



BC Council for International Cooperation
1989 - 2009 Celebrating 20 Years!

www.bccic.ca

One Village

June 2009

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BCCIC Update

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CCIC's 41st Annual General Meeting

May 22 to 23rd marked CCIC's AGM celebrated in Gatineau, Quebec with representation from its 90-plus members. The one-and-a-half day meeting included presentations by two international authors, Michael Edwards and Susan George, and Bruce Campbell, the Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The opportunity to listen to all three people was truly inspirational. Susan George is the author of 14 books written in French and English. Her most recent book is "Hijacking America: How the Religious and Secular Right Changed What Americans Think". Many may remember her from her first well-known book, "How the Other Half Dies: the Real Reason for World Hunger."

I was most struck by the provocative discussion with Michael Edwards. He is a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Demos, a network for Ideas and Action in New York, and has worked at the Ford Foundation, the World Bank, and Save the Children, and Oxfam UK. He is the author (most recently) of "Just Another Emperor? The Myths and Realities of Philanthro-capitalism." We had the opportunity to engage him with questions and answers on this provocative piece. He raises questions and challenges on the work of Bill and Melinda Gates and other philanthro-capitalists. He argues that their business thinking and markets' approach is not the only tool as they suggest - other than CSOs and government - for addressing poverty. All the three papers presented are available on CCIC's website.

<http://www.ccic.ca/e/home/index.shtml>



The British Columbia Council for International Cooperation celebrates 20 years!

June 28th, 2009 marks 20 years since BCCIC was incorporated. This is a proud and exciting moment for all of us. We are planning celebrations to mark this year, beginning June 28th, 2009 and leading up to June 28th, 2010. We invite you to join us in this anniversary with events throughout the year. Many ideas are brewing. This includes acknowledging and celebrating the contributions and achievements of organizations and individuals with exemplary service to international cooperation and development, increasing BCCIC's profile with MLAs and provincial representatives and building stronger relations with the media. We will keep you posted and look forward to making our 20th anniversary a memorable year. If you have suggestions please [write to us](#).



The Inter-Council Network (ICN) meets with Margaret Biggs, President of CIDA

On May 19th the ICN, comprised of the seven Councils/ Regions for International Cooperation across Canada, met with the president of CIDA. The purpose of this meeting was to share the work of the ICN and to share the results of two specific polls by the Manitoba and Alberta Councils.

The Alberta Council for Global Cooperation in partnership with Angus Reid Strategies, and the Wild Rose Foundation, conducted a poll that asked Albertans their views on global poverty issues. This study is the first of its kind and shows significant support among Albertans for the work being done by over 100 Alberta-based organizations involved in international development. The Manitoba Council for International Cooperation conducted a poll to gauge results from its One-Month Challenge where people are encouraged to consume only fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate for 30 days (See <http://fairtrademanitoba.ca/get-involved/omc/>). For more information on the ACGC poll visit the poll's webcast and results at: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/webcast/viewEvent.cgi?eventID=2576860> (Available until June 10th 2009)

BCCIC Update

BCCIC joins board of directors of Canadian Council for International Cooperation

During this year's 41st Annual General Meeting of CCIC held on May 22 and 23rd, BCCIC joined the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is comprised of 14 members elected for two-year terms on a rotating basis. The Provincial/Regional Councils Board members are selected in their region and ratified by the CCIC membership at the AGM. This year, BCCIC is joined by MCIC, AQOCI and the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation on the board.



CCIC's Public Engagement Forum Update

BCCIC staff recently attended CCIC's Public Engagement Forum titled "*The Role of Public Engagement & Campaigning in Changing Times*" in Ottawa on May

20 to 21, 2009. Up to 70 public engagement practitioners attended the forum from across the country recognizing the forum as an important opportunity to connect, dialogue, and share practices and tools.

The two-day forum exceeded many expectations with creative panel discussions, a public engagement buffet, capacity building workshops, presentations and speakers. The forum addressed the current socio-political context that provides the backdrop and implications for public engagement work and focused on how campaigns and coalitions provide a platform to explore public engagement, policy influence, and development goals.

The highlights included, Professor Ali A. Abdi from the department of educational policy studies at the University of Alberta, who stressed the need for co-development, co-thinking and co-learning as ethical practices for global citizenship. Taking It Global presented the youth perspective and their role in strengthening the global movement

especially through technology. A key interest was how do we engage youth effectively considering their diverse needs and include them in Prof Abdi's notion of co-learning that moves away from dominant perspectives of 'us and them'. Participants discussed the need to: integrate a human rights approach in to programming, strengthened coalition building, to think outside the box and use media more effectively to shift broader consciousness.

Representatives from Make Poverty History, Amnesty International, Oxfam and RESULTS Canada unpacked existing campaigns to address the challenges, lessons, and strategies used to engage Canadians as global citizens. The forum provided a space for dialogue, mutual learning, resource sharing and networking that will hopefully lead to strengthened collaboration and partnerships within and between sectors.

News Flash

Approaches to Strengthening CIDA

Jerry Barr and Brian Tomlinson shared a new 8-page document on "**Approaches to Strengthening CIDA: Creating an Effective Government Department for International Cooperation**" at CCIC's AGM. This is an important document to review and describes how CIDA may be re-created with a whole-of-government approach that envisions CIDA as a government department with a legislated mandate, and with the authority, human, and financial resources to be the pre-eminent government institution to manage and coordinate Canadian ODA. We highly recommend this document.

The document was discussed and all CCIC members are encouraged to submit their feedback. Given we may have an election this fall, this is a critical time to submit our concerns and viewpoints. The document is to be shared with parliamentarians across all parties. **CCIC and BCCIC welcome your feedback.** The document is available at http://www.ccic.ca/docs/002_aid_2009-06_strengthening_cida.pdf.

To share your feedback please contact btomlinson@ccic.ca.

Heed Students and Band Canadian Asbestos, Say Health, Environment and Social Justice Organizations

A number of Canada's foremost health, environment and labour organizations are urging Canadian Parliamentarians to heed the call by three Grade 10 students from northern British Columbia to ban Canadian asbestos being brought to Ottawa. The students have written a bill to end Canada's mining and export of asbestos to developing countries.

"We support these students one hundred per cent," said Diana Daghofer, Co-Chair of Prevent Cancer Now. "We hope that Canada's political leaders are listening to them and to the massive Canadian and international backing for a ban on the production, use and export of this deadly substance."

"It is time to end the double standard whereby we export a product that we refuse to use in Canada because of the threat we know it poses to public health," said Kathleen Ruff of the Rideau Institute on International Affairs.

For further information, including the positions of various political parties, please go to www.preventcancer.ca

To the Parliament of Canada:



BAN CANADIAN ASBESTOS NOW!

Member News & Events



CUSO-VSO Returned Volunteers

CUSO-VSO would like to thank the following returned volunteers for their service: Dale Boothby, Alexandra Johns, Janeen Sawatzky, Kelly Scarrow (Thailand/Burma), Mahfar Bough (Vanuatu), Karly Pinch (Cameroon) and James Kyle (Tanzania). Welcome home to BC!



CoDev Fundraising Dinner

Saturday, June 6th

Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph St., Victoria

CoDev's annual dinner has sold out in recent years. No surprise considering the great food, good friends and fantastic entertainment! Indulge in the famous dessert auction and bid in the huge silent auction. All proceeds support CoDev's work in building Canadian -Latin American solidarity. codev@codev.org or 604.708.1495. Tickets \$50 (\$25 low waged) available at the CoDev office.

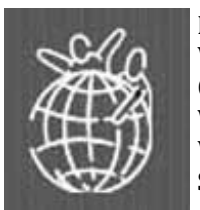


Paws 4 Peace

June 7

Second Beach, Stanley Park

Canadian Red Cross The Vancouver Red Cross and the Humanitarian Issues Working Group presents Paws 4 Peace. People and dogs walk together to help create a world where everyone can walk without the fear of deadly legacies of war. Includes fun activities for the whole family, including dog agility demonstrations, crafts and community booths. Bring your pooch, and join us in raising funds and awareness! <http://www.paws4peace.ca/>



RESULTS Meetings

Victoria, June 10th, 7-9 pm (2nd Tuesday of each month)

Cardiff Place, 1246 Fairfield Rd., anita@results-resultats.ca

Vancouver, June 24th, 6:30-8:30 (Last Wednesday of each month)

VPL, 1455 West 10th Avenue, vancouver.results@gmail.com

Salt Spring Island, June 1st, 6:30-8:30 (1st Tuesday of each month)

Artspring, karenjp@shaw.ca



Seva Benefit at Chai Gallery

June 10, July 8 2009

Chai Gallery, 3239 West Broadway

The second Wednesday of every month is Seva night at Chai! Join us for the second Seva benefit evening at the Chai Gallery, a Silk Route-inspired restaurant. \$35 cost includes \$10 donation to Seva's sight program.



Canadian Red Cross Power of Humanity Centennial Celebration

Tuesday, June 16 6:00

Rocky Mountaineer Station, 1755 Cottrell St.

Canadian Red Cross The Canadian Red Cross invites you to their Regional Annual Meeting followed by a Reception and Awards Presentation to celebrate the many ways that people are harnessing the power of humanity to make a difference in local communities and the world.

Amnesty International World Refugee Day

June 19, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Vancouver Central Library, 350 W. Georgia St.

Please join us for discussion and displays exploring refugee experiences in Canada and our responses to them. Admission is free.



Amnesty International Human Rights Leadership for Youth

July 13-17 or July 20-24

VCC City Center Campus, Vancouver

These week-long day-camps will help participants develop knowledge and insight around human rights issues and acquire leadership skills through a variety of workshops, discussions, films, and guest speakers.

Open to youth aged 13 -17. Fee for session is \$120 (scholarships available). Further information at www.aipacific.org or 604-294-5160.

Stories from the Field

Local ready to hit the road

Although 21-year-old Rachel Moxham was raised in a small city, she has big dreams.

The Armstrong resident has committed to cycle across Canada and raise funds for a charity that invests in primary education in Ethiopia. Ethiopia is one of the world's 10 poorest nations, and it's estimated that 200,000 classrooms need to be built to provide access for the over three million children in Ethiopia that are currently out of school.

"I am cycling across Canada to raise awareness and \$25,000 for imagine1day, a Vancouver-based organization focused at primary education in Ethiopia," said Moxham.

"The \$25,000 that I am raising will all go directly toward enhancing female education within imagine1day projects," said Moxham. The imagine1day organization was established in 2005 in Vancouver and has been operating in Ethiopia since December 2007.

Sapna Dayal, executive director of imagine1day, said that the organization focuses its efforts on addressing the four pillars of education: access, efficiency, equity, and quality.



"Through our work children move out of open air make-shift classrooms and proudly take their seats in newly constructed schools made of locally sourced stones, cement, and other materials," said Dayal.

"Rachel Moxham's dream to cycle across Canada is connecting her passion to her imagine1day contribution," said Dayal. "It is with the support and dedication of people like Rachel that imagine1day can continue to bring quality education to children around the world."

Moxham graduated from Pleasant Valley Secondary School in 2006, and she is now working towards an education in sustainable development at a post-secondary school in North Vancouver.

"It is my life ambition to increase the female literacy rate of the developing world," said Moxham. She will be starting her journey in Vancouver May 31 and hopes to arrive in Halifax by Aug. 15. Moxham will be riding 110 km on average per day.

"I hope the people of Armstrong, Vernon and area, will come and see me at the Armstrong Farmers Market on Saturday, June 6 to buy the coffee and tea so that I may fulfill my cross-Canada trip," said Moxham.

"I also believe that by cycling I am demonstrating to everyone the immense potential of a single individual, and that every individual has that same potential," she said.

Donations towards Rachel's trip can also be made directly to imagine1day.org under Creatribution-Rachel's Bike Across Canada for Girls Education.

"The amount of support I've received is amazing," said Moxham.

"When you're passionate about what you are doing, people pick up on that, and it becomes kind of contagious."

This article was published in the Vernon Morning Star.

Member Profile

Gregory Spira— BCCIC Individual Member

We all strive to bolster and communicate the strength and passions of grassroots communities. Gregory Spira, a communication consultant partnering with international development organizations, lives to amplify the voices of others. He specializes in increasing public engagement in social issues and involving marginalized communities in communicating what "development" means to them.



His favourite participatory approach uses photography to engage community members—in Canada and abroad—in expressing their vision of community development and harnessing their insights into local social and economic issues. Working in an indigenous Bolivian community, he involved nearly all residents in a project that used photography to create a visual blueprint for community development. He adapted the Photovoice method (popularized by the documentary *Born into Brothels*) to harness the collective knowledge of the community.

Photovoice brings community-based photography and social change together. Handing cameras over to community members, Gregory facilitates residents in self-representing their vision of the present and future. Their photographs initiate dialogues that draw out the perspectives of individuals who normally do not participate in development discussions. Photovoice projects can examine broad issues or probe specific subjects identified by organizers or community members.

Gregory also advises clients on strategic communication planning and writes articles, website content and promotional material. He holds a Masters in Professional Communication from Royal Roads University where he received the Governor General's Gold Medal for the project he ran in Bolivia. To contact Gregory or to find out more about Photovoice, send an email to greg@co-imagen.com

Community Update



Building Successful Boards: From Accidental to Intentional Governance, The Centre for Non-Profit Management

June 4

Langley

Skilled consultant Trudy Gahlinger will aid participants in this highly interactive workshop to create a roadmap for effective governance, right from board recruitment to board self-evaluation.

info@cnpm.ca

Fire Fighters Drop BMO Banker 31 Stories

June 5, 12:00pm

Bentall Centre will be winding up their Fire and Life Safety month by calling on the Vancouver Fire Fighters who will drop Jeffrey Moore, a private wealth consultant, down the side of the BMO Tower. The plunge is to heighten awareness of the good work being done in Central and South America by Vancouver area firefighters. Members of Firefighters Without Borders BC who have just returned from overseas will be on hand to provide information.

www.bcfirefighterswithoutborders.com

Rock.Paper.Scissors, Volunteer Vancouver

June 9

Discover how the proven techniques of improvisation and brainstorming will enhance your strategic thinking, negotiation skills, vision planning, and other aspects of your work and life. <http://www.rpsinc.ca/>

Greater Van Gogos Grandmothers' Day Walk & Rally

Sunday, June 14

Walk at 1:15 pm, Canada Place -Vancouver Art Gallery

Come and show your support for much-needed changes to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime! We're calling on our federal government to keep its 5-yr old promise to allow a steady flow of lower cost life-saving generic medicines from Canada to developing countries. Organized by the Greater Van Gogos, a network of local grandmothers groups supporting the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign (www.grandmotherscampaign.org/). 604-464-1852 or g-vangogos@hotmail.com



Getting to YES! Principled Negotiations, The Centre for Non-Profit Management

June 18

Burnaby

Facilitator, trainer, and executive coach Susan Laing will offer a unique approach to improving your stakeholder relationships. Learn to get to the negotiating table, build successful relationships by overcoming "people problems" and manage the negotiation by dealing with differences.

info@cnpm.ca



The Timeraiser, Volunteer Vancouver

September 24

The Timeraiser is part volunteer fair, part silent art auction and part night on the town. Throughout the evening, participants meet with organizations and learn about volunteer roles. Participants pledge to volunteer 20 hours (over 12 months) with the organizations they connect with. Their hours become the currency that they can use to bid on artwork in the silent auction. Deadline June 10

<http://www.timeraiser.ca/en/imanagency>

Opportunities

Interim Inter-Council Network Coordinator, The Inter-Council Network (ICN)

ICN is a dynamic network of Provincial and Regional member-based Councils for International Cooperation. The ICN is seeking a part-time coordinator who will assist the councils in following up on their joint planning, training and coordinated activities. This is a one-year maternity leave position. The ICN is looking for a responsible, experienced bilingual person. The position will be based at AQOCI's office in Montréal, Québec. reception@aqoci.qc.ca.

Office Manager, Trans Himalayan Aid Society

Vancouver, BC

TRAS is a Vancouver-based charity which has helped support children and youth in Nepal, India, and Tibet for more than 40 years. We require an office manager to provide administrative support on an on-going, part-time basis. [Click for online listing](#), tras@portal.ca



KEY INTERNATIONAL DAYS

June

- 4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
 - 5 World Environment Day
 - 17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
 - 20 World Refugee Day
 - 23 UN Public Service Day
 - 26 International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
- International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

Opportunities

Executive Director, Pacific Peoples' Partnership



PPP is seeking a dynamic, experienced Executive Director eager to take on the challenge of leading a small but vibrant international development NGO. The Director's responsibilities include administration and fostering of current programs, fundraising, and the development of new initiatives. Deadline for applications is June 12, 2009.

www.pacificpeoplespartnership.org.

THE MARIA-HELENA FOUNDATION

IT Savvy Volunteer-Internship, The Maria-Helena Foundation

MHF is a small family-based private organization with school projects in Pakistan. We are seeking a young (age 20 to 30) IT savvy part-time Volunteer-Intern interested in learning the workings of non-governmental organizations for international development. For further information, please call Dr. Muhammad Iqbal at 604 - 228-9885.

Social Justice Studies, University of Victoria

New in September 2009, UVic is launching a program in Social Justice Studies, the first of its kind in Western Canada. Available both as a Minor and as a free-standing Diploma, the new program will provide students with a strong foundation for understanding and researching social justice issues from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Please contact Bill Carroll, wcarroll@uvic.ca.

Who We Are



BCCIC is a coalition of individuals and non-governmental organizations working to achieve sustainable human development. We support our members by providing networking opportunities, information sharing, training, and by representing their interests in dealing with government and other parties.

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E-mail: info@bccic.ca

Mail: 120 - 425 Carrall St., Vancouver, BC V6B 6E3

In-person: 120 - 23 W. Pender St.

BCCIC Members

- African Canadian Continuing Education Society, Vancouver
- Africa Community Technical Service, Co-mox
- Canadian Crossroads International, Vancouver
- Canadian Food for the Hungry, Abbotsford
- Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief, Vancouver
- Canadian Red Cross Society, Burnaby
- Capilano University: Global Stewardship Program, North Vancouver
- Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria
- Centre for Sustainable Community Development, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby
- Co-Development Canada, Vancouver
- CUSO- VSO, Langely
- Global Aid Network, Langley
- Global Smile Oral Health Association, Vancouver
- Global Village, Nanaimo
- HOPE International Development Agency, New Westminster
- IN Network Canada, Kelowna
- Interamericana Community Self Development Society, Vancouver
- International Centre for Sustainable Cities, Vancouver
- International Institute for Child Rights and Development, Victoria
- Maria Helena Foundation, Vancouver
- Mennonite Central Committee, Abbotsford
- Operation Eyesight Universal, North Vancouver
- One Sky - Canadian Institute of Sustainable Living
- Oxfam Canada, Vancouver
- Pacific Peoples' Partnership, Victoria
- Partners for Prosperity, Shawnigan Lake
- RESULTS Canada, Victoria
- Seva Canada Society, Vancouver
- Society for the Rehabilitation of the Horn of Africa, Vancouver
- The Caia Connection, Victoria
- The Kesho Trust, Saanich
- The Maria-Helena Foundation, Vancouver
- Trans Himalayan Aid Society, Vancouver
- Victoria International Development Education Association
- World Neighbours Canada Society, Oliver
- World Community Development Education Society
- YMCA of Greater Vancouver

We welcome your contributions of event notices, articles, and photos for our next Newsletter. Please e-mail your material to info@bccic.ca.

We look forward to your submissions!