

Rendez-Vous

Volume 6 Issue 1

April 2006
avril 2006

Coordinator's Report

By Jessica Dubelaar

ACIC has been very busy over the past few months with our Ethical Images campaign, Make Poverty History, and more. One of the most memorable ACIC events of the few months was the *Move Your World Youth Conference* ACIC organised during International Development Week. Listening to the aspirations of the youth, and hearing their plans of what they will do when they return to their communities, was absolutely inspiring. So inspiring in fact, that I decided the theme of this edition of *Rendez Vous* should focus on youth and the impact they can and are having on their communities here and around the world. ACIC members are working with youth right here in Atlantic Canada as well as overseas.

In this edition we highlight some of those stories!

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Rapport de la Coordinatrice

Par Jessica Dubelaar

Le CACI a été très occupé au cours des derniers mois avec notre campagne sur les « Images éthiques », avec « Abolissons la pauvreté », et plus encore. L'un des événements des plus mémorables durant les derniers mois fut la *Conférence des jeunes « Move Your World »* organisée par le CACI dans le cadre de la Semaine du développement international. Entendre les aspirations des jeunes et leurs plans de ce qu'ils vont faire lorsqu'ils seront de retour dans leurs communautés fut absolument inspirant. Ce fut tellement inspirant, en fait, que j'ai décidé que le thème de cette édition de *Rendez Vous* devrait être centrée sur la jeunesse et sur l'impact qu'ils ont et peuvent avoir sur leurs communautés, ici et à travers le monde. Les membres du CACI travaillent avec les jeunes ici-même au Canada Atlantique, ainsi qu'à l'étranger. Dans le présent numéro, nous allons mettre en vedette certaines de ces anecdotes !

Personnel du CACI

Le CACI a été très fortuné d'avoir deux merveilleuses consultantes travaillant avec nous au cours des derniers mois. **Liz MacDougall** a continué son excellent travail avec la campagne sur les Images éthiques en préparant l'exposition par elle-même et en s'assurant qu'elle fut présentée dans l'ensemble de la région. **Angela Vardy** fut embauchée pour coordonner les activités du CACI dans le cadre de la Semaine du développement international et elle a réussi à organiser une conférence des jeunes très fructueuse.

Programme de stagiaires

Le CACI est heureux de rapporter que trois des quatre stagiaires ont complété la partie de leur stage devant se faire à l'étranger.

Alysha Shore est retournée à Halifax du Nigeria et elle sera avec le CACI durant quatre semaines pour aider à la planification de l'AGA et à la mise en page du bulletin.

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Atlantic Council for International Cooperation
Conseil Atlantique pour la Coopération Internationale



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Halifax from Nigeria and is with ACIC to help with AGM planning and newsletter design. She had a great time in Nigeria. You can read more about her time in with NGOCE on page 7.

Angela Day has returned from Honduras and after spending some time adjusting to life back in Canada will work with ACIC from April to May. Her article on page 14 describes how a group of high school students from New Brunswick spent their March Break in Honduras.

Jackie Kanyuk has also returned from Honduras after spending five months working with COHAPAZ. Jackie will be returning to Halifax to continue to work with ACIC member, Nova Scotia Environmental Network. On page 15, Jackie shares her personal story of how her interest in international development was sparked.

Our fourth intern, **Alain Du Cap**, continues to work in Ecuador with Fundación Rainforest Rescue (FURARE) until

the end of June. His experience so far has been extremely positive.

We are still waiting to hear from CIDA about next year's program. We'll keep you posted!

Board of Directors

After spending the past three years on the ACIC Board of Directors, Marian White will be stepping down. Her hard work and dedication to the Council will surely be missed. You can read about some of her fondest ACIC memories on page 19. The ACIC Board will also be losing Catherine Baillie Abidi who is expecting her first child. Catherine has been with the Board for the past two years and has been a great help. The departure of Marian and Catherine means that there are two seats to fill on ACIC's Board, the position of PEI Representative and Member-at-Large. Please

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Elle a eu une expérience enrichissante au Nigeria. Vous pouvez en savoir plus sur son temps con NGOCE à la page 7.

Angela Day est revenue du Honduras et, après avoir passé un certain temps à s'ajuster à la vie au Canada, elle va travailler avec le CACI en avril et en mai. Son article à la page 14 décrit comment un groupe d'étudiants de l'école secondaire du Nouveau-Brunswick a passé son congé de mars au Honduras.

Jackie Kanyuk est revenue du Honduras après avoir passé cinq mois à travailler avec COHAPAZ. Jackie va revenir à Halifax pour continuer à travailler avec un membre du CACI, soit le « Nova Scotia Environmental Network ». Dans le présent bulletin, à la page 15, Jackie partage son histoire personnelle, sur comment à l'âge de 16 ans son intérêt pour le développement international.

Notre quatrième stagiaire, **Alain Du Cap**, continue son travail en Équateur avec Fundación Rainforest Rescue (FURARE) jusqu'à la fin de juin. Son expérience jusqu'à date a été extrêmement positive.

Nous attendons encore des nouvelles de l'ACDI concernant le programme pour l'année prochaine. Nous vous tiendrons au courant !

Conseil d'administration

Après trois ans sur le Conseil d'administration (CA) du CACI, Marian White termine son mandat. Son travail acharné et son dévouement au Conseil vont sûrement nous manquer. Vous pourrez lire certains de ses souvenirs préférés concernant le CACI à la page 19. Le CA du CACI va également perdre Catherine Baillie Abidi qui attend son premier enfant. Catherine était au Conseil durant les deux dernières années et elle a grandement aidé. Le départ de Marian et de Catherine signifie qu'il y a deux postes à combler sur le CA du CACI, soit le poste de représentant.e de l'ÎPÉ et celui de conseiller/ conseillère. N'oubliez-pas ceci pour notre prochaine AGA et communiquez avec Jessica si vous avez des questions.

Symposium et Assemblée générale annuelle du CACI

La planification de notre prochain Symposium et Assemblée générale annuelle se fait d'une manière frénétique. L'événement de cet année aura lieu à l'Université de l'ÎPÉ, à Charlottetown, du 5 au 7 mai. Le programme est en préparation et il sera rempli de discussions entre experts, de

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Vol. 6/ No. 1

April/avril 2006

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

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keep this in mind for our upcoming AGM and contact Jessica if you have any questions.

ACIC's Symposium and Annual General Meeting

Planning for our upcoming AGM and Symposium is feverishly underway. This year's event will be held at UPEI in Charlottetown, May 5 -7. The agenda is coming together and it will be packed with interesting panel discussions, speakers, and workshops. Topics this year include: panel discussions on microcredit, ethical images, cooperant sending and a workshop on working with the media. Campbell Webster of the CW foundation will be delivering the keynote address. We'll also be taking everyone off-campus for our Saturday night banquet dinner of lobster and lasagne, followed by a fun-filled PEI kitchen party! Please check our website www.acic-caci.org to download the registration form.

Both Sides of the Coin - ACIC Microcredit Project

ACIC is pleased to announce that we have received approval from CIDA for a project that seeks to engage Atlantic Canadians on the topic of microcredit. We'll look at microcredit both here in Atlantic Canada as well as overseas. The project will entail a research phase, followed by regional workshops, and culminating in a session at the Global Microcredit Summit and a speaking tour of Southern microcredit recipients. Please contact Jessica Dubelaar at info@acic-caci.org if you'd like to learn more or find out how you can get involved.

Ethical Images Project

ACIC's Ethical Images project, *The South Through the Northern Eye*, is starting to wrap up. The photo competition in December attracted more than 100 entries from across Atlantic Canada and a four-person jury was assembled in early January to choose the winners. ACIC would like to thank the judges, Caeser Apentiik, Maria Ramos, Maggy Burns, and Sean Kelly, for taking on such a difficult task. The winning photographs are featured on page 8.

Three beautiful exhibits were created featuring some of the most interesting images. The exhibits have been travelling the region and have already been featured at more than 20 locations. The exhibit was featured prominently at all Make Poverty History events at this year's East Coast Music Awards, as well as many other events across the region. If you haven't seen the exhibit yet, visit www.acic-caci.org/projects/ethicalimages to find out if it's showing your area.

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conférenciers et d'ateliers. Les sujets cette année vont inclure : des discussions d'experts sur le micro-crédit, sur les images éthiques, l'envoi de coopérants et un atelier sur le travail avec les médias. Campbell Webster, de la « CW Foundation », va présenter le discours-programme. Nous allons également sortir tout le monde du campus pour notre banquet du samedi soir, avec homard et lasagne, suivi d'une authentique « fête de cuisine de l'ÎPÉ » ! Veuillez visiter notre site Web au www.acic-caci.org pour télécharger le formulaire d'inscription.

Les deux côtés... de la pièce de monnaie - Projet de micro-crédit du CACI

Le CACI est heureux d'annoncer que nous avons reçu l'approbation de l'ACDI pour un projet visant à engager les gens du Canada Atlantique sur le sujet du micro-crédit. Nous allons examiner le micro-crédit ici, au Canada Atlantique, ainsi qu'à l'étranger. Le projet va entamer une phase de recherche, suivi d'ateliers régionaux pour aboutir à une session au Sommet mondial sur le micro-crédit et une tournée de conférences de récipiendaires de micro-crédit du Sud. Veuillez communiquer avec Jessica Dubelaar au info@acic-caci.org si vous aimeriez en savoir plus ou pour découvrir comment vous pouvez vous impliquer.

Projet sur les Images éthiques

Le projet du CACI sur les Images éthiques, *Le Sud selon la perspective du Nord*, commence à tirer à sa fin. Le concours de photos en décembre a attiré plus de 100 soumissions à travers le Canada Atlantique et un jury de quatre personnes fut assemblé au début de janvier pour en choisir les gagnants. Le CACI aimerait remercier les juges, Caeser Apentiik, Maria Ramos, Maggy Burns et Sean Kelly, pour avoir accompli cette tâche difficile. Les photos gagnantes sont présentées à la page 8.

Trois beaux éléments d'expositions furent créés qui mettaient en vedette les images les plus intéressantes. Ces montages ont voyagé dans la région et ils ont déjà été montrés dans plus de 20 différents endroits. L'exposition fut en montre dans tous les événements « Abolissons la pauvreté », dans le cadre de la remise des prix de l'Association de la musique de la côte est, cette année, ainsi que lors de plusieurs autres événements à travers la région. Si vous n'avez pas encore vu cette exposition, visitez le www.acic-caci.org/projects/ethicalimages pour découvrir si elle sera montrée dans votre région.

IDW 2006 – “Move Your WORLD” Youth Conference

As part of International Development Week, ACIC organised a three-day Atlantic youth conference on international development. The theme of the conference was “Move Your WORLD” and 28 youth from across Atlantic Canada came together to learn, share, connect, and develop action plans that address global poverty. The conference was held at the Killarney Lake Rotary Centennial Lodge in Fredericton NB. A number of diverse topics were discussed



at the conference, including Peace and Security, Environmental Sustainability, Food Security and Fair Trade, Global Impacts of our Everyday Choices, Health

and HIV, and Advocacy and Political Engagement.

The conference was designed to be highly interactive and had a strong focus on developing concrete actions to ensure that the impact of the conference extended well past International Development Week. The conference was a huge success, invigorating a sense of global citizenship and awareness amongst the youth participants.



Please read the article below and the comments on page 5 to hear more about the conference and what some of the participants had to say in their evaluations.



Meeting Mr. Mackay: Youth Conference Participants Encounter Foreign Affairs Minister

By Danielle Grace

On their travels back to the Halifax airport with CCI staffer Danielle Grace, four youth from Newfoundland-based partner, MacMorran Community Centre, were presented with a unique opportunity. Unexpectedly, Foreign Affairs Minister Peter Mackay and his father, Elmer, entered the restaurant where the group had stopped for supper.

The group had just taken part in a three-day youth conference, February 10 to 12 in Fredericton NB, organized by CCI Atlantic, the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation and the Canadian Red Cross, as part of International Development Week. The conference, attended by 30 youth from across Atlantic Canada, was designed to stimulate a sense of global citizenship and political awareness amongst Atlantic Canadian youth.

Although a little intimidated at first, with a little encouragement from Danielle, the group approached Mr. Mackay's table. Conference participant Dawn Drew spoke on behalf of the youth, explaining to MacKay that they had just spent the weekend at a youth conference learning about development issues and initiatives like the Make Poverty History campaign.

With a white MPH band in hand and a very excited group of her peers at her side, Dawn offered the white Make Poverty History band to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and MP for Central Nova in Nova Scotia and asked him if he would wear it. He took the MPH band from Dawn and said that he would be happy to wear it. He then spoke briefly about how Canada can really make a positive difference in the world by helping those less advantaged.

The youth were beaming. They had spent three days away from their communities meeting new people their own age and learning about how the choices they make can contribute positively to our world. Now, they had been given the opportunity to put their newfound knowledge into practice.

Participant Comments!

"This conference has inspired me to create a youth group of my own in my community, and we are hoping to address environmental issues, starting with a public awareness campaign in the upcoming weeks."

- Thomas Howard

**"It
rocked!"**



"Wow. I learned so much at the "Move Your World" Conference. I learned so much that when someone asks me "What did you find out while you were there?" I have an extremely hard job telling them. It takes a very, very long time... Since I'm the only person from my entire county that attended, I've taken it upon myself to spread everything I've learned... So far, I know that most of my friends and a lot of my peers have built the toilet dams that Simon and Kelly from the Otesha project talked about... I know a lot of my friends are now interested in a poverty & conservation movement getting started by youth in our area... Big things can happen. I can see that big things will happen. Someday - there will not be a need to have conferences about poverty. Someday - poverty will be something that is written in our grand children's text books, just like The Great Depression and the World Wars. Just like slavery, we can and will over come poverty."

-Shawn Heely

"I would like to say thank you for this amazing experience and I would hope to see this evolve in future years."

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for selecting our youth and allowing myself, as chaperone, to attend. The conference was AWESOME! It was well organized, had a wide range of interesting and dynamic workshops and our youth are still talking about landmines and sweatshops!"

- Sonya Clarke Casey
- Literacy Coordinator

"I had such an amazing experience at the conference, and learned a great deal from the energetic presentations we had. I met some quality friends, and have applied a lot of things that I can do to help the world, into my daily life."

- Shannon Quinn

Dominican Republic & Fredericton YMCAs International Youth Internship Program

By Marian Hernandez

Marian Hernandez is a recent graduate of the Business faculty at University of New Brunswick who is participating in the Fredericton YMCA's CIDA-sponsored International Youth Internship Program. She was placed on staff at the YMCA of Santo Domingo from June 22nd until January 6th of this year.

One of Marian's responsibilities was for helping the Dominican YMCA [ACJ] Leader Corps establish a peer education program on the dangers and risks of HIV/AIDS and the impact the disease is having on the country.

"The idea in this was to give youth training on the topic of HIV/AIDS. There were four major topics we examined: Prevention, Countering Stigma and Discrimination, Fighting Gender Inequality, and Caring for Orphans. The Leader Corps members weren't the only ones to benefit from the training.

They will be taking what they've learned to other young people in the country, for example going to schools, youth centers and small communities."

The Dominican Y has long been proud of this enthusiastic youth group, and the young people were eager to be involved in the Peer Education Program. HIV/AIDS was a topic that they recognized as important.

Marian explained that since "this training would not only be on the information that we were providing but also on how to pass on that information and teach it to others, it became important that we allow the partici-

pants the opportunity to practice. So they were introduced to public speaking, researching and designing a presentation." For this purpose, participants choose a sub-topic to introduce to the group at large. These included: Sexual Abuse, Prostitution, Domestic Violence, Human Relations, Community Services, and Environmental Protection.

Now that the Leader Corps members have received this training, seminars are being prepared to be presented at the YMCA schools in Maquiteria, La Yuca, and Don Gregorio; following those seminars, the Leader Corps will approach public schools and community groups.

"It is really encouraging to see the amount of effort and enthusiasm the Leader Corps put into this project. They worked hard and learned a great deal, and they are still very excited about it."



Program Participants in the Dominican Republic

The Peer Education Program is a three year project being funded by the YMCA of Fredericton with support from the Canadian International Development Agency [CIDA].

"I know," said Marian, "if given the opportunity, these youth will take advantage of the remaining two years. They're a dedicated and enthusiastic bunch; their dynamism is really admirable, and I learned a lot from them. I really hope to have the opportunity to work with them again."

Have a Little Faith

By Alysha Shore

Since returning from Nigeria three weeks ago most people have asked me the big ol' question: "So, do you feel like you made a difference?" Not such an easy question to answer. In fact I have been thinking about it a lot these days as I try to decide what my next step will be after finishing my CIDA internship with ACIC.

My internship with ACIC has been a dream job for me. I was fortunate to find work that combined my twin passions: gender issues and HIV/AIDS. In Nigeria these two issues are tangled together in a way that rarely allows them to be separated. In my time abroad I worked for one of ACIC's partner organizations, the NGO Coalition for Environment (NGOCE). NGOCE operates similarly to ACIC; it is a network of over 40 Nigerian NGOs. NGOCE was originally born out of the desire to protect the rainforest of Cross River State, one of the world's biodiversity hotspots. Over the years, NGOCE's membership has expanded, in turn expanding their mandate, projects and goals. This is where I came in.

Odigha Odigha, NGOCE's Executive Director, restructured the organization late last year. To manage and provide the best networking for his members, Odigha created three Caucuses at NGOCE. Each Caucus is intended to focus on a different area of development in Cross River, encompassing the majority of members' work. I was charged with the responsibility of starting the Caucus on Women, Gender and HIV/AIDS. This Caucus is made up of 15 member organizations who work in a variety of areas, such as, awareness education about HIV, micro-credit programs with women, and counselling and nutrition for People Living Positively (PLPs). It made for a very interesting and diverse experience for me.

All the members of the Caucus were very excited to have me there, which of course was welcoming but also put a lot of pressure on me to deliver. Here I was, 22 years old, fresh out of university and in a foreign country quite different from life back home. But everyone there just figured I was sent because I knew something, they had a lot of faith in me and never doubted my abilities. While this unfaltering confidence in me was most definitely based on unconscious post-colonial attitudes and totally undeserved, it opened the door to many possibilities. I was given tasks and responsibilities that I would never have been given in a North American setting due to my age and "level of experience" and it made me work harder than I

ever have in my life because I did not want to let down my co-workers.

As youth, we are rarely in a position where people fully believe in our capabilities and have higher expectations of us than we do of ourselves. Often those who are older than us watch over us closely, expecting us to understandably trip up due to our lack of experience - not in a malicious way, but because that's what we are taught. Well in my time in Nigeria, no one really saw me as a youth, they saw me as someone who was capable. I know that when many of my co-workers first discovered how old I was they were shocked, but they never made me aware of it and they did not change their opinion of what I could achieve. Because they invested all that faith in me and gave me so many opportunities I learnt more from them in 5 months than I did in four years of university.



Women Leaders in Mkpani Community

During my time in Nigeria I traveled with different members of the Caucus to village communities facilitating workshops with various groups (women, children, youth, men, elders) on HIV/AIDS and gender issues. Sometimes we spoke to hundreds of people, so many that community members of all ages stood outside watching and learning through the windows. Together the caucus and I fundraised and organized a World AIDS Day event where we invited PLPs to come and eat a healthy nutritious meal and learn techniques on how to live positive and healthy lives. I wrote gender and HIV/AIDS policy for NGOCE and five member organizations. I facilitated training sessions for NGOCE staff and volunteers and the select member organizations. I volunteered for one of the Caucus

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The South Through the Northern Eye Photo Competition Winners!

ACIC is pleased to announce the following four winners of our Ethical Images "The South Through the Northern Eye" photo competition. They are (in no particular order):



Tanya Canam in New Brunswick, for 'Untitled' taken near Bikaner, Rajasthan, India

Mary MacKay of PEL, for her set of photos of Building a School in Rabinal, Guatemala



Christopher Cohoon of Nova Scotia, for "Rosa" taken at Labor de Falla, Chimaltenango, Guatemala. 2004

Nina Goudie of Newfoundland, for Vessel in Refit in Zalala, Northern Mozambique, 2005



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www.acic-caci.org/ethicalimages

The South Through the Northern Eye



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Photo Exhibition – The South Through Northern Eyes

CUSO and ACIC will host a presentation on Ethical Images of the South in the Wanda Wyatt Dining Hall at UPEI on May 5th at 7:30pm. ACIC initiated a photo competition calling on those with a critical eye to submit positive images of Southern development. The contest winners were announced last month, and on May 5th will be presented to the Island Community. The event will include: 4 panelists (discussing their various backgrounds and work in photography, media, and international development), a photography exhibition, and an audience discussion. For further information, please contact: adamacisaac@upe.ca. or call 1 800 676-8411

ACIC Board of Directors / Conseil d'Administration du CACI

- **Marian White**, Co-Chair / PEI Representative (CUSO)
- **Ed Rawlinson**, Co-Chair, Member-at-Large (New Brunswick Community College)
- **Joan Campabell**, Treasurer, Nova Scotia Representative (Canadian Crossroads International)
- **Catherine Baillie Abidi**, Secretary / Member-at-Large (Canadian Red Cross)
- **Bill Chislett**, Newfoundland-Labrador Representative (MI International)
- **Bill Thomas**, NB Representative (United Church of Canada—Maritime Conference)

ACIC held the Atlantic Regional BP 208 Essay Contest in this year. The four winners of the contest are:

- ◆ Thomas Howard, Baie Verte Collegiate, Baie Verte, NL; "Simple Solutions: Bringing Environment and Development Together."
- ◆ Kaitlin Wood, Leo Hayes High School, Fredericton, NB; "One Mere Drop for the Whole World: Fresh water and the Impact of Our Actions on Environmental Sustainability in the Developing World."
- ◆ Sarah Morean, MacLennan Jr. High School, Sydney NS; "The way to a Better Future for All Mankind."
- ◆ Karen Stapleton, Prince of Wales Collegiate, St John's, NL; "Wings of Hope."

Below is Thomas Howard's essay. Thomas is 15 years-old from Newfoundland and Labrador. Thomas' essay and the other winners will now be submitted in the National Butterfly 208 essay contest to represent Atlantic Canada.

Simple Solutions: Bringing Environment and Development Together

By Thomas Howard

The sun rises over a cool, damp morning in central Malawi. A young boy, Bingu, lifts himself off the moist, dirt floor, awakened by the ceaseless coughing of his infant sister. He casts his eyes to the corner of the hut, watching his mother stirring a pot with one hand on the spoon, the other clasping her aching back. The morning has just begun for Bingu. Without a word, he heads out in the chill of Sub-Saharan dawn, his mind not straying from his sole intent. His calloused feet tread the usual places, and after an hour, he stops to inspect a tangled thicket of dried wood. Lifting his blunt, iron axe, Bingu begins to hack the unrelenting wood, and as he begins to feel the familiar burn in his muscles, he wonders if there could be a better way.

Bingu has started his morning as do millions of others in the developing world. People in these developing nations, particularly the women and children, are forced to spend hours every day, walking many kilometres from their home in a life or death search for fuel wood. This onerous backbreaking task is required to cook a simple meal, boil water, wash, or

even clean. In Africa, the statistics are striking: an estimated 90 percent of the entire continent's population uses fuel wood for cooking. This statistic has an even more frightening environmental connection. Deforestation caused by foraging for fuel wood is causing flooding, mudslides, desertification, and climate change.

The climate is being affected, but what are the consequences when it comes to domestic quandaries? How difficult is it to find fuel wood for every meal of every day, for every time you feel the need for heat, every time you need hot water? Millions of poverty-stricken families throughout the world lose family members in the quest for fuel wood. Kilometer long treks can lead to injury, and leave children and women susceptible to attacks from animals, and even criminals. So what can be done? How might Canadians help Bingu in his search for a better way?

As a Canadian teenager growing up with all the amenities and comforts of a first-world nation, I've often thought about children like Bingu, and what can be done for people in developing countries around the world. Recently I read a quote from Mother Theresa, which stuck me as particularly relevant. She said, "You can do no great things, just small things with great love."



208 Essay Contest



Her words give me hope, as often I feel overwhelmed and helpless in the face of such huge problems. However, I believe there are simple solutions, or “small things,” that can result in great change. Canada was once a “developing” nation. We, too, foraged for wood fuel, mined the earth, fished the rivers and oceans, and harvested the crops from the plains. We continue to do so, and I believe our resource-based heritage can teach us lessons and help us to make the lives of children like Bingu easier.

For instance, in my own province, Newfoundland and Labrador, we have a long history of sustainable small garden farming practices, in which poor soils were enriched by fish offal and seaweed. Canadians could make a huge difference in the lives of people by promoting and sharing what may be considered by many “low-tech,” “old fashioned,” or “out-dated” practices. However these technologies can have dramatic impacts on the daily lives of millions of people. For example, students behind the University of Alberta chapter of *Engineers Without Borders* (EWB), have created a simple wooden foot pump, an ingenious device, by which a farmer can step on the pedals, to move water from a stream to his field in order to irrigate his field cheaply. It is certainly not the stuff of “scientific breakthrough,” however the ripple effects they create through the non-industrialized world can be immense.

One very simple product that underscores how lives can be changed profoundly by the simplest of means is the “Solar-Cooker.” The changes that can come about by the use of this solar-cooker are quite palpable. These devices are simply a piece of shaped, reflective metal, which uses sunlight to heat the metallic surface. The solar cookers have moderate cooking temperatures that help preserve a greater percentage of the nutrients found in foods. Foods that take hours to cook, like legumes and wheats, can be done quite easily in this sun-powered device. A staggering 25% of more of a poverty-stricken family’s

income can be spent on fuel. Sunlight is absolutely free; this leaves funds for other necessities, like food, education or health care. Solar cookers, however, are not only efficient when cooking food. These cookers can be used to pasteurize water, clean utensils, and *completely eliminate* the requirement of finding fuel wood. Among other things, these solar cookers abolish all injuries associated with fires, and all the diseases and health concerns involved with smoke.



Solar cookers were introduced two years ago in Kenya’s Nyanza Province. The local population were very enthusiastic about the cookers, not least of all because they have created jobs. There was also a woman who used the cooker to bake cookies, which she sells in her son’s barber-shop. Many people have used micro-credit institutions to finance the purchase of the solar cookers. The average cost is about seven dollars.

These are just two simple solutions that are easily understandable and accessible to people in this country. It is something we can get behind, and encourage our governments to invest in the transfer of technologies we have left behind. By adopting such ideas, which are definitely, “not sexy,” they would offer children like Bingu new chances to study. People would no longer be required to walk for miles to cut trees for firewood, and habitats would be preserved. It is through these small-scale solutions that we can say to a child in Malawi, “Yes, there is indeed, a better way.”

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Youth Justice: A Primary Focus at Tatamagouche Centre

By Heather Hamilton

For the past four years, Tatamagouche Centre has been involved in facilitating an annual Social Justice Youth Camp for young people craving a just world for all. Since its inception, the camps have given over 100 youth, ages 15 to 19, a unique experience in anti-racist education, economic and environmental literacy, and the development of skills necessary for social justice transformation. Youth across Atlantic Canada have been educated and trained in techniques to deal with racism in their schools, climate change in their homes and communities, and ways in which they can use their artistic creativity to create a world based on principles of justice, fairness and equity. With their new knowledge they become actively involved in clubs at schools: they initiate workshops in youth groups they are members of, join organizations, raise funds and become active and engaged youth in their communities.



In addition, young adults from community groups, churches, and trade unions, ages 19 - 30, also receive training on facilitation and program design and delivery. They learn how to use their passions and act as mentors for youth on how to bring about social change. Anyone can participate in the camps; we encourage a diverse group, representing both urban and rural youth, from all the Atlantic Provinces. It is also important to include those from different socio-economic, faith, and cultural backgrounds.



Another path Tatamagouche Centre has taken to encourage social change has been supporting youth justice initiatives through their Guatemala: Breaking the Silence Network. The Centre supports an internship program wherein young adults partner with other organizations to provide support and leadership for social justice issues in many Guatemalan villages.

The impact of the Youth Justice Camp and the Breaking the Silence Network over the past few years has been immeasurable. Youth have returned to their communities, their groups and their schools with the skills to address racism as it arises, they have founded school groups for social justice issues, and they have become active members in their communities. Young adult facilitators have returned to their work or studies to take on stronger leadership roles. Interns who traveled to Guatemala have returned there to use their experience to carry on important social justice work.

The Youth Justice program at Tatamagouche Centre strives to support, motivate, encourage and activate youth in the Maritimes to address issues of social justice in their schools, organizations, communities and the world. Our young leaders have lots of stories to share and lessons to teach. Check out our summer Youth Justice Camp at the Centre to see how you can get involved!

Contact Tatamagouche Centre at 1-800-218-2220 or visit www.tatacentre.ca for more information.

JUST A SAMPLE OF WHAT'S COMING UP AT TATAMAGOUCHE CENTRE ...

June 9 - 11 Breaking the Silence: Maritimes - Guatemala Solidarity Network Gathering

Aug 27 - 31 Social Justice Youth Camp

Oct 25 - 27 Educating Allies: Breaking the Cycle of Oppression

Nov 10 - 12 Social Justice Institute with Judy Rebick

Dec 1 - 3 Atlantic Regional Solidarity Network Gathering

THERE'S LOTS MORE GOING ON ... CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT www.tatacentre.ca



Member Profile: KATIMAVIK ATLANTIC



About Katimavik

Katimavik offers youth between the ages of 17 and 21 an exciting nine-month journey of self-discovery in three different regions of Canada. The program is based on the concept of service learning, which integrates both personal and professional development through volunteer work on community projects. In addition to working 35 hours a week on community projects, participants benefit from a learning program that focuses on developing leadership skills, official languages proficiency, a healthy lifestyle, cultural discovery and protecting the environment. Each Katimavik participant contributes an average of 500 hours of community work to partner organizations. Since 1977, more than 25,000 young Canadians have participated in the Katimavik program, developing their sense of responsibility and gaining self-confidence. Katimavik's goal is to form responsible citizens who will contribute significantly to Canadian society.

Coaching staff

Participants are accompanied by a Project Leader who is specially trained for the program. The Project Leader lives with the group in the community for the entire duration of the project. In each region, Project Leaders are supervised by a Project Coordinator, who liaises with the community partners along with the Project Leader. If you are interested in applying to be a Project Leader – please send your curriculum vitae to hr@katimavik-atl.org

Host communities

Groups live in three different cities or towns during the program, two of which are English-speaking and one of which is French-speaking. Volunteer work projects are supported by partners in the host communities, all of which are non-profit organizations.

Katimavik's partners work in several activity sectors, such as education, helping the underprivileged, social assistance, the outdoors, the environment, special events and the arts.

Projects usually include manual or administrative work. Participants may help build trails, organize a pickup of used items, accompany senior citizens on outings, and plan and organize events and activities. The involvement of participants often helps communities to carry out projects that they would not have been able to do otherwise.

If you would like your community to host a Katimavik project and benefit from Katimavik volunteers, please contact Anthony Loring, Communications and Development Manager for the Atlantic Region, at aloring@katimavik-atl.org.

Katimavik: Learning in the school of “life”

By Brent Bielza

Thousands of miles away from home, detached from anything that resembles an ordinary life, I have found myself on this Katimavik adventure.

My name is Brent Bielza, and I'm 19 years old from Mississauga, Ontario. A few months before I embarked on this journey I was like most others my age, a student studying in university. One day during a study break I flipped on the television and I saw an advertisement for Katimavik. Intrigued by what I saw, I applied to the program and the rest pretty much fell into place. Growing up I have always been the type to love all aspects of school. I've been part of Student Council, sports teams, and a wide variety of clubs, all of which contributed to a great storied career as a student, but a big part of me still felt unfulfilled. Despite all that I've achieved, I felt I needed something more, and I craved something different. I felt Katimavik could fill this void.



Brent's Katimavik team. He is on the far-left front row

My desire for something nontraditional pushed me to the point where I decided to take a year off of my post-

HOMeward BOUND

BY ANGELA DAY

Its Monday the sixth of March and I am weighed down with watermelons and rice again, probably the last time for a while. My internship in Honduras is nearing the end, and the days are more and more poignant, pregnant with leaving.



Vanessa, my Honduran co-worker, and I

have just been surfing the Comayaguela market – a mayhem of produce, meats, smelly cheese, dried fish, Asian plastics and piles upon piles of beaded shoes. Now, in the midday heat, laden with food for thirty people, we hail taxi after taxi, but after a short discussion they drive away, leaving us with our feedbags in the hot sun. No taxi wants to drive to Colonia Buena Vista because it is far, steep and dangerous. Nevertheless, we have to get there.

Tomorrow, there is a group of students from New Brunswick coming to work in this marginalized community on the hillside fringe of Tegucigalpa and for the past week the colonia has been in a frenzy of preparation.

When we finally arrive in Buena Vista, we are greeted with a flurry of kisses. After five months of facilitating workshops, building composts and visiting houses and gardens in various marginalized colonias, the warnings and admonitions we receive from the downtown society about these dangerous colonias are weighed against numerous beautiful interactions, welcoming plates of beans, and hugs that make you feel at home when you are far from it.

We have been working on a project that seeks to increase food security, self-sufficiency, and income generation through an environmental framework. The project has been funded by CIDA and is being executed in a partnership between Falls Brook Centre in New Brunswick and COHAPAZ (Honduran Committee for Peace Action), with support from Madre Tierra and CPTRT (Centre for Torture Prevention and Rehabilitation). Doctor Juan Almenares is the director of the latter three organizations and is rightfully revered in these colonias: he is a doctor, healer,

poet, journalist, and human rights and environmental activist whose inspirational passion comes alive in the dusty streets.

Vanessa and I only visit the colonia briefly today, leaving with scattered reminders, and a list of last minute errands. Finally, on Tuesday morning I feel prepared to welcome the students. I spring onto the white, slightly dilapidated bus at 9:30 (after the bus had broken down and subsequently needed a tire change) and start chatting with the interesting, creative individuals who I will spend the next few days with.

Ascending the steep, potholed dirt road to the colonia turns out to be even more of a feat in today's bus than it was in yesterday's taxi. But, it was more pleasant than being stopped for half an hour in the busy Comayaguela market where the diesel stench was penetrating enough to make carbon neutral technologies a distant dream. Bras and sponge bob piñatas hang at eye level, seemingly clamoring for a buyer.

Of course, the arrival in Buena Vista is pure upheaval. Directions for building pilas (cement water reservoirs) are scrambled between the students, the teachers, the locals and we interns, who are simultaneously trying to organize groups, translate, and balance various babies on our hips. Work does get started eventually, and despite none of us being bricklayers, and the hot sun and unfamiliar bacteria a deterrent for many, the pilas start to take shape. I can't help my pleasure at being placed with Andre, an illustrious, bilingual Canadian who directs me on how to mix cement, how to lay bricks, and all kinds of other invaluable secrets of the trade. Nevertheless, when he is off helping another group who can't get their bricks to "stick", I repeatedly true my wall with a level, skeptically regarding my rickety rows, and wonder what we were thinking. What significance does our presence have here? As my flight back to Canada creeps closer and closer, I am finding it harder and harder to reconcile leaving. What benefit do I bring as an intern who comes for 5 months and then waves goodbye, flying back to a life of comfort and security? I can come and go as I please, not even having to stand in interminable queues at the embassy with my best clothes on, hoping I will be granted a visa.

Two days of manual labour provides hours of internal pondering, only broken by bantering in English, French and Spanish, laughter, ladies coming along with sweet-as-

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10 days that last a life time

By Jackie Kanyuk

When I was sixteen I went to the Dominican Republic for Spring Break. Unlike the majority of Canadian visitors there the purpose of my trip to the Caribbean was not to escape the harsh winter and relax at a beach resort. I went on what was called a *Poverty Awareness Trip*, an orientation tour to introduce Canadians to the realities of life in a poor country. I raised the money for the trip myself, attended the orientations, and went off for what would be the most challenging and meaningful 10 days of my young life. That was twelve years ago. Looking back, it was those 10 days that started me on my way to community and international development work.

The organization, RayJon Share Care Inc., has been organizing development work trips and poverty awareness trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic since 1986. Named after its two founders Ray Wyrzykowski and John Barnfield, this small outfit based in my hometown of Sarnia, Ontario invites participants who are in their words “open to experientially exploring situations outside their normal comfort zone” and who are willing to learn from these experiences. Being from a small, predominately white hometown, I jumped at this opportunity to escape my isolation and broaden my experiences.

Their 10-day trip brings participants into contact with community groups, hospitals, urban and rural schools, youth drop-in centres in urban slums, and the factory floor in an export-processing zone. There is also a day visit to a sugar plantation and a work project day labouring alongside community members building mudslide prevention walls.

Having been exposed exclusively to the popular media’s portrayal of Third World poverty, I was prepared to see devastated and helpless faces amid shanties and squalor (as one might see in televised appeals for child sponsorship). But the organization was sensitive to this preconception and held discussions before, during and after the trip on the notion of poverty. The theme of the trip was poverty, simply enough, but by the end of my short time in the Dominican Republic, all of my preconceived notions of what it meant to be poor were challenged at their very core – along with the idea of wealth and happiness in gen-

eral. While passing through and interacting with community members in the Dominican Republic I witnessed a spirit in people that I had never come across in Canada.

I was amazed by the sight of entire families living in corrugated tin homes no larger than the average Canadian’s living room. And I was moved to tears while sitting under a blue tarp used for a chapel while indentured Haitian labourers on a sugar cane plantation sang their thanks to God to the beat of homemade hand drums.

It seemed impossible to me at first, could it be that people with severely limited access to resources in a poor country were happier than people in Canada who possessed vastly greater wealth and material comfort? The Dominicans that I met were certainly more appreciative of what they had. They valued their rich family ties, their spirituality and their own willingness to give.



I would never be the same. The trip organizers were there to help with reintegration and culture shock. They warned that friends and family might only take a polite interest in something that had so profoundly changed us and that until they saw life in a poor country, they might never understand.

It has been twelve years almost to the day since my spring break trip to the Dominican Republic. But those 10 inspiring days have carried me a long way. Since then I have gone back to the Dominican Republic to assist on a Rayjon Poverty Awareness trip and to volunteer at an orphanage. I have a Bachelor of Honours in International Development. I have worked with Latin American newcomers in Canada with community immigration service organizations. I’ve traveled to Mexico and Guatemala and have just returned from a five-month CIDA internship working with a grassroots organization in Honduras.

I never expected the field of international development to be my profession, to be such an important part of my life. After all, it was a field that I had never heard of until that fateful spring break trip. But once my notions of wealth and poverty, happiness and “the good life” were cast into doubt, I knew I could never be satisfied pursuing a career for the sole sake of material gain.

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sugar watermelon on their heads, and of course, the ubiquitous beats of reggaeton.

The days carried over into the golden afternoon sunlight, when you could see the relationships forming between the community and the visitors. Despite having worked all day, the students were lingering in the street playing fútbol, making bracelets and dancing with the local kids who had lost any trace of timidity.



On Wednesday afternoon Erin, my Canadian counterpart, and I were not only covered in dirt and sweat and kids but soot from the bean pot, beet juice from the salad, and tears that flooded out when we were saying our goodbyes to people who had become staples in our daily lives. Going home was starting to feel real, exciting and sad.

By Thursday night everyone was cleaned up and fresh, and we all gathered at an organic farm outside of the city for dinner and a talk given by Doctor Juan Almeyda. Listening to the doctor speak on the last day of my contract in Honduras was cathartic. Not only did he shed personal light on the egregious political and economic situation (replete with corruption, violence and environmental degradation) in Honduras, but he also expressed gratitude and hope. Even if what we did feels like so little in the face of so much, he emphasized that by just being here we are putting a foot forward. He emphatically expressed in his soft-spoken way that he would not be where he is today (literally, he lived in exile in Canada) without solidarity that transcends borders.

As I breathe the cool piney air and look around at the captivated faces of Nicaraguans, Hondurans and Canadians present, I wonder where I would be, or what I would be, without the visions of Honduras that accompany me.



March Break in Central America

By Jessica Mankowski

A group of sixteen youth and adults from Carlton County, New Brunswick didn't spend much time on the beach this March Break. We had all spent months planning, fundraising and packing for our Humanitarian Exchange Trip to Central America. Finally, as other kids were looking forward to sleeping in or jetting to Florida, all our hard work paid off. After leaving Bangor, Maine in the wee hours of March 2nd, we traveled for over thirteen hours to reach Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, where our twelve day journey through Central America began.

Eight students from Carleton North High School, three District 14 teachers, two participants from Kedgwick River, and Falls Brook Centre staff distributed shoes, school supplies and computers to communities in Nicaragua and Honduras. The group also built pilas (rain water collection systems) for a women's group in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras. We also enjoyed opportunities to visit local markets, tour the National Gallery of Honduras and take dance lessons with local youth groups.

For many it was the first time they'd been to a majority world country. While participants were amazed by the differences in standards of living, culture and traffic the most overwhelming experience was the generosity and dedication of the communities that we visited. The Falls Brook group was welcomed into people's homes and communities had the opportunity to share meals and stories with host families and make some life long friends. The people and especially the children we met provided us with the opportunity to share our games and culture despite

our different languages; to experience the universal language of smiles and open hearts.

In spite of incredible adversity and few resources, these communities had developed systems to maximize the resources available and ensure food and water security, preservation of their culture and education for rural children. They were strong, proud people who choose to act instead of giving up when life was difficult. With a little support from organizations like Falls Brook and CIDA, these wonderful people were able to make the changes they saw as important for improving their lives. The trip illustrated for many how wasteful and unsustainable our Canadian lifestyles are how unequal resource distribution affects the world and the importance of environmental conservation and international cooperation.

Leaving Central America was difficult for everyone. We were changed by our experience; the ways in which we are all connected because of our dependence on Earth's resources was never so startlingly clear. Considering our lives in light of this appreciation for our neighbors' struggles has meant we can't live the way we used to. Once you've seen the reality of the rest of the world you can't forget it. We've all become aware of our ability to make more sustainable, realistic choices in our lives.

Congratulations to Jane, James, Andre, Jennifer, Marie Christine, Jason, Bobby, Luke, Gordon, Katie, Jamie, Kaitlyn, Shayla, Jennifer and Jean for working so hard and being such a wonderful team!

(Continued from page 7)

members who ran a special Transit Bay for PLPs coming into the city to get their medication. Often our clients traveled many hours, then waited in the hospital for more than 12 hours to see a doctor and simply could not take the road back to their communities that same day. The Transit Bay is a place for them to spend the night, eat a good meal and be counselled.

Did I make a difference? Well I am not going to pretend that any grandiose changes took place in my short five months in Nigeria. But I can say that small changes took place. Now NGOCE has a Gender and HIV/AIDS Program Officer and a Caucus dedicated to this area of work, something that did not exist before. Hopefully we were able to reach some people in the communities and get the message out about HIV and there are plans for that work to continue should our funding proposal be approved. I know that some of the men I worked with think about women in a different way after endless debates on the subject.

Making a difference is about small changes, one step or individual at a time. Its about you believing that you can take action to make a difference and its about being surrounded by people who have faith in your ability to take that action. So yes, I made a difference in my own way and I thank ACIC and NGOCE for allowing me to do that.



World AIDS Day – NGOCE Caucus on Women, Gender, HIV/AIDS in the Calabar City Walk

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secondary studies. It's not totally uncommon for people around my age to wonder and contemplate what they really want to do with their lives, or if something they're currently studying and pursuing is truly what they want. I was no exception to this, which is why I ended up in Katimavik.

Katimavik allows you to view and assess your life from a unique perspective. Everyday being here, I'm realizing things about myself that I never before considered. I've come to realize that although I'm not furiously taking notes in a lecture hall, I'm learning and gaining knowledge in this real life classroom called Katimavik. Living with 10 other very different people, in 3 separate regions of Canada for 9 months is surreal, overwhelming, and exciting all at the same time.

Volunteering in the community teaches participants to appreciate the simple things in life, the things that matter. You learn to truly understand the priceless value of a smile and appreciative thanks as payment for a favor. Interacting with new people everyday instills confidence into even the most timid of personalities, and living in a group of varying personalities teaches you patience and how to cope with differences.

I feel like I've learned more and will continue to do so, in the remaining time that I am here on Katimavik than by any other means. I have gained so much thus far from this experience, whether it be roommates who I've come to consider family, my own self discovery, or just seeing Canada and its vast amounts of beauty; words can not bring justice to what I feel I've obtained through this program. Through what I've experienced until this point, now more than ever I'm determined to succeed and do something big with my life. My path in life is becoming clearer every day. I have big dreams, and Katimavik has brought me substantially closer to achieving them.

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International Development is a difficult field sometimes, filled with ethical dilemmas. I have struggled with the problems that arise when people of good intentions intervene in other cultures. I have had to work very hard to become sensitive to issues of cultural bias in development work. Then there are the limitations that come with the low-pay (or perpetual volunteerism) of some non-governmental or non-profit work. There is also the alienation from those who do not understand the worth of humanitarian-based work. But the rewards of contributing to a greater quality of life for those whose resources are limited is one that gives me more satisfaction than material gain ever could.

The field of international development is surely not for everyone. And not everyone that takes part in a similar trip to a poor country will experience the same kind of life change. But straying from one's comfort zone to have one's values and assumptions tested is something that I would recommend to anyone. If thinking about how to get the most out of your next vacation I would recommend looking for a volunteer organization with a similar type of trip to a developing country. That tan you could get laying on the beach at an all-inclusive resort will fade with time, but the experience of having your worldview expanded will reward you always.



ACIC's Annual General Meeting & Symposium



**University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown PEI
Wanda Wyatt Dining Hall, New Residence Building
May 5 - 7, 2006**



Please join us in Charlottetown in May for ACIC's AGM & Symposium

Registration now open!

**For more information please contact Jessica Dubelaar at
info@acic-caci.org**

Meet the Board / Rencontrer le Conseil



Marian White of CUSO joined the Board of Directors four years ago. This year she acted as the Co-Chair. We are all very sad that her term has come to the end. This is our farewell and thank you to Marian for all her hard work and dedication to the Board and ACIC.

Marian White, de CUSO, est devenue membre du Conseil d'administration quatre ans passés. Cette année, elle en était coprésidente. Nous sommes tous attristés que son mandat prend fin. Il s'agit de lui souhaiter nos meilleurs vœux et de remercier Marian pour son travail acharné et son dévouement au Conseil et au CACI.

1. How did you get involved with ACIC?

In 1989 I returned home to PEI after working with Oxfam-DEVERIC in Halifax. I was asked to coordinate the activities of the Atlantic Program Committee of CCIC which was the predecessor to ACIC. We conducted a Council needs assessment that resulted in incorporation of ACIC with the office moving from PEI to Moncton where it operated until CIDA cut funding. In the late 90s I attended a meeting of Atlantic NGOs at St. FX that brought ACIC out of dormancy and situated the office in Falls Brook Centre, NB. I've been on the Board on and off over the past six years. My term is up in May and I will pass the PEI Representative position on to someone else.

2. What were some of your favorite memories during your time on the Board of Directors?

Favorite memories centre around the people working or volunteering for progressive work in the Atlantic. In the beginning we prided ourselves in being representative of grassroots groups from across the Atlantic. More recently there are more NGOs taking the lead on Council activities. It's inspiring to be part of a movement working for a common goal. I enjoyed seeing ACIC's membership grow over the years. There were some innovative projects initiated by ACIC which will stay with me - most recently the Ethical Images work and from previous years Traveling Wisely and Climate Change. Memories of our annual gatherings - taking a walk in the Debert Bunker or a stroll along Conception Bay South, NL will stay with me.

3. What are you going to miss the most about being on the Board?

I'll miss the sense of camaraderie at the Board level and

1. Comment êtes-vous impliqué dans le CACI?

En 1989, je suis revenue à l'ÎPÉ après avoir travaillé avec Oxfam-DEVERIC à Halifax. On m'a demandé de coordonner les activités du Comité du programme Atlantique du CCCI qui fut le prédécesseur du CACI. Nous avons effectué une Évaluation des besoins du Conseil qui mena à l'incorporation du CACI ; le bureau fut déménagé de l'ÎPÉ à Moncton, où il a fonctionné jusqu'à ce que l'ACDI ait coupé son financement. Vers la fin des années 1990, j'ai participé à une rencontre des ONG de l'Atlantique à St. FX qui fit sortir le CACI de sa dormance et son bureau fut installé à Falls brook, NB. J'ai siégé au Conseil à différentes reprises durant les six dernières années. Mon mandat se termine en mai ; je vais donc passer le poste de représentant(e) de l'ÎPÉ à une autre personne.

2. Quels sont certains de vos souvenirs préférés de votre temps au Conseil d'administration ?

Mes souvenirs préférés sont centrés sur les gens travaillant ou se portant volontaires pour des efforts progressifs en Atlantique. Au début, nous étions fiers d'être représentants de groupes de base à travers l'Atlantique. Plus récemment, il y a encore plus d'ONG qui prennent les devants dans les activités du Conseil. C'est inspirant de faire partie d'un mouvement qui travaille pour un but commun. J'ai bien aimé voir l'arrivée de plus en plus de membres au CACI au fil des années. Certains projets novateurs furent amorcés par le CACI et ils vont rester dans mon esprit ; plus récemment, le travail sur les Images éthiques, et au cours des années précédentes, Voyager avec sagesse et les Changements climatiques. Certains souvenirs de nos rencontres annuelles - une marche dans l'Abri fortifié de Debert, ou une ballade le long de Conception Bay South, à Terre-Neuve, me sont chers.

3. Qu'est-ce qui va te manquer le plus après avoir siégé sur le Conseil ?

Je vais manquer le sentiment de camaraderie au niveau du Conseil et parmi les membres des comités. Je vais

among committee members. I'll miss being at the centre of a vibrant network of Atlantic NGOs - in fact, I don't think I can leave 100% so I may remain involved at the Committee level through my work with CUSO Atlantic.

4. What is your advice to the Board as you say farewell?

My advice would be to always remember that ACIC needs to remain a regional body sharing opportunities among four provinces, two languages in a relatively marginalized part of Canada. As Stuart MacLean would say "We're not big, but we're small." Dependence on Government funds is a reality and we don't want to compete with our members for scarce funds. ACIC is as strong as its membership and that membership is strengthened as a result of work that ACIC initiates. I advise ACIC to continue to offer resources to our members across the Atlantic region.

manquer de ne pas être au centre d'un réseau vibrant d'ONG de l'Atlantique ; de fait, je ne pense pas pouvoir quitter à 100 % ; je vais peut-être donc demeurer impliquée au niveau des comités grâce à mon travail auprès de CUSO Atlantique.

4. Quels sont tes conseils pour le CACI alors que tu quittes ?

Mes conseils seraient de toujours se rappeler que le CACI se doit de demeurer un organisme régional qui partage les opportunités parmi quatre provinces, deux langues et dans une partie relativement marginalisée du Canada. Comme le dirait Stuart MacLean : « Nous ne sommes pas gros, mais nous sommes petits ! » La dépendance sur les fonds gouvernementaux est une réalité et nous ne voulons pas faire compétition à nos membres pour des fonds rares. Le CACI est aussi fort que ses membres et ce membership est renforcé grâce au travail qu'entame le CACI. Je conseille au CACI de continuer à offrir des ressources à nos membres dans l'ensemble de la région Atlantique.



ACIC'S MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS / LES MEMBRES DU CACI



Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (ACEWH)
Canada World Youth/ Jeunesse Canada Monde
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace
Canadian Co-operative Association
Canadian Crossroads International/Carrefour Canadien International
Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO)
Canadian Red Cross
CAUSE Canada
Centre for International Studies (UCCB)
Clean Nova Scotia
Coady International Institute
College of the North Atlantic, International Programs Office
Cooper Institute
CUSO
EARTH ACTION
Ecology Action Centre
Extension Community Development Cooperative
Falls Brook Centre
Institute for Island Studies, UPEI
International Family Farm Exchange
International Health Office - Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University
Katimavik

Lester Pearson International
Mennonite Central Committee, Maritimes
MI International, Marine Institute, Memorial University
Mount Allison University
Mount Saint Vincent University
New Brunswick Community College
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Nova Scotia Community College, Centre for International Activities
Nova Scotia Environmental Network
Nova Scotia Gambia Association
Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG)
OXFAM Canada
PEI Environmental Network
Rising Tide Cooperative Ltd.
Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR)
Solidarité Acadie Haiti
Tatamagouche Centre
United Church of Canada – Maritime Conference
University of New Brunswick Saint John, International Office
WUSC
YMCA Canada East - Management Resource Centre
YMCA - Fredericton
YMCA Halifax-Dartmouth