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ACIC  **CACI**
ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation gratefully acknowledges financial support for its work from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international



ACIC Mission Statement

The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation is a coalition of individuals, organizations, and institutions working in the Atlantic region, which is committed to achieving global sustainability in a peaceful and healthy environment, with social and economic justice, human dignity, and participation for all.

ACIC supports its members in international cooperation and education through collective leadership, networking, information, training and coordination, and represents their interests when dealing with government and others.

ACIC Vision

Atlantic Canadians engaged as global citizens to create a just world.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010



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YEAR IN REVIEW



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REPORT FROM CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thirty-five years ago, in 1975, a small group of individuals formed the Atlantic Programs Committee of the CCIC, a coalition group that was the predecessor to ACIC. With a starting membership of fewer than ten organizations, ACIC is now proud to be a group of 75 organizations and individual members. We have learned much over the years and we continue to grow and change and to meet the challenges that arise in our work.

The past year has been one of change and through this, reflection about the international and national contexts shaping work across our sector. Many opportunities have presented themselves - in particular the Better Aid bill, which ensures that there will be a continued role for civil society organizations in development, and the Civil Society Organization Open Forum process that has been led in Canada by the CCIC. There have also been challenges that have arisen. In particular, we have seen great changes in past several years in the regions, as more development organizations centralize and offices downsize or close altogether. This has had a large impact on Atlantic Canadian organizations - we are losing dedicated and skilled staff and fewer organizations have the resources to engage the public. Equally concerning is the idea that as fewer organizations have a presence in the region, Atlantic Canadians do not have access as they once did to information through public engagement campaigns. By phasing out regional offices, NGOs are alienating themselves from rural donor communities, losing grassroots connections and de-mobilizing popular support for their campaigns.

This places an even greater responsibility on ACIC - to ensure that Atlantic Canadian organizations continue to have a voice, to maintain their ability to access resources and influence policy and to also raise the bar so that we as a coalition continue to work together to help the poorest of the poor.

Over the past year ACIC has worked to achieve these goals in several ways. We ratified our Code of Ethics document and created our first Self-Assessment Tool for all ACIC members. As well, ACIC has maintained its partnerships with environmental networks and worked in collaboration as educators in workshops on environmental practices in NS and social networking on PEI.

Our public engagement work continues to move Atlantic Canadians along the spectrum of learning to encourage active global citizenship. Our First Voices project has continued to be a great success, focusing on dance as this year's activity with indigenous youth coming together in solidarity from the Philippines and Atlantic Canada. Our Move Your World Youth Conference once again acted to provide an entry point to youth into the world of global citizenship.

This past year has also been one of challenges for ACIC, as a centralization process meant we lost one of our members, UNICEF, from the

Atlantic Region. With UNICEF's departure went one of our valuable Board Members, John Humble, to whom we owe much. John was a very dedicated board member and great resource for all of us. We are very grateful for his contributions to the board from 2008-2010.

We would also like to thank our other Board Members, Maureen McLean, Jennifer Morningstar, Robin Vernest, Lesley Magee, Andrea MacDonald and Wanda Wadman for their contributions to ACIC. As well, we would like to thank our wonderful staff, Jessica Dubelaar, Rena Kulczycki, Carolyn Whiteway, Brie Rehbein, Tatjana Vukoja and Abena Amoako-Tuffour. We have been very fortunate to have such dedicated and skilled staff at ACIC. Congratulations also to Brie Rehbein on the new addition to her family this year- baby Moe.

And lastly, we would like to thank the members of ACIC. As we look back over the past 35 years, we can see what true dedication to international cooperation entails. To those of you who have been with us from the beginning, to those of you who are just becoming members, we thank you for your contribution to ACIC.

Sincerely,



Kathy Moulton,
Chair of the Board of Directors



Jennifer Slot,
Executive Director

35 YEARS: THE HISTORY OF ACIC

The Atlantic Program Committee

by Brian O'Neil

The forerunner to ACIC was the Atlantic Program Committee of the CCIC. Brian O'Neil joined the Program Committee in 1978 as a representative of the St. John's Oxfam Committee.

The Atlantic Program Committee had no staff, but received an operating budget sufficient for about three meetings annually for the seven or eight representatives from the four Atlantic Provinces. In addition, the Committee received a comparatively generous annual budget of about \$25,000 (perhaps \$100,000 in today's currency) to allocate as grants for regional project applications. Funds went to support efforts as diverse as progressive theatre projects (e.g. Mulgrave Road Theatre Co-op) to a travelling road show about Newfoundland's first unionized strike solely based on health and safety (a collaboration with the Steelworkers' union at the asbestos mine in Baie Verte).

Going into the 1980s, there was a period of significant outreach by development activists and educators, with the notable production of written and audio-visual resources (the version of slide show then was much different from the power-points of today, but we did have electricity). Regional agriculture, mining, fishery and union issues were focal points of that outreach. Titles such as 'Farmers, Fed and Fries', 'Runaway Shops' and 'The Lockport Lockout' were conventional fare for the bookshelves of the growing number of resource centres in the region.

While most of the practitioners in the regional branches of the international NGOs were steeped in international experience, the generalized reflection of the Freirian education model of dealing with people's lived experiences led to focusing on the local and then connecting to the global. So, for example, Program Committee members and their organizations were much involved in issues such as unemployment, unionization drives with the United Rubber Workers (and later the Canadian Auto Workers) at the various Michelin plants and working with inshore fishers to strengthen the Maritimes Fishermen's Union. One of the signal examples of this work was the 1977 production by the Mummers Troupe in St. John's, called 'What's that got to do with the Price of Fish?', the literal question asked impatiently by a Newfoundland fish plant worker to a presenter at an international development workshop in St. John's the year before.

Funding was reduced in the 1980s as the era of the Mulroney government took hold, and the Program Committee itself disbanded shortly after the middle of the decade. There always had been a tension between CIDA and the locally-focused programs in this region, and perhaps that came to a head by the mid-to-late 1980s. The Program Committee morphed into ACIC by the mid-1990s.

While 30 years ago the primary benefit of an organization being engaged with the Atlantic Program Committee of CCIC was some sort of political analysis and solidarity, arguably that has switched over the past decade or so to ACIC being a network connector to a significantly larger grouping of organizations involved in a diversity of international development activities.

The 70's

By Joan Campbell

I joined the Atlantic Program Committee of the CCIC in 1978 when I became a staff member of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. The primary mandate of the committee was to do development education in the Atlantic Provinces. One of the principle strategies of the development education program was making the connection between global and local issues. This created some controversy within the CCIC as not all program committees saw development education in that light. Not everyone understood why we thought it was necessary to talk about the decline of agriculture in the Atlantic Provinces while at the same time talking about the growth of agribusiness in the Third World as the global south was then called. One of the key activities that the Atlantic Committee contributed to in between 1977 and 1979 was the People's Food Commission. This was a nation-wide initiative that saw farmers, consumers, and food processing workers making presentations to "people's commissioners" across the region to address what many saw as a crisis in the food industry as prices soared and production on farms and in the fishery declined. Each region appointed its own commissioners and hearings, informal meetings and individual interviews were held throughout Atlantic Canada.

At this time, the NGOs became involved in solidarity work with Southern Africa and Latin America. As liberation wars were waged in South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and

in Central America, development education activities centred on how best to support those struggles and to influence the Canadian response to them. Thus began a series of events featuring political speakers, singers, bands, playwrights and poets who through the 70's and 80's visited Atlantic Canada to bring their world to ours in an attempt to create international understanding and common cause.

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Administration of the Committee has always been a difficult chore, usually demanding enormous work from one individual, and the work it has supported (although it has been directly involved considerably in the past three years). This situation has improved

The Committee has always considered itself a subcommittee of the CCIC National Program Committee, and, as such, as a group reported directly to the CCIC development education staff in Ottawa and has been successful in promoting some excellent development education at the grass roots level, much of which has been used nationally as a pattern of such work (linkages between Canadian primary producers and those in developing countries, for example, or the initial work done on Michelin which led to making tape show on the potato industry led to the NPU's Slide Potato Project in Nicaragua. Conrad Yoner, a New Brunswick farmer involved in the making of the making of the original presentation and in marketing, is now living and working in Nicaragua. It is very important to recognize that it is because the CCIC Regional Program Committee has been in direct contact with struggling groups in the region that contacts have been made through which member organizations were able to create linkages.

Projects:

With the exception of \$5,500 yearly which is used for administration, the Committee uses its CCIC funds to support work in development education which is being done at the grassroots level by organizations in the Atlantic region. Requests for support come primarily from CCIC members who are aware of situations where a small amount of funding might save or promote a worthwhile project. Emphasis is placed on development education work with primary producers and labour, and funding is based on need and the availability of other funding. (Projects have been turned down where sufficient support has been available elsewhere). The maximum amount given in the past three years to any one project has been \$5500 to the Youth and Unemployment Project supported by the Coady International Institute and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace in 1985. The average amount given to any single project is about \$2000 which is often used for seed money needed to initiate work which ultimately is funded by other organizations.

As the budget of the Committee continues to decrease in dollar terms

The Evolution of the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation - 1989-1993

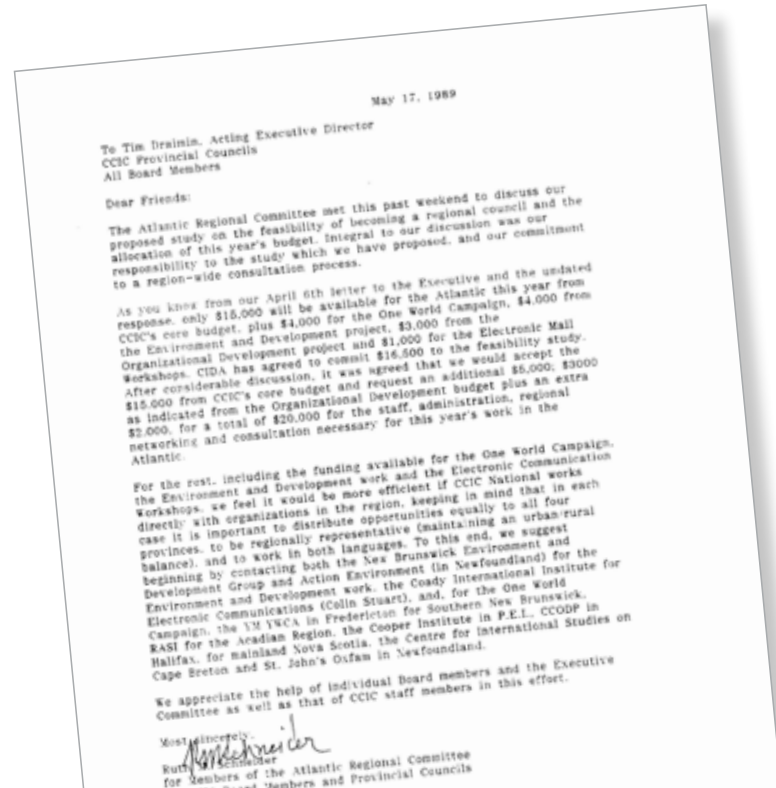
by Marian White

In the fall of 1989 I moved back to PEI and was asked to coordinate activities of the Atlantic Regional Program Committee of CCIC. The priority of the committee's work was to support local projects across the Atlantic Region with a focus on primary producers. The only source of income was a grant from CCIC, typically \$20,000 with 80% going to Programs and the remainder to an honorarium for staff. There was a great sense of camaraderie among the dedicated activists - committee members who included Mike Belliveau, Norm Laverty, Euclide Chaisson, Ruth Schneider, John Arthur - all of whom were directly involved in real social issues at both a local and international level. This was a time before the professionalization of NGO work. Projects included: Maritime Fishermen's Union, National Farmer's Union, Popular Theatre, Central America, Caribbean and South African solidarity projects making links north and south.

The Atlantic Program Committee met twice a year - most commonly in Memramcook, NB, which was central for Committee members. My job as Coordinator was to collect project proposals, communicate with Committee members, organize Committee meetings, produce a newsletter and communicate with CCIC. I also attended training sessions with Provincial Councils and Board Meetings. Over the years there was constant pressure from CCIC to formalize our structure. Finally in the early 90s a feasibility

study was commissioned into forming a Regional Council. This was lead by Joe Byrne who was based out of Cooper Institute.

The founding meeting for ACIC was held in November of 1993.



The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation - Mid 90's

by Joe Byrne

Joe Byrne was hired on as an interim coordinator of ACIC in the summer of 1993. The first meeting was at Marian White's house in Tracadie as a volunteer, where he had agreed to take minutes for the meeting. ACIC was in the process of some organizational development issues: establishing by-laws with objectives, membership, voting structures and financial management. We wanted balance across geography, gender, language and organizational type.

"What I most clearly remember was that there was a very lively discussion on how to best structure the organization to make it representative while retaining flexibility. There was no shortage of disagreement but it was not disagreeable. Also one of the gifts of the organization was the diversity in experience and approach to development from small groups to large organizations but with a common thread that the world belongs to everyone and so it is up to us together to make it work.

As we developed the structures it became clearer that ACIC would be better positioned with an office in Moncton. My time as interim coordinator came to a close as I worked with the new coordinator Johanne Perron, to establish a new office in Moncton. My time as staff with ACIC was short but satisfying. It was a great to see so many people scattered across the region working locally and globally on issues of justice, peace, gender equality, anti-poverty and so many others."

In 1995, during the time that Johanne Perron was ACIC coordinator, the organization had to close its doors due to funding constraints. The office was closed until 2000.

The New Millennium

by Sarah Shima

In 2000, I was working as a Project Coordinator at Falls Brook Centre (FBC) and I remember asking Jean Arnold (FBC's Executive Director) if I could attend a workshop with other Atlantic Canada NGOs working in international development. I remember Jean being reluctant to let me go, because she knew they were going to discuss revitalizing a dormant regional organization and FBC was very busy at that time. Fortunately for me, I went to the meeting. Yes, we discussed revitalizing ACIC, and, yes, Jean's fears were realized when I phoned her, while still in the meeting, to ask if she'd mind if I wrote a proposal to obtain funding from CIDA. It is to Jean's credit that she gracefully consented, and then agreed to be on ACIC's Board of Directors.

The next three years saw ACIC staff (myself, Connie McAdam, Aube Giroux, Marcelle Thibodeau, Carly Chunick, and Andrea Germann) and many volunteers bring together 37 members from the four Atlantic provinces, rewrite bylaws, write a policy manual, put together a website, send out newsletters, host a climate change conference and public deliberations, provide five professional development workshops, organize a travelling film festival, promote culturally and environmentally appropriate travel and tourism, and coordinate annual general meetings (who could forget "jumping the goat" - a local line dance - with Neil Tilley on the Rock?). We also began our partnership with the NGO Coalition for the Environment (NGOCE) in Nigeria, working as part of an 11-organization consortium funded by CIDA. It was an honour to be part of revitalizing ACIC and to have the opportunity to work with many incredibly talented and generous people.

LONG-STANDING ACIC MEMBERS

Cooper Institute

Cooper Institute, founded in Prince Edward Island (PEI), Canada in 1984, is a development education and community development institution which works on global and local development issues, always recognizing the global connections in local issues and the local implications of global events. It was established under the statutes of the Corporations Act PEI. It is a non-profit institute with charitable status. It functions as a collective which includes two staff persons. The Institute operates on a philosophy and practice of inclusion by: gender; economic class; race/ethnicity; language; sexual orientation; abilities; age; etc. The majority of the thirteen members have had work experience in countries of the South. All have worked, and are now working, with marginalized and/or social change groups in Canada.

Currently Cooper Institute's work centers around three main areas: Livable Income; Food Security/Sovereignty, including domestic fair trade; and Cultural Diversity. The Institute is also engaged in such community concerns as public transportation, immigration, and issues related to the Global South. It provides organizational development programs for local community-based organizations, with special attention to those involved in the promotion of social justice.

ACIC has been both a support and a commitment for Cooper Institute since the Institute's beginning. The relationship has changed over the years depending on the availability of resources. It has ranged from interchange among the Atlantic

members in face-to-face gatherings, to funding for projects, to a medium of information exchange, along with various forms of skills development.

Congratulations ACIC on your 35th Anniversary.
Marie Burge

MI International

I would like to say a few words on the 35th Anniversary of ACIC.

MI International has been a member of ACIC for almost 10 years. One of the initial reasons I wanted MI International to join ACIC was to become more involved and knowledgeable about what was happening in Atlantic Canada in the development sector. The rationale was simple: learn more and become more engaged locally.

MI International is very active internationally having completed more than 200 projects in over 50 countries. This, however, means that much of our attention is on the international arena and to a lesser extent on Ottawa/Gatineau where CIDA resides. However, we were less engaged and aware of Atlantic organizations engaged in development. Yet we realized that global development means local involvement. This is one of the greatest benefits that we gained by becoming involved with ACIC. Networking and collaborating with local Atlantic organizations opened many new avenues for our work.

During the past ten years we have been very active. I participated as a member of the board of directors for two terms. We have held numerous workshops, networking breakfasts, CIDA information meetings and Newfoundland and Labrador region meetings in collaboration with ACIC. We have participated in many ACIC projects and campaigns. Since joining ACIC, MI International has become much more involved in local development initiatives. This has included conducting numerous international development awareness raising activities in primary, elementary and secondary schools. Similarly we have engaged more with the post-secondary community and the local community at large through forums, radio spots, posters, auctions and other fund raising activities in benefit of a local food bank, and other charitable initiatives. We have similarly become more engaged with other Atlantic Canada organizations, thus helping MI International respond to local as well as international partnership opportunities.

Ten years ago I was a strong supporter of ACIC and I remain so today. The organization promotes development and social justice through inclusivity and cooperation. It is staffed by a very smart, creative and dedicated group. I sincerely feel honoured to have served on the ACIC board. I made good friends and learned a lot, and maybe even contributed a little.

I wish you and everyone at ACIC my very best.
Bill Chislett

Falls Brook Centre

Falls Brook Centre has long been a supporter of ACIC. Way back in 2000 when ACIC was interested in moving its offices around the Atlantic region, and seeking to move on from Moncton, Falls Brook Centre offered to house the organization within our office complex in Knowlesville, New Brunswick. Sarah Shima was the coordinator at that time; she has since gone on to work at the Canadian Cooperative Association International Department in Ottawa.

Falls Brook Centre and ACIC have partnered on projects, hosted interns together and generally benefited by our association and friendship. Falls Brook Centre (www.fallsbrookcentre.ca) is a New Brunswick based community development training centre.

Over the years working with Jennifer Slood and the team in Halifax we have respected our different mandates and been cognizant of the needs for the networking of organizations that ACIC provides in our region.

Many more healthy productive years of work to come. HAPPY BIRTHDAY ACIC.

Jean Arnold
Executive Director, FBC

ACIC staff

ACIC continues to evolve and to adapt our methods of communication and engagement, in part due to the creativity and innovation of staff members. ACIC has been privileged to work with a number of summer students and contract staff over the past year. Annie Burns Pieper, Diane Obed, Brie Rehbein and Ashley Paul worked on our First Voices Project, Move your World Youth Conference and assisted with communications and membership coordination. ACIC's Associate Director, Jessica Dubelaar took a leave of absence for one year to work as the Interim Executive Director at the Ontario Council for International Cooperation. We welcomed Carolyn Whiteway as Program Manager this year as well. Rena Kulczycki expanded her role as Communications and Membership Coordinator to manage ACIC's annual Move Your World Youth Conference. A large thank you to everyone that has helped to contribute to an amazing year.

International Youth Internship Program

CIDA introduced new program guidelines to the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) this year. In an attempt to streamline the process and make things more efficient for both the government and their partners, new minimums were introduced along with changed eligibility criteria. This meant that ACIC, a CIDA partner through the IYIP for six years, was no longer eligible to apply. An outcry of support from past interns, ACIC members and Southern partners poured out, demonstrating that the unique structure of

our program has had many lasting benefits. After a consultation process with CIDA, at which many advocated on behalf of ACIC, the requirements were changed. A proposal was developed in collaboration with 13 ACIC members and 12 southern partners and submitted to CIDA. As has been the experience with most IYIP partners, the assessment process has been slow and we still have no response regarding the proposal.

AGM & Symposium

ACIC hosted its Annual General Meeting & Symposium in Rothesay, NB in 2009. Our theme was "Inspiring Change" and several colleagues contributed to the conversation. Netsai Moshonga, from the Girl Child Network in Zimbabwe set the tone with her keynote, highlighting the importance of women's participation in politics and setting a challenge for us all - to increase the representation of women in Canada's parliament. Clayton Thomas Muller gave an impassioned presentation about the tar sands and the Indigenous Environmental Network. Gerry Barr spoke about the Accountability Act and Bill Chislett explained the contributions of colleges and universities to the international cooperation movement. Sylvie Giroux, Director General of the Engaging Canadians Directorate at CIDA listened carefully as ACIC member organizations talked about some of the challenges in partnering with CIDA. Many member organizations presented workshops and participated in conversations that hopefully inspired change.



International Development Week

ACIC marked International Development Week this year with our Active-8! Campaign, which highlighted the efforts of young Atlantic Canadians who have been working to bring about change in the world. This campaign was a partnership between ACIC and CIDA. From an outstanding group of nominees, ACIC selected eight individuals from across the Atlantic region that stood out as active global citizens and models of civic engagement.

The eight selected finalists were: Jill McPherson (Port Morien, NS), Adam MacIsaac (St. Peter's Bay, PEI), Sam Littlefair-Wallace (Halifax, NS), Danai Kusikwenyu (St. John's, NL), Saa Andrew Gbongbhor (Fredericton, NB), Amber Valencia (Belle Cote, NS), Ayush Ray (Halifax, NS), and Li Song (Saint John, NB).

In the weeks leading to IDW, each Active-8! ambassador assembled a team of nine individuals who collected action pledges from Atlantic Canadians that were posted online.

Encouraged by this group of remarkable youth, more than 1600 individuals committed to creating a better world in the span of just over two weeks. Congratulations to all the Active-8 team leaders for their tremendous efforts. The team of Jill MacPherson was awarded a prize of \$1,000 for collecting the most action pledges and donated the money to Haiti Relief Efforts through the Humanitarian Coalition and the Red Cross.



Capacity Building - Workshops

Capacity building is a key element of ACIC's services to its membership. Last year, six workshops were delivered in NB during our symposium. These included the following topics:

- Ancient African and Indigenous Wisdom and the path to holistic community development
- Pre-departure training: What's Missing?
- How to Attract and Retain Volunteers
- School Twinning for a Small Planet-Lessons from post-conflict Sierra Leone
- Communications for Change: Engage your Internal and External Audiences
- Gender and Climate Change

ACIC has used a new model this year for developing our capacity building activities. With the development and ratification of our new Code of Ethics, our traditional needs assessment survey was changed so that choices for capacity building activities were framed around its different sections. To that end, workshop topics were identified that reflected areas in which ACIC members had identified gaps in their knowledge and/or experience from the Code of Ethics. A training plan was then developed to meet member needs.

The second part of the new model was to work more in collaboration with ACIC members that are also networks. In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, ACIC worked with the PEI Environmental Network and the NS Environmental Network to deliver workshops for both memberships.

It is anticipated that as more organizations complete sections of the Code of Ethics, our capacity building work will expand to include both formal and informal mentorship relationships between members.

Invisible Women, Concrete Barriers

This year ACIC has worked in partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, the Atlantic Centre of Excellence in Women's Health, and Salvation Army-ARIS project to organize Invisible Women, Concrete Barriers. This project aims to spread awareness of the issues faced by refugee women in Nova Scotia, particularly with policy makers and community members who can implement change. Building on a policy round table that took place in 2008 and follow up sessions in 2009, the 2010 phase of Invisible Women, Concrete Barriers will engage Nova Scotians on topics such as poverty alleviation, social isolation and cultural diversity. This will culminate in a conference being held in honour of World Refugee Day in June 2010.

Members Collaboration Fund

{RIGHT: Representatives of the Mexican Network of Organic Markets. From left to right: Rocío García, Giselle Buchan, and Santiago Martínez, respectively from Puebla, Toluca, and San Jose del Cabo. Organic Certification in the Maritimes and Mexico: funded through ACIC's Members Collaboration Fund.}



Several very strong proposals were submitted this year to ACIC's Members Collaboration Fund. The fund was designed to encourage collaboration within the sector on Public Engagement projects by providing small grants to ACIC members and partners through a competitive process. This fund is particularly important given the reduction in the number of people that are continuing to work on Public Engagement projects in the Atlantic, due to office closures and reduced funding in the Atlantic for public engagement work.

The ACIC program committee reviewed the proposals and four projects were selected. These include:

- Preserving Bird Habitats - One Cup of Coffee at a Time (JUDES, Ecology Action Centre)
- Maritime Tour for International Women's Day 100th Anniversary (CUPE Global Justice Committee, WUSC)
- Organic Certification in the Maritimes and Mexico (Falls Brook Centre, CUSO-VSO)
- Awareness Walk for Haiti (Salutary Angels, International Health Office)

International Women's Day

Again this year, ACIC collaborated with several member and community organizations in Nova Scotia to mark this annual event with an evening of celebration. Many remarkable female performers including the YWCA's 'Fly-W: Girls Changing the World' group and ever-popular 'Raging Grannies' entertained while a potluck meal was shared. Other highlights included African and flamenco dance, song, spoken word and visual art. Donations were collected during the event to support the Feminist Solidarity Camp on the Haitian border established following the January 2010 earthquake. A moment of silence was held to commemorate the lives of feminist Haitian leaders who died as a result of the disaster. ACIC also supported the work of some member organizations through our members collaboration fund to organize events in the other Atlantic Canadian provinces.

Code of Ethics

After two years of work, ACIC ratified its Code of Ethics at the Annual General Meeting in June 2009. The next several months were spent reviewing examples of self-assessment documents and developing a methodology that would work for our membership. In April 2010, ACIC's Self-Assessment process was announced and members were given notice that the forms must be completed within two years. The Code of Ethics has been broken into smaller, more manageable sections that will be completed in six-month increments. Over the course of the next two years, ACIC will begin analysing the results of the assessment forms to develop a training plan and mentorship process that will enable all of us as practitioners to collaboratively raise the standards of our work.

Evaluation

ACIC is wrapping up a three-year process of using a participatory model to evaluate our work. This year there was an exercise at the ACIC Board Retreat that enabled board members to learn more about the process and to learn some of the tools that we have used to evaluate our services. At the retreat, the Board and Staff collaboratively outlined the key activities that we have performed over the past year and documented the main activities that would take place in the coming year. The four Provincial Representatives of the board and two ACIC staff members formed an ad hoc evaluation committee that developed an evaluation framework and identified key questions and activities that would be our

focus this year. The committee selected the appropriate tools to measure our results and participated in a review process to build confidence in applying them. During networking meetings in NS, NL and PEI, Provincial Board Representatives and staff met with ACIC members to review and assess our past activities and to plan where ACIC should focus its resources in the coming years. An evaluation report has been generated and this will feed in to our strategic planning process, which will take place in 2010/2011.

Move Your World Youth Conference

The annual Move Your World Youth Symposium is a three-day, eye-opening event for Atlantic Canadians aged 15-18. The conference brings together a diverse group of youth in a rural setting to learn about global issues and develop skills in an interactive, exciting educational experience.

This year the conference took place from November 12th -15th on Prince Edward Island. Partnering with the YMCA Newcomers Association, UNICEF and the Canadian Red Cross, ACIC was also joined by 20 youth volunteers who helped at the conference. More than 45 participants attended the conference. Based on the assessment from facilitators, volunteers and participants, the impact on youth participants was large. It is hoped that through participation in this conference, more youth will be equipped with the tools and resources necessary to become active global citizens that are effective communicators for change.



{LEFT: Left to Right: Samantha Lewis, Matthew Okkuatsiak}

First Voices

“First Voices: Connecting Aboriginal Youth from the North and the South” is a five-year project that brings together indigenous youth from Atlantic Canada and the Global South to share and collaborate through the Arts. It engages Atlantic Canadian youth on the theme of solidarity between Aboriginal groups in the North and the South and seeks to create strong, confident leaders with a solid understanding of global citizenship.

Recognizing dance as an integral part of indigenous culture, this year’s fourth phase of the project brought together youth from the Atlantic and the Philippines to share their talents through public performances and workshops that highlighted how dance provides them strength and a connection with their identity and heritage.

Over an intensive 10-day period, the dancers traveled to First Nations and non-aboriginal communities in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island to perform and interact with students and community members. Highlights included a collaborative performance at a pow wow in Indian Brook First Nation, participation in traditional Mi’kmaq ceremonies and a finale performance in Halifax.

With the help of funding from the Halifax Regional Municipality, we were able to create a website to profile the 23 youth who have been involved with First Voices since the project’s beginning and showcase the amazing work they have produced. (www.firstvoicesproject.ca)

Preparations to bring all previous First Voices participants together to reflect upon and share their experience with each other are already underway for the final phase of the project in 2010. In addition to First Nations and Inuit artists from Atlantic Canada, we will once again welcome dancers, musicians, poets, and visual artists from Botswana, the Philippines, Guatemala, Chile and Honduras for what is sure to be an inspiring gathering of remarkable youth.

“I believe that dance is not just body movement and techniques but a creative expression of one’s culture. It can tell a story, a way to communicate feelings and emotions. By sharing our dance with others we will be able to understand other people and other cultures.” -Faith Marlette Dao-ay, Filipino participant

Networking - Provincial Meetings

Provincial Representatives from ACIC's Board of Directors have taken a leadership role this year in hosting provincial networking meetings. These provide an opportunity for ACIC members and others to come together and network and also provide a forum for ACIC to share information about programs and events. Meetings this year took place in all four Atlantic Provinces, with only Prince Edward Island seizing the opportunity to make these a regular occurrence. It is hoped that in coming years other provinces institute the meetings as well.

Inter-Council Network

The Inter-Council Network (ICN) represents the seven provincial and regional councils across Canada. This year, the ICN had five meetings, participating in capacity building activities and sharing resources and ideas. The ICN also collaborated on a public engagement position paper that has been presented to CIDA in order to feed into the consultation process around CIDA's public engagement strategy. The paper has been well received and will be presented to other audiences in the coming year.

As the ICN evolves, we continue to work together to bring the voice of the regions and provinces to Ottawa so that the concerns and solutions we seek will continue to be heard.



{ABOVE: From right to left) Jessica Dubelaar, OCIC; Jennifer Slood (ACIC); Shams Alibhai (BCCIC); Gervais L'Heureux (AQOCI); Heather McPherson (ACGC)}

REPORTS

Policy and By-Law Committee Report

Jennifer Morningstar, Chair

Over the past year the Policy and By-law Committee has been tasked with three responsibilities: to review and assess the Board Policy Manual, the ACIC Policy Manual and ACIC's By-Laws and make recommendations to the board of directors for any necessary changes. It was decided at last year's AGM that the work of the Policy and By-Law Committee was overwhelming with the newly implemented Code of Ethics. For this reason, a new Ethics committee was formed to take over the Code of Ethics work. The Policy and By-Law committee completed the annual review and update of the Board Policy Manual and the organization's Policy Manual. In addition a similar examination of the ACIC By-laws took place. Recommendations for changes were made to ACIC's Board of Directors.

The Committee comprises Jennifer Morningstar (Chair), Satya Ramen, and the Executive Director of ACIC. I would like to thank Satya and Jennifer for their work on this committee. Policy is sometimes seen as dull, but in reality it is the backbone of the organization.

Ethics Committee Report

Kathy Moulton, Chair

The Ethics committee was newly formed this year, and we found out that there was certainly enough work to keep us going. We have been so busy! In addition to ensuring that ACIC is in compliance with CCIC's Code of Ethics Self-Assessment, we created a Self-Assessment tool specifically for ACIC and its members. Our goal was to create a useful and manageable evaluation tool that would benefit the members rather than cause more work. With the help of our intern, Abena Amoako-Tuffour, we successfully completed our tool and forwarded it to our membership. Our goal for the upcoming year is to help our members complete the tool and to hold workshops tailored to the needs of our members. As this has been my second year working with the Code of Ethics, I would like to thank all of those involved in its creation, because it would not have been possible without all of you: Linda Snyder, Ashley Pinsent, Jessica Dubelaar, Jennifer Morningstar, Jennifer Sloom, Satya Ramen, Victoria Greenslade and Abena Amoako-Tuffour.

I have enjoyed working on this worthwhile project with you!

Income Diversification Committee Report

Lesley Magee, Chair

The role of the Income Diversification Committee (IDC) is to explore, identify and secure sources of core and project funding outside of CIDA and to identify opportunities for promotion of ACIC among potential donors.

In 2009-2010, the Income Diversification Committee lost two members, Bill Chislett and Kathy Moulton, but gained two new members, Mary Rigby from Nova Scotia and Ann Marie Lewis from Newfoundland. We are working toward recruiting at least two new members, one each from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

We have begun our task to diversify our funding by working with the Inter-Council Network, participating in October in a conference call concerning provincial funding. From the call we took away many ideas on where and how to pursue provincial funding. We have developed a working document on potential funding sources from each of the provincial governments and have established a plan to set up meetings with provincial representatives. We will begin by focusing on building linkages with government representatives from Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, as our present committee members are based in those provinces.

The IDC thanks all of the staff at ACIC for their support and hard work in the area of income diversification!

Program Committee Report

Members: Robin Vernest (Chair), Julie Ouellet, Hugh Landry.

During the past fiscal year, the Program Committee focused its efforts in the following areas:

- The Committee supported ACIC staff in the selection process and the delivery of the Member Collaboration Fund.
- Support was provided for this year's First Voices Program by assisting in the search for partnership opportunities.
- The Committee also reviewed AGM proposals for member workshops and assisted ACIC staff with the AGM.

In the next fiscal year the Committee will assist staff in the development of a matrix to assess new projects and programs for ACIC.

We would like to thank the ACIC Executive Director Jennifer Sloat, as well as the ACIC staff for their hard work and dedication to the Council. Respectfully submitted by the Program Committee.

Personnel Committee Report

Kathy Moulton, Chair

The personnel committee had some rough roads to cover this year. A small committee to start with, we were especially hit hard with the loss of UNICEF and John Humble. His vision and dedication to this committee was the driving force behind many of our initiatives. The personnel committee was able to review and revise the way that ACIC completes evaluations at the management level. Working with the Executive Director we have started on the path to streamlining all our evaluations to ensure a more collaborative approach to establishing and reviewing work plans. We have developed a tool which will allow ACIC staff to share their visions for the future of ACIC within their specific roles. It will enhance and strengthen the collaborative nature of the ACIC office by clarifying the specific roles for each team member. We hope that this new tool will be fully in use by 2011.

Many thanks to John Humble, Robyn Vernest and Marian White for their tireless efforts to improve the personnel committee and to reach its goals.

Financial Committee Report

Andrea MacDonald, Treasurer

This year ACIC has been able to diversify funding through provincial and municipal support which has been a great asset to the finances of ACIC. It has been a difficult year, with many delays in revenue that the organization relies on, however you will see from our financial statements that ACIC has once again been able to keep a balanced budget for the year.

Many thanks to the staff who provided invaluable input regarding the current and future financial decisions and in particular to Tatjana Vukoja, our bookkeeper for all her work in keeping the staff and board up to date on all financial matters.

AUDIT REPORT

ATLANTIC COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES AND NET ASSETS *for the year ended March 31, 2010*

	2010	2009
REVENUE		
Projects (note 4)	\$ 210,258	\$ 388,935
Core	72,022	78,778
Project overhead	22,803	35,147
	<u>305,083</u>	<u>502,860</u>
EXPENSES		
Projects:		
Public engagement	191,610	181,900
International development week	20,333	17,250
International youth internship	-	120,000
REEL World Video	-	76,375
Core	65,445	64,196
Project overhead	22,803	35,147
	<u>300,191</u>	<u>494,868</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	4,892	7,992
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>51,885</u>	<u>43,893</u>
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 56,777</u>	<u>\$ 51,885</u>

Membership Committee Report

Maureen Maclean, Chair

The Membership Committee functions as a committee of the Board of Directors and reports to the Board at each board meeting. The responsibility of the committee is to review each application and make recommendations to ACIC's Board of Directors, who then provides membership recommendations to ACIC's members at the annual meeting. This year the committee met several times by conference call and through email correspondence to review and standardize the membership application process. Their recommendations included: implementing an electronic application format, outlining a procedure for dealing with unratified applications, redefining the role of the committee and the membership coordinator. These recommendations were approved by the board and entered into the board policy manual. This required a great deal of coordination and the committee would like to thank Rena Kulczycki for her assistance and coordination.

This year applications continued to be submitted and this attests to the value that development organizations and individuals place on membership in ACIC. The benefit to ACIC is that we have a larger base from which to recruit members who are willing to take an active role on committees and activities. In turn this gives ACIC a broader reach and better understanding of what members expect from their organization.

Applications on behalf the following organizations were recommended, pending final approval by the membership:

Chalice Canada
Heartwood Centre for Community Youth Development

The following individuals were also recommended for membership pending final approval by the membership:

Crystal Baird
David Cotton
Catherine Ronahan
Joanne Marshall
Shanta Neupane

Throughout the year members had the opportunity to network at breakfast meetings, training events and provincial meetings across the region. Special thanks to committee members, Anne Wheatley, Hugh Landry and Bill Chislett.

As Committee chair I would also like to thank the great staff at ACIC who make participating on the committee so much easier with their emails and follow up.

'09
'10



ANGEL VATS ANGELAH SENKEYIAN KUSERO ANDREA PAPAN ATLANTIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH CANADA WORLD YOUTH/ JEUNESSE CANADA MONDE CANADIAN
CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION CANADIAN CROSSROADS INTERNATIONAL CANADIAN EXECUTIVE SERVICE
ORGANIZATION CANADIAN RED CROSS CENTRE FOR NURSING STUDIES, INTERNATIONAL OFFICE CAUSE
CANADA COADY INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
OFFICE COMMUNITY FORESTS INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW BRUNSWICK CONVERGENCE
CONSULTING SOLUTIONS ATLANTIC COOPER INSTITUTE COUNCIL OF CANADIANS CRISTIAN SUTEANU CUSO-
VSO CUPE GLOBAL JUSTICE CTTEE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (CCODP) DONALD FRASER EARTH ACTION ECOLOGY
ACTION CENTRE ELLA TETRAULT EXTENSION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVE FALLS BROOK CENTRE FARMERS

HELPING
FARMERS
GPI ATLANTIC
HOLLY LANGILLE
INSTITUTE OF ISLAND
STUDIES, UPEI INTER-
NATIONAL HEALTH
OFFICE: FACULTY OF
MEDICINE: DAL JIM

MEMBERS

THORKELSON JUSTUS! DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION SOCIETY KATHLEEN COOPER KATHY MOULTON KATIMAVIK LESTER PEARSON
INTERNATIONAL MARY RIGBY MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MI INTERNATIONAL, MARINE INSTITUTE MICHEL KAOZI MIKINDURI
CHILDREN OF HOPE MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL OFFICE MYRA
THORKELSON NEWFOUNDLAND-LABRADOR FEDERATION OF CO-OPERATIVES NORA MC CARTHY NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK NOVA SCOTIA-GAMBIA ASSOCIATION NOVA SCOTIA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP NOVA
SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OXFAM CANADA PEACEFUL SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL PEI
ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK RESCUE MISSION/MISSION TERRE CANADA SARAH MILLS SALUTARY ANGELS/LES ANGES BIENFAISANTS
SOCIETY FOR CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA - ATLANTIC CANADA CHAPTER SMU
- INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OFFICE TATAMAGOUCHE CENTRE THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA - MARITIME CONFERENCE UNB -
FREDERICTON UNB, INTERNATIONAL OFFICE (SAINT JOHN) UNICEF WUSC (WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF CANADA) YMCA CANADA
EAST - MANAGEMENT RESOURCE CENTRE