



Ontario Council for International Cooperation

ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

A year of growth and creative engagement

The Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) is privileged to collaborate with many diverse organizations and individuals that work on the frontlines to provide humanitarian and long-term support to development partners around the world, and within Canada, to engage citizens and government to better understand the root causes of poverty.

Over the past year OCIC has grown in many ways. Through the increased financial support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), an expanded, dedicated and creative staff team has worked closely with many members, community partners and individual volunteers to sustain existing efforts and to undertake a number of new initiatives, many of which are highlighted within this Annual Report.

In addition to our Breakfast Meetings, Working Group and International Development Week activities, and Global Citizens Forum, two new public engagement projects were launched. The Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge, a national contest for youth 8-18 undertaken by the Provincial/Regional Councils for International Cooperation across Canada, resulted in over 80 video submissions by hundreds of young visionaries and activists. Just Theatre for Change, an OCIC/MCIC in-schools theatre project for grade 7 and 8 students, reached over 3,500 students in 29 Ontario schools in its six-week pilot tour.

Members' capacity building needs were addressed through peer presentations on topics of interest to particular Working Groups. One and two day workshops on anti-oppression, cross-cultural communication and financial management were organized by OCIC. OCIC also continued to work in partnership with CIDA in delivering training for voluntary sector partners.

Each of these activities increases our capacity to influence public opinion and public policy in favour of the poor, and feeds into larger national and international civil society priorities.

In May 2008 the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) launched The Global Challenge to End Poverty and Injustice: A Canadian 10-Point Agenda. This Agenda represents a commitment across the development sector to focus renewed attention and efforts on women's rights and equality, access to health and education, food security and sustainable

livelihoods, global economic justice, corporate accountability, sustainable peace, global environmental justice, democratic governance and global citizenship, a democratic and multilateral system, and more and better aid.

Its launch came days after the historic passing of Bill C-293, the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act, by the Senate. This Bill ensures that aid resources are strictly directed to poverty reduction, taking into account the perspectives of the poor, while respecting international human rights standards.

This Agenda gives us an ongoing framework for our efforts. This Bill gives us reason to believe that real change is possible. Canada has promised in the past to increase our foreign aid to point seven per cent of our national income, a level agreed upon by donor nations and the UN as necessary to make serious progress towards alleviating extreme poverty in the world. In the coming months we hope you will join us in urging our leaders to "get to the point".

Sincere thanks to all who have contributed to OCIC this year.

Kimberly Gibbons, Executive Director



Betty Makoni, Founder and Director of the Girl Child Network, Zimbabwe, and Kris Orantes Migoya, OCIC Public Engagement Coordinator, presenting the Kaleidoscope Real World Challenge Grand Prize to Hayley Adam, Alan Ferguson, Adam Loader, Jonathon Photopoulos, Kiva Smith and Kayla Teopiz for their submission, Raise Your Voice, in the 8-12 age category.

Organizational Members

Canada World Youth
Canadian Association for Community Living
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace
Canadian Crossroads International
Canadian Feed the Children
Canadian Friends Service Committee
Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief
Canadian Red Cross
Casa Canadiense
Chalice
CHF
Compassion Canada
Crossroads Christian Communication
CUSO in Ontario
Engineers without Borders
Foundation for International Development Assistance
Frontiers Foundation
Global Education Network
Guatemala Community Network
Heartlinks
Horizons of Friendship
Jamaican Self-Help Organization
Kawartha World Issues Centre
Mennonite Central Committee of Ontario
Mines Action Canada
Operation Eyesight Universal
Oxfam Ontario
Physicians for Global Survival
Plan International Canada
Rayjon Share-Care
Rooftops Canada
SalvAide
Save a Family Plan
Street Kids International
TakingITGlobal
Tamils Rehabilitation Organization
Transforming Faces Worldwide
War Child Canada
World Literacy of Canada
World Vision Canada
YMCA Kitchener Waterloo
YMCA of Greater Toronto

New Members – to be ratified

Athletes for Africa
Free the Children
Leprosy Mission of Canada
Pueblito Canada
S.H.A.R.E. Agricultural Foundation
UNICEF Ontario
Youth Challenge International

OCIC Development Principles

PREAMBLE:

The Council recognizes that global justice requires the transformation of social structures and changes in human relations to reflect the following principles:

HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

1. Every human being has the right to her/his basic human needs: adequate food, clean water, housing, health care, education, and employment.
2. Equal civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights for all humankind are the foundation for freedom, justice and peace in the world.
3. Given the connection of racism to historical and contemporary forms of economic exploitation, all forms of oppression and discrimination of peoples and individuals based on race and colour must be eliminated.
4. Development requires the elimination of all forms of inequality, exploitation and discrimination of peoples and individuals based on factors including national origin, ethnicity, religion, language, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability and age.
5. We believe in a development process which respects cultures and local realities, and affirms the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
6. Development must be redefined placing the development of civil society at its centre with economic, political and social systems serving basic human needs.

GLOBAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

7. Redistribution of the world's resources should meet basic human needs everywhere.
8. Resources must be controlled locally to serve the needs of local populations in an equitable manner.
9. Global production and consumption levels must be addressed in the development process. Disproportionate consumption levels in the North lead to a systemic lack of resources to fulfill basic human needs in the South.

DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES AND GOVERNANCE

10. Participatory, cooperative and inclusive processes are vital in the struggle for development and global justice. Political and public office positions must be accessible to all citizens and those in positions of power must be fully accountable.
11. Global justice requires equal participation of women and men in political and economic decision-making. The historical power imbalance between women and men must be addressed through analyses of structural inequities with concrete strategies/practices to guarantee equal access to power, wealth, and resources, and fair compensation for work performed.
12. Global justice respects the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination, self-government, and to territorial claims, including the resources within their territories.
13. Conflicts require peaceful solutions. Resources allocated for arms production and export must be redirected towards the fulfillment of basic human needs.

MANDATE

14. OCIC shall encourage the development and sharing of resources for participatory global education in the province of Ontario by facilitating networking and capacity building within its membership.
15. OCIC is committed to being a learning and democratic organization with inclusive cooperative and participatory processes that are accessible and accountable to all members.

OCIC's Public Engagement Profile

OCIC convenes and supports a variety of public engagement activities that help Canadians develop awareness and understanding of global development issues. From 2007-2010 our networking, capacity-building and public engagement activities are undertaken under the following strategic directions:

1. To convene a community of members across Ontario
2. To build the capacity of members to be more effective
3. To broaden awareness for international development and global education
4. To collect and disseminate best practices in the sector
5. To bring regional and provincial voices to the national level
6. To strengthen the Councils' organizational capacity

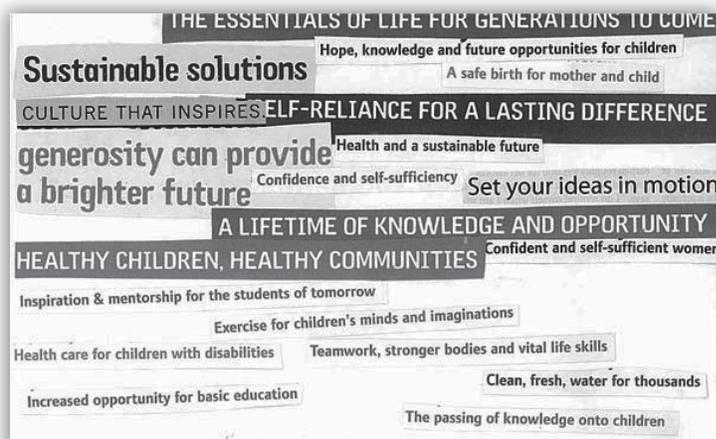
Within this report are highlights of the various activities organized in 2007-2008 in collaboration with and for OCIC members and networks, and the general public.

International Development Week

During International Development Week, February 3-9, 2008, OCIC used media and art to increase awareness of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and to encourage Canadians to become actively involved in working together for a better world.

One of our collaborative initiatives for the week was the creation and dissemination of *Global Voices*, a newspaper profiling our members' work. *Global Voices* was distributed to 80,000 homes through community newspapers in Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Peterborough, Sarnia and Thunder Bay, and by hand in Toronto.

The second was the design and facilitation of *The Postcard Project*, a hands-on, creative initiative that integrates use of collage, imagination and visions for a better world to introduce young people to the MDGs. Participating OCIC members and their Southern partners include: Guatamala Community Network and Cooperativa Nuevo Horizonte (Peten, Guatemala), SalvAide and CRIPDES (San Vicente, El Salvador), Street Kids International and Canada Africa Community Health Alliance (Kilema, Tanzania), World Literacy of Canada and Throncliffe Neighbourhood Office. Other participating members and schools in Ontario include: Save a Family Plan, Southwood Public School, Huron Heights French Immersion Public School, Sojourn House and Wilton Grove Public School, the YMCA of Greater Toronto.



A postcard created by youth at the St. Wilfred YMCA for the OCIC Postcard Project.

OCIC Mission

The Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) is a membership association of Ontario-based, not-for-profit, voluntary organizations and individual associates working both in the North and South for global justice.

As a Council, OCIC strives to increase the effectiveness and collective impact of its members' efforts to promote sustainable and people-centred development in a peaceful and healthy environment, and to educate and engage the Canadian public on global issues.

Services to Members

OCIC encourages the development of the Ontario international development and global education sectors and sharing of resources between OCIC members by providing forums for networking, communications and collaborative reflection and action, and facilitating capacity building in public engagement and organizational development.

As a learning organization, OCIC offers inclusive, cooperative and participatory processes that are accessible and accountable to all members. Monthly breakfast meetings, periodic workshops, global citizen's forums and annual meetings provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, sharing of experiences and best practices, and networking.

The OCIC e-Bulletin is a free forum for members to both share information and keep up to date on events, news, job postings and the latest happenings in the international development and global education sectors in Ontario.

Additional ongoing services to members include professional development opportunities, representation on policy issues, collaborative initiatives with other OCIC members, information clearinghouse, promotion of member organizations activities and websites, and consultation with staff.

HIV and AIDS Working Group

It has been a wonderful year for the OCIC HIV and AIDS Working Group. Our membership has worked collaboratively towards our goals of:

- ❖ learning about global HIV and AIDS issues;
- ❖ establishing a forum for OCIC members and members of the public working on HIV and AIDS issues to share best practices and lessons learned;
- ❖ connecting with local community service providers and national AIDS service organizations;
- ❖ creating public engagement opportunities on the topic of HIV and AIDS issues locally and internationally; and
- ❖ creating knowledge-transfer and exchange opportunities, and capacity-building sessions for Working Group members.

During International Development Week we organized a public screening and discussion of the documentary *Positive Voices: Leading Together*, an inspiring film that follows the lives of community leaders in Ontario attending the International AIDS Conference in Toronto in 2006.

Q & A panelists following the film included Lisungu Chieza, Clinical Research Coordinator at Women's Health in Women's

Hands, and Art Zoccole, Executive Director of 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations, both of whom shared their experiences at the conference, the stigma and discrimination faced by people living with HIV and AIDS, as well as the politics behind the HIV movement in Ontario and abroad.

In June we will hold an event on NGO/Private Sector engagement to help build the capacity of members to assess and address ethical and practical issues around creating partnerships that help meet their mission.

The next year will see the HIV and AIDS Working Group undertake a series of public engagement and capacity building events. Monthly meetings will focus on discussion topics related to key issues faced by Working Group members' organizations in their HIV/AIDS programming. From these discussions we will determine the focus for events for the broader membership and the public.

If your organization is involved in HIV/AIDS programming, we encourage you to join our vibrant working group! While face-to-face meetings happen in Toronto, members from outside Toronto join our meetings via conference call.

*Jason Globerman, OHTN &
Sarah Hendriks, Plan International Canada*



Graphic for International Development Week. Community leaders profiled the OHTN film Positive Voices: Leading Together.

Global Citizenship Working Group

The OCIC Global Citizenship Working Group – a network of global educators from international development NGOs and the formal education sector that meets to share ideas, resources and opportunities, and to build capacity for global education and public engagement – had a very successful second year, with a significant focus on growth.

The group now includes over 55 members from across the province, about 15-20 of whom meet monthly in Toronto. The focus of recent meetings is on building capacity on topics ranging from using the web for public engagement, to making connections between provincial curriculum expectations and the work of NGOs.

From mid-summer 2007, on the initiative of Sarah Hutchinson of World Vision Canada, a five-member sub-committee

organized and facilitated the *Not Your Average Global Ed Conference*, a September weekend gathering of 40 elementary, middle and high school teachers from across Ontario, to share strategies and approaches to global education in a retreat setting.

Members of the group have recently been working on a new version of "Global Communities, Local Classrooms: Teachers' Resources for Global Education", which highlights classroom resources offered by OCIC members.

*Amy Hogervorst,
Save a Family Plan
& Luke Walker,
Taking!TGlobal*



Sarah Hutchinson shared "asks and offers" at the Not Your Average Global Ed Conference.

Breakfast Meetings

Toronto and Ottawa-based members and their Southern partners gathered over early morning fair-trade coffee, fruit and muffins to share expertise and interest in the following areas:

- ❖ Mr. Maphala, Board Director of Housing People of Zimbabwe, a partner of Rooftops Canada, spoke on Housing Rights, HIV and AIDS in Zimbabwe, and shared a video showing the impact of evictions on local populations. Mr. Maphala has worked as a Housing Manager for the Zimbabwe Housing Benefit Fund and as Director of Housing and Community Services for an urban municipality for eleven years.
- ❖ Engineers Without Borders Director of Outreach, Kimberly Bowman identified tools and strategies for evaluating the impact of public engagement activities, with reference to EWB programs. Participants discussed challenges in measuring changes in attitudes and behaviors, and sharing ways to assess short-term outputs and longer-term change.
- ❖ HIV activist and consultant Juanita Smith shared her experience with Rooftops Canada and its Indian partner Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) in developing and utilizing the “Unique Ability Factor” approach to mainstream HIV within a human settlement context, and shared ideas on mainstreaming this approach to a host of development issues within organizations and communities.

Thunder Bay

In April 2007, OCIC Executive Director, Kimberly Gibbons and CIDA Regional staff for Manitoba and Northern Ontario, Henry Fast, made a first joint visit to Thunder Bay. In just a few days they met with a number of college students, academics, community organizations, teachers and guidance counselors. In an evening presentation at Confederation College, community members learned about CIDA, OCIC and Nu Vision Ministries, a local faith-based organization, involved in education projects in Rwanda.

With the help of Dodi Legassic and Kristy Kelly, returned CUSO volunteers of years-past and other internationally-minded folks came together for a group dinner. At meetings with Graham Saunders of Environment North and Doug West at Lake Head University, they gained a better sense of local community focus on the environment and food security issues.

As a result of this visit OCIC has been able to disseminate our e-Bulletin and other announcements to many in Thunder Bay, and to bring colleagues from Nu Vision Ministry, Sir Winston Churchill IB Program, and the Multicultural Association of Thunder Bay to participate in our AGM 2007, fall CIDA VSF training, and our Global Citizens Forum.

- ❖ OCIC Associate Member Abraham Sewonet Abatneh provided an overview of the work of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament, Togo, focusing on the office's core activities combating the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, promoting arms limitation by African states, and security sector reform to improve civil-military relations.
- ❖ Mines Action Canada and Mrs. Margaret Arach Orech, Ugandan landmine survivor, campaigner and ambassador for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) highlighted the plight of landmine survivors and the need to advocate for their needs and rights with the international community.
- ❖ Girsela Uribe, YMCA of Medellin, Colombia, volunteer and youth exchange guest of the YMCA of Greater Toronto, and Kris Orantes Migoya, OCIC Public Engagement Coordinator, presented an overview of challenges faced by youth in Columbia, Guatemala and El Salvador, and examples of efforts by youth and community-based organizations to address them.
- ❖ Street Kids International and Dr. Sara Koki Muli-Kinagwi, Acting Director of AfriAfya shared HIV/AIDS prevention tools developed for adolescent girls in Kenya. AfriAfya (African Network for Health Knowledge Management and Communication), is a consortium of Kenyan based health NGOs set up in April 2000 to explore ways of harnessing information and communication technology (ICTs) for community health and development in rural and marginalized communities.

Small Seeds Initiative

In Guelph and Peterborough, OCIC provided Small Seeds to support members in some of their innovative public engagement and capacity building initiatives:

- ❖ At the Guelph International Film Festival, the Guelph International Resource Centre brought together organizations and community members to discuss water issues at a screening of “A World Without Water”, which was followed by a lively panel discussion.
- ❖ Jamaican Self Help initiated Steering Committee meetings for a South-North Youth Policy Project that will see 20 Canadian, 10 Jamaican and 10 Nicaraguan youth gather to discuss foreign policy and youth engagement in May 2009.
- ❖ The Kawartha World Issues Centre drew over 240 participants at a coffeehouse, spoken word and storytelling gathering during their Global Education Week, and over 70 participants to skills-based workshops and plenary activities in their Global Youth Day.

Just Theatre for Change

Just Theatre for Change, a new joint initiative of OCIC and the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC), is an in-school theatre project promoting active global citizenship to youth. From April 29-June 6, 2008, *You, In the Shadow*, an original play produced by OCIC, was performed to over 3,500 grade 7 and 8 students from 29 schools across six school boards in Southern Ontario, in our pilot tour.

You, In the Shadow explores child rights through the lived experiences of characters from around the world. It highlights the complexity of global issues facing children, illustrating that there are no simple solution to overcoming these challenges. Following each performance students participate in a facilitated workshop and explore actions they can take in their own lives as engaged global citizens. Schools receive a Teacher Kit that includes classroom resources directly linked to the play, as well as those produced and provided by OCIC members.

Just Theatre for Change will be back in schools in October 2008, and is a great opportunity for OCIC to help members get their resources directly into the hands of teachers and students that want them.



You, in the Shadow actors Paul Hardy, Julia Lefebvre, nisha ahuja



"We believe that our generation has the potential to inspire enduring change in this world, and make it a better place for those who are to inherit it. We want to be a part of this change."

– Jennifer Paul & Kevin Sayachareun
Kaleidoscope Grand Prize Winners, 13-18 category

Kaleidoscope Video Challenge

The Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge, a contest aimed at engaging and sensitizing youth to global issues, was launched jointly this year by the Regional/Provincial Councils across Canada. Through this initiative hundreds of participants created videos that share a youth perspective on the most pressing global issues. To support youth in entering OCIC organized video and media literacy workshops on the basics of camera work, story-boarding, and video as a tool for social change, through interested members in Cobourg, London and Toronto.

On June 6, 2008, OCIC held a gala for Ontario participants at the National Film Board of Canada. A jury made up of prominent artists, media and film professionals, and OCIC members were on hand to present awards to the top films. Betty Makoni, Director of the Girl Child Network, Zimbabwe, presented the two grand prize awards. The selection of videos screened at the Gala captivated the audience, who were also given a chance to vote for their favourite film for the *Viewer's Choice Award*.

Kaleidoscope supports a new generation of young leaders fusing artistic and technical media skills to deliver messages of justice, harmony and social change. Regional winners will move on to a national competition with the top videos from across Canada. National winners will be recognized at a gala in Ottawa in September.

KALEIDOSCOPE
DÉFI VIDÉO / REAL WORLD VIDEO CHALLENGE

Global Citizens Forum 2007

The OCIC Global Citizens Forum, October 25-27, 2007, focused on building the capacity of youth, OCIC members and other relevant organizations to be engaged and act as advocates for the MDGs through the use of arts and technology. The gathering was also an exciting space for networking, skill-sharing and cross cultural understanding.

The Forum kicked off with an evening Gala featuring keynote speakers Fabian Brown, Director of Development of St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica, and Mercie Onyut, Program Manager of CPAR-Uganda in Gulu, Uganda. It included artistic performances by local artists including Grenadian spitfire Belladonna, as well as a presentation with global hip hop ambassador Sol Guy on 4REAL – an MTV and CTV show that takes celebrity guests on adventures around the world to connect with young leaders who are affecting real change.

The days were filled with diverse workshops on the use of theatre, photography, mural painting, blogs, storytelling and multimedia to raise awareness of inequality, promote diversity, and bring about positive change. Friday evening, Emily Wilson and Brent Parker presented and spoke to their OCIC-supported film *Undermined: Communities, Consultation and Corporate Accountability*, in a free public screening.

As a gathering of over 130 artists, activists, youth leaders, individuals and organizations committed to social justice, it was not only a space to expose young people to global issues and to the international development sector, but to expose the sector to other communities. This expansion of networks made room for an expansion of frames of analysis of development issues locally and globally, and of our public engagement practices.

CPAR, SalvAide, Jamaican Self Help and Rayjon Sharecare Sarnia played a unique role, as hosts to Southern partner guest participants.

While in Canada for the Forum, Mercie Onyut travelled to Calgary and Winnipeg to support public participation in the Gulu Walk, and raise awareness of development issues affecting and mobilizing African youth.

Deysi Alfaro of CRIPDES shared tools for civic engagement developed and used by rural Salvadoran youth, and met with solidarity groups in Windsor, London, and Ottawa prior to and

following the Forum. Later in the year, as a result of her visit, CRIPDES piloted OCIC's International Development Week Postcard Project in San Vicente, a rural community where they have been working since the end of the civil conflict.

During his Opening Gala presentation, Fabian Brown increased awareness of youth-focused and youth-led initiatives taking place in Jamaica through the support of Jamaican Self Help. While in Ontario, he spoke to many groups and sought new partnerships for his work.

In a workshop presentation, Henry Pierre and Dieudonne Batrville of Rayjon Sharecare Haiti shared community development tools they have developed through their work in rural Haiti. While in Canada, apart from the Forum, they took time to strengthen ties with their partner, Rayjon Sharecare Sarnia, and to get to know other organizations in

South Western Ontario. As a result of their trip, later in the year Rayjon Sharecare Haiti travelled to India to visit and learn from Save A Family Plan's Indian staff and program.



CNDD and OCIC

The Canadian Network on Disability and Development was established by concerned and interested development practitioners, policy analysts and academics, with the intent of increasing support for disability policies and programming in development partner countries.

OCIC's continued involvement in the CNDD throughout 2007 has been instrumental in the dissemination of disability related materials both to their members and at the CNDD's "Disability and Development" presentation for students of Humber College's International Project Management Program during International Development Week. This has helped to increase the level of awareness surrounding implementing disability policy within development programs.

OCIC has also led by example in this regard by implementing disability enabling techniques in their programs including: the Postcard Project, the Global Citizens Forum 2007, and the 2008 edition of Global Voices.

Larissa Jones,
Canadian Network on Disability and Development

UNDERMINED: Communities, Consultation and Corporate Accountability in Guyana

In 2007, OCIC helped to fund the production of a short public engagement video by two first-time filmmakers from Ottawa. *Undermined* is a 35-minute documentary profiling the perspectives of eight Amerindians from Guyana, South America about issues related to mining—in particular, the importance of meaningful community consultation processes. The film explores how one particular Wapichan community is responding to a Canadian mining company that has been operating in their ancestral lands for over ten years. While there is some mention of the negative impacts of mining, the film concentrates on exploring solutions and highlights the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

The film was developed to be an educational tool for Amerindian communities in Guyana and for other Indigenous organizations/communities dealing with similar issues in their own traditional territories. However, because of the focus on interactions between the Wapichan and a Canadian company, it is also relevant to Canadians who have an interest in issues relating to corporate accountability, Indigenous Peoples, and social justice. It can also be a useful tool for companies and government

agencies, to prompt discussion about Indigenous rights and community consultation standards within the context of extractive development and natural resource management activities.

Undermined was first screened to 100 people at OCIC's Global Citizens Forum in October 2007. The official premiere took place at the National Library & Archives in Ottawa in January 2008, and was attended by over 800 people, including the Honourable Minister of Amerindian Affairs who flew in from Guyana for the event.

Other screenings have taken place at the Ottawa branch of Amnesty International; at Carleton University, as part of a spring seminar for high school students on Human Rights and Documentary; at the Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development, Guyana, as part of a course about the importance of consultation and Indigenous rights in relation to collaborative management of Protected Areas; and at the Deep South Toshias Council Meeting, Region 9, Guyana, as part of a meeting with the Chiefs from the Deep South of Region 9, when they met to prepare for dialogue with the government. For more information, visit www.undermined.ca.

Emily Wilson



UNDERMINED PREMIERE AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES IN OTTAWA, JANUARY 2008

From left to right: Viviane Weitzner, Senior Researcher at The North-South Institute; James LaMouche, Cree/Métis Senior Researcher at the National Aboriginal Health Organization; Paul Dewar, Foreign Affairs Critic for the New Democratic Party of Canada (NDP);

Stephani Roy McCallum, President of the International Association of Public Participation; Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, Minister of Amerindian Affairs, Government of Guyana; Emily Wilson and Brent Parker, Co-Producers, *Undermined*.



ICN Meeting in Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, August 2007: (left to right) Marc Colbourne (ACGC), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Lori Latta (SCIC), Simon & Jennifer Sloat (ACIC), Erica (ICN Coordinator), Shams Alibhai (BCCIC), Janice Hamilton (MCIC)



Members from across the province introduce themselves at OCIC's 2007 AGM in Toronto, held at Friends' House (Quakers).

Inter-Council Collaboration

This was a tremendous year of collaboration and learning for the Inter-Council Network (ICN) and its seven Provincial/Regional Councils members. Through joint collaboration funding and a national public engagement project, we met on a regular basis to share ideas and strategies, best practices and challenges. This not only increased our capacity as individual Councils and staff, but also positively impacted on our collective negotiating power and public presence. In the next three years we look forward to a period of increased stability and sustainable growth, as we enter a longer term core funding agreement.

In the foreseeable future we also plan to continue offering capacity building workshops that meet the needs of development organizations across Canada, in collaboration with CIDA Partnership Branch. Two and three day workshops in gender and results-based management are set to be piloted in Toronto in August 2008, and will add to the regularly offered workshops on accessing the Voluntary Sector Fund/Program.

Annual General Meeting 2007

On June 14, 2007 over 65 members and friends gathered at Friends House in Toronto for our Annual General Meeting under the theme "Collaboration and Inclusion". Highlights of the day included a keynote address by Brian Tomlinson, Coordinator of the Policy Team at the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC), who shared some issues and concrete means by which CSOs are addressing the changing approaches of donors and the implications for their own work.

As well, panellists representing the Canadian Network on Disability and Development, OCIC's Global Citizenship and HIV and AIDS Working Groups, and recipients of OCIC Public Engagement Video/PSA initiatives offered perspectives on working "in collaboration" and the significance of "inclusion" issues to each of their thematic areas of emphasis. Alda Facio, human rights activist, jurist, writer and educator, gave a lecture and reading on women's human rights, over dinner.

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation

This spring, Plan Canada and OCIC hosted a three-part capacity building series on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The focus of the series was to increase members' capacity to track and reduce emissions in their office, bring employees on board with environmental initiatives, and better understand the impact of climate change on their work.

In workshops in April and May, environmental consultants Leah Stokes and Matto Mildenerger provided background about and tools for tracking emissions and facilitated sharing of participants' best practices, of which "shifting into neutral" through

carbon offsetting, and increasing staff awareness through creative use of video, are just two examples.

Participants were also introduced to Climate 4 Development (C4D), CRiSTAL and CVCA Tools, and heard presentations from peers on Adaptation at the Policy Level in Cuba, Sustainable Livelihoods in Mozambique, and Environmental Sustainability at CRWRC.

On June 13 this initial series will conclude with a Keynote Address to the OCIC AGM by Désirée McGraw, Vice-President of the Climate Project Canada.

AUDITORS' REPORT

Statement of Financial Position

MARCH 31, 2008

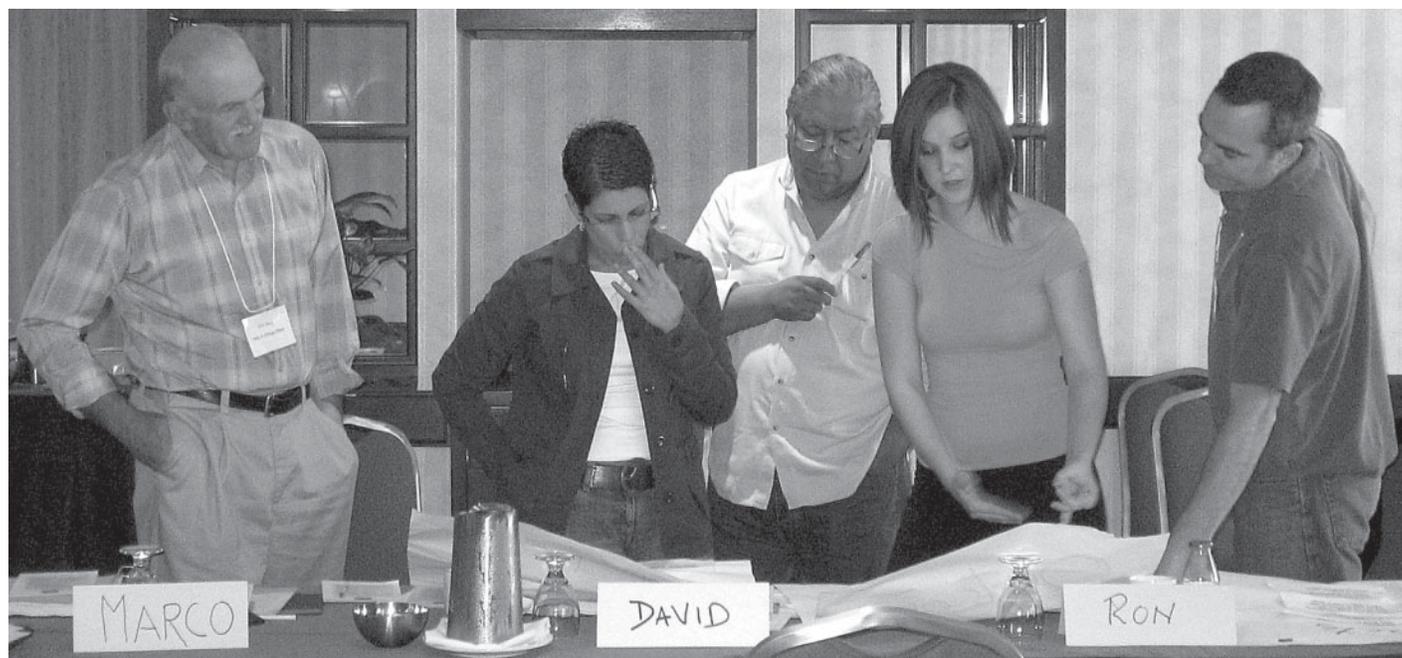
	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 62,174	\$ 21,069
Accounts receivable	7,942	2,222
Grant receivable	20,000	15,000
Prepaid expenses	4,488	4,130
	<u>\$ 94,604</u>	<u>\$ 42,421</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	\$ 5,911	4,004
Deferred revenue (Note 3)	26,262	6,245
	<u>32,173</u>	<u>10,249</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<u>62,431</u>	<u>32,172</u>
	<u>\$ 94,604</u>	<u>\$ 42,421</u>

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Revenues		
Government grants	\$ 200,000	\$ 167,500
Contracts	48,262	-
Professional services	56,494	45,508
Membership fees	10,085	4,680
Donations and miscellaneous	13,805	4,258
Interest income	4,910	35
	<u>333,556</u>	<u>221,981</u>
Expenditures		
Administration	26,634	35,507
Programs	116,195	82,687
Rent	13,296	9,350
Salary and benefits	147,172	76,721
	<u>303,297</u>	<u>204,265</u>
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures for the Year	30,259	17,716
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>32,172</u>	<u>14,456</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 62,431</u>	<u>\$ 32,172</u>

Complete audited financial statements are available from OCIC upon request.



PARTICIPANTS AT ONE OF THREE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FUND/PROGRAM CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY OCIC THIS YEAR, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CIDA. CIDA VSF/P workshops are open to Canadian civil society organizations and professional associations active in international development, and are intended to promote more effective partnerships with CIDA. Through presentations and participatory exercises participants become more familiar with CIDA and Canadian Partnership Branch, and how to prepare a better proposal. Workshop modules cover topics such as: gender equality, the environment, public engagement, partners in the South, needs assessments, RBM, budgets, contribution agreements, narrative and financial reports.

President's Report

In 2007-2008, OCIC continued its steady growth in public activities, services to members, funding, network building, planning and goal setting.

With increased core funding from CIDA, a small but vibrant staff team led by Kimberly Gibbons worked closely with members and new networks across the province to develop and deliver established and new public engagement projects. Principles of collaboration and inclusion permeated the work of steering committees for global educator conferences, Working Group networking and capacity building activities, and International Development Week projects.

Relationships with filmmakers, theatre and visual artists, IT/technology experts and media organizations were cultivated through the Global Citizens Forum, the Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge and Just Theatre for Change.

OCIC also continued to play a key role in delivering Voluntary Sector Fund/Program training opportunities for civil society organizations across Ontario in collaboration with CIDA's Partnership Branch, and in working closely with CIDA and the Centre for Intercultural Training (CIL) on the design of new trainings in Results-Based Management and Gender, to be piloted in Toronto in August 2008.

During the year, the Board offered guidance to staff and served on Executive, Finance, Personnel, Programs and Membership Committees. Many thanks to all who helped OCIC put its principles into practice. In particular, thanks to Board Directors Genevieve Drouin, who has been overseeing the growth and evolution of OCIC programs as Chair of the Programs Committee for the last three years; Naomi Anatol, who was instrumental in helping to develop OCIC's 2007-2010 Strategic Directions, and also participated on the Finance Committee for the last two years; and Sibel Cicek, who as Chair of the Membership Committee provided ongoing support in reviewing membership processes, renewals and applications for the last two years.

In addition, during the year the Board regretfully accepted the resignations of Marie-Ines Arratia as Vice President of several years, and Lesley Porter of the Finance and Membership Committees, due to pressing time commitments and other demands.

Fortunately both remain life-time supporters and available to OCIC. We also accepted the resignation of Claire Holloway Whadhwani, a new Board Director and Co-Chair of the Global Citizenship Working Group, who moved to India in January 2008. Our heartfelt thanks to these great contributors!

No organization thrives without the contributions of its members, volunteers and funders. Together you continue to make OCIC a hub for international development, global education and action in Ontario. We welcome your feedback and questions, and invite you to help shape the future of OCIC.



Bill Sparks

Bill Sparks, OCIC President

Board of Directors

- Bill Sparks – President
CUSO Ontario
- Laura Lewis-Watts – Secretary
Transforming Faces Worldwide
- Jorge Pena – Treasurer
SalvAide
- Naomi Anatol
Canadian Red Cross
- Sibel Cicek
Associate Member
- Genevieve Drouin
Rooftops Canada
- Marianne McQuillan
Operation Eyesight Universal
- John Popiel
Associate Member

OCIC Staff

- Kimberly Gibbons
Executive Director
- Stephanie Lemelin Bazinet
Membership & Administrative Coordinator
- Kris Orantes Migoya
Public Engagement Coordinator
- Ian Hussey
Special Projects Assistant
- Aijun Zhang / Vicki Faul
Bookkeepers
- Caitlin Brubacher / Lauren Chender
Just Theatre Tour Coordinators
- Heather Braaten
Just Theatre Director
- Leslie Stockley
Just Theatre Stage Manager
- nisha ahuja
Just Theatre Actor
- Paul Hardy
Just Theatre Actor
- Julia Lefebvre
Just Theatre Actor

Associate Members

- Abraham Sewonet Abatneh, Maria-Ines Arratia, Hanna Caplan, Renee Devereaux, Roshelle Filart, John Hassell, Susan James, Sally Janzen, Larissa Jones, Garang Isaac Kot Goch Kot, Natasha McKenna, Sharon McQueen, Shah Md Nawaz, Abel Medhanie Gebreyesus, Abigail Moriah, Claire Pitt, Eric Plato, John Popiel, Erik Rath, Layla Rich, Gwen Schauerte, Beta Siebenmann, Linda Slavin, Lisa Thacker, Nadya Weber, Emily Wilson

Thank you!

OCIC is made relevant and dynamic through the tremendous contributions of our Board of Directors, Steering Committees, Working Groups, and the institutions and individuals, noted below. Over the past year they have participated in countless meetings, and provided space, expertise and over 4410 volunteer hours, valued at over \$72,000, to help us realize our vision. Heartfelt thanks to all!

AGM Steering Committee Lauren Chender (OCIC), Genevieve Drouin (Rooftops), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Laura Lewis Watts (TFW), Stephanie Lemelin Bazinet (OCIC), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI)

Design and Technical Support Fisnik Basha, Eric Mills, Robert Vanderplas

Facilitators and Resource Persons Abraham Sewonet Abatneh, Atiq Ahmed (On the Mark), Naomi Anatol (CRC), Julia Anderson (JSH), Donna-Michelle Bernard (Native Earth), Dieudonne Batrville (Rayjon Haiti), Kimberly Bowman (EWB), Guillermina Buzio (aluCine), Genevieve Drouin (Rooftops), Elizabeth Dove, Ray Dunn (NuVision), Denise Edwards (On the Mark), Alda Facio, Henry Fast (CIDA), Alejandro Freeland (LCCA), Anne Gardiner (CCI), Alexandra Gelis, Jason Globerman (OHTN), Priya Gopalen (Rooftops), Mayanka Gupta (SPYM/CWY), Sarah Hendriks (Plan), Duncan Holmes (ICA), Penny Hartin (World Blind Union), Sarah Hutchison (WV), Aakansha Jajoria (SPYM/CWY), Rita Kamacho (LCCA), Dodi Legassic, Jorge Lozano (aluCine), Victoria Mata (HDC), Betty Makoni (GCN, Zimbabwe), Matto Mildenberger (Adapt), Francesca Nocera (Sketch), Yvette Nolan (Native Earth), Randy Park (On the Mark), Brent Parker, Sinara Rozo (aluCine), Lori Ryan (D&P), Leah Stokes (Plan/Adapt), Amanda Sussman (Plan), Sarah Switzer, Brian Tomlinson (CCIC), Natalyn Tremblay (InCamDescence), Neeti Vaid (SPYM/CWY), Kate Vallum (NFB), Luke Walker (TIG), Mariam Wall (Confederation College), Emily Wilson, Shadia Yasin (Freelance Rhythm)

Friends and Partners aluCine Latin@ Media Festival, Anne Goodman, Belladonna, Equita, Hispanic Development Council, Hot Docs International Documentary Festival, National Film Board of Canada, Sketch, The 411 Initiative for Change, UN World Food Program, Verge Magazine

Global Citizenship Working Group *Co-Chairs* – Amy Hogervorst (SAFP) & Luke Walker (TIG); Natalie Abdou, Svetlana Agreeva (CRC), Mali Bickley (SCDSB), Caitlin Brubacher (OCIC), Hanna Caplan (Associate), Jim Carleton (SCDSB), Lauren Chender (OCIC), Tamara Dawit (Plan), Sam Deer, Nancy Del Col (WV), Leslie deFreitas (CWY), Alison Farbar (PDSB), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Claire Holloway Whadhvani (CPAR), Sadhana Hirdaramani (TDSB), Ian Hussey (OCIC), Anab Jafir (FTC), Lori Johnston (War Child), Caroline Keenan (UNICEF), Sarah Lee, Brent MacKinnon (SKI), Sarah Lounsbury (War Child), Julie Marshall (UN World Food Program), Leslie Moreland (World Literacy), Abigail Moriah (Toronto Neighbourhood Centres), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Claire Pitt (OSSTF), Amanda Procter (Pueblito), Erik Rath (YRDSB), Mark Richard (World Literacy), Luke Rodgers (CEA), Amelia

Roy (CCI), Lori Ryan (D&P), Michael Stephens (CCIC), Shayna Szymkowitz (YMCA), Sarah Takaki (EWB), Tara Tracy (WV), Anita Townsend (SCDSB), Paul Tucker (CPAR), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI), Nadya Weber (Associate), Danielle Wilson (PDSB)

Global Citizens Forum Steering Committee Caitlin Brubacher (OCIC), Julie Cosgrove (KWIC), Leslie DeFreitas (CWY), Kimia Ghomeshi (TIG), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Catherine Gribbin (CRC), Victoria Harnett (Oxfam), Marisa Kaczmarczyk (JSH), Zahir Kolia (Oxfam), Andrew Kowalchuk (YMCA of Greater Toronto), Stephanie Lemelin Bazinet (OCIC), Laura Lewis-Watts (TFW), Erin Nesbitt (YCI), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Eric Rath (Associate), Halima Saeed Khan, Reena Sankar (Oxfam), Shanaz Sutherland (CBMI), Tara Tracy (WV), Majustri Welikala (ERDCO)

HIV and AIDS Working Group *Co-Chairs* – Jason Globerman, Ontario HIV Treatment Network & Sarah Hendriks, Plan International Canada; Todd Carmichael (CPAR), Elizabeth Dove (Associate), Helene Duquette (CCI), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Marco Gomes, Priya Gopalen (Rooftops), Waidehi Gokhale (War Child), Anna Miller (CPAR), Theodora Philos (War Child), Peter Richtig, Bill Sparks (CUSO), Abena Thomas (WV)

International Development Week Hanna Caplan (Associate), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Catherine Gribbin (CRC), Victoria Harnett (Oxfam), Ian Hussey (OCIC), Larissa Jones (CNDD), Katie Leathem (CRC), Leslie Moreland (WLC), Sarah Murray, Mai Ng (TIG), Shah Nawaz (Associate), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Kim Outten (Pathways), Amanda Procter (Casa/Pueblito), Lori Ryan (D&P), Larissa Strong (YorkU), Shayna Szymkowitz (YMCA of Greater Toronto)

Just Theatre for Change Natalie Abdou, nisha ahuja (OCIC), Stephanie Lemelin Bazinet (OCIC), Josh Bloch (PEN), Heather Braaten (OCIC), Caitlin Brubacher (OCIC), Lauren Chender (OCIC), Danielle Dominick (UNICEF), Valerie Dubail (PEN), Karen Emerson (CPT), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Paul Hardy (OCIC), Ian Hussey (OCIC), Greg Judelman, Caroline Keenan (UNICEF), Julia Lefebvre (OCIC), Nasir Mahmood, Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Chris Mejaski (SKI), Anagel Saunders, Mark Savoia, Leslie Stockely (OCIC), Jenn Young, Kristy Vanderplas (SKI) and the Grade 7 Class of D.A. Morrison Middle School

Meeting Space Casa Canadiense/Pueblito, Casey House, CPAR, Development and Peace, Harmony Dawn, Jamaican Self Help, Mines Action Canada, OISE/University of Toronto, Oxfam Canada, Plan International Canada, Rooftops Canada, Save a Family Plan, TakingITGlobal, YMCA of Greater Toronto

Volunteers Natalie Abdou, Roland Basha, Stacey Berenson, Hanae Bruchel, Erin Cameron, Hanna Caplan, Jared Cox, Katrina Deane-riggio, Amrit Deol, Laura Duncan, Hagerawit Girmatsion, Mayanka Gupta, Alejandra Higuera, Aakanksha Jajoria, Fabiola Jimenez, Manish Kumar, Nitesh Kumar, Barbara Lai, Dan Lambert, Terence Lowe, Shivank Mahajan, Stephen Murray, Sundeep Parmar, Keiosha Ross, Stephanie Sassville, Medha Srivastava, Derek Steiger, Vahid Choudhary, Neeti Vaid, Jenny-Ynes Wu, Annu Yadav, Wafaa Zaki

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