



WELCOME /
BIENVENUE!

Warm greetings from the first edition in this new series of UNA-Canada newsletters. Still a work in progress, we appreciate any feedback. The purpose of *Communiqué* is to assist in branch-to-branch communication and with the national office. It will only be as effective as we make it. Please continue to submit articles and updates for future editions. Articles will be presented in the language they were written.

Chaleureuses salutations à l'occasion de cette première édition d'une nouvelle série de bulletins de l'ACNU. Nous apprécions tous vos commentaires afin d'améliorer la qualité des éditions futures. La raison d'être principale du *Communiqué* est de faciliter la communication entre les sections régionales et le bureau national. La qualité de ce bulletin dépend essentiellement des efforts que nous y mettons tous. Nous vous encourageons donc à continuer de soumettre vos articles et les dernières nouvelles sur les activités de votre section lors des prochaines éditions dans l'une des deux langues officielles.

Communiqué

UNA-Canada Newsletter, Issue 1
Bulletin de l'ACNU, numéro 1

AUGUST /
AOÛT 2005

ACNU-Québec

Nouveau Comité d'Observation et de Critique

Par: Marc Perron, président de l'ACNU-Québec

Depuis le début de l'année 2005, il y a du nouveau à la section de Québec : le Comité d'Observation et de Critique (COC). Ce Comité a pour objectif de réunir périodiquement les membres de la section pour discuter ouvertement d'un sujet d'intérêt concernant les activités des Nations Unies ou concernant les grandes problématiques internationales actuelles.



Chacun des membres du Comité est également responsable d'« observer » les activités courantes dans un organisme particulier au sein de l'ONU : FMI, UNICEF, OIT, OMS, UNESCO, etc. Le COC agit ainsi comme un agent d'échange d'idées au sein des membres et comme une base de connaissance pour toutes les activités de la section.

En janvier, le Comité s'est réuni pour la première fois pour discuter sur le thème de la Réforme du Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU. La discussion a permis aux membres de la Section de Québec de s'initier à cette problématique et de discuter à propos du Rapport du Groupe de personnalités de haut niveau sur les menaces, les défis et le changement publié en décembre 2004 par le Secrétariat Général de l'ONU.

En mars, le Comité s'est réuni pour une seconde fois pour discuter sur le thème

du micro crédit dans le cadre de l'Année internationale sur le Micro Crédit (2005). La discussion a permis aux membres d'en connaître plus sur ce moyen d'aide au développement méconnu qu'est le micro crédit et d'apprécier tous les espoirs qu'il peut susciter.

Le COC est un excellent moyen pour faire le partage des connaissances entre les membres de la Section. Ce Comité intéresse particulièrement les nouveaux membres qui sont intéressés par les activités de l'ONU mais qui n'en connaissent peu ou pas les mécanismes de fonctionnement. Du même coup, ce Comité permet de tisser des liens personnels entre les membres de la Section qui seront utiles dans l'organisation d'autres activités.

La fin ultime de ce Comité est de pouvoir faire une synthèse de l'état actuel des grandes problématiques mondiales et des moyens qui peuvent être pris par les gens de la Région de Québec pour contribuer à l'avancement des solutions de ces problématiques. Une telle synthèse constitue la dimension « critique » de ce comité et sa conséquence logique est tournée vers l'« action ».

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His Excellency Allan Rock, centre, addresses JPCs Gillian Mathurin, left, and Lisa Joly, right at the JPC briefing session.

« En ces temps où l'idée d'un choc des cultures mondial suscite un écho si puissant (...) sur toute la planète, il est à nouveau important de trouver les réponses aux vieilles interrogations sur la manière de gérer et apaiser les conflits de langue, de religion, de culture et d'ethnicité. »

M. Koïchiro Matsuura

Good participation of diverse community groups at the Kingston Session



UNA-Canada National Office

By Andrea Chow

UNA-Canada's Youth Internship Programmes recently recruited and hired its 2005-2006 Junior Professional Consultants (JPCs). Piquing the interest of young Canadians across the country, UNA-Canada received almost 850 applications from youth passionate about international issues and striving for the opportunity to work with the United Nations.

From such a great depth of young talent and intelligence, UNA-Canada selected 17

outstanding youth to work with partner agencies such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme. The JPCs were briefed by UNA-Canada in Ottawa in late June, where they learned more about their placements, UNA-Canada and professional development. They also had the opportunity to meet His Excellency, Allan Rock, Canada's Ambassador to the UN,

when he dropped in for an unexpected visit and Q&A session with the JPCs.

Two JPCs, Paul Farran and Gillian Mathurin, have just begun their placements. Gillian (MA in Political Science) will be working with UNICEF in New York, and Paul (MA in International Studies) will be working with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Kigali, Rwanda. The rest of the JPCs will begin their placements in August or September.

UNA-Canada National Office Intégration et Appartenance

Par: Antoine Huss

Renforcement des capacités des collectivités : du dialogue au plan d'action

Intégration & Appartenance à rassemblé des représentants communautaires ainsi que des jeunes issus de cinq collectivités à travers le Canada (Calgary, Saskatoon, Kingston, Montréal et St. John's) afin de développer des solutions et de célébrer les réalités de notre société canadienne multiculturelle. En amenant des canadiens de tous les horizons autour de la table, cette initiative unique a permis de développer un modèle d'engagement innovateur à travers un processus de collecte de bonnes pratiques et de leçons apprises utilisable pour mieux comprendre et promouvoir « l'intégration » et « l'appartenance » et de renforcer nos communautés.

Pour obtenir plus d'informations sur le projet et ses résultats, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter par courriel, à l'adresse suivante antoine.huss@unac.org, ou par téléphone au +1(613) 232-5751 ext. 247.

Vous trouverez également de nombreuses informations sur le site Web du projet au www.belonging-appartenance.org telles qu'un *Manuel de ressources* à l'usage des collectivités sur la gestion de la diversité et la mobilisation communautaire, un *Bulletin*, une *Liste de diffusion* électronique, ainsi qu'un *Forum Jeunesse en ligne*.

UNA-Canada Edmonton

By: Stephanie Bishop

Meeting the Intercultural Challenge in Schools: Respect for Faith and Diversity

The United Nations Association in Canada - Edmonton Branch, together with its partners, The Society for Safe and Caring Schools and Communities, and the Interfaith Centre for Education and Action, and through funding by Canadian Heritage (Government of Canada); has developed a program called Meeting the Intercultural Challenge in Schools: Respect for Faith and Diversity. Teacher re-

sources, lesson plans and guides are available on the project website, www.ibelievein.ca. The resources offer easy ways to incorporate lessons of respect and inclusion in to existing curriculum. Other resources include a brief multi-media presentation (available for download from the website), posters, and a PowerPoint presentation outline. Check out the information and multi-media presentation on the website ! Learn about ways to encourage respect in your community. Feel free to

share information about the project with teachers, students, and parents in your community.

Please note: We are currently seeking teachers from *across the country* who are interested in writing lesson plans for the project. Remuneration will be provided for approved lesson plans. Please direct interested individuals to our project website to learn more about this opportunity. Inquiries can be directed to respect@ibelievein.ca

"Over the intervening years the nuclear weapon moved from ultimate horror to become the ultimate military status symbol. "

UNA-Canada Kootenay Region

Sixty years ago this coming August 6, the era of nuclear war opened with the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Over the intervening years the nuclear weapon moved from ultimate horror to become the ultimate military status symbol. From a US monopoly the technology spread to Russia, France, England, China, Israel, India and Pakistan. Iran and North Korea are now

making their applications for entry into the nuclear club.

Every year the Kootenay Region Branch of the United Nations Association and the USCC hold a remembrance of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. We will meet on Saturday, August 6, 6:00 pm at Zuckerberg Island. We will listen to the speech from the Mayor of Hiroshima, the reflections of

other peace activists and we shall sing songs of peace and remembrance.

Please join us and share your views on the open mike. Following the event we will move to the Castlegar Heritage Museum and socialize over coffee, juice and doughnuts. Mark you calendar: Zuckerberg Island, Saturday August 6, 6:00 pm.



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION IN CANADA SASKATOON BRANCH

In association with CAVUNP – Canadian Association of Veterans of UN Peacekeeping
INVITES EVERYONE

To a celebration to honour Canadian UN Peacekeepers

BLUE BERET DAY

August 9th at 7.30pm

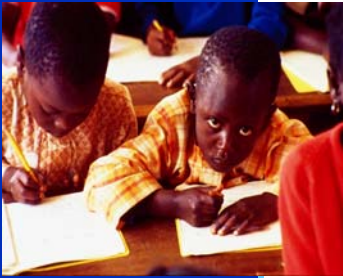
Sergeant Hugh Cairns V.C. Memorial Armoury, 930 Idylwyld Drive, Saskatoon
Greetings, piper, brief speeches, open microphone for Peacekeepers and citizens, songs for peace, refreshments

Honour roll open for signature all evening

Information tables:
UNAC-Saskatoon
UNA-Canada: Integration and Belonging project
CAVUNP *Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping

Come and help recognize the contribution of Canadian Peacekeepers over the decades
Peacekeeping veterans and spouses especially welcome

UNA-Canada National Youth Director Youth at the United Nations (UN) and WPAY +10 By: Loree Semeluk



**"Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development."
Kofi Annan**

While much of the discussion about the UN these days is focused on proposed institutional reforms, the relevance of youth to the work of the United Nations is also being recognized. The importance of youth as leaders and contributors to our communities is an item on the UN's agenda this fall 2005. At the upcoming 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, governments will conduct a ten year review of the achievements and challenges in the implementation of the **World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY)** since its development in 1995.

WPAY is a program initiative that provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to

improve the situation of youth in various aspects of their lives. WPAY focuses on the following ten priority areas: education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure time activities, girls and young women, and the full and effective participation of youth in society and decision-making. UNA-Canada's many youth activities contribute to the implementation of the WPAY objectives in Canada. The focus on health with the National Youth Action Team on HIV/AIDS and the Integration and Belonging program, which facilitates the inclusion of all youth in Canadian society, are only a few examples of the ways in which UNA-Canada engages youth in

the work of the UN and the issues that surround them.

The 10 year review of the Youth programme, known as WPAY +10, will occur this October in New York with the General Assembly devoting two plenary meetings to an evaluation of the progress made in the implementation of the World Programme and a High Level Round-Table discussion entitled *Young People: Making Commitments Matter*. This dialogue demonstrates how youth play a role in the future of the UN. The following link provides further information on the WPAY +10 Review and the UN's focus on youth: <http://www.un.org/youth>. UNA-Canada will follow the proceedings, so stay tuned for more updates.

UN Decisions makers
in progress...



UNA-Canada National Office UNA-Canada Celebrates the UN 60th Anniversary By: Sarah Kambites

The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) will mark the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the UN during the week of October 24-27, 2005. The UN was created by leaders

weary of war, in unbridled hope for peace on October 24th 1945. UNA-Canada plans to organize a number of activities to mark the anniversary, engage partners and their constituencies in various regions across Canada in the celebrat-

ing this milestone.

Some of the key planned activities include:

- Roundtable presentations in selected cities across Canada, on



themes related to the UN and international development issues;

- Events for the general public and youth in the Canadian War Museum;
- Mobilizing Canadians to participate in the *Global Citizens Challenge* - whereby Canadians from coast to coast will be invited to nominate a Cana-

dian that exemplifies a “global citizen”;

- Developing resources to educate and engage youth in learning about and supporting the UN and its programmes;
- Engaging Canadian Municipalities and other institutions to celebrate the anniversary by flying UN flags at city halls and on institution buildings; and
- Disseminating post cards to Canadians for their signature to show support for the UN’s Millennium Development Goals campaign and road to 2015.

UNA-Canada invites its partners, youth and all Canadians to join us in marking and celebrating the achievement of the UN and to commit our support for the work and challenges the world body faces in delivering aid and development programmes to the most bereft and neglected peoples of the world.

To learn more about our planned activities, please contact us at:
 (613) - 232-5751 Ext. 230
info@unac.org

"Having had the Model UN experience makes defending the UN much easier as the activity clearly demonstrates the benefits of resolving the world's problems through compromise and peaceful measures"
 Delegate from New Brunswick

UNA-Canada National Office
CANIMUN 2006 Officially Launched
By: Savannah Baskin

The Model UN Programme has officially launched CANIMUN 2006. We are currently taking staff applications and are in the process of sending out Promotional Packages on the event. You should receive something shortly. Please feel free to distribute the information freely and widely.

CANIMUN 2006 promises to be another successful Model UN event. It boasts a series of 21 committees dealing with the worlds most pressing and complex issues and will continue to build upon the unprecedented success and popularity of past events. This is a particularly important time for the United Nations, as it celebrates the 60th Anniversary of its creation. CANIMUN 2006 will work to highlight the value of multilateralism via the UN, reflect on many of its accomplishments, and challenge it to create mechanisms for expedient and effective action when necessary and long-term sustainable peace and development.

CANIMUN participe directement à la création d'une génération de citoyens avisés, ayant un esprit critique aiguisé et

ayant la capacité d'aborder des problèmes et des défis à travers une méthodologie basée sur l'élaboration de solutions concrètes. Nous vous encourageons fortement à ajouter notre site Web à vos signets et de le visiter aussi souvent que possible afin d'obtenir des informations à jour sur l'évènement de 2006.

Pour plus de renseignements, visitez www.canimun.org ou contact Savannah, savannah@unac.org.



Young ambassadors taking their role seriously!

UNA-Canada National Office

The role of civil society in a “Leaders 20 - L20”

In partnership with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI based in Kitchener-Waterloo) and Health Canada, the National Office is launching a research-based project to provide leadership in policy research on the role of civil society in the L 20, with a focus on emergent international health. The L20 concept is one developed by the Prime Minister as a crisis intervention lever, built on his positive experience as Finance Minister with the G20 finance ministers and their strength and speed in addressing the Asian cur-

rency crisis. The L20 has risks in the UN orbit, however, UNA-Canada builds on its strength in solution-seeking to refine the concept .

This initiative will explore strengthening Canadian and global citizenship experience, profile Canadian diversity and social cohesion, showcase government-civil society partnerships and public participation, and further CIGI’s interests and new forms and experiments in global governance innovation. Canada, especially on matters of health, has advocated for the engagement

of civil society - notably within the World Health Organization.

The outcome will be policy papers on both the process of civil society engagement in a new multilateral entity and on the emergent global health issues. These efforts will culminate in a high-level, roundtable session inviting key government officials and civil society representatives to move beyond the findings of this research, and will enable Canada to acknowledge its governance leadership in any pilot of the L20 on health.

INFO:

Issue 2 of *Communiqué* will be available in Fall/Winter 2005. The next deadline for article submissions is November 7th, 2005. Please send all articles, inquiries and feedback to savannah@unac.org

Le deuxième numéro du *Communiqué* sera disponible au courant de l’automne/hiver 2005. Vous avez jusqu’au 7 novembre 2005 pour soumettre vos articles. Merci de bien vouloir nous faire parvenir vos articles, requêtes et/ou commentaires à savannah@unac.org

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The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is a national charitable organization established in 1946. Our mandate is to engage the Canadian public in the work of the United Nations and the critical international issues which affect us all. We accomplish our goals through a dynamic staff team at the National Office and a network of volunteer-driven regional branches.

L'Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies (ACNU) est une organisation nationale de bienfaisance fondée en 1946. Elle a pour mandat de favoriser la participation de la population canadienne à l'action de l'ONU et aux grands dossiers internationaux qui touchent toute la population. Pour atteindre ses objectifs, l'ACNU compte sur un personnel dynamique en son siège social et sur un réseau de sections régionales dirigées par des bénévoles.

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United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

Global Citizen Challenge

***Celebrate the founding of the UN with the
United Nations Association in Canada and with all Canadians!***

Take the Global Citizen Challenge!

Nominate your candidate and tell us what makes a global citizen to you.

Help us recognize the heroes of Canada who are *Global Citizens* to you. Show that you recognize others and the ways they build a more peaceful, just and fair world, where we all share the wealth and the load: where we are each a part of the global community.

Be a part of the celebration! Show you care too.

For more information visit www.unac.org/UN60/globalchallenge

Défi citoyen du monde

***Célébrez avec l'Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies et tous
les canadiens la création de l'ONU!***

Participez au Défi citoyen du monde!

Nominez votre candidat(e) et partagez votre vision d'un(e) citoyen(ne) du monde.

Aidez-nous à faire l'éloge des héros canadiens qui sont de véritables citoyens du monde. Montrez que vous reconnaissez leur engagement et les efforts qu'ils/elles ont mis pour construire un monde de paix, de justice et d'égalité, où nous partageons tous sa charge et ses richesses, où nous faisons tous partie d'une communauté mondiale.

Prenez part aux célébrations! Montrez que vous aussi vous êtes concerné.

Pour plus d'informations, visitez www.unac.org/UN60/globalchallenge

