



World. Wide. WUSC.

November 2007

Yes, it's that time of year again, Halloween is over and already Holiday decorations are on display and carols can be heard everywhere.

Why not make this Holiday season a joyful one for people in developing countries by offering Fair Trade gifts?

Read on to discover more about Fair Trade, get updates on network news, read stories from Local Committees, important Student Refugee Program updates and reminders, as well as overseas opportunities.

Remember to stay in touch with us about your Local Committee's upcoming events. Send us your pictures and stories for the next World Wide WUSC, as it helps ensure we stay connected as part of a pan-Canadian network.

WUSC IN NUMBERS

- WUSC Local Committees have welcomed a total of 57 sponsored students this academic year!
- More than 43,7million people in 127 countries took part in Stand Up and Speak Out against poverty on October 16th-17th. This represents a new World Record!
- Thirty-two Local Committees took part in and/or organized a Stand Up this year.
- Through the Volunteer Cooperation Agencies' collective efforts via Global Citizens for Change, of which WUSC is a part, 3,291 people stood against poverty.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE NETWORK

WUSC'S 61ST ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

WUSC's 61st Annual Assembly will take place at the Travelodge Ottawa West Hotel from November 9 - 11, 2007. It will be an inspiring weekend of workshops and presentations bringing together students, faculty and WUSC alumni from across Canada to celebrate our common belief in the power of education to change the world.

This year's theme is "Achieving Gender Equality – Towards 2015". Each Local Committee can send one voting representative and as many non-voting observers as they wish. Non-voting observers can participate in all the events, but do not have the right to vote.

To register your Local Committee representatives for the Annual Assembly, go to

http://www.wusc.ca/en/about/annual_assembly.

Local Committee representatives attending the Annual Assembly are encouraged to attend the SRP national training workshop on Friday November 9th from 12:30 pm to 5 pm. (More details in the *Sponsor a Student Refugee* section below). A *WUSC Local Committee Get-together* will also be taking place on Saturday from 14:30 to 15:30 pm in the Centennial Room. This will be a great opportunity to meet other Local Committee members and share ideas relating to WUSC's activities on campus. We also invite you to attend one of the *Take Action* workshops on the Millennium Development Goals, Bike for AIDS, Fair Trade, Volunteer Overseas or Gender Equality and the Student Refugee Program. These *Take Action* sessions will be held on Saturday from 15:45 to 17:00 pm.

EDUCATE AND ADVOCATE

FAIR TRADE HOLIDAYS REDUCE, RELAX AND REJOICE

This holiday season, support local businesses that sell Fair Trade certified products and Fair Trade handicrafts.



By purchasing Fair Trade you can participate in a global trade partnership that demonstrates to producers that their work is of value. Fair Trade ensures a fair price to producers, safe and healthy working conditions and investment in community welfare.

Giving Fair Trade gifts not only brings smiles to the recipients, but also enables producers to pay for schooling, medicine, and other necessities that they otherwise could not afford.

What's available?

There is a diverse range of Fair Trade Certified and Fair Trade handicraft products available in Canada including:

- ✦ Clothing and Cloth
- ✦ Artisanal and home décor items
- ✦ Coffee, Tea and Green Tea
- ✦ Chocolate and Hot Chocolate
- ✦ Spices
- ✦ Sports balls (Soccer, Volley Ball, Football)

Check out <http://www.transfair.ca/www/en/products/> to find a retail outlet selling these products or an online shop that you can order from! Select Fair Trade products this year and contribute to enjoyment of the holiday season both at home and around the globe!

FAIR TRADE PURCHASING POLICY

Want to make a lasting and tangible impact on your campus and around the world? Campaign for an Ethical Purchasing Policy on your campus! Forging a formal commitment to purchase Fair Trade products at your institution is a valuable way to generate a long-term and large-scale impact: Follow campuses across the country by having your school and the food service outlets on campus commit to serving Fair Trade products.

For more information on how to develop a purchasing policy on your campus, check out the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN)'s Guide for Fair Trade Purchasing Policy Campaigns on university campuses (<http://www.csftn-recce.org/english/campus%20campaign.html>).

11th EDITION OF THE “JOURNÉES QUÉBÉCOISES DE LA SOLIDARITÉ INTERNATIONALE”

The “Journées québécoises de la solidarité internationale” (JQSI) will be held this year November 8-18 2007.



Initiated by l'AQOCI (Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale) – of which WUSC is a member – and supported by the Department of International Relations of Quebec, the JQSI aim to promote international solidarity and citizen's engagement for a more equitable World.

This year's theme will be the control of mining and forestry exploitation. To find out what activities are organised in your region, contact the closest organisation:

Montreal: AQOCI; www.aqoci.qc.ca; 514.871.1086

Quebec City: Carrefour Tiers-Monde; www.carrefour-tiers-monde.org; 418.647.5853

Eastern Townships : Carrefour de solidarité internationale ; www.csisher.com; 819.566.8595

Montréal : Terre Sans Frontières ; www.terresansfrontieres.ca; 450.659.7717

BIKE FOR AIDS

Bicycles, especially if outfitted with a stretcher, can help those living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi. Raise funds to purchase bicycles and stretchers while creating awareness of HIV/AIDS and Millennium Development Goal #6 on campus. Sometimes a little money can go a long way ... especially on wheels!

If a person living with HIV/AIDS needs medical attention and is unable to walk, getting to the clinic can be very difficult. The bicycle-ambulance addresses this problem. A lightweight trailer and a removable stretcher are attached to a bicycle, enabling bed-ridden or injured people to be safely transported.

How you can contribute to this project

By raising awareness and funds on campus, Local Committees can make a difference in the lives of Malawian people living with HIV/AIDS, their families and affected rural communities. \$200 will buy a bicycle and \$380 will provide a bicycle-ambulance (bicycle and stretcher). These amounts include the cost of delivering the bicycles and bicycle-ambulances, and contributing to CAP AIDS

Remember that you can fundraise by accepting donations to your Bike for AIDS event online. Visit http://www.uniterra.org/uniterra/en/campus/what_you_can_do/bike_for_aids.html for fundraising ideas and resources to help you raise awareness on your campus.

On Saturday November 10th at the Annual Assembly, WUSC will be hosting a Take Action session focused on Bike for AIDS. This will be an opportunity to learn how HIV/AIDS affects rural areas of Malawi and how bicycles and bicycle-ambulances impact the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS. The session will also allow Local Committees to share their successful fundraising initiatives and brainstorm new ideas for the coming year.



STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT

October 16th and 17th, student groups all over Canada mobilized for **STAND UP and SPEAK OUT**. Together, they demanded that our government keep its promise to end poverty and meet the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Students joined over 43 million people in 127 countries have established a new **Guinness World Record**. Thanks for making this event a success!

STAND UP IN EDMONTON

By Rannie Tao, University of Alberta Local Committee member

Over the past 2 months, WUSC Local Committee here at the University of Alberta has been working closely with 20 other social justice groups on campus in creating the Stand Up and Speak Out event, which took place on October 17th. This social justice coalition, initiated by the Make Poverty History group, was a great way for working efficiently together in generating great momentum and in making this event a huge success.

At our Stand Up event, we had speakers addressing international, domestic and aboriginal poverty, as well as musical performances including the Raging Grannies and the Poverty Requiem/Light the Fire from the University Choir. We even served free hot chocolate and coffee (donated by Good Earth) on the side.

The speakers:

1. Lewis Cardinal, who spent most of his professional life in public service, including the Canadian Coalition of Muni-

icipalities against Racism, the Edmonton Salute to Excellence Committee, Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee and the Aboriginal Voices Radio Network;

2. Michael Janz, the Student's Union President;
3. Lord Mawuko-Yevugah, a doctoral candidate in the Department of political science, University of Alberta with a specialization in international relations and comparative politics, who also delivered the pledge.

What's special about our Stand Up event would have to be the grand finale put on by Engineers Without Borders: a 500-lb Pumpkin Drop from 100 feet high in the air, smashed onto a donated truck spray-painted with "POVERTY", as a symbol of smashing away poverty!

Despite the cold weather, we managed to get 440 people to participate in the Stand Up on October 17th. Worldwide, we smashed the old Guinness World Record for the amount of people standing against poverty, 23.5 million, with the new worldwide total of 38.8 million! Canada has increased its stand to 75,000 from last years 50,000.



Overall, this event was a grand success! WUSC at the University of Alberta will continue to be part of this coalition for future international events like the STAND UP, in an attempt to promote social justice in a bigger and better way!

SEMINAR HOSTED BY WUSC REGINA

Compassion and Conviction in the Face of Conflict
By Brit Mathews, Co-Chair of the WUSC Local Committee

On Wednesday, September 26, WUSC Regina hosted a seminar entitled "Compassion and Conviction in the Face of Conflict" at the University of Regina campus. The seminar was led by Ivan Gayton, a logistician for the Nobel Peace Prize-winning emergency aid agency, Doctors Without Borders (MSF). In his role as logistician for Doctors Without Borders, Gayton had served in some of the most staggering war zones of Africa, including Rwanda, darfur, and most recently, the little-known African Central Republic.

Part of his work with Doctors Without Borders, says Gayton, is

bearing witness. As a witness, he is obliged, upon his return to Canada, to share the breadth of his experiences with those who have not faced the same challenges or savoured the same joys. With an audience of more than fifty medical professionals, liberal



arts students, and aspiring tradespeople, Gayton shared stories of his work in Africa. As could be expected, some of his stories were heartbreaking. Such was the case for one woman in a refugee camp in Darfur who had been breast-feeding her baby when

a stray bullet seared the sod wall of her home and shattered her thigh-bone, forcing the amputation of her leg. But Gayton's presentation emphasized his appreciation for the vibrancy and generosity of the African communities who, despite their losses, remained proud and grateful.

Following Gayton's presentations on the war zones of Africa, he led a case-study wherein session participants were asked to take on one of four roles in a Doctors Without Borders team, that of a nurse, doctor, logistician, and project coordinator. The scenario generated a great deal of heated discussion and innovation before Gayton revealed what he and his team actually had done in the real situation.

Those who attended the session learned a great deal more about the roots of violence in Africa, the realities of the violence's perpetuation, and many came away inspired to become involved in



programs like Doctors Without Borders.

CHARITABLE RECEIPTS

As a WUSC Local Committee, you will likely be involved in campus fundraising activities. Fundraising is important to WUSC because it raises our profile, promotes awareness of our programs and helps us finance our charitable work. Fundraising can be engaging, energizing and enjoyable. To fundraise effectively, however, Local Committees need to understand and fol-

low some basic rules and guidelines in order to show responsibility to donors and maintain WUSC's designation as a charity recognized by the Canada Revenue Agency. For more information on WUSC's charitable receipting policy and on how Local Committees should submit money to WUSC, visit the *Fundraising FAQs* at <http://www.wusc.ca/campuses/lc/resources/fundraising/Fundraising%20FAQs%20FINAL.pdf>.

SPONSOR A STUDENT REFUGEE

NOVEMBER REMINDERS

As the temperature falls, so can motivation, especially after a hectic mid-term session. But remember that this is the time when you're sponsored students may find difficult adjusting to the cold weather and shortening of days.

At this point in the sponsorship cycle, please ensure that you have:

- ✓ Confirmed that the sponsored student has phoned Asni to update her on how the sponsorship is going;
- ✓ Raised \$2,500/sponsored student, which will be requested when submitting your committee's intent-to-sponsor form by November 23rd 2007 for the 2008/09 sponsorship;
- ✓ Equipped the sponsored student with warm winter clothes;
- ✓ Started to make arrangements with the student for his/her December holiday.

INTENT TO SPONSOR FORM

If your Local Committee is planning to sponsor a refugee student for the 2008-2009 academic year, your Intent to Sponsor Form and the SRP contribution fund needs to be received by **November 23**. The *SRP Intent to Sponsor Form* for 2008/09 will be available online in early November.

By December 1st 2007, sponsoring Local Committees should have:

- Completed their online form;
- Printed, signed and mailed (or faxed) the last page of the form called the "Statement of Understanding," addressed to WUSC; Attn: Lynne LeBlanc;
- Sent a cheque for the SRP Contribution Fund payable to WUSC (attention Lynne LeBlanc) – It is very important that Local Committees indicate on the cheque both "SRP Contribution Fund" and the "LC's name" in the bottom left-hand corner of the cheque (for more information see *SRP Contribution Fund FAQ* at <http://www.wusc.ca/en/campus/students/resources#Student>).

REFERENDUM

If your Local Committee is planning a referendum to have or to increase a student levy on your campus to finance the Student Refugee Program, **contact Lynne at lynnel@wusc.ca to receive a referendum kit**, which contains a step by step guide and promotional material to help ensure your referendum is a success!

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

The Student Refugee Program will be conducting various training workshop during the Annual Assembly:

Student Refugee Program National Training Workshop, Friday, November 9 from 12:30 to 5:00pm, Carleton Room.

Representatives from each Local Committee are strongly encouraged to attend (participation is open to all). We have a great panel of speakers, ranging from WUSC sponsored students to Local Committee members who will be sharing their stories, experiences and best practices. The goal of the session will be to inform LC members on the SRP, create opportunities for discussion on key issues regarding the sponsorship process, and provide opportunities to share fundraising best practices.

Diaspora Gender Forum, Friday, November 9, all day, by invitation only.

At this year's Annual Assembly, WUSC will convene a meeting of former sponsored students to discuss barriers to girls' education in marginalized communities and in conflict zones in developing countries. These former sponsored students have all overcome barriers to succeed in achieving post-secondary education where limited educational opportunities exist for girls. Participants will then have an opportunity to share highlights of their discussion and further explore how Canadian students can help work towards gender parity in an open session with Annual Assembly participants during the *Take Action* Gender Equality and the SRP session.

Take Action – Gender Equality and the Student Refugee Program, Saturday, November 10 from 15:45 to 5:00pm, Greenery Room.

As a follow up to the Diaspora Gender Forum, this session will be an opportunity to discuss ways in which WUSC and Canadian students can help work towards gender parity in the SRP.

Reminder:

[Register for the Annual Assembly and the SRP workshop](#). Be sure to confirm your attendance to both the AGA **and** the workshop so that you don't miss out on key information about sponsorship <http://www.wusc.ca/about/memgov/assembly.asp>.

LEARN OVERSEAS

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

The 2008 International Seminar will offer short internships in basic education and the research will focus on perceptions of the quality of basic education and its impact on primary school enrolment in Ghana.

The deadline for students to apply to their Local Committee for the 2008 International Seminar in Ghana is **November 19th, 2007**. Make sure to promote the International Seminar on your campus to have the best candidates possible and make their selection that much more interesting!

Local Committees were sent information about the selection process guidelines and criteria in the package mailed in late August. If your Local Committee has not received this package, please contact Marianne (mgwod@wusc.ca).

STUDENTS WITHOUT BORDERS™

WUSC's Students Without Borders is still accepting applications in a variety of disciplines for winter 2008. Visit www.wusc.ca/working/positions/placements.asp for our current placement opportunities.

SWB Spring 2008 placements in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Malawi, Niger, Peru and Vietnam will be posted by mid-November. Deadline to apply: February 8, 2008.



For more information on the program, or just to find out what participants are doing, visit the SWB blog at: www.swborders.org.

Here is an excerpt from the **SWB Blog**:

Rhino Rescue - Posted by Erin

The method of removing a Rhino stuck in the mud.

Estimated time ~9hrs.

What you need:

- Torch (1 for 25 people);
- Land rover or 4 elephants, which ever is closest;
- Firewood, because no Mokolodi event is complete without bush braai;
- Coffee (sweet and black coming out of thin air);
- 4 bails lucerne(alfalfa);
- One cameraman (preferably the Park Manager) to shoot instructional video;
- One Jack Russell to get in the way;
- One pipe smoking wildlife vet;
- 3 weak girls (pref. 2 Canadian and 1 American) to shovel mud;
- Airtime for phone in case the Park Manager (PM) runs out;
- Don't forget to dress appropriately, wear a belt and full coverage underwear, you never know where your pants will end up;
- Shovels.

Read the rest of this entry at <http://www.swborders.org/erin/674#more-674>.

RESOURCES

ON THE WEB

We are very pleased to launch WUSC's new website and invite you to surf it at www.wusc.ca. (Same address as always). Make sure you check out the Local Committee resources page under *WUSC on Campus*.

CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Here is the WUSC campus engagement team that will work with you throughout the year. Don't hesitate to contact us!

Campus Engagement Regional Liaison Officers

Ontario: Sarah Angus: sangus@wusc.ca; 613.761.3705

Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces: Isabel Mainville, imainville@wusc.ca; 514.875.9911 ext. 249

Western Provinces: Kate Haddow, khaddow@wusc.ca; 403.851.1683

Senior Program Officers, Student Refugee Program

Asni Mekonnen, asni@wusc.ca; 613.761.3656

Lynne Leblanc, lynnel@wusc.ca; 613.761.3654

Program Officer, Uniterra

Emily Chartrand, echartrand@wusc.ca; 613.761.3680

Program Assistant, Uniterra and Student Refugee Program

Marianne Gwod, mgwod@wusc.ca; 613.761.3706

Program Assistant, SRP and Local Committee Alumni Support

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