

# Operation Transparency



Getting ready for the  
**Citizens' Search**  
at Canada Post Place  
Ottawa, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006

# Recalling the three goals

- the disclosure of Canada Post's strategic plans
- a moratorium on closures
  - including Quebec City
- a public debate on any plans to reduce, privatize or deregulate our public postal service.

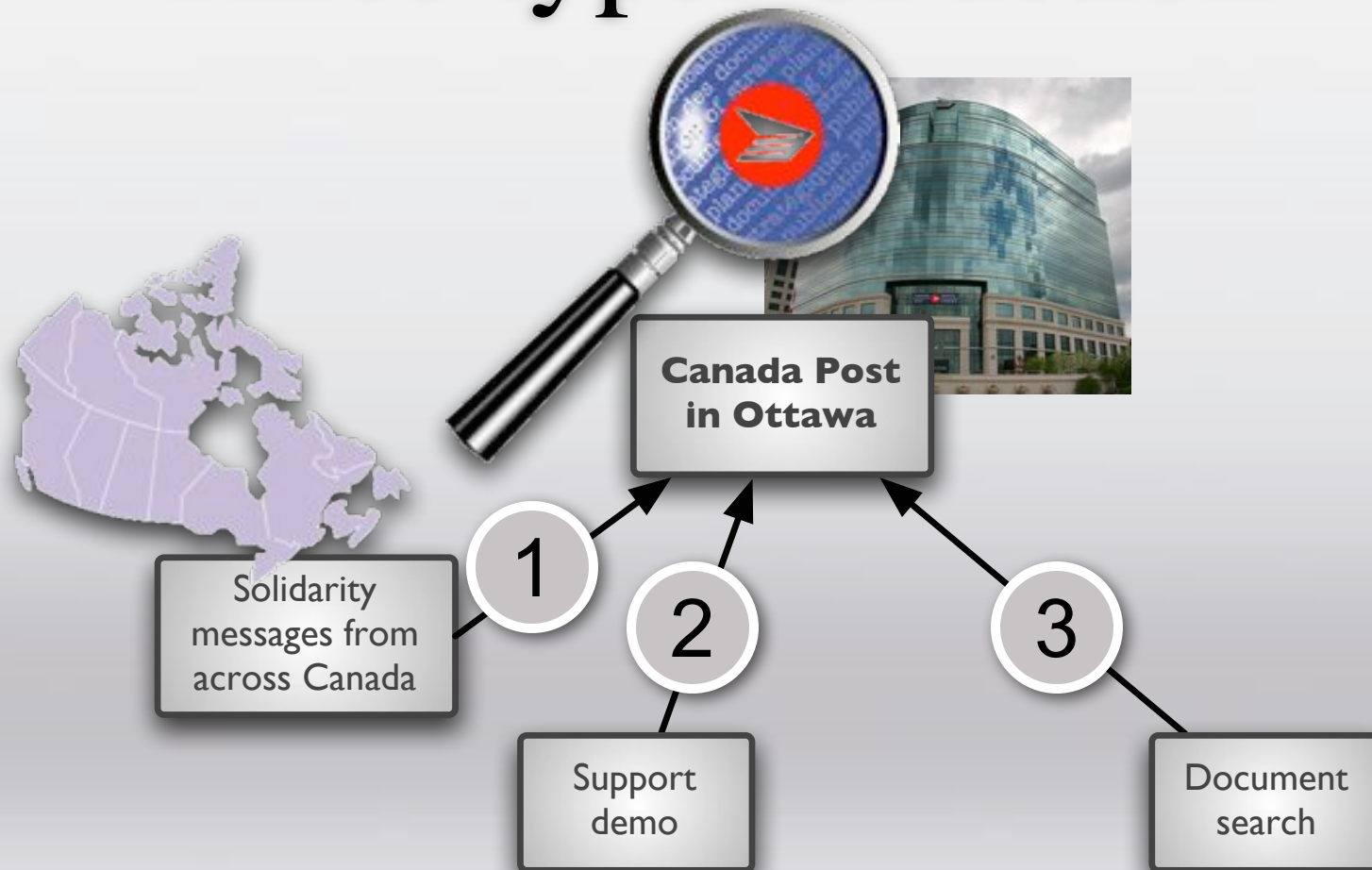
# Action guidelines

- In this action we will...
  - bring our humour
    - and other weapons of mass *distraction*
  - adopt a dignified, open and friendly attitude
    - towards anybody we encounter
  - demonstrate our creativity
    - in the use of new slogans, songs and props
  - keep our calm
    - and our eyes on the prize

# Action guidelines

- In this action, we won't...
  - bring weapons
  - use verbal or physical violence
  - damage property
  - use drugs or alcohol
  - hide our identity behind hoods or masks
  - risk arrest without the required training
  - run, as it contributes to heightening tensions for everybody

# Three types of action



1

# Solidarity Messages



Lawrence Cannon



Moya Greene



Mary Traversy



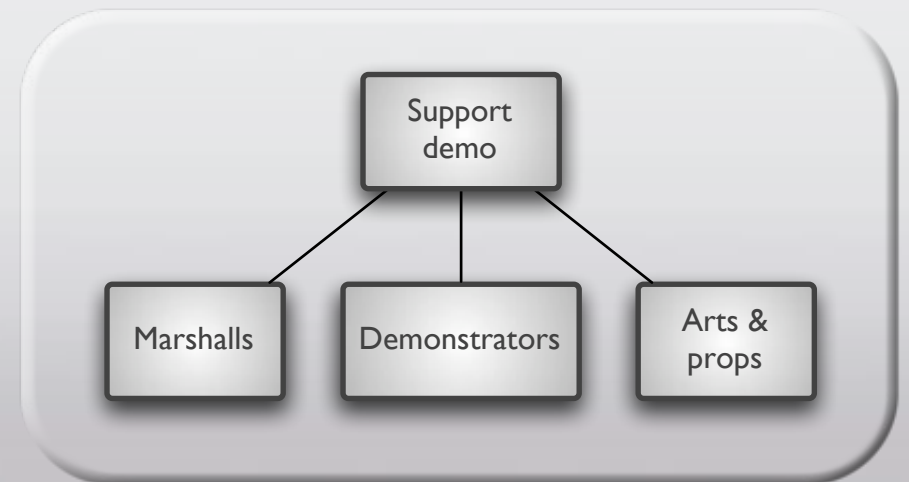
Michel Diotte



- Alternative ways of “entering” Canada Post
  - As many faxes, emails, phone calls as possible
  - A list of people to contact
- Let’s mobilize our people!

## 2 Support demo

- At Canada Post Headquarters, in Ottawa
  - starting 8:00 am, June 19
  - buses from different cities
- High point of the demo: **from noon to 1:00 pm**
  - marshalls needed
  - arts and props



## 2 Support demo

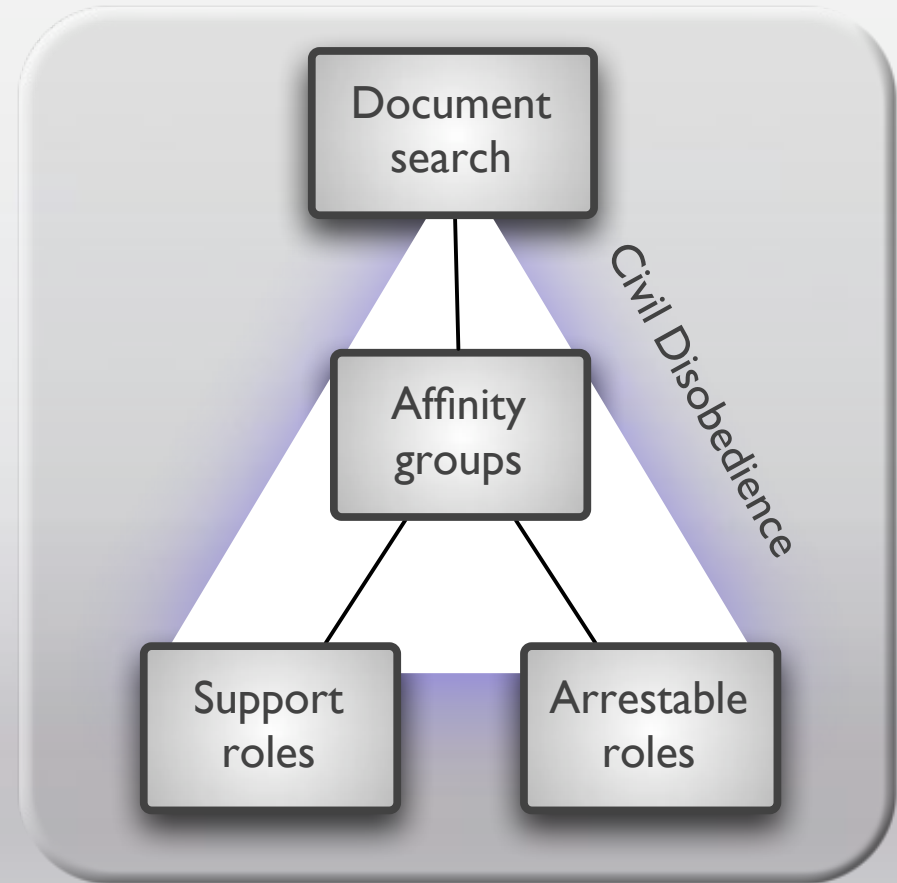
- Everyone can take part
  - no training required
- Availability of local participants
  - from noon to 1:00 pm (especially)
  - or at any other time
    - between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm
- Availability of out-of-town participants
  - all day (for transportation)



3

# Document search

- Support roles
  - arts & props
  - scouting
  - first aid
  - leafleting
  - jail support
  - marshalling
- Role with a risk of arrest
  - citizens' search for documents



3

# Document search

- Mandatory civil disobedience training
  - some sessions offered locally
  - otherwise, training session in Ottawa, June 17
- Participants must join an affinity group
  - take on a support role — or
  - take on a role with a risk of arrest
    - and accept the consequences



# Training

1. Introductions
2. Nonviolence exercise
3. Hassle line
4. An analysis of Power
5. Affinity groups and support roles
6. Quick consensus decision-making
7. Action scenarios
8. Health and safety tips
9. Civil disobedience roleplay
10. Prison and noncooperation
11. Legalities
12. Where am I?  
(fears, enthusiasm, commitment)
13. Follow-up: building affinity groups
14. Evaluation

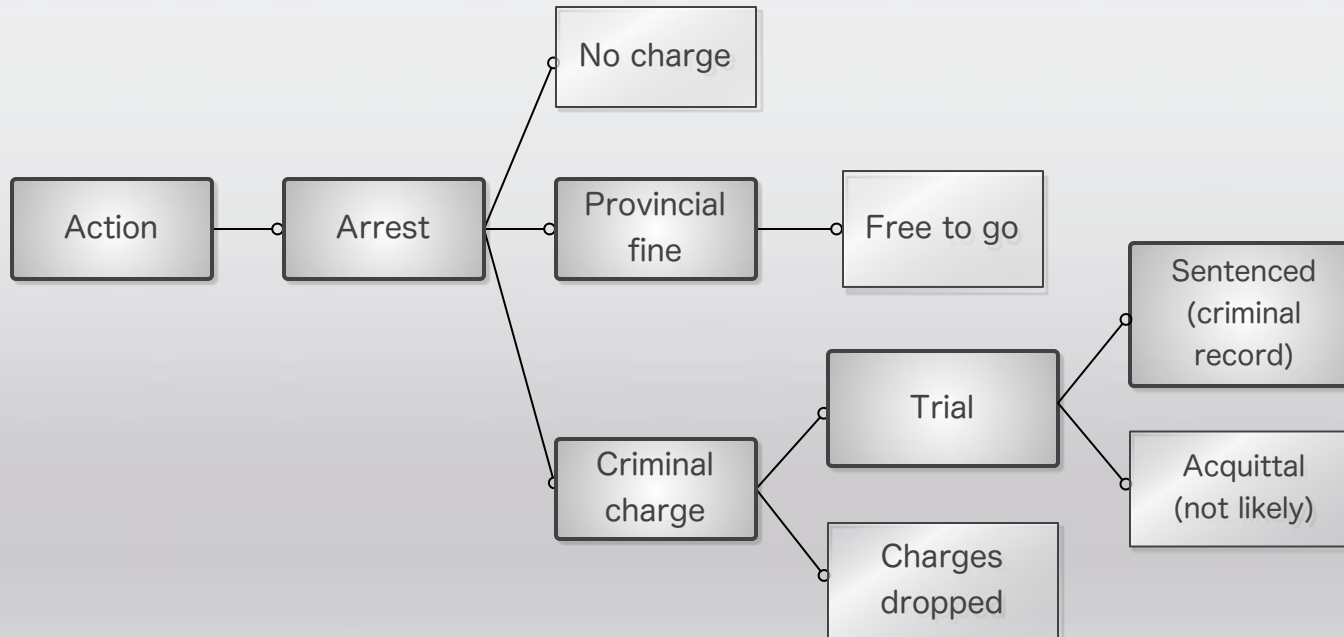


# Affinity groups



- Action cells
  - 5 to 20 people
  - support people
  - and those risking arrest
  - to build solidarity
  - to decentralize
  - to build unity in diversity

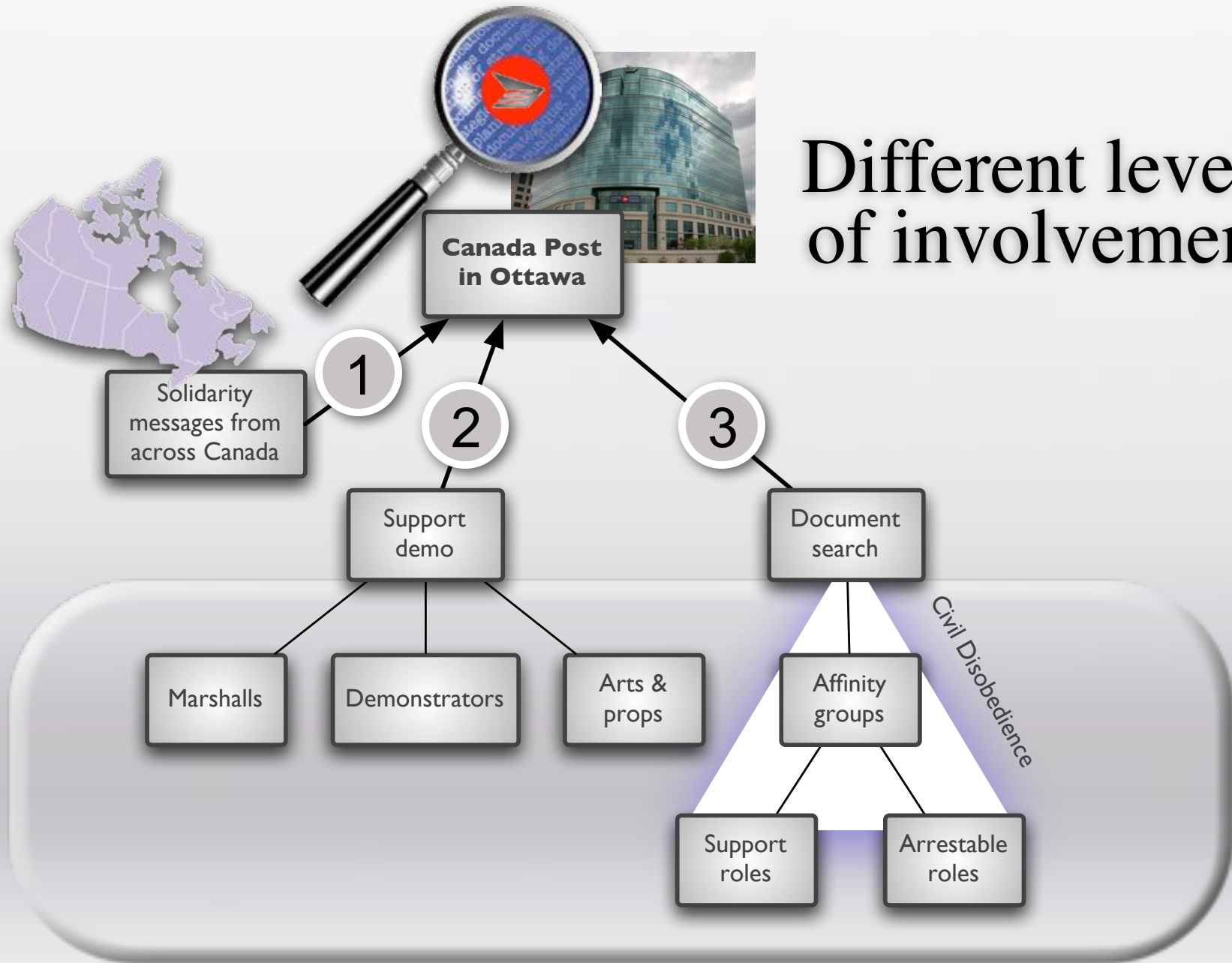
# Potential consequences?



# Policy of responsibility

- The Union will not be responsible
  - for any charges, trials or sentences
    - including fines
- Collective responsibility of affinity groups and the individuals involved
  - for their actions and potential consequences

# Different levels of involvement



# 4 Scenarios

Unlikely

1. They let us enter
2. They ignore us
3. Police block the doors
4. Police put a barricade

Likely



# If they let us go in...

Unlikely

1

- We conduct a careful, professional search
  - Everywhere, including Moya Greene's office, the Control Centre
- Media follow us around
  - and witness the care we put at
    - examining all documents carefully
    - carefully packing away the computers

Likely

It would be fun... but it just ain't gonna happen!

# If they ignore us...

Unlikely

2

- We commit to staying all day, if necessary
- We try to sneak in through other doors
  - each time someone goes in, goes out
- We wash windows, we look in
  - we show messages asking for help from the inside
- We commit to continue the struggle
  - by coming back, if we need to

Likely

# If police block the doors...

Unlikely

- We approach the police lines
  - We read the citizens' search warrant
  - We ask for their help
- We walk until they stop us
  - Arms to the side, totally nonviolent
- We keep going back in successive waves, without tiring

3

Likely

# If they put a barricade...

Unlikely

- We will walk up to the barricade
  - we read the citizens' search warrant
  - and ask the police for their help
- Then, slowly go over the barricades
  - to try and conduct the search
  - and we will be arrested

4

Likely

# Action schedule

June 2006

S M T W T F S

1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30

The action schedule  
runs June 16 to 21

# Friday June 16

## June 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- 7:00 am to 10:00 am •  
Leafleting at Canada Post
  - to announce the action will take place on June 19
    - “Transparency Holiday” – it’s a day off!
- 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm •  
One last information session

# Saturday June 17

June 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- 10:00 am to 5:00 pm •  
Training sessions
  - Last session for the civil disobedience action
- 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm •  
Arts & props workshop
  - Creation of giant magnifiers, puppets, etc.

# Sunday June 18

## Final gathering

June 2006

S M T W T F S

1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30

- 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm •  
Marshalls training
  - we train bilingual marshalls
- 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm •  
Final planning meeting
  - mandatory for affinity groups
  - group dinner
  - last preparations for the Search action

# Monday June 19

June 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

D-Day: Time for Action!

- Affinity groups get going early
  - wake up, breakfast, scouting the site
  - greeting Canada Post's employees
  - colorful activities around Canada Post's headquarters
- Focal point of action : at noon
  - demonstration and citizens' search

# Wednesday June 21



June 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- 7:00 am to 9:00 am • Action “Whistleblowers”
  - We greet Canada Post employees
    - all across the country
    - distribution of whistles
    - leafleting
      - invitation to communicate secret documents

# SOLIDARITY

Please sign up!

