

Rendez-Vous

Volume 2 Issue 3

July 2002
juillet 2002

SECURITY SCREENINGS DRAW OVER 375 PEOPLE!

By Aube Giroux

In June 2002, a dozen films toured across Atlantic Canada as part of the Security Screenings, a film festival on Human Security organized by ACIC in collaboration with 7 partner organizations in Fredericton, Moncton, Halifax, Charlottetown, and St. John's. The film festival was part of a CIDA-funded National Initiative called International Cooperation and Global Human Security. The goal of the event was to generate discussion around various issues that impact human security. The event featured film screenings, door prizes, discussions, booths by community groups, and receptions. The host partners in each city successfully attracted people out to the event at a time of year when many are away on vacation. The films were shown in movie theatres, university auditoriums, and community centres and reached a diverse audience.



PROJECTION SECURITE ATTIRE PLUS DE 375 PERSONNES !

Par Aube Giroux

Durant le mois de juin 2002, une douzaine de films firent une tournée à travers le Canada Atlantique dans le cadre de Projection Sécurité, un festival de films sur la Sécurité humaine organisé par le CACI, en collaboration avec 7 organisations partenaires à Fredericton, Moncton, Halifax, Charlottetown et St. John's. Le festival de film faisait partie d'une Initiative nationale financée par l'ACDI et intitulée "Coopération et sécurité humaine mondiale". Le but de l'activité était d'encourager une discussion sur les différents enjeux qui affectent la sécurité humaine. L'activité comprenait des visionnements de films, des prix de présence, des discussions, des kiosques des groupes communautaires et des réceptions. Les hôtes partenaires dans chaque ville ont réussi à attirer des gens à cette activité en un temps de l'année lorsque plusieurs sont en vacances. Les films furent projetés dans des salles de cinéma, des auditoriums

COMMENTS FROM THE FESTIVAL

- "It's not often we get to see films outside the mainstream in Halifax."
- "I definitely feel a lot less secure."
- "I'm glad I didn't miss these films!"
- "The festival reinforced my will to do small, creative things within my community."
- "Canadians are too complacent, we need to speak up and act."
- "I learned about depleted uranium for the first time."
- "I was previously unaware of the pesticide situation in PEI."
- "The Hidden Wars of Desert Storm strengthened my drive to fight for peace."

COMMENTAIRES DU FESTIVAL

- "Ce n'est pas souvent que l'on a la chance de visionner des films hors-série à Halifax."
- "Je me sens définitivement moins en sécurité."
- "Je suis heureux de ne pas avoir manqué ces films-là!"
- "Le festival a renforcé ma volonté de faire de petites choses créatives au sein de ma communauté."
- "Les Canadiens sont trop complaisants ; il faut que l'on prenne la parole et que l'on agisse."
- "C'est la première fois que j'entendais parler de l'uranium appauvri."
- "Je n'étais pas au courant de la situation des pesticides à l'ÎPÉ."
- "Les Guerres secrètes de Tempête du désert ont renforcé mon intention de me battre pour la paix."

INSIDE/A L'INTERIEUR

	Page 3
O Africa/O Afrique	Page 4-5
Upcoming Workshops	Page 6
Best of Show—CCA News	Page 7
Social and Environmental pledge	Page 8-9
Engaging Canadians in Making Policy	Page 10-11
Member Profiles	Page 14
Announcements	Page 15
Upcoming Events	Page 16
Board Member Profile	

Rendez-vous
Vol. 2/ No. 3
July/juillet 2002

Le bulletin Rendez-vous est publié par le Conseil atlantique pour la coopération internationale et financé par l'Agence canadienne de développement international.



La politique en matière du bilinguisme du CACI consiste à utiliser les deux langues officielles sans traduction dans le bulletin d'information. Your comments on this formula are welcome.

Editing and Layout:
Aube Giroux



Atlantic Council for International Cooperation-Conseil Atlantique pour la Coopération Internationale.

125 chemin South Knowlesville Road
Knowlesville, N.-B./NB E7L 1B1
Ph/Tél: (506)-375-4795
Fax: (506)-375-4221
Email: info@acic-caci.org
Website: www.acic-caci.org

The views expressed by the publication are not necessarily those of ACIC or its members.

The films were often followed by passionate discussion in which many took part, sharing their reactions and feelings. Unlike the conventional movie-going experience where viewers leave the cinema as soon as the films are over, the participants stayed and shared their impressions either through facilitated discussion or informal discussion at the receptions. Participation from the audience opened the forum for dialogue and further action within the community. In fact, the discussions most often led to the question of what can we do to change things in our local communities as well as international community and how do we get involved in these complex issues. As one festival participant put it, "It is important to circulate this information and allow civil society to better organize its collective activism".



In discussion, several participants expressed a similar concern: these films provide information that is very difficult to get elsewhere. Indeed, the strength of documentary is that it lies on the outskirts of conventional media, allowing for in-depth analysis and information sharing on otherwise unexplored issues. The artistic potential of documentary combined with its informative properties makes it a very powerful medium but one that may at times be difficult to access. Whereas a TV station might not broadcast a particular film because the content may be deemed controversial or offensive to its

d'université et des centres communautaires devant un auditoire assez varié.

Les films sont souvent suivis par une discussion passionnée auquel plusieurs participent en partageant leurs réactions et leurs sentiments. Au contraire de l'expérience de consommation cinématographique conventionnelle où les spectateurs quittent le cinéma aussitôt que les films sont terminés, les participants restaient sur place et partageaient leurs impressions, soit par une discussion avec animateur ou par une discussion informelle lors des réceptions. La participation de l'auditoire ouvrait le forum pour un dialogue et plus d'action au sein de la communauté. En fait, les discussions menaient souvent aux questions de "qu'est-ce qu'on peut faire" pour changer les choses dans nos communautés locales, dans la communauté internationale et sur comment on peut s'impliquer dans ces enjeux complexes. Comme le mentionnait l'un des participants au festival, "Il est important de circuler cette information et de permettre à la société civile de mieux organiser son activisme collectif".

Lors des discussions, plusieurs participants ont exprimé une préoccupation similaire : ces films fournissent de l'information qui est difficile à obtenir ailleurs. En fait, la force du film documentaire est qu'il se situe en marge des médias conventionnels, ce qui permet une analyse plus approfondie et un partage d'information sur des enjeux qui autrement ne sont pas abordés. Le potentiel artistique du film documentaire, combiné avec ses caractéristiques informatives, fait en sorte qu'il est un médium puissant, mais l'un qui

Continued on page 9

Continué à la page 9

ACIC Board of Directors / Conseil d'Administration du CACI

Neil Tilley, Chair & Nfld/Lab Representative (Extension Community Development Cooperative)
Jean Arnold, Treasurer & NB Representative (Falls Brook Centre)
Peggy Cameron, NS Representative (Ecology Action Centre)
Gilles Gagné, PEI Representative (CUSO)
Maureen MacLean, Member-at-Large (Canadian Cooperative Association)
Paul Perret, Member-At-Large (EDGE)
Sarah Shima, Ex officio, Coordinator

Printed on 100% recycled paper!
Imprimé sur du papier à 100% recyclé!

O AFRICA

CANADA AND AFRICA—A NEW PARTNERSHIP?

By: Jocelyn Knoester

Education and Development in a Global Environment (EDGE)

May 3rd-5th, 2002 saw the gathering of hundreds of delegates in Montreal to discuss and debate issues relating to the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) and prospects for increased partnerships between Africa and Canada. Sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the conference brought together Canadians with representatives from all across Africa with backgrounds in civil society, business and local and national governments. The conference was created to try to respond to the requests from CIDA's partners in Africa and Canada to both learn more and have their voices heard on issues relating to the NEPAD. By bringing together Canadians and Africans who were together dedicated to development in Africa; ideas, concerns and experiences could be shared and greater links and partnerships forged. Throughout the conference, extensive information was shared about some of the specifics of the NEPAD, and there was much discussion about why the NEPAD is such an important document. What actually became quickly apparent through the course of the weekend though, was the great divide that exists between people who see great potential in the NEPAD document and those that have serious concerns about it, and the process involved in bringing it to life.

The NEPAD and African Development

It is no secret that Africa is the only continent left on the planet where poverty is on the rise. A combination of the continued spread of HIV/AIDS, government corruption, natural disasters, civil war, and the effects of structural adjustment programs (to name a few) have been wreaking havoc throughout the continent for centuries. Many countries in Africa are currently facing humanitarian disasters, and on it's current path, things will only get worse.

Considering these conditions, in the last two years African leaders have again attempted to create a comprehensive strategy that would put Africa on a positive path of growth and development and that at the same time would make the industrialized world take notice. This has finally been achieved with the introduction of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

The NEPAD is an African document. It was created by key African leaders and is now endorsed by all 53 member states of the Organization of African Unity. The document emphasizes African leadership and ownership of the development process, and attempts to address key social, political and economic issues in order to put Africa on a path of growth. It concentrates on very specific conditions that African leaders feel need to be created, by Africans, but with

O AFRIQUE

CANADA ET AFRIQUE — UN NOUVEAU PARTENARIAT?

Par: Jocelyn Knoester

Education and Development in a Global Environment (EDGE)

Du 3 au 5 mai, 2002, Montréal était témoin d'une grande rencontre de centaines de délégués qui venaient discuter et délibérer sur les enjeux concernant le Nouveau partenariat pour le développement de l'Afrique (NPDA) et les perspectives pour de plus grands partenariats entre l'Afrique et le Canada. Parrainée par l'Agence canadienne de développement international (ACDI), la conférence rassemblait des Canadiens avec des représentants d'un peu partout à travers l'Afrique et des secteurs de la société civile, des affaires, ainsi que des gouvernements locaux et nationaux.



La conférence fut organisée pour tenter de répondre aux requêtes de la part des partenaires de l'ACDI en Afrique et au Canada afin d'en savoir plus et de se faire entendre sur les enjeux concernant le NPDA. En rassemblant des Canadiens et des Africains qui étaient mutuellement dévoués au développement en Afrique, des idées, des préoccupations et des expériences pouvaient être partagées tout en forgeant des liens et des partenariats plus grands. Durant la conférence, beaucoup d'information fut partagée concernant certains aspects spécifiques du NPDA et il y a eu beaucoup de discussions sur l'importance du NPDA. Cependant, ce qui devint rapidement apparent durant le cours de la fin de semaine, fut le grand écart qui existe entre les gens qui perçoivent un grand potentiel dans le document du NPDA et ceux qui ont des préoccupations sérieuses avec celui-ci et le processus pour lui insuffler vie.

Le NPDA et le développement africain

Ce n'est un secret pour personne que l'Afrique est le seul continent sur la planète où la pauvreté continue à s'accroître. Un malheureux mélange de l'expansion continue du VIH/sida, de corruption gouvernementale, de catastrophes naturelles, de guerres civiles et des effets des programmes d'ajustements structurels (parmi bien d'autres) a fait bien des ravages à travers le continent pendant des siècles. Plusieurs pays de l'Afrique font présentement face à des catastrophes pour l'humanité; s'ils demeurent sur leur pente actuelle, les choses ne vont que se détériorer.

Étant donné ces conditions, au cours des deux dernières années les dirigeants africains ont tenté de créer une stratégie qui mettrait l'Afrique sur le sentier positif du développement et de la croissance et qui, en même temps, saurait attirer l'attention des pays industrialisés. Cela a maintenant été réalisé par l'introduction du Nouveau partenariat pour le développement de l'Afrique (NPDA).

Le NPDA est un document africain. Il fut préparé par des dirigeants clés de l'Afrique et il est maintenant appuyé par

UPCOMING

Transformational Leadership Certificate Program First Residency — September 22 – 27, 2002

“This program has opened my eyes, ears and heart, giving me hope and confidence that I can be an influential part of transformation for the greater good” – Sandy Wheeler, Transformational Leadership graduate, 2002.

In our efforts to build a world of greater justice, love and sustainability, locally and globally, we are challenged to live our values in both our own lives and also in our organizations and communities. Tatamagouche Centre offers a unique and innovative program in Transformational Leadership to develop our capacity to enhance transformation of both self and society. Drawing from the best of organization and community change theory, adult education and personal development practice, this 18 month program offers challenge and a supportive learning community based on a series of short residencies and at-home assignments. If you feel the need to grow in your own leadership, if you recognize the deep connection between personal growth and your approach to leadership in your community or organization, if perhaps you are feeling somewhat “burnt out” in your present approach, or if you just need a supportive community to share and stimulate you in your life and work, this program may be for you.

Leadership: Vicki Obedkoff has a PhD in social ethics and has developed and led social transformation programs throughout Canada. Vicki is a United Church minister, facilitator, and a dance musician. Wilf Bean has a PhD in community psychology and is program director at Tatamagouche Centre. Wilf has taught emancipatory adult education at Coady International Institute, St. F.X. for 15 years.

Bursaries available to assist with the cost of this program

To Seek Justice and Resist Evil: Global Justice in the Maritime Context

October 25, 7 pm—October 27, 1 pm, 2002

Join us for a feast of ideas, reflection, spiritual nurture, music from the world church and examples of practical actions as we probe and challenge ourselves on what it means to be good neighbors in our global community. This event will explore the connections between local congregations and global partners through the medium of food - how food shapes our relationships with our neighbours at the local and global level. We will gather, share and celebrate food for our minds, bodies and souls as we explore our commitment to seeking justice in our world. An opportunity for congregational members to ...

- gather ideas on how to integrate global justice ministry in the life of their congregation
- strategize on how to overcome guilt, burnout and apathy when working for global justice
- connect with Biblical stories about being a good neighbour and hospitality
- deepen understanding of global realities through dialogue and reflection with a global partner of the United Church
- share resources, worship and network with others in the Maritime Conference

Leadership

- Omega Bula, General Council Staff, United Church of Canada
- Kay Dean, Member of World Outreach Committee, Maritime Conference
- Eric Tusz-King, Staff, Maritime Conference
- Jennifer Watts, Program Development Team, Tatamagouche Centre



To register, please contact:

Tatamagouche Centre
RR #3, Tatamagouche, Nova
Scotia B0K 1V0

1-800-218-2220
www.tatacentre.ca
tatacent@tatacentre.ca



Campbell House, Tatamagouche Centre

WORKSHOPS

Organizing for Community Environmental Action: An In-Depth Training Workshop

October 25, 7 pm - October 27, 1 pm, 2002

Are you concerned about your community's environment? Is the quality of air, water or soil being degraded? Are pesticides, industrial chemicals, sewage or other pollutants affecting the health of community members? Then you are not alone!

Hear the stories of active citizens from the Sydney Tar Ponds, NS, and those challenging pollution from the factory hog farm in Ste. Marie de Kent, NB. Meet other concerned community members from throughout the Maritimes. Learn to take action with tools for assessing community environmental problems from Lia Daborn, former Executive Director of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick.

This event is for concerned community members, those already active and those who would like to take action, as well as for anyone supporting or training local community activists/concerned citizens in environmental health issues. We will support participants in obtaining funding for follow-up work in their local communities.

Resource people:

- Elizabeth May, President of the Sierra Club
- Lia Daborn, formerly Executive Director of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick

- Janice Harvey, Conservation Council of New Brunswick
- Community Representatives from the Sydney Tar Ponds, NS and from the factory hog farm issue in Ste. Marie de Kent NB

Facilitators:

- Janice Harvey, is a freelance writer, environmentalist and session member with the Oak Bay Pastoral Charge in New Brunswick
- Kathryn Anderson, diaconal minister, human rights activist and educator who is active in Tatamagouche Centre's partnership with Guatemala.

From this event, participants can expect to:

- gain confidence, skills and knowledge in organizing in communities facing environmental health issues.
- learn from communities struggling with environmental health issues.
- gain experience with a community health audit/profile tool for use back home.

We sincerely appreciate your helping us to locate appropriate participants for this event. We are trying to identify participants from communities facing environmental health issues. Please contact Bonnie Zinck with names of individuals or groups who you think should be invited:

CUSO Atlantic is currently recruiting for the following overseas placements:

CUSO is an international development organization that places skilled Canadians overseas on 2 year contracts. Below is a list of open jobs.

BELIZE - Women's Counsellor on Domestic Violence
JAMAICA - GIS Development Officer
JAMAICA - Information Specialist (Disaster Relief)
GHANA - Women's Fisheries Advisor (2 jobs)
GHANA - Statistics Lecturer
MOZAMBIQUE - Women's Credit Union Officer
FIJI - Water Supply Engineer

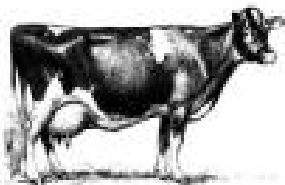


For more information visit our web site at www.cuso.org/

Send your Resume to cuso@pei.sympatico.ca

or call 1-888-434-2876 or 902-423-6709.

BEST OF SHOW



New Brunswick Dairy farmer Dwayne Hicks is back home from a recent mission providing technical advice to dairy farmers in Indonesia.

"We visited eight dairy co-ops over 18 days," says Mr. Hicks.

"The farmers wanted to know how we did things over here, to see if they were on the same track as we were." Mr. Hicks and fellow dairy farmer Bonar Morton, both members of Northumberland Co-operative, signed on to share their expertise as technical co-operants for the Canadian Co-operative Association.

During their mission the members of Kuningan Co-op organized a 4-H style Heifer calf show. "This kind of event helps farmers learn to recognize what characteristics will make better cows among their herds," explains Mr. Hicks, who hails from McKees Mills. "It was a real success. Fifty-seven farmers brought their best calves to the show."

This was Mr. Hicks' first overseas assignment for CCA. "You can't believe how intensively cultivated the land is in Indonesia," he recalls. "There is no land wasted, and that's a lesson to Canadians."

The Canadian Co-operative Association has been providing expert technical assistance to overseas co-operatives and credit unions for over 20 years. In the past three years alone, more than 190 individuals from all across Canada provided support to projects abroad.

CCA is adding to its database of skilled credit union and co-operative professionals interested in furthering worldwide co-operative development. There are also opportunities for paid consultants to work on short or long-term overseas assignments. If you are interested in volunteering your knowledge and skills to assist with development projects in Africa, the Americas, Asia, or Eastern Europe we would like to hear from you today.



Canadian Co-operative Association

Are you interested in overseas assignments with CCA?

For more information contact
jo-anne@CoopsCanada.coop



NGOs, Trade Unions, and Church Organization; send Strong Message on Human Rights to Colombia's President-elect

In an open letter delivered to President-elect Alvaro Uribe, a broad cross section of Canadians and Canadian institutions expressed profound concern over the state of human rights in Colombia and called on Uribe to take decisive measures to ensure an authentic and inclusive peace process aimed at achieving a negotiated political settlement to the country's armed conflict. The letter was delivered as Uribe, who will be inaugurated in August, prepared to meet with Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien in Ottawa Thursday afternoon. The letter presented concerns about Colombia's widespread political violence, as well as proposals to create a vigilante network and introduce broad anti-terrorist legislation. It also included a call to Colombia's next president to develop a coherent and comprehensive human rights policy and to implement the recommendations of the UN, OAS, and ILO. In a separate letter to Prime Minister Chrétien, CCIC's Americas Policy Group urged the Prime Minister to raise these concerns in his meeting with Uribe. Copies of both these letters will soon be available on the CCIC's web site. For more information contact APG coordinator Karri Munn-Venn at kmunnvenn@ccic.ca.

ONG, syndicats et organisations religieuses envoient un message clair au président désigné de Colombie

Dans une lettre ouverte adressée au président désigné Alvaro Uribe, des citoyen(ne)s du Canada et des institutions canadiennes de tous les horizons expriment leur profonde inquiétude au sujet des droits de la personne en Colombie et exhortent Uribe à prendre des mesures décisives pour assurer l'exécution d'un processus de paix authentique faisant place à la pluralité, dans le but de trouver une solution politique négociée au conflit armé qui sévit dans le pays. La lettre a été envoyée au moment où Uribe, qui sera installé en août, se préparait à une rencontre avec le premier ministre Jean Chrétien, à Ottawa, jeudi après-midi. Elle signale la gravité de la violence politique en Colombie et propose la mise sur pied d'un réseau de vigilance et l'adoption d'une loi antiterroriste d'envergure. Elle invite aussi le futur président à adopter une politique complète et constante en matière de droits de la personne et à se plier aux recommandations de l'ONU, de l'OEA et de l'OIT. Dans une autre lettre, le Groupe d'orientation politique pour les Amériques du CCCI prie le premier ministre Jean Chrétien d'aborder ces questions lors de sa rencontre avec Uribe. On pourra bientôt lire les deux lettres dans le site web du CCCI. Pour renseignements, communiquer avec Karri Munn-Venn, coordonnatrice du GOPA, à kmunnvenn@ccic.ca.

ACIC member organizes first ever Social and Environmental Responsibility pledge at Dalhousie University

This spring saw the first ever graduates of a Canadian University taking the Social and Environmental Responsibility pledge. CESR (The Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility) was responsible for this exciting event which took place at Dalhousie University. It was an "Alternative Graduation Ceremony" because the Registrar would not allow it to be part of the official convocation. Nevertheless, it was a beautiful and inspirational ceremony. The pledge was taken by 8 courageous Dalhousie students.

The pledge was very easy to organize. This past semester, we sent out an email to students to let them know we were doing the pledge and asked them to RSVP with our organizer, Ramona. On Saturday, May 11 from 11 am to 12 pm, we held a short, simple ceremony at the Student Union Building. We had green ribbons with Dal pins for each student and wallet-size pledge cards printed on natural, post consumer paper for them to sign and keep. We had organic catering by Home Grown Organics. Ramona Ryan, Tarah Wright, Professor Ed Scott and the graduates gave very touching speeches. The Halifax Herald picked up our press release on the following Tuesday.

The new Dalhousie Student Union has already discussed next year's pledge at the latest council meeting. I should also mention that the students who took the pledge this year said that they would wear their green ribbons and pins to their official convocations - a great green statement!

The Alternative Graduation Ceremony is organized by the Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR), visit our web site at <http://is2.dal.ca/~cesr>

The Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) pledge reads as such: "I (student's name) pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects in any organization for which I work."

The pledge was founded at Humboldt State University in California in 1987. Students define what being "responsible" means to themselves. Students at over a hundred colleges and universities are using the pledge at schools which range in size from Whitman, to Harvard, to the University of Kansas. Graduates who voluntarily signed the pledge have turned down jobs they did not feel morally comfortable with and have worked to make changes once on the job and in their communities. For example, they have promoted recycling at their organization, removed racist language from a training manual, worked for gender parity and tolerance, organized community service programs for the homeless and the hungry, changed corporate financing to ethical funds, and helped to convince an employer to refuse a chemical weapons-related contract. The pledge helps educate and motivate one to contribute to a better world. Think of the impact if even a significant minority of the one million college graduates each year signed and carried out the Pledge.

For more information on the pledge, please visit http://www.manchester.edu/academic/programs/departments/Peace_Studies/files/gpa.htm

There is also a "pledge list serv group" that you might be interested in, if so, please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gradpledge>



"I (student's name) pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects in any organization for which I work."



Alternative Graduation Ceremony & Pledge 2002

ENGAGING CANADIANS IN MAKING POLICY: MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE

Used with permission from Peter Puxley of the Canadian Policy Research Network

Ottawa - May 24/02 - Canada's political parties, MPs and Parliament itself, aren't as effective as they might be in involving Canadians in their deliberations. Public consultation by the public service remains one-sided. "This should be a concern at a time when trust in government is declining and demands for involvement are increasing," says Susan Phillips, lead author of a new research paper from CPRN. "Significant reform is needed to engage citizens more effectively."

In *Mapping the Links: Citizen Involvement in Policy Processes*, Phillips, who teaches at the School of Public Policy and Administration at Carleton University, and her co-author, Michael Orsini, of the Department of Political Science, Glendon College, York University, take a systematic look at citizen involvement in policy making and ask why, in spite of favourable rhetoric, so little progress has been made. In search of the answer, the authors explore the links between various dimensions of citizen involvement, stages of the policy process and the workings of three key groups: Parliament, the public service, and non-government actors. Phillips and Orsini find traditional institutions wanting:

- MPs (and MLAs) collect useful knowledge, but have little influence on policy
- Parliamentary committees are adversarial, lack resources, rely mainly on expert opinion and have limited impact
- Political parties are exclusionary and limit political discourse
- The public service relies too much on one-way communication
- Civil society organizations often have limited resources to participate fully and many are limited in their advocacy activities by government regulations.

"What is needed is a combination of reforms to these institutions, the creation of new institutions devoted to citizen involvement, a genuine cultural shift in attitude, and investment in civil society," Phillips says. The authors recommend:

- Giving political parties a role between elections by strengthening their internal policy capacity, and providing more opportunities for members to participate
- Opening up channels of influence for MPs (and MLAs)
- Greater resources and independence for parliamentary committees
- A more inclusive, deliberative, transparent public consultation process by the public service, which is better connected to policy decision-making
- Support for stronger democratic processes in community organizations and investment in community capacity building
- Encouraging the media to make promotion of public deliberation part of a journalist's role

Equally important, the authors call for a culture shift to recognize the true value of involving individual Canadians in policy processes. "Citizen involvement has to be viewed not only as a means of information gathering, but as a way to expand the boundaries of citizenship in a diverse society, enhance citizenship skills, and invest in community capacity building," they conclude. To download a free copy of the report visit our home page: Canadian Policy Research Network - CPRN - http://www.cprn.org/pubs/files/pubs-f_e.html#mlci

LA PARTICIPATION DES CANADIENS À LA FORMULATION DE POLITIQUES : IL FAUT FAIRE D'AVANTAGE

Publié avec la permission de Peter Puxley du Réseaux canadiens de recherche en politiques publiques

Ottawa - 24 mai/02 - Les partis politiques au Canada, les députés et le Parlement lui-même, ne sont pas aussi efficaces qu'ils pourraient l'être en ce qui concerne la participation des Canadiens à leurs délibérations. Les consultations publiques par la fonction publique continuent d'avoir un caractère unilatéral. « Cette constatation devrait être une source de préoccupation au moment où la confiance envers l'État est à la baisse, tandis que les revendications en faveur de la participation des citoyens se font plus pressantes », de dire Susan Phillips, auteure principale d'un nouveau document de recherche des RCRPP. « Une réforme importante s'impose pour faire participer les citoyens d'une façon plus efficace ».

Dans *Mapping the Links: Citizen Involvement in Policy Processes*, Phillips, qui enseigne à l'École d'administration et des politiques publiques à l'Université Carleton, et son coauteur, Michael Orsini, du Département de science politique du Collège Glendon (Université York), procèdent à une analyse approfondie de la participation des citoyens à la formulation des politiques et ils se demandent pour quelles raisons, en dépit des arguments favorables qu'elle suscite, des progrès aussi limités ont été accomplis. Dans leur recherche d'une réponse à cette question, les auteurs examinent les liens entre diverses dimensions de la participation des citoyens, les étapes de l'élaboration des politiques et le fonctionnement de trois groupes clés - le Parlement, la fonction publique et les intervenants non gouvernementaux. Phillips et Orsini concluent que les institutions traditionnelles souffrent de lacunes :

- Les députés fédéraux (et provinciaux) recueillent des renseignements utiles, mais ils ont une influence limitée sur l'élaboration des politiques;

- Les comités parlementaires fonctionnent dans l'antagonisme, ils ont des ressources insuffisantes, ils s'appuient surtout sur l'opinion de spécialistes et leur impact est limité;
- Les partis politiques pratiquent l'exclusion et ils limitent le discours politique;
- La fonction publique s'en remet trop souvent à des communications à sens unique;
- Les organisations de la société civile ont souvent des ressources trop limitées pour participer pleinement et plusieurs sont limitées dans leurs actions revendicatrices par la réglementation gouvernementale.

« Ce qu'il nous faut, c'est une combinaison comprenant une réforme de ces institutions, la création de nouvelles institutions vouées à la participation des citoyens, un véritable virage culturel sur le plan des attitudes et des investissements dans la société civile », de soutenir Phillips. Les auteurs recommandent de :

- Confier aux partis politiques un rôle entre les élections en renforçant leur capacité interne d'élaboration de politiques et en fournissant plus d'occasions aux députés de participer;
- Ouvrir des canaux d'influence pour les députés fédéraux (et provinciaux);
- Augmenter les ressources et assurer l'indépendance des comités parlementaires;
- Établir un processus de consultation publique plus inclusif, plus délibératif et plus transparent pour la fonction publique, qui est plus étroitement liée à la prise de décisions en matière de politiques;
- Appuyer l'établissement de processus démocratiques renforcés dans les organisations communautaires et l'investissement dans le renforcement des capacités à l'échelle communautaire;
- Encourager les médias à faire la promotion de l'aspect délibération publique du rôle du journaliste.

Tout aussi important est l'appel des auteurs en faveur d'un virage culturel qui permettrait de reconnaître la véritable valeur de faire participer les Canadiens au processus d'élaboration des politiques. « La participation des citoyens doit être perçue non seulement comme un instrument de collecte d'information mais aussi comme un moyen de faire reculer les frontières de la citoyenneté dans une société diversifiée, d'améliorer les compétences en matière de citoyenneté et d'investir dans le renforcement des capacités à l'échelle communautaire », de conclure les auteurs. Pour télécharger sans frais un exemplaire du rapport, visiter notre page d'accueil: Réseaux canadiens de recherche en politiques publiques - RCRPP: http://www.cprn.org/pubs/files/pubs-f_e.html#mlci



SECURITY SCREENINGS DRAW OVER 375 PEOPLE!

Continued from page 3

advertisers and a movie theatre may not show it because it is not entertaining, this type of event allows films to be seen that are not normally shown in such a public context. Such is the case with *The Hidden Wars of Desert Storm*, which, despite its excellent coverage of the Gulf War has never been shown on television and probably never will be due to its shocking denouncing of government corruption.

Half of the films shown in the festival were Atlantic Canadian productions – proof of the great diversity of film making right here in the Maritimes. You certainly wouldn't know by going to your local movie theatre that such talented film makers are active and producing thoughtful films right here at home. Sadly, we rarely get the chance to see the movies that are made in our own communities. The opportunity to see films by Kevin Matthews from Fredericton, Sylvie Dauphinais from PEI, Sean Kelly, Chuck Lapp, and Patricia Kipping from Halifax was welcome by festival participants. Seeing local films within a global perspective seems to build awareness and community pride.

The overwhelming response from the screenings was that "more people should see these films." In an effort to make this possible in the hopes of extending the scope of this event, ACIC is making the 12 films available for groups or individuals who wish to organize public screen-

Continued on page 14

PROJECTION SÉCURITÉ ATTIRE PLUS DE 375 PERSONNES !

Continué de la page 3

est parfois difficile d'accès. Alors qu'une station de télévision pourrait ne pas diffuser un film particulier parce que le contenu serait peut-être perçu comme controversé ou offensif pour ses publicitaires, ou bien qu'une salle de cinéma pourrait ne pas le projeter parce que ce n'est pas divertissant, ce type d'activité fait en sorte que des documentaires peuvent être vus qui ne seraient pas normalement disponibles dans un tel contexte public. Tel est le cas avec "*The Hidden Wars of Desert Storm*" (*Les guerres secrètes de Tempête du désert*) qui, en dépit de sa couverture excellente de la guerre du Golfe, n'a jamais été diffusé à la télévision et qui ne le sera probablement jamais parce qu'il dénonce une corruption gouvernementale qui fait choc.

La moitié des films montrés dans le cadre du festival étaient des productions du Canada Atlantique, preuve de la grande diversité de production de films ici-même aux Maritimes. On ne saurait dire, si l'on se fie seulement aux salles de cinéma locales, que des cinéastes si talentueux sont actifs et produisent des films si réfléchis ici-même, chez nous. Malheureusement, nous avons rarement la chance de voir des films qui sont produits dans nos propres communautés. L'occasion de voir des films par Kevin Matthews, de Fredericton ; Sylvie Dauphinais, de l'ÎPÉ ; Sean Kelly, Chuck Lapp et Patricia Kipping d'Halifax, fut bien appréciée par les participants au festival. Voir des films locaux dans une perspective mondiale semble encourager une prise de conscience et une fierté communautaire.

Continué à la page 14

MEMBER PROFILE

Falls Brook Centre and Movimiento Comunal Nicaraguense By Sonya Waite

Falls Brook Centre (FBC) is a non-profit, environmentally-focused community development demonstration centre located on 400 acres of Acadian forest and farm land in rural New Brunswick. Founded in 1992, FBC is working to demonstrate and communicate traditional skills and wisdom, combined with appropriate knowledge and technology to make the abstract concept of sustainable development a living reality of sustainable communities.



Members of MCN, FBC, and kitchen garden participants

Both locally and internationally, FBC focuses on the implementation of four program areas: Forest Stewardship, Sustainable Agriculture, Appropriate Technology and Community Development. On site practical applications include; the Acadian Forest Restoration Nursery, Analog Forestry, non timber forest product plantings, solar and wind energy systems, OCIA certified organic gardens and herbariums, the Knowlesville Community Garden and composting facility, and other restoration sites that provide the basis for our educational outreach programs.

It is important that, as a Canadian NGO, we work locally on environmental issues that are rooted in the Canadian reality but that also impact other communities around the world. FBC has been facilitating forest certification via the Forest Stewardship Council at a regional and international level for 6 years now. This year, FBC will become a member of the first FSC group certification in Canada. We also implement international programs on climate change, solar electrification, organic agriculture, Analog Forestry, global education initiatives and have had more than 33 interns participate in our CIDA funded youth internship program.

One of our current southern partners is Movimiento Comunal Nicaraguense (MCN) based in the northern town of Somoto, Nicaragua. Since 2001, FBC has been working with MCN on the “Kitchen Gardens: Education and Nutrition in the Backyard” project. MCN is an NGO with over 10 years of experience at the regional level, complemented by over 20 years at the national level. Their mandate is to better the human and material condition of the poor through social and community development. Their priorities focus on health, environment, children and youth, community leadership and gender. In the municipality of Somoto, they work directly with 33 rural communities and 20 urban sectors. More recent projects have involved; Community Organization, Fuel Efficient Wood Stoves, Reforestation and Agroforestry, and Women’s Milk Production Cooperatives.

The Kitchen Gardens Project began looking for solutions with rural women and landmine survivors in 6 communities to raise their basic nutritional and health levels by revitalizing the area immediately surrounding their home with organic gardening of vegetables, fruits and medicinal plants in raised garden beds. It is a holistic system that in addition to agriculture, also includes composting, tree nurseries, appropriate technology and small animal husbandry. Due to high levels of soil degradation and lack of access to water, the gardens are being cultivated in raised garden beds, constructed of a variety of materials usually considered throw-away items, that allow them to control soil quality through organic composting and require little water to maintain their humidity. In a region fraught with drought, where most rural peasants have been solely dependent on the production of staple crops, such as corn, beans and coffee, food security has been almost non-existent. The Kitchen Gardens reduce the vulnerability faced by these families by allowing them to cultivate “a little bit of everything, all year round”.



Doña Julia growing beets as part of her kitchen garden

Of critical importance is also the control that many of these women are taking for the first time in their lives over food production and economic decision making. Not only are they able to fill the bellies of their children with a balanced diet and pesticide-free food, they are able to process these organic products for sale within their own community and region. Although these women are producing individually, they are each supported within their own community by a project committee that acts as a mechanism to help retain the knowledge gained and to redistribute the seeds and animal offspring collected annually in order to integrate new families each year. Not only are the Kitchen Gardens providing self-sustainability and ownership on an individual level, but on a community level as well, as they each develop their own management and organizational structures.

For more information please visit our website at www.fallsbrookcentre.ca

MEMBER PROFILE

Le réseau CCNB; internationalement vôtre

Par Maurice Roy

Le réseau du Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick (CCNB) vient tout juste de se joindre au CACI. Il serait donc approprié que le réseau se présente vis-à-vis les autres membres de cette organisation. Tout d'abord, le CCNB est constitué de onze établissements d'enseignement en Formation technique et professionnel-le. Nous livrons plus 120 programmes réguliers en plus d'offrir de la formation continue à l'Industrie. Les activités du réseau CCNB ne se limitent pas seulement à notre province alors que nos collèges sont impliqués depuis vingt ans dans des projets de coopération au développement international. Effectivement, grâce à son bilinguisme officiel, le Nouveau-Brunswick a la capacité de contribuer au développement international sur pratiquement tous les continents, et ce dans presque tous les pays. Le réseau a été actif en Jordanie, en Chine, en Inde, à Cuba, au Brésil, en Irlande et en France. Mais c'est l'Afrique francophone qui a été le terrain de prédilection de notre réseau alors que les experts du CCNB ont été impliqués dans des projets au Cameroun, au Mali, au Bénin, en Mauritanie, en République démocratique du Congo, au Sénégal, au Maroc et en Tunisie. Ce palmarès est une indication claire que le réseau CCNB est un partenaire sérieux en développement international. C'est également une indication que le CCNB entend créer des opportunités pour ses étudiants et son personnel enseignant d'être exposés ou d'évoluer dans un environnement international. Car la capacité pour un employé d'œuvrer productivement et efficacement dans un environnement interculturel est devenue une nécessité créée par la mondialisation des économies à laquelle toutes les institutions de formation post-secondaire doivent aujourd'hui faire face. Le réseau des Collèges communautaires du Nouveau-Brunswick entend donc poursuivre et même intensifier ses partenariats nationaux et internationaux, et les opportunités de projets ou de contrats afin de bien remplir sa mission et son mandat d'internationalisation de ses programmes et activités. Tout ceci pour le plus grand bénéfice de ses diplômés, du personnel des collèges et des entreprises du Nouveau-Brunswick qui pourront compter sur une main-d'œuvre formée en fonction de leurs marchés internationaux. Mais au delà de ces considérations, le réseau CCNB s'enorgueillit de participer à la formation de citoyens du monde qui contribueront à aider les pays en développement dans un esprit de solidarité et de partage.

Internationally yours, the NBCC Network

By Maurice Roy

Since the New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) network has just joined the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC), it seems fitting for us to introduce ourselves to the other members of that organization. First of all, the NBCC network consists of 11 vocational and technical training institutions. We deliver more than 120 regular programs, as well as ongoing training for industry. Furthermore, our activities are not limited to our own province. For the past 20 years, our colleges have been involved in international cooperation projects. Because of its official bilingualism, New Brunswick has the ability to contribute to international development on practically every continent and in just about every country.



The NBCCs have been involved in projects in Jordan, China, India, Cuba, Brazil, Ireland, and France, but so far, Francophone Africa has been our region of choice. NBCC experts have worked on projects in Cameroon, Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin, Mauritania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal, Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia. That record of achievement shows clearly that the NBCC network is a serious partner in international development, and also that we are serious about creating opportunities for our students and instructors to gain international experience. These days, employees need to be able to work productively and effectively in an intercultural environment, because all postsecondary training institutions now have to compete in a global economy. The New Brunswick Community College network intends to continue and even intensify its involvement in national and international partnerships and its efforts to land projects or contracts, in order to fulfill its mission and mandate to internationalize its programs and activities. All this is in the best interest of our graduates, our staff, and New Brunswick businesses, which will have access to a workforce trained to meet the needs of their international markets. But beyond those considerations, the NBCC network takes pride in helping to train global citizens who will be able to assist developing countries in a spirit of solidarity and sharing.

For more information / Pour plus d'information : www.nbcc.nb.ca

O AFRICA

Continued from page 3

assistance from the international community.

The industrial powers have begun to pay attention. The G8 meeting in Kananaskis, Alberta will be focusing most of its attention on African development, and has created a response to the NEPAD called the Africa Action Plan. The NEPAD is a complex document but it essentially caught the attention of Western leaders because it put the onus on Africa to lead its own development, and focused on trade issues, and increasing foreign direct investment instead of relying on Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) as the appropriate path to economic growth.

For more information about the specifics of the NEPAD document, check out this website: www.nepad.org

Perspectives from Montreal

One of my biggest concerns surrounding the conference had to do with who would have a voice, how dialogue would be regulated, and if many types of opinions would be welcomed. However, while much of the weekend was dominated by keynote addresses and speeches by various dignitaries and experts, there was also significant opportunity to ask questions and take part in small group discussions. Of course, it was here that links were made, ideas shared and major concerns raised. Some of the speeches were wonderful, and pleasantly, there was a relatively equal mix of Canadian and African speakers. Most of the speeches were filled with hope and faith that the NEPAD document could be capable of creating something big and wonderful for the future of Africa. Often in opposition to the speeches being made, small group discussions, and question and answer periods were where more voices were heard, where alternative views were expressed and serious concerns about the fundamentals of the NEPAD and the implementation of it were brought forward.

What became clear right from the beginning was that there was a significant division in support for the NEPAD. This was true for both Canadian and African delegates in attendance. Some saw the NEPAD as the glimmer of hope for the future, while others (and actually the majority) thought of it as a new partnership with the same old ideas.

The Concerns

What seemed to be the most pronounced concern by delegates at the conference was the lack of civil society involvement in the creation of the NEPAD, as well as in its process of implementation. It was primarily written by African leaders (Nigeria, South Africa, Algeria, Senegal, and Egypt were the main instigators), and moreover it seems to have been written by economists. It was mentioned over and over that the NEPAD does not have a human face, that it was written and is being implemented without a realistic understanding of what is needed on the micro level, or with an understanding of what civil society in Africa is already trying to accomplish.

O AFRIQUE

Continué de la page 3

l'ensemble des 53 états membres de l'Organisation de l'unité africaine. Le document met l'accent sur le leadership et la prise en charge du processus de développement et il tente d'aborder les enjeux clés du point de vue social, politique et économique afin de remettre l'Afrique sur le sentier de la croissance. Il concentre sur la création de conditions très spécifiques jugées essentielles par les dirigeants africains et qui doivent être créées par les Africains, mais aussi avec l'aide de la communauté internationale.

Les puissances industrielles ont commencé à être attentifs. La rencontre du G8 qui aura lieu cet été à Kananaskis, en Alberta, va se pencher principalement sur le développement de l'Afrique et elle propose une réponse au NPDA intitulée Plan d'action pour l'Afrique. Le NPDA est un document complexe, mais il a essentiellement attiré l'attention des dirigeants de l'Ouest parce qu'il met le fardeau sur l'Afrique pour qu'elle dirige son propre développement et aussi parce qu'il met l'accent sur les questions commerciales et sur l'augmentation de l'investissement étranger direct au lieu de se fier sur l'Aide publique au développement (APD) comme voie appropriée vers la croissance économique.

Pour de plus amples renseignements sur les aspects spécifiques du document NPDA, visitez le site Web : www.NEPAD.org

Perspectives de Montréal

Une de mes plus grandes préoccupations vis à vis la conférence était de savoir qui prendrait la parole, comment le dialogue serait réglementé et si plusieurs types d'opinions seraient accueillis. Cependant, bien qu'une bonne partie de la fin de semaine fut dominée par des présentations et des discours par les différents dignitaires et experts, il y avait également une bonne occasion de poser des questions et de participer aux discussions en petits groupes. Bien sûr, c'est à ce niveau-là que des liens furent établis, que des idées furent partagées et que de grandes préoccupations furent soulevées. Certains des discours furent merveilleux et, chose plaisante, il y avait un mélange relativement égal de conférenciers canadiens et africains. La plupart des discours étaient remplis d'espoir et de confiance à l'effet que le document du NPDA serait capable de créer quelque chose de grandiose et de merveilleux pour l'avenir de l'Afrique. Il arrivait souvent qu'en opposition aux discours officiels présentés, des discussions en petits groupes et des foires aux questions étaient l'endroit où plus de voix étaient entendues, où des points de vue alternatifs étaient exprimés et où des préoccupations sérieuses vis à vis les aspects fondamentaux et la mise en oeuvre du NPDA étaient invoquées.

Ce qui fut clair dès le début, c'est qu'il y avait une division importante dans l'appui pour le NPDA. Et cela était le cas à la fois chez les délégués canadiens et africains. Cer-



O AFRICA

While supporters of the makeup of the NEPAD said that trade and an increase in foreign direct investment is the key to development in Africa, because for too long the continent has been re-

lying on ODA; those concerned with the document would rebut that by saying that Africa has been trying for decades to attract more investment but have been continuously unsuccessful. In fact, it was argued repeatedly that Africa has been attempting to follow all of the economic policies outlined in the NEPAD for a long time, but still Africa has been continually exploited with the playing field so grossly uneven that there never could have been a hope of rising up.

Oxfam made a presentation at one of the breakout sessions of small group discussions that outlined very clearly why following the same old economic policies would not work for Africa. It was based on their Make Trade Fair campaign which specifies six key areas of global trade rules and realities that keep the overdeveloped countries on top and less developed countries marginalized. They argued that unless these six factors were changed, and trade became more fair, Africa could never follow in the footsteps of the Asian miracles of the past couple of decades, based on the economic priorities outlined in the NEPAD.

More than the mass concerns about the economic and trade priorities outlined in the NEPAD, and issues surrounding a lack of civil society involvement, concerns were also raised about the fact that environmental protection is not mentioned at all in the NEPAD. It was feared that this could possibly be an invitation for even more exploitation of natural resources than has already occurred.

Moreover, while focusing on good governance and an end to corruption is outlined as a priority in the NEPAD as well as the G8's Africa Action Plan, it was mentioned by more than a few people that corrupt governments in Africa are often supported quietly by Western countries in exchange for easier access to oil and mining, especially in resource rich countries. It was demanded by many delegates that this type of hypocritical behaviour must stop.

Conclusions

While there were vast divisions at the conference, the one thing that everyone agreed upon was that there is now only a small window of opportunity to turn Africa's future around and that we need to grab hold of that window and fight for positive change. While many people agreed that the NEPAD is far from perfect, it is still a starting point, and if civil society becomes involved now, and if their input is heard, future generations could be looking ahead to a prosperous future. It is a crucial time since the Western world is finally ready to give Africa a chance. As Canadians, the best we can do is to continue to have a vision of a new partnership that could try and help to ensure that all Africans will feel the effects of change and growth; whether with or without the NEPAD.

O AFRIQUE

tains percevaient le NPDA comme un soupçon d'espoir pour l'avenir, alors que d'autres (en fait, la majorité) croyaient qu'il s'agissait d'un nouveau partenariat avec les mêmes vieilles idées.

Les préoccupations

La plus grande préoccupation apparente de la part des délégués à la conférence, c'était le manque de participation de la société civile dans la création du NPDA, ainsi que dans son processus de mise en oeuvre. Il fut essentiellement préparé par des dirigeants africains (le Niger, l'Afrique du Sud, l'Algérie, le Sénégal et l'Égypte en furent les principaux instigateurs), d'autant plus qu'il semble avoir été rédigé par des économistes.

Il fut mentionné maintes et maintes fois que le NPDA n'avait pas un visage humain, qu'il avait été rédigé et qu'il était mis en oeuvre sans une compréhension réaliste de ce qui est nécessaire au niveau local, ni d'une bonne compréhension de ce que la société civile en Afrique est déjà en train de tenter d'accomplir.

Ceux qui appuyaient la substance du NPDA affirmaient que les échanges commerciaux et une augmentation de l'investissement direct étaient la clé du développement en Afrique, parce que le continent s'est fié trop longtemps sur l'APD; par contre, ceux qui étaient préoccupés par le document affirmaient que l'Afrique tentait sans succès depuis plusieurs décennies d'attirer plus d'investissements. En fait, on argumentait à plusieurs reprises que l'Afrique a essayé depuis longtemps de mettre en application toutes les politiques économiques élaborées dans le NPDA, mais que l'Afrique a été continuellement exploitée avec une immense inégalité des chances de sorte qu'elle n'a jamais eu l'espoir de remonter la pente.

Oxfam fit une présentation, lors de l'une des réunions de petits groupes, qui expliquait clairement pourquoi l'application des mêmes vieilles politiques économiques ne fonctionnerait pas pour l'Afrique. La présentation était basée sur sa campagne "Make Trade Fair" (pour un commerce équitable) qui aborde six facteurs clés des règles et des réalités du commerce mondial qui maintiennent les pays sur-développés sur le dessus et qui marginalisent les pays moins développés. Leur arguments étaient qu'à moins que l'on ne change ces six facteurs et que les échanges commerciaux ne deviennent plus équitables, l'Afrique ne pourra jamais emprunter le sentier des miracles de l'Asie des deux dernières décennies, si l'on se fie aux priorités économiques élaborées dans le NPDA.

Au delà des grandes préoccupations concernant les priorités économiques et commerciales élaborées dans le NPDA et les questions concernant le manque de participation de la société civile, il fut également souligné que la protection de l'environnement n'est aucunement mention-



Ecology Action Centre Awards

The Ecology Action Centre proudly announced the 2002 winners of two awards at its June AGM. The Tarred Duck Award went to Gordon Balsler, Minister of Nova Scotia's newly created Department of Energy for his unflinching, single-minded courtship of the oil and gas industry. The Sunshine Award went to Mary Goreman and Percy Haynes of Merigomish, Nova Scotia for their unfaltering support to the SOS Coalition. This couple spent hundreds of hours of volunteer time in support of this collective of over twenty member groups dedicated to halting exploration for oil and gas in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The two EAC awards' common theme of oil and gas should remind us all about what a heavy environmental cost there is to our reliance on fossil fuels to get there, stay warm or see after dark! Think renewable energy!



People and the Planet: Changing Values for a Sustainable Future

From June 5-9, 2002, people from across Canada and around the world gathered at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario for the People and the Planet Conference. At the conference, participants examined progress since the first U.N. Conference on the Human Environment in 1972 (Stockholm) and the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 (the Rio "Earth Summit"), and formulated recommendations to governments and society. These recommendations appear in the Kingston Declaration. <http://www.sierraclub.ca/national/people-and-the-planet/>

O AFRIQUE

née dans le NPDA. On craint évidemment que cela pourrait inviter une plus grande exploitation des ressources naturelles qu'il y a eu jusqu'à présent.

Qui plus est, alors que le NPDA établit comme priorité une bonne gouvernance et la fin de la corruption, tout comme dans le Plan d'action pour l'Afrique préparé par le G8, il fut mentionné par un bon nombre de personnes que les gouvernements corrompus en Afrique sont souvent supportés secrètement par les pays de l'Ouest en échange pour un accès plus facile au pétrole et aux produits miniers, surtout dans les pays riches en ressources. Plusieurs délégués ont demandé que ce type de comportement hypocrite devait cesser.

Conclusions

Bien qu'il y avait de grandes différences d'opinions à la conférence, une des choses sur laquelle tout le monde s'entendait, c'était qu'il n'y a maintenant qu'une petite "lucarne des occasions" pour effectuer un virage important pour l'avenir de l'Afrique et qu'il nous faut en profiter et se battre pour un changement positif. Quoique bien des gens s'entendaient sur le fait que le NPDA était loin de la perfection, c'est tout de même un début et si la société civile devient plus engagée dès maintenant, et si l'on tient compte de ses contributions, les générations futures pourraient peut-être s'attendre à un avenir prospère. Il s'agit donc d'une période cruciale étant donné que le monde occidental est finalement prêt à donner une chance à l'Afrique. En tant que Canadiens, le mieux que l'on puisse faire, c'est de continuer à visualiser un nouveau partenariat qui pourrait faire que tous les Africains vont ressentir les effets du changement et de la croissance; peu importe si cela se produit avec ou sans le NPDA.



SECURITY SCREENINGS DRAW OVER 375 PEOPLE!

Continued from page 9

ings in their communities. Through this video resource library, we hope that the films will continue to promote discussion around such crucial issues as depleted uranium, genetically modified foods, landmines, pesticide use in the Maritimes, and other urgent themes surrounding human security and international cooperation. A list and description of all films can be found on ACIC's website at <http://www.acic-caci.org/listings.htm>. Stay posted for new additions to this video library. Photos from the festival are available at <http://www.acic-caci.org/photos.htm>



PROJECTION SECURITE ATTIRE PLUS DE 375 PERSONNES !

Continué de la page 9

La réaction accablante suite aux visionnements fut que "plus de gens doivent voir ces films". Pour faire en sorte que l'on puisse étendre la portée de cette activité, le CACI rend disponible les 12 films en question aux groupes ou aux individus qui veulent organiser des visionnements publics dans leurs communautés. Grâce à cette vidéothèque, nous espérons que les films vont continuer à promouvoir la discussion sur des enjeux critiques tel l'uranium appauvri, les mines terrestres, les aliments transgéniques, l'usage des pesticides dans les Maritimes, et autres thèmes urgents portant sur la sécurité humaine et la coopération internationale. On peut trouver une liste et description de tous les films sur le site Web du CACI au <http://www.acic-caci.org/listings.htm>. Restez à l'écoute pour de nouveaux ajouts à cette vidéo-thèque. Des photos du festival sont disponibles au : <http://www.acic-caci.org/photos.htm>.



Events

JULY

July 21 to 26, 2002
Community of Writers
Tatamagouche Centre, \$495

26 au 29 juillet, 2002
"Afriqueville : encore à la recherche de la justice". Joignez-vous à la 19e réunion de la Société de généalogie Afriqueville et aidez-nous à bâtir le Front commun de l'Atlantique contre le racisme environnemental. Contact: (902)455-2985 / tinkya@yahoo.com

July 28
International Tree Day!
Journée internationale de l'arbre!

July 29, 2002 9:30 am -4:30 pm
The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC) and CUSO Presents: **EFFECTIVELY WORKING WITH THE MEDIA.**
Halifax, NS (Location TBA)
Lunch included in the registration fee. Cost: Free for one representative from each ACIC member organization. All other NGOs are \$35 per person, including lunch. Only a limited number of people may participate - please register early! Contact Sarah Shima: (506) 375-4795, info@acic-caci.org
Cet atelier est seulement disponible en anglais mais il y aura un atelier semblable en disponible en français en 2003.

AUGUST

August 4 to 8, 2002
Fire in the Soul—A Retreat for Women
Tatamagouche Centre, \$435

CÉLÉBRATION ACADIENNE DU 15 AOÛT A FREDERICTON!!!
-12h30 Messe à l'église
-16h30 Souper traditionnel au CCSA
-18h Tintamarre à l'hôtel de ville
-18h30 Lever du drapeau à l'hôtel de ville, dévoilement de l'enseigne du Boulevard de la Pointe-Sainte-Anne
-19h15 Spectacle du groupe Flamme offert par la ville, Place des officiers
-21 h Spectacle de Blou au Capital Winter Club, tirage des billets 6/49

Pour plus d'information, contactez le (506) 453-2731.

August 11 to 16, 2002
Watercolours for Everyone
Tatamagouche Centre, \$495

August 11 to 16, 2002
Holistic Health Retreat: Renewing the Whole Self
Tatamagouche Centre, \$495

August 16 to 21, 2002
Tatamagouche Model of Ed Design and Leadership: Part One
Tatamagouche Centre, \$495

SEPTEMBER

September 6 to 8, 2002
Women's Canoe Retreat
Tatamagouche Centre, \$220

September 20 to 22, 2002
Sustaining the Joy of Yoga
Tatamagouche Centre, \$225

September 21, 2002
Nurturing Children's Spirituality: Environment and Faith
Tatamagouche Centre, \$50, children under 12: \$10

September 7 to 8, 2002
This year Falls Brook Centre will be celebrating its ten year anniversary at our annual Fall Fair. Come join us for a celebration in rural living filled with great music, tasty food, information booths, children's activities, hay rides, site tours and more!

The Regional Co-operative Development Centre, **ATLANTIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** is offering two 3/1 2 day ACYL seminars for youth between the ages of 16-18 (Staffing opportunities are also available for young-minded individuals wanting an opportunity for self-development, some challenges and lots of fun):

June 27-30, Berwick, Nova Scotia

Sept. 13-15, Canso, Nova Scotia

Oct. 3-6, Johnston Point, New Brunswick ** (regional)**

For details, contact Carole Findlay, Manager, Youth Programs & Education at RCDC 1-800-900-7232.

ACIC COORDINATOR – NEW BOARD MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (CCIC)

At CCIC's Annual General Meeting in May 2002, Sarah Shima was pleased to become one of 14 Board Members. As the only Board Member from Atlantic Canada, Ms. Shima will not only represent members of ACIC, but also the interests of other Atlantic Canadian organizations. If you have any concerns or issues you would like brought before CCIC, please contact Ms. Shima at 506.375.4795 or info@acic-caci.org.

Meet the Board

For this edition of *Rendez-Vous* we interview Jean Arnold, Treasurer and New Brunswick representative of ACIC's Board of Directors.

ACIC: *Where are you from?*

Jean: Having been fortunate to live in many different countries, I made the decision to move to Knowlesville New Brunswick because I thought it was the best place I had visited to establish a base and a great location to raise a family.

ACIC: *How did you first get involved in international development?*

Jean: I was a CUSO cooperant in Bolivia, working with a tribe of Ayoreode in the Santa Cruz area. My position was basically community development which covered a range of activities from pre-post natal and primary health care, to small income generating projects for women to village systems for people who had previously been nomadic. We went down as a family with our two daughters, my first son was born down there in the village and I came back pregnant with my second son. We lived in the tropical dry forest with the Ayoreode, building our home with them in the bush and struggling with the same living realities as they did. We were about 8 hours by motorbike from the nearest village. It was an amazing time.

ACIC: *What is an issue of particular interest and focus right now for you?*

Jean: Many things get wrapped up under the banner of 'what is our responsibility as Westerners to live more equitably on our Planet Earth' so areas of lighter ecological footprint, cooperation, community, appropriate technology for Canadians, closing the gap between First and Third worlds. The MONEY question....how to train ourselves away from individualism to cooperative-ism. Wealth alle-

viation. Wishing/lobbying/advocating that international development funding agencies would embrace a NEW WORLD order, change from dinosaur attitudes towards really exploring what might be appropriate cooperation; away from mining resources to restoring resources; away from mono-culture-mind-solutions to diversity of culture, systems and respect for traditional ways. Stop pretending that ODA [Ed. Overseas Development Assistance] will patch up the problems of the so-called Third World and honestly tackle change and progression towards some goal of equitable and sustainable future.



ACIC: *What are your current projects?*

Jean: Many activities at FBC. In our overseas work, we have three renewable energy projects, one in Nicaragua, two in India; we have several natural resource management projects in Mexico and Nicaragua. We also have 9 new CIDA interns. This year is the 10th anniversary of Falls Brook Centre and we are having a Community Earth Forum Sept 4 to 6 immediately prior to our annual FAIR (Sept 7 & 8) We are holding an event to focus on 'appropriate partnerships and responsible international cooperation' which will celebrate our partnerships over the past years and build towards our work evolving over the next few years.

ACIC: *Best way to spend a Sunday afternoon?*

Jean: I like scything, gardening, kayaking, biking... anything with physical exercise.

ACIC: *Favorite music?*

Jean: Blues, rock 'n roll, some jazz, Handel's Messiah, old R & B

ACIC: *What do you hope to bring to the Board of Directors?*

Jean: My part in making ACIC a strong, relevant and exciting network.



ACIC'S MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS / LES MEMBRES DU CACI



Canada World Youth / Jeunesse Canada Monde
Canadian Co-operative Association
Canadian Crossroads International / Carrefour Canadien International
Centre for International Studies (UCCB)
Clean Nova Scotia
Coady International Institute
College of the North Atlantic—International Programs Office
Cooper Institute
CUSO
Development and Peace / Développement et Paix
Ecology Action Centre
EDGE
Extension Community Development Cooperative
Falls Brook Centre
GPI Atlantic
The John Howard Society of New Brunswick
International Development Branch—NBCC
International Family Farm Exchange

Katimavik
Lester Pearson International (Dalhousie University)
Médecins Sans Frontières—Atlantique
Mennonite Central Committee, Maritimes
Nova Scotia Gambia Association
Oxfam Canada
Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Dioceses Frederickton)
Regional Co-operative Development Centre
Society for Corporate Environment and Social Responsibility
Solidarité Acadie-Haiti
Tatamagouche Centre
The United Church of Canada Maritime Conference Centre
UNICEF Nova Scotia
UPEI International Centre
YMCA Canada Est—Management Resource Centre
YMCA Halifax-Dartmouth
YMCA Fredericton
WUSC