



# Ontario Council for International Cooperation

## ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009

### Living Our Principles? A Year of Action and Learning

The Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) provides a space for international development and global education organizations and professionals to convene, build and strengthen networks, develop and share capacity, and engage the broader public on global development issues in collaboration with others. Over the past year OCIC has made efforts to meet these objectives in partnership with our many members, supporters and partners through a range of initiatives.

With sustained financial support from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) we have continued to support members in exploring common interests through Breakfast Meetings, Working Groups, International Development Week activities, and Regional Public Forums.

We have also supported member learning on themes of climate change mitigation and adaptation, NGO/private sector partnership-building, women's human rights, financial and risk management, and social accounting. We continued to partner with CIDA in the delivery of their Voluntary Sector Fund/Program capacity-building workshop, and worked in collaboration with CIDA and the Centre for Intercultural Learning (CIL) to pilot and deliver new workshops focused on Gender Equality and Results-Based Management.

Our efforts at public engagement were focused on utilizing creative means to engage youth as active global citizens and agents of positive change through our *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge* and *Just Theatre for Change* projects, and development of *Diaspora Youth Speak*, a new initiative that will be undertaken over the coming two years.

It is testament to the power of collaboration and of our collective will for a more just world that as a Council OCIC has been

able to undertake this spectrum of activities, and to offer a range of consultative and communication services. For this, we offer our sincere thanks to all who have contributed.

In the course of much activity, our staff and Board has also carved precious time to reflect on our experience working collaboratively, and came to many, perhaps obvious, conclusions. Some of them are as simple and as complex as:

- ❖ understanding the need to take time to do our work well, without compromising ourselves as agents of change;
- ❖ recognizing that we should pay closer attention to the efforts of our colleagues – particularly in other communities, networks and movements;
- ❖ recognizing that we must make efforts to decolonize our minds, challenge our assumptions, and think in new ways about partnerships, projects and programs if we want them to be authentic, inclusive and transformative;



*Canadian Crossroads International (CCI) Women's Rights Sector Meeting, November 2008 in Cape Town, South Africa.*

- ❖ understanding the need to develop creative and more effective means to nurture public interest in global development issues; and
- ❖ acting in ways that reflect our principles, and create opportunities for constructive dialogue with others to improve our policies, processes and practice, regularly.

In a year that governments, civil society actors, and citizens at large have been confronted by the devastating conjuncture of food, fuel and financial crises, there is an increased appetite for a transformative global agenda that challenges erroneous assumptions, and offers bold, strategic and people-centred alternatives. We believe our Council has a place in creating such alternatives, and hope to co-create them with you.

*Kimberly Gibbons, Executive Director*

## Organizational Members

Athletes for Africa  
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  
CUSO-VSO  
Developing a Global Perspective for Educators  
Engineers without Borders  
Foundation for International Development Assistance  
Free the Children  
Frontiers Foundation  
Guatemala Community Network  
Heart-Links  
Horizons of Friendship  
Jamaican Self-Help Organization  
Kawartha World Issues Centre  
Mines Action Canada  
Operation Eyesight Universal  
Oxfam Canada  
Physicians for Global Survival  
Plan International Canada  
Pueblito Canada  
Rayjon Share Care  
Rooftops Canada  
S.H.A.R.E. Agriculture Foundation  
SalvAide  
Save A Family Plan  
Street Kids International  
TakingITGlobal  
The Leprosy Mission Canada  
Transforming Faces Worldwide  
UNICEF Canada  
War Child Canada  
World Literacy of Canada  
World Vision Canada  
YMCA of Greater Toronto  
YMCAs of Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo  
Youth Challenge International

### **New Members – to be ratified June 2009**

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee  
GEMS of Hope  
Nu-Vision Ministry  
Save the Children Canada

## 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.

## 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 2008-2009 in collaboration with and for OCIC members and networks, and the general public.

## Annual General Meeting

On June 12-13, 2008, over 70 OCIC members, friends and volunteers gathered at OISE/University of Toronto for our Annual General Meeting.

Organized under the theme "From Principles to Practice: Revisiting our Commitments to Global Social Justice", this two-day event included keynote addresses on Aid Effectiveness and CCIC's 10 Point Agenda by Molly Kane, Executive Director of InterPares, and on youth involvement in climate change mitigation and adaptation by Desiree McGraw, Executive Director of the Jeanne Sauve Foundation and Vice-President of Al Gore's Climate Change Project in Canada.

The first afternoon was structured to encourage members to reflect on their practice of OCIC's Development Principles, which was followed with a second full-day focus on NGO/private sector collaboration, with presentations and discussions focused on understanding why, when and how to engage with the private sector.

Panelists representing AMREF Canada, CUSO, Free the Children and TakingITGlobal shared perspectives and challenges involved in weighing ethical considerations and undertaking or implementing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) frameworks in the course of engaging with corporate partners in their international development work.

To wrap up the event, Paul Klein, President of Impakt Consulting, led a group activity to help participants explore the motivations and values of corporations and how NGOs could present their case.

Ontario Council for International Cooperation's AGM Keynote

Open to the Public  
All welcome,  
including children

Accessible  
location

**The Future of  
Climate Change:**  
Children in a Changing Climate

**Desirée McGraw**  
Vice-President, Climate Project Canada

July 12, 2008  
5:45 PM  
OISE, Room 4-414, 252 Bloor St. W

children in  
a changing  
climate

[www.childreninachangingclimate.org](http://www.childreninachangingclimate.org)

OCIC  
Ontario Council for International Cooperation

adapt  
Environmental

Plan

## OCIC Mission

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.



## Just Theatre for Change

*"The tour made me think more about the issues and how I affect them and how I can make a difference."*

—Keara Boyce, Grade 7 Student, Mother Teresa Catholic School, Cambridge

Over the last year OCIC and the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC) collaborated on increasing the capacity and reach of our school-based theatre program, *Just Theatre for Change*. From October 14–November 24, OCIC reached over 4,000 students in 32 schools. In total, *You, In the Shadow*, an original play produced by OCIC, was performed at 61 schools in 11 school boards across Southern Ontario during the spring and fall of 2008. Over 7,500 students viewed the play and participated in interactive workshops that challenged them to explore actions they can take every day as engaged global citizens.

During the fall tour members were invited to visit schools with OCIC to speak to teachers and students about relevant school and youth programming. Two weeks were dedicated to regions with a strong membership presence, with performances held in London, Sarnia, Cobourg, Peterborough and Kitchener-Waterloo. Participating schools received teacher kits filled with a classroom re-

source directly linked to the play and a range of global education resources produced and supplied by OCIC members. This proved to be a great way to place materials directly into the hands of interested educators and support the inclusion of global education activities into their classroom work.

*Just Theatre for Change* was positively received by teachers and students alike. Many schools commented on how the tour supported their existing social justice initiatives and increased their capacity to inspire change. Jen Pattinson, a teacher at James Strath Public School in Peterborough wrote, "*The kids loved that they learned so much but it didn't feel like learning...You really made the students think. They are already talking about taking action.*"

A variety of class-based and school-wide action projects were launched following the tour, including a successful student-led petition to have water bottle vending machines removed from Blessed Kateri School in Kitchener, and the creation and performance of an awareness-raising play about unequal wealth distribution by students at St. Lawrence Catholic School in Toronto.



OCIC Just Theatre actors (from left ) Susan Lock, Leslie Halferty and Paul Hardy in *You, In the Shadow*.

## HIV and AIDS Working Group

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

- ❖ increasing our understanding of global HIV and AIDS issues by hosting visiting speakers from Ghana and Zimbabwe, debriefing the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City, and sharing information gained through other HIV conferences, meetings and social forums;
- ❖ organizing and facilitating an NGO/Private Sector partnership event to help build the capacity of OCIC members to address ethical and practical issues in creating meaningful and dynamic partnerships;
- ❖ developing a database of missions, objectives and work being done locally and internationally on behalf of Working Group member organizations; and
- ❖ connecting with local community service providers and AIDS service organizations.

Monthly meetings focused on a range of issues faced by Work-

ing Group members in our HIV and AIDS programming. Discussions created knowledge transfer and exchange on: issues affecting immigrants, refugees and non-status PHAs, criminalization of HIV, gender in Ghana, the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, G8 processes and implications for HIV/AIDS, and youth engagement.

Topics to be covered in the months ahead include: anti-oppression frameworks, organizational policies that incorporate HIV and AIDS, food security and HIV and AIDS, and HIV and AIDS in Aboriginal communities in Canada.

Our next public event, planned for late fall 2009, will focus on youth and HIV and AIDS.

If your organization is involved in HIV and AIDS programming, we encourage you to join us! While face-to-face meetings take place in Toronto, members from outside the GTA are welcome to participate via teleconference.

*Jason Globerman, Ontario HIV Treatment Network  
& Priya Gopalen, Rooftops Canada*

## Breakfast Meetings

Over the past year members and friends gathered over ten early morning breakfasts to share expertise in the following areas:

- ❖ YMCA of Greater Toronto partners Mario Rebeiz and Nadine Okla presented on the experiences and challenges of the YMCA of Lebanon in empowering women, highlighting a program that has established women-owned and managed food processing centers and production farms as a means to empower women, generate income and ensure self-fulfillment.
- ❖ Canadian Crossroads International partners Gertrude Nunoo, Deputy Director of ProLink Organisation, Eddie Donton, Executive Director of West African AIDS Foundation (WAAF) and Eugène Novon, Executive Director of Aides médicales et charité (AMC) spoke about challenges and successes in achieving universal access to HIV treatment in Ghana and Togo.
- ❖ RESULTS Canada Executive Director Chris Dendys presented on the power of citizen voice to create political will, sharing inspiring stories demonstrating the impact of direct citizen communication with Members of Parliament.
- ❖ Photojournalist Allan Cedillo Lissner shared *Someone Else's Treasure*, an ongoing project shedding light on the experiences of people in the Philippines, Tanzania, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Chile and Canada whose lives have been impacted by the global mining industry. After Allan's presentation, Canadian Crossroads International and Global Citizens for Change invited participants to join a *Stand Up* action to mark the International Day to Eradicate Poverty.
- ❖ Dr. Charles Tauber, Head of Mission of Coalition for Work with Psychotrauma and Peace (CWWPP), provided an overview of the situation in the former Yugoslavia and the work his group is doing to empower people, particularly at the grassroots level, to take control of their own lives. Dr. Tauber described the intensive, integrated approach used by CWWPP called Complex Rehabilitation, which addresses issues of psychological trauma, non-violent conflict resolution, reconstruction, reconciliation and civil society.
- ❖ On the International Day of Disabled Persons the Canadian Network on Disability and Development (CNDD) spoke on the relevance of applying a disability lense in development, and offered tools for ensuring projects and programs are more accessible. Winstone Zulu, Zambian HIV/AIDS, TB and disability advocate, spoke about the impact of stigma and discrimination, and the pressing need for inclusiveness.
- ❖ Mark Blumberg of Blumberg Segal LLP presented on the importance of political activities conducted by charities,

especially in the context of international development, the expenditure limitations on political activities for registered Canadian charities under the Income Tax Act and CRA rules, the effect of political activities on disbursement quotas, the difference between public awareness, educational activities, and political activities, and lobbyist registration requirements for Canadian non-profits and charities interacting with the federal government.

- ❖ Canadian Crossroads International partner and Ghanaian women's rights activist Rhoda Panford from ABANTU for Development in Ghana shared successes and challenges faced by the Ghanaian women's movement in increasing women's participation and representation in political processes.
- ❖ Transforming Faces Worldwide partner Dr. Nagarajan from the Sri Ramachandra University (SRU) in South India presented on the relevance of community based rehabilitation (CBR) programs. The SRU-TFW program in a rural community in Thiruvannamalai provides speech therapy and orthodontic care for children with cleft lip and palate.

## Global Citizenship Working Group

The OCIC Global Citizenship Working Group is a network of global educators and public engagement professionals from across Ontario who work on themes, issues and events that promote active global citizenship. The Working Group meets monthly in Toronto to build capacity, plan activities and share experiences, opportunities, resources and tools.

In 2008-2009 our capacity-building sessions focused on working effectively with school boards, using art and media to engage youth, and exploring anti-oppression frameworks for global education. Throughout the year we also prioritized sharing and disseminating information about the global education work that the members are undertaking individually.

To this end, members of the group are currently updating *Global Communities, Local Classrooms: Teachers' Resources for Global Education*, a booklet highlighting classroom resources offered by OCIC, our members and relevant organizations.



*Shayna Szymkowicz, YMCA of Greater Toronto*

## Regional Public Forums

In March and April 2009, OCIC, with the support of members in Peterborough, London and Toronto, organized Regional Public Forums as a means to generate dialogue and encourage sharing of best practices in public engagement and global education. Forum topics were determined in consultation with Council members in each of the host regions.

Acknowledging the challenges to just and equal participation in the international development sector, the Peterborough Regional Forum focused on *Inclusion and Participation for All: Building Diverse and Engaged Communities for Social Change*. By looking critically at the role of power dynamics in social justice organizing through a lens of inclusion, the forum provided a space to re-examine the roles that organizations can play in addressing social justice and creating effective social change.

Panelists Penny Hartin, Chief Executive Officer of the World Blind Union, singer/songwriter and community activist Amai Kuda, and Uzma Shakir, Economic Justice Fellow at the Atkinson Charitable Foundation delivered presentations on the need to apply a disability lens to work in the international development sector, and the importance of using a decolonization framework as a base for organizing any social justice initiative.

The London Regional Forum focused on *Reassessing the Landscape: Global Economics and Sustaining International Cooperation*. By delving into a critical questioning of the political



*Peterborough Regional Forum participants (from left) Ziysah D. Markson, Amai Kuda and Fernanda Yanchapaxi present a "problem/solution tree" on the lack of decolonization analysis in development work.*

economy which led to the current crises of finances, food and fuel, the forum provided a space to reflect and share experiences, tools and strategies on adapting and being responsive to the current climate.

Panelists John Clarke, founder of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty, and Salimah Valiani, activist and PhD Candidate in Sociology at Carleton University, noted the role of neo-liberal policies in exacerbating conditions of poverty both in the North and South, as well as the need for people affected by poverty to be at the forefront of organizing and mobilizing around poverty eradication.

Finally, the Toronto Regional Forum, *Tools for Collaboration: Why Working Together Can Be More Effective than Reinventing the Wheel*, focused on the challenges, benefits and best practices of collaboration for educating and engaging the public in global issues. Panelists Paul Klein, President of Impakt Consulting, and Duberlis Ramos, Executive Director of the Hispanic Development Council, highlighted the need to critically examine collaborative initiatives with the corporate sector, and to build collaborative processes that are equitable and founded on a common agenda, respectively.

Drawing from perspectives across sectors, this first series of Regional Public Forums was conceived as a means to build relationships to allow for more holistic and effective approaches to social justice and international cooperation. Video podcasts of panelists' presentations are available online at [www.vimeo.com/user1686225](http://www.vimeo.com/user1686225).

## Canadian Network on Disability and Development

The Canadian Network on Disability and Development (CNDD) works to raise awareness for the inclusion of people with disabilities within the development context, to increase support for disability policies and programming among development practitioners, and to advocate for inclusion.

OCIC's continued involvement and collaboration with the CNDD throughout 2008-2009 has led to several positive results.

The dissemination of disability-related materials to OCIC members, and OCIC's participation in CNDD's "Inclusive Development" presentation for students of Humber College's International Project Management Program during International Development Week 2009 helped to increase awareness on the need to implement disability policy within development programs.

OCIC has also led by example, implementing disability awareness in their Peterborough Regional Forum, and co-hosting a breakfast meeting on Inclusive Development.

Collaboration between CNDD and OCIC will continue in 2009-2010 through resource sharing and practical approaches to inclusion.

*Larissa Jones, CNDD*



## International Development Week

International Development Week (IDW) provides an opportunity for the Government of Canada and Canadian organizations to share their lessons learned and successes achieved in international development with the Canadian and international public. It also provides an opportunity for Canadians to learn more about life in developing countries, and to find out how to become global citizens, actively involved in international development.

This year under the CIDA theme “Development for Results” OCIC produced and disseminated *Global Voices – Profiles of Leaders in Development* – a newspaper-insert series highlighting the work of five distinguished staff, volunteers or global partners of OCIC member organizations working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals – to over 115,000 homes across Ontario. Leaders profiled included:

- ❖ Kabita Shah, a street worker, educator and counsellor at SathSath, a Nepal-based partner of Street Kids International that works with street youth to help them realize their full potential and to integrate them into mainstream society;
- ❖ Astrid Girsela Uribe Martinez, a community youth leader with the YMCA in Medellín, Colombia that teaches youth leadership and nonviolence, and works closely with the YMCA of Greater Toronto;
- ❖ John Barnfield, co-founder of Sarnia-based Rayjon Share Care, which is involved in a range of community development initiatives and awareness trips for Canadians in Haiti, Dominican Republic and other developing countries;



- ❖ Mary Mathenge, General Manager of the National Cooperative Housing Union in Kenya, a partner of Rooftops Canada and leader in the cooperative movement in her response to the HIV and AIDS pandemic; and
- ❖ Randalin Ellery, a university student in Guelph, Ontario that has worked with Oxfam Canada in promoting fair trade on Canadian university campuses.

OCIC and members also organized a range of public events throughout the week to deepen public awareness of global issues, and to celebrate a year of efforts within the international development community in Ontario.

## Diaspora Youth Speak

Over the past year OCIC has been working closely with an Advisory Committee of community artists, youth workers, academics and Council members to develop *Diaspora Youth Speak*, a



project that will use multi-media arts to engage youth in social justice and international cooperation.

Set to launch in July 2009, *Diaspora Youth Speak* will look at the issue of forced or induced displacement to explore the common threads of experiences that impact people's every day lives locally and globally.

Following a social justice youth development approach, participants will learn about global issues, art and media to weave together stories of resilience

and transformation. They will be engaged in a range of activities including working with video, creating murals, story telling, creative writing, blogging and community organizing.

Through this project OCIC hopes to forge links and relationships with Diasporic communities in Ontario, and to create an intentional space that supports youth from Diasporic communities in articulating perspectives on global issues and social change.

## Sector Support

In 2008-2009 OCIC had the privilege of serving on the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) Board of Directors, and on the Canadian Red Cross Ontario-Zone International Advisory Committee. OCIC was also invited to participate in a number of member events and strategic planning processes, and to provide presentations on public engagement issues for CCIC, the Kawartha World Issues Centre, TakingITGlobal, Oxfam Canada and the YMCA of Greater Toronto.

## Inter-Council Collaboration

Over the past year the Inter-Council Network of Provincial/Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN) matured in our capacity to learn from each other, and to collaborate effectively in joint public engagement initiatives. Throughout the year we communicated and met regularly to share ideas and strategies, best practices and challenges.

Positive outcomes of collaboration crystallized at key moments throughout the year, such as during our *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge* National Gala celebrating the creative efforts of nearly 100 youth across Canada to produce videos with analysis of the most pressing global issues.

Behind the scenes the ICN continued to focus on the need for a broad-based national public engagement position and strategy to nurture and support the work of progressive, transformative educators working towards global citizenship objectives.

To that end, individually and as a collective the Councils participated in coalition-building meetings, undertook public opinion polls on global development issues and fair trade, and made presentations on key findings to Margaret Biggs, President of CIDA, and at the CCIC Public Engagement Forum in May 2009.

In the months ahead we will undertake consultations of various types with our diverse members to distil key recommendations for a joint national position paper on public engagement, which we envision as a tool for the sector, and a means for ongoing dialogue and engagement with CIDA and other funders in this important area of work.

Collectively we also continue to work with CIDA as a key partner in delivering their national training program on the Voluntary Sector Fund/Program, Results-based Management, and Gender Equality.



*ICN staff and friends gathered in Ottawa for the National Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge Gala, September 2008. From left, top to bottom: Christine Renaud, Eliza Knockwood (ACIC), Patrick McCormack, Diana Coumantarakis (ACGC), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Jessica Dubelaar (ACIC), Janice Hamilton (MCIC), Alejandro Gomez, Shams Alibhai (BCCIC), Maria Louisa Monreal (AQOCI), Brie Rheim (ACIC), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Lori Latta (SCIC), Bilal Rajan.*

## AWID International Forum

In November 2008 OCIC Executive Director Kimberly Gibbons joined 2,200 women and men at the 11th AWID International Forum on Women's Rights and Development in Cape Town, South Africa. This four-day Forum focused on "The Power of Movements" presented feminists from 144 countries an opportunity to draw strength and sustenance from collective energy, to push ourselves in critical self-reflection, to deepen our analysis of the forces and trends impacting our work, and to open ourselves to different ways of organizing and thinking.

In organizing the Forum AWID hoped participants might come away with a greater shared understanding of how we can strengthen our movements and why that is important, a vision for how we might overcome some of the fragmentation within the women's movement, elements of a shared political agenda, expanded strate-

gic alliances, models of effective ways of working inter-generationally, and a renewed sense of energy and inspiration.

In the two days following, Canadian Crossroads International held a meeting with African partners in attendance that focused on debriefing their learning experiences and gaining a deeper understanding of the successes and challenges they each face

in their work addressing VAW and girls, and women's participation and representation on governance issues.

In addition to attending these five days of activities, Kimberly met with Rooftops Canada partner The Kuyasa Fund, and visited Robbin Island, Langa Township, District Six Museum, and a variety of exhibitions on contemporary slavery and social movements. Many new learnings and perspectives gained were brought back to OCIC, and shared with CCIC Board members and other networks in the months that followed.



*CCI partners Pierrette Gayibor (Groupe de réflexion et d'action, femmes, démocratie et développement, Togo) and Ruth Bikwa (Girl Child Network, Zimbabwe) with Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC) in Cape Town, South Africa.*



## Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge

The *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge*, the first national public engagement initiative of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial/Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN) undertaken throughout the last year, invited youth in two age categories to enter a contest to produce short videos on the global issues most important to them.



Kevin Sayachareun (left) and Jennifer Paul, national winners of the *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge*, with CCIC President/CEO Gerry Barr.

The contest received nearly 100 entries from across Canada. Ontario winners were recognized in early June at a regional Gala in Toronto attended by over 130 people. In addition to two grand prizes recognizing the Annette Street Productions Media Club video “Raise Your Voice” for the 8-12 years of age category, and Jennifer Paul and Kevin Sayachareun for their video “Change” for the 13-18 years of age category, awards for Best Animation, Best Script, Best Acting, Best Cinematography, Best Narrative and Best Francophone Short were given to celebrate a range of outstanding efforts.

In on-line public voting leading up to a late September na-

tional Gala in Ottawa, “Change” received thousands of votes to claim the National Viewers Choice Award, and was also recognized by a national jury as the top video in Canada. As a culmination of the project regional finalists from coast to coast were brought together for a two-day event to celebrate their work, participate in a global issues workshop, and tour the Canadian parliament.

Through *Kaleidoscope* youth demonstrated a wide range of concerns and commitments to global issues. This initiative reflects the ICN’s commitment to building the capacity of young people and giving them a platform to become key actors of change. To view videos of the national finalists visit <http://www.videochallenge.ca/>.



Audience members watch to discover the most pressing global issues for winners of the *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge*.

## CIDA Capacity-Building Workshops



Participants engaged in group work at the May 2009 capacity-building workshop “Advancing Equality Between Women and Men” organized by OCIC in partnership with CIDA and CIL. At left (from left): Bluma Teram (Help the Aged Canada), Lindsay Gladding (World Vision), Margaret Parsons (African Canadian Legal Clinic), Sija Jacob (Save A Family Plan), Jackie McVicar (Tatamagouche Centre). Below (from left): Perez Oyugi (Canadian Red Cross) and Julie Ouellet (Canadian Crossroads International).



# AUDITORS' REPORT

## Statement of Financial Position

MARCH 31, 2009

|   | 2009              | 2008             |
|---|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                             |                   |                  |
| <b>Current</b>                            |                   |                  |
| Cash                                      | \$ 125,101        | \$ 62,174        |
| Short-term investments                    | 30,000            | –                |
| Accounts receivable                       | 3,684             | 7,942            |
| Grant receivable                          | –                 | 20,000           |
| Prepaid expenses                          | 2,487             | 4,488            |
|   | <u>\$ 161,272</u> | <u>\$ 94,604</u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>         |                   |                  |
| <b>Current</b>                            |                   |                  |
| Accounts payable<br>& accrued liabilities | \$ 58,326         | 5,911            |
| Deferred revenue (Note 2)                 | 12,449            | 26,262           |
|   | <u>70,775</u>     | <u>32,173</u>    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                         |                   |                  |
| <b>Unrestricted</b>                       | <u>90,497</u>     | <u>62,431</u>    |
|   | <u>\$ 161,272</u> | <u>\$ 94,604</u> |

Complete audited financial statements are available from OCIC upon request.

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

|  | 2009             | 2008             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                  |                  |                  |
| Government grants (Note 3)                       | \$ 191,702       | \$ 200,000       |
| Contracts (Note 3)                               | 129,169          | 48,262           |
| Professional services                            | 61,305           | 56,494           |
| Membership fees                                  | 12,312           | 10,085           |
| Donations and miscellaneous                      | 6,455            | 13,805           |
| Interest income                                  | 4,021            | 4,910            |
|  | <u>404,964</u>   | <u>333,556</u>   |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                              |                  |                  |
| Administration                                   | 33,646           | 26,634           |
| Programs   | 116,884          | 116,195          |
| Rent   | 13,247           | 13,296           |
| Salary and benefits                              | 213,121          | 147,172          |
|  | <u>376,898</u>   | <u>303,297</u>   |
| Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year | 28,066           | 30,259           |
| Net Assets, beginning of year                    | <u>62,431</u>    | <u>32,172</u>    |
| <b>Net Assets, end of year</b>                   | <u>\$ 90,497</u> | <u>\$ 62,431</u> |

## Associate Members

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Preeti Asthana            | Sharon McQueen       |
| Hanna Bartel              | Brianna Mersey       |
| Neil Blazevic             | Diane O'Reggio       |
| Mark Blumberg             | Jorge Peña           |
| Eric Budgell              | Eric Plato           |
| Hanna Caplan              | John Popiel          |
| Lauren Chender            | Eric Rath            |
| Jerome Cheung             | Layla Rich           |
| Renee Devereaux           | Amélie Roy           |
| Jason Globerman           | Lori Ryan            |
| Nandy Heule               | Mirga Saltmiras      |
| Akiko Inui                | Linda Slavin         |
| Susan James               | Azin Soltani         |
| Larissa Jones             | Mukete Joseph Tayong |
| Laurie Korneluk           | Bluma Teram          |
| Stephanie Lemelin Bazinet | Andrea Todd          |
| Allan Lissner             | Karen Tsang          |
| Maggie MacDonnell         | Nadya Weber          |
| Sophie Maksimowski        | Andrea Weerdenburg   |
| Natasha McKenna           | Khaleda Yesmin       |



### OCIC Board and Staff at Harmony Dawn Retreat Centre

OCIC Board and staff play games and get serious about annual planning during our Fall 2008 retreat. From left: John Popiel, Todd Carmichael, Abraham Sewonet Abatneh, Kris Orantes Migoya, Susan James, Laura Lewis Watts, Bill Sparks.

## President's Report

This year was one of the busiest ever for OCIC in public activities, services to members, funding development, network building, planning and goal setting.

With multi-year core funding from CIDA our excellent staff worked closely with members and networks across the province to develop and deliver effective capacity-building services and public engagement initiatives, and to examine our needs for an organization that honours the principles of inclusion, sustainability and justice.



Bill Sparks

Capacity-building services included: a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Workshop Series in spring; a Women's Human Rights Workshop in summer; a Financial Management for NGOs Workshop Series in the fall; and five CIDA trainings on Voluntary Sector Fund Projects/Programs, Gender and RBM throughout the year.

Public engagement initiatives included: engaging youth in global issues through the *Kaleidoscope Real World Video Challenge* with culminating award ceremonies and galas for provincial and national finalists in June and September; engaging theatre-artists, middle-years students and teachers to take local action on global human rights issues through the *Just Theatre for Change* tour; working with a community-based Advisory Committee to lay the foundations for *Diaspora Youth Speak*, a new multi-media arts global education project for youth from Diasporic communities; developing *International Development Week: Profiles of Leaders in Development* for distribution in community newspapers across Ontario; and coordinating Regional Public Forums as opportunities for member-learning in Peterborough, London and Toronto.

None of these undertakings would have been possible without the tremendous commitment and countless hours of work contributed by Kimberly Gibbons, Kris Orantes Migoya, Lisa Swainston, Lauren Chender, Vicki Faul, the Just Theatre artistic team, and shorter-term project staff and volunteers.

Beyond OCIC, staff also actively contributed to CCIC and the work of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial/Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN). All of this was done within the Strategic Plan of OCIC developed two years ago by Board and staff with member consultations stressing that planning, delivery and outcome design be participatory, collaborative and inclusive.

Throughout the year Board Directors offered guidance on actualizing the Strategic and Annual Plan, and served on Executive, Finance, Personnel, Sustainability, Programs and Membership Committees. Many thanks to all who helped OCIC put its principles into practice. Particular thanks to retiring Board Directors John Popiel, Abraham Sewonet Abatneh and Todd Charmichael, who each made strong contributions.

Like John Popiel, this has been my sixth and final year serving as an elected Board Director. It has been truly an honour to sit on the OCIC Board and to serve as President. The work of OCIC is both heart-lifting in its accomplishments, and heart-breaking in the suffering and injustice which keeps our world broken and challenges our efforts. Many times this organization has provided the common safe-space for collaboration and healing in a world immersed in competition and conflict.

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 join us.

*Bill Sparks, President*

## Board of Directors

- Bill Sparks – President  
*CUSO-VSO*
- Erin Nesbitt – Vice-President  
*Youth Challenge International*
- Laura Lewis-Watts – Secretary  
*Transforming Faces Worldwide*
- Jorge Peña – Treasurer  
*SalvAide*
- Todd Charmichael  
*CPAR*
- Susan James  
*Associate Member*
- Marianne McQuillan  
*Operation Eyesight Universal*
- John Popiel  
*Associate Member*
- Amélie Roy  
*Canadian Crossroads International*
- Abraham Sewonet Abatneh  
*Associate Member*
- Kristy Vanderplas  
*Street Kids International*

## Staff

- Kimberly Gibbons  
*Executive Director*
- Kris Orantes Migoya  
*Public Engagement Coordinator*
- Lisa Swainston  
*Membership & Administrative Coordinator*
- Vicki Faul  
*Bookkeeper*
- Lauren Chender  
*Just Theatre Coordinator*
- Heather Braaten  
*Just Theatre Director*
- Leslie Stockley  
*Just Theatre Stage Manager*
- Leslie Halferty  
*Just Theatre Actor*
- Paul Hardy  
*Just Theatre Actor*
- Susan Lock  
*Just Theatre Actor*
- Pike Krpan  
*Special Projects Assistant*



# Thank you!

OCIC is made relevant and dynamic through the tremendous contributions of our Board of Directors, Steering Committees, Working Groups, and the many institutions and individuals noted below. Throughout the year they have attended numerous meetings, generously offered advice, space, expertise and nearly 3000 volunteer hours valued at over \$53,000, to help us realize our vision. Many thanks to all!

**AGM Steering Committee** Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Victoria Harnett (Oxfam), Laura Lewis Watts (TFW), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Lisa Swainston (OCIC), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI)

**Design and Technical Support** Fisnik Basha, Greg Judelman, Eric Mills, Robert Vanderplas

**Diaspora Youth Speak Steering Committee** Lia De Pauw, Diane Der (CWY), Julian Diego (SKETCH), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Rodrigo Goller (LEF), Jamilah Malika (anitAFRIKA!), Erin Nesbitt (YCI), Sume Ndumbe-Eyoh, Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC)

**Facilitators, Resource People and Speakers** Sarah Aquilina (FTC), Hasnat Ahsan (Oxfam), Mark Blumberg (Blumberg Segal LLP), Anne Buchanan (CCIC), Allison Campbell-Rogers (CWY), John Clarke (OCAP), Chris Dendys (RESULTS), Eddie Donton (WAAF, Ghana), Elizabeth Dove (RESULTS), Alda Facio, Mark Fried (Oxfam), Kimberley Fry (Greenpeace), Coralia Garcia Peralta (FUNARTE, Nicaragua), Jane Garthson, Alexandra Gelis, Debra Gray (FTC), John Gultig (Spire), Heather Harding (GC4C), Victoria Harnett (Oxfam), Penny Hartin (WBU), Duncan Holmes (ICA), Dennis Howlett (MPH), Anne-Marie Kamanye (AMREF), Molly Kane (InterPares), Paul Klein (Impakt), Mehdi Kouhestaninejad (CLC), Amai Kuda, Allan Cedillo Lissner, Betty Makoni (GCN, Zimbabwe), Prakash Maharjan, Patrick McCormack (the 411 Initiative for Change), Desiree McGraw (Jeanne Sauve Foundation), Dr. Sara Koki Muli-Kinagwi (AfriAfyra, Kenya), Dr. Nagarajan (SRU, India), Eugene Novon (AMC, Togo), Gertrude Nunoo (Prolink, Ghana), Nadine Okla (YMCA of Lebanon), Rhoda Panford (ABANTU, Ghana), David Pell (SKI), Eric Plato, Duberlis Ramos (HDC), Mario Reibez (YMCA of Lebanon), Danny Richmond (YCI), Sinara Roza (aluCine), Eva Salinas (Athletes for Africa), Uzma Shakir, Barbara Sniderman (HotDocs), Eric Squair (MPH), Mary Tangelder (Spire), Dr. Charles Tauber (CWWPP), Anita Townsend (SCDSB), Natalyn Tremblay (inCamDescence), Paul Tucker (CPAR), Salimah Valiani, Kate Vallum (NFB), Luke Walker (TIG), Winstone Zulu

**Friends and Institutional Partners** aluCine Latin@ Media Festival, Mark Blumberg, Anne Goodman, Hispanic Development Council, Hot Docs International Documentary Festival, JT Printing, National Film Board of Canada, Sketch, The 411 Initiative for Change, Verge Magazine, Women's Research Centre/University of Toronto

**Gifts and Contributions** aluCine Latin@ Media Festival, Equita, FIDA, HotDocs International Documentary Film Festival, Planet Bean, Street Kids International, TakingITGlobal, Ten Thousand Villages, The 411

Initiative for Change, Toronto Women's Bookstore, UN World Food Program, Verge Magazine, YMCA of Greater Toronto

**Global Citizenship Working Group** Svetlana Ageeva (CRC), Sarah Aquilina (FTC), Allison Campbell-Rogers (CWY), Hanna Caplan, Lauren Chender (OCIC), Nancy Del Col (WV), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Sadhana Hirdaramani, Amy Hogervorst (SAFP), Larissa Jones (CNDD), Sarah Lounsbury (War Child), Andrea Maldonado (Paradigm Shift Project), Kathryn Meisner (Me to We), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Mark Richard (WLC), Shayna Szymkowicz (YMCA of Greater Toronto), Sarah Takaki (EWB), Paul Tucker (CPAR), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI), Luke Walker (TIG), Katherine Walraven (TIG)

**HIV and AIDS Working Group** Hanna Bartel (Dignitas), Eric Budgell, Todd Carmichael (CPAR), Jenn Donville (War Child), Elizabeth Dove, Helene Duquette (CCI), Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Jason Globerman (OHTN), Marco Gomes, Priya Gopalen (Rooftops Canada), Victoria Harnett (Oxfam), Sarah Hendriks (Plan), Alicia Jarvis (Lets Stop AIDS), Larissa Jones (CNDD), Terence Lowe (ACAS), Christina Melon, Anna Miller (CPAR), Shamin Mohamed Jr., Esperanza Monsalve (YMCA of Greater Toronto), Theodora Philos (War Child), Peter Richtig (AIDS Committee of Durham Region), Maria Roxas (WV), Amélie Roy (CCI), Karen Sodoma (WV), Bill Sparks (CUSO-VSO), Khaleda Yesmin

**International Development Week** Sarah Aquilina (FTC), Hanna Caplan, Kimberly Gibbons (OCIC), Larissa Jones (CNDD), piKe, Krpan (OCIC), Anthony Loursion, Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), Nika Munro (CCI), Lisa Swainston (OCIC), Shayna Szymkowicz (OCIC), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI)

**Meeting Space** anitAFRIKA! Dub Theatre, Canada World Youth, Canadian Crossroads International, Centre for Social Concern, Centre for Social Innovation, CUSO-VSO, Development and Peace, FIDA, Harmony Dawn, International Student Centre/UofT, Jamaican Self Help, OISE/UofT, Plan International Canada, Rooftops Canada, Save A Family Plan, SKETCH, Transformative Learning Centre, TakingITGlobal, Toronto Metro Hall, Trent University, YMCA of Greater Toronto

**Regional Public Forums** Julia Anderson (JSH), John Barnfield (Rayjon), Steve Clarke (Compassion Canada), Julie Cosgrove (KWIC), Rachel Currie (Horizons), Leslie De Freitas (CWY), Amy Hogervorst (SAFP), Ann Irwin (Heart-Links), Marisa Kaczmarczyk (JSH), Sarah Lounsbury (War Child), Patricia Mack (Heart-Links), Adam Malloy (CSC), Julie Marshall (WFP), Kris Orantes Migoya (OCIC), John Popiel (Rayjon), Lesley Porter (SAFP), Kataisee Richardson (CCI), Christine Troughton (Heart-Links), Kristy Vanderplas (SKI), Betsy Wall (FIDA), Katherine Walraven (TIG)

**Volunteers** Caroline Abbotts, Tijana Bajic, Roland Basha, Fantahun Biadlegne, Kate Bowers, Laurier Brown, Jenny Christian, Magali Génèral, Sharon George, Arisa Goldstone, Stephanie Greco, David Lewis, Allan Cedillo Lissner, Clinton Mackay, Jeff Minthorn, Khaleda Yesmin

**SPECIAL THANKS** to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and their staff for their ongoing financial and professional support.

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