

Chan's speech was followed by a lively question and answer period with the youth delegates. Answering to claims of the economic exploitation, Chan said "You cannot blame the exploitation on APEC – it was already there," and said that APEC is about economic development. Responding to environmental concerns, Chan pointed out that it is very difficult for countries that have been industrialized for a hundred years, and who created most of the world's environmental problems, to call for standards from countries trying to develop their economies through industrialization. On the issue of labour concerns being left out of APEC, Chan said that is not what APEC is about, and that there are other forums for that dialogue.

"I was as sceptical when I first participated in the APEC meetings in 1993," said Chan, who mentioned his history as a human rights activist, but said he found that through APEC a lot of positive gains could be made.

Still, the youth continued to ask Chan tough questions, passing the speech's allotted time period before reaching even a portion of the raised hands. One delegate, who questioned APEC countries' ability to veto a topic, told Chan "If I come home six hours late, I can't just say 'I'm choosing not to discuss that issue.'" When Chan pointed out that countries like Indonesia are part of a dialogue for the first time, and that "nothing can be done when a country is closed," a delegate interjected with "You could stop selling them arms." After Chan repeatedly said "we don't sell them guns," a group of delegates agreed to get together to research Canada's arms trade to Indonesia and get back to Chan. At one point, when a delegate said it was hypocritical to talk about developing countries' human rights violations without talking about Canada's, Chan said, "I don't think you're being fair to me... How do you know that I don't address human rights issues in Canada?"

The dialogue continued, and though polite, included some raised voices and finger pointing by Chan. In closing, Chan said it is simple to just be a human rights activist and demonstrate on the street, and that it is important to "remind us to put our foot to the fire" on these issues, but there is no "simple solution."

In the opening of her address, Libby Davies, NDP Member of Parliament for Vancouver East, said "I want to go to great lengths to separate myself from Mr. Chan." Davies described herself as "an activist – not a politician" and outlined her history 10 working in the Downtown Eastside from age 19, and her subsequent 11 years fighting for social justice issues on Vancouver's City Council.

Like Chan, Davies tied her speech to Remembrance Day, and spoke of the "great hope" around the world following the end of World War II and the creation of the United Nations, noting that it was a time where one could believe that "economies would serve people." "In the last 50 years the role of nations has vastly changed," said Davies. While in the past a nation served the needs of its people through programs like education, health care and addressing poverty, Davies said today nations serve the economy, corporations, and trade.

The real purpose of APEC is to ensure that transnational corporations in North America can pursue profits with "unfettered access" to markets, said Davies, calling the exercise a "race to the bottom" for people. Davies said all other issue have been forced off the table. Calling Chan "dead wrong" on putting off issues like labour to other forums, Davies said "You cannot talk about trade without talking about people."

Davies' question and answer period was more amicable, but also lively. Delegates discussed with Davies the choice between trying to change the APEC agenda, which one delegate called "fostering illusions," versus an outright call to end APEC. Davies said