possible."

-Confirmed by Graham Towers,
The Bank's Founding Governor

MAKING A DIFFERENCE USING PUBLIC MONEY POWER!

The Bank of Canada opened in 1935. At that time, Prime Minister Mackenzie King, in a radio broadcast, said:

"Once a nation parts with control of its currency and credit, it matters not who makes that nation's laws . . . Until [that] control is restored to Government and recognized as its most . . . sacred responsibility, all talk of parliamentary sovereignty and of democracy is idle and futile."

In 1938, it was nationalized. It is empowered *"to regulate credit and currency in the best interests of the economic life of the nation."*

Between 1938 and 1974, the Government borrowed from the Bank of Canada at little or no interest.

Government-created money helped finance World War II and enabled us to afford post-war infrastructure projects like the Trans-Canada Highway and the St. Lawrence Seaway, and social programs like the Canada Pension Plan and Medicare. It nurtured a growing middle class and an increasingly egalitarian society—all without undue debt or price inflation.

"The world did not end the Depression by 'balancing government budgets.' That ended only when governments all over the world "drafted" their central banks, forcing them to create new money to finance massive deficits."

-Dr. John Hotson

Co-Founder of COMER

In the 1970s, Canada joined the Basel Committee of G-10 countries at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). Since then, the Government has borrowed, instead, from private banks at compound interest.

This change in monetary policy, by 2012, had cost Canadian taxpayers C\$1 trillion in interest on the National Debt.

In 2011, **COMER** brought suit in Canadian Federal Court "to restore the use of the Bank of Canada to its original purpose."

The very idea of a Government that can create money for itself allowing private banks to create money that Government then borrows and pays interest on is so preposterous that it staggers the imagination.

William F. Hixson

It's Your Money

The government has two main tools with which to manage the economy, Fiscal Policy, (taxing and spending), and Monetary Policy, (money creation and management).

"Few matters are of greater concern to citizens than the performance of the economy, and Monetary Policy is a central determinant of that performance.

...

In any Democracy a public institution—and pretend as it might, a central bank is a public institution—must have some degree of accountability . . . oversight to make sure that the central bank functions in accordance with its mandate, and that the mandate in question is in accord with the public interest."

Nobel Economist, Joseph Stiglitz

The Price of Inequality

...

"The proposition that there was safety in banker management of the monetary system, and the theory that governments could not, to the advantage of the general community, issue national currency and credit, free of interest charge, for the purpose of financing public enterprise are now only in question."

...

We will soon learn that a reserve of human intelligence, health and contentment will provide a better security for the nation's purchasing power than was ever supplied by any other means."

- Gerald Gratton Mc Geer,

Conquest of Poverty 1935

Quoted by Bill Abram, *Money*, 2008

THE WAY MONEY IS CREATED MATTERS!

Basically, there are two kinds of money . . .

GOVERNMENT-CREATED MONEY (GCM)

- Essentially, **debt-free** money, created by the Bank of Canada under the *Bank of Canada Act*, Article 18. It is SPENT into the economy.
- Money is created by private banks as **debt!** *The private banking system has privatized our public money supply.* It is LENT into the economy.

BANK-CREATED MONEY (BCM)

- Empowers banks and other corporations to influence government policy.
- Puts private profit before people and the environment in a *market economy*.
- Enables Democratic control of priorities (like job creation, environmental protection) in a *mixed economy*.
Bloats the financial sector and starves the public sector.
- Perpetuates the boom-bust cycle; ensures ultimate systemic collapse. Debt swells taxes; and becomes an excuse to shrink social services ("We can't afford it!")