

# Education for Development **UPDATE**

WINTER 2007, Alberta

*I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character'*

Martin Luther King 1929-1968

## Upcoming Dates

### **NOVEMBER 20 – National Child Day**

National Child Day is held November 20th each year. On November 20, 2007, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) turns eighteen. Young people celebrating their eighteenth birthday this year are the first generation born with universal rights of their own. Have their childhood experiences with rights been something to celebrate? This issue of the EDEV newsletter looks at the issue of children's rights.

### **DECEMBER 1 – World AIDS Day**

A child under 15 dies of an AIDS-related illness every minute of every day, and a young person aged 15–24 contracts HIV every 15 seconds. UNICEF Canada staff in conjunction with teachers across the country have produced myriad curriculum resources to help teachers explore the issue of HIV and AIDS in the classroom. Visit [www.unicef.ca/globaleducation](http://www.unicef.ca/globaleducation) to learn more.

### **DECEMBER 5 – International Volunteers Day**

<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/SmartDefault.aspx?at=1289>

Canadians make an enormous contribution of time to make life better in our communities. According to the latest figures, almost 12 million Canadians volunteer with charities or organizations and contribute close to two billion volunteer hours! If you would like to learn more about ways you and your students can get involved with UNICEF, contact your regional EDEV Manager.

### **DECEMBER 8 – International Day of Children's Day of Broadcasting**

[http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video\\_icdb.html](http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_icdb.html)

ICDB, celebrated on the second Sunday of every December, is a day when broadcasters around the world "Tune in to Kids". They air quality programming for and about children. But most of all, they allow children to be part of the programming process, to talk about their hopes and dreams and share information with their peers.

### **DECEMBER 26**

<http://www.unicefusa.org/site/c.ktJ0JbMNIqE/b.878817/k.CC1B/Home.htm>

2007 marks the third anniversary of the Indian Ocean tsunami (December 26, 2004) In response to the tragedy, the US Fund for UNICEF developed a series of curriculum resources to assist teachers in addressing the issue in their classrooms. You can access this material by visiting

## In this issue:

Upcoming dates

Spread the Net

Junior 8 Competition

New Resources

UNICEF and Media

Regional Updates

For more information about UNICEF Canada's education programmes in Alberta, please contact [asimon@unicef.ca](mailto:asimon@unicef.ca) or 403-270-2857.

UNICEF is the world's leader for children, working in 156 countries and territories to save, protect and enhance the lives of girls and boys. UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, promotes quality basic education, protects children from violence, exploitation and AIDS, and is the world's largest provider of vaccines for developing nations. A global leader in emergencies with six decades of on-the-ground experience, UNICEF saves and rebuilds children's lives in natural disasters and conflict. UNICEF is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, schools, associations and governments.

For every child  
Health, Education, Equality, Protection



## JANUARY 21, 2008 – Martin Luther King Day (observed)

There are 2.2 billion children in the world. 1.9 billion children are living in developing countries with 1 billion of them living in poverty.

## JANUARY 27, 2008 – International Day of Commemoration

## Spread the Net

We're calling on young Canadians across the country to join Spread the Net, a grassroots initiative in partnership with UNICEF Canada, aimed at raising funds to purchase insecticide-treated bed nets for children and pregnant women in Liberia and Rwanda. It costs only \$10 to provide an insecticide-treated bed net that can reduce malaria transmission by at least 50 per cent. **Think about it: \$10 is worth a couple of lattes, an album on iTunes or a trip to the movies. Or lives saved.**



High school students can help to spread the net in their school communities and beyond by joining the Spread the Net Beat the Mosquitoes Challenge, which runs until February 29th, 2008. Top fundraising schools across Canada will be announced on Africa Malaria Day – Friday April 25, 2008. Top schools could also get a visit from one of our Spread the Net ambassadors, such as the captain of Team Canada's women's hockey team Hayley Wickenheiser, or Cover Girl Canada spokesperson and TV personality Paul Venoit.

For more information on Spread the Net, full challenge details for both youth initiatives, and how to register visit [www.spreadthenet.org](http://www.spreadthenet.org)!

**One net. 10 bucks. Save lives.**

## Junior 8 Competition



**We're finalizing details with governments and sponsors, and will open the application process in December or January. Please check our website [www.unicef.ca/junior8summit](http://www.unicef.ca/junior8summit) over the coming weeks for more information. Thank you for your interest in the J8!**

J8 Summit: If your students had the opportunity to tell world leaders what they should do to solve global problems, what would they say?

The Junior 8 program provides students with the opportunity to develop their own ideas about the most pressing global issues today, discuss them with friends, classmates and young people from around the world. Members of the winning team will then have the chance to present their ideas to the leaders of eight of the most powerful countries in the world.

Many teachers have already been writing and calling to find out how their students can be involved in the 2008 competition. To learn more about last year's team, Act Now for Tomorrow and their work at the G8 2007 Summit in Germany, visit

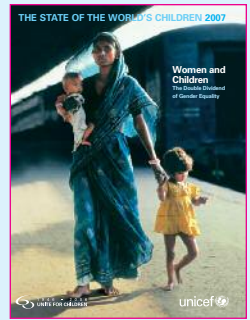
<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/GetPage.aspx?at=1680>

*This year's J8 Summit will be taking place in Chitose, Japan, July 2-9.*

Keep visiting [www.unicef.ca/globaleducation](http://www.unicef.ca/globaleducation)

## SOWC Report

The Annual State of the World's Children Report will be launched at the end of January 2008. We will be launching a series of lesson plans and curriculum



resources which can be used in conjunction with the study in the middle of January. These activities will be based on resources that have been developed by the US Fund for UNICEF. You can take a look by visiting

[www.unicefusa.org/teachunicef](http://www.unicefusa.org/teachunicef)  
Visit

[www.unicef.ca/globaleducation](http://www.unicef.ca/globaleducation)  
for the Canadian version in the coming months.

## Quantum Shift TV: An Exciting New Opportunity for Your Students



Quantum Shift TV is challenging students from grades one to twelve across the United States and Canada to participate in the Be the Change! Share the Story! School Video Contest. Students are invited to work on a social or environmental project of their choice, and document their progress in two short videos to be uploaded on the Web. In addition to making a difference in their community, students have an opportunity to win \$50,000 in prizes for their school. Visit

<http://www.quantumshift.tv/schools/> for more information.

## New from unicef.org

### Voices of Youth

#### *Will You Listen? Young Voices from Conflict Zones*

The 'Machel plus 10': Children and Conflict in a Changing World <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/machel10.html> report carried out by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF was released October 17, 2007. The report reviews progress since the release of the Graca Machel study and finds dozens of conflicts around the world are still robbing children of their childhood." As part of the strategic review process, a separate report entitled *Will you listen?* – Young voices from conflict zones has captured youth voices; gathering the views, concerns and demands of 1700 youth, from 92 countries, through focus group discussions and an online survey. The majority of the youth participating were from countries affected by conflicts.

For more information on how you can take action to end the use of child soldiers, visit the Voices of Youth website, [www.unicef.org/voy/](http://www.unicef.org/voy/).



## Media corner

As teachers, you are well aware of the profound impact of media and its power to influence attitudes and behaviours of young people. You also likely have a keen understanding of the ways students have harnessed this power for good and as a vehicle to showcase their intelligence and creativity. UNICEF International is working with children around the world by providing them with exciting opportunities to share their experiences with others through the use of photography, television and radio. To learn more visit:

### Photography

#### *Media Magic*

<http://www.unicef.org/magic/>

Media Activities and good ideas by with and for children. Media Magic addresses a children's right to participate in the media and to learn more about what young people all over the world are doing to exercise that right. This site also offers opportunities for Canadian youth to join in the discussion.

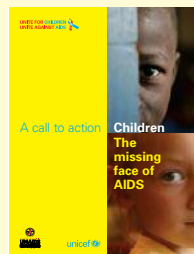
You can sign up through the website to receive the MediaMagic digest. The most recent newsletter looks at children and photography projects in development.

<http://www.unicef.org/voy/explore/media/3825.htm>

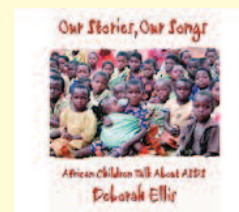
## New Resources on [unicef.ca/globaleducation](http://unicef.ca/globaleducation)

### Teacher's Guides to accompany *Children: The Missing Face of AIDS DVD*

The *Children: The Missing Face of AIDS* Teacher's Guide includes lesson plans, extension activities and facts and figures related to the pandemic. The video profiles a day in the life of Nyirabimana, a young Rwandan girl who has been orphaned by AIDS and is left to care for her young siblings alone. Resource is appropriate for use with youth ages 12 and up.



### Teacher's Guide to accompany *Our Stories Our Songs: African Children Talk About AIDS*



Deborah Ellis' *Our Stories Our Songs* is a series of autobiographical vignettes written by young people, many of whom are orphans or living on the street. Through these stories they discuss their families, their favorite pastimes, their fears, and their dreams. This guide will help teachers navigate through their stories and songs with lesson plans, activities and resources on where you

might find additional background information on the pandemic. Book is appropriate for use with youth ages 12 and up.



### *Asmina's Story and Teacher's Guide*

This resource has been popular with teachers for many years. The comic book and accompanying teacher's guide helps young Canadians to understand the plight of children orphaned by AIDS in Africa and the work that UNICEF does to support them. The guides are available for download and are appropriate for use with youth in grades 7-9.

### *Eye See II*

In 2005 to mark the one-year anniversary of northern Pakistan's earthquake, UNICEF launched the 'Eye See II' photo project, a special initiative to highlight the unique experiences and needs of children in the quake's aftermath. Eye See II featured photos taken by twenty-one children from areas that were hard-hit by the earthquake. To learn more about the exhibit and see the pictures, visit:

[http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/pakistan\\_36087.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/pakistan_36087.html)

### Television and Radio

#### *Watch UNICEF Television*

You can invite your classes to learn more about our work in the field by streaming UNICEF Television and radio through vodcasts.

[http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video\\_allvodcasts.html](http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_allvodcasts.html)

#### *Listen to the Digital Diaries: Take a listen!!*

[www.unicef.org/voy](http://www.unicef.org/voy)

Voices of Youth Digital Diaries are all about young people who want to know more...do more...and say more about the world. These reports are first-person/eyewitness accounts by young people from around the world.

## Rights Corner

### Media Magic Make a Difference

In honour of the 5th Anniversary of the Special Session for Children, Media Magic's Make a Difference contest invited youth to tell the world what they think about the world they live in and how they're making a difference. Youth looked at the four priorities of the session's adopted agenda "Building a World Fit for Children": Promoting healthy lives; Providing quality education; Protecting children against abuse, exploitation and violence; Combating HIV/AIDS. Youth were to look at: how have these goals been achieved in your community? what problems still exist in your communities? what suggestions do you have to fix these issues? What can be done to make the world better for children? Share some of the winning entries with your classes.

[http://www.unicef.org/voy/takeaction/takeaction\\_3731.html](http://www.unicef.org/voy/takeaction/takeaction_3731.html)

### The First Rights Generation Comes of Age

Overall Canada has done reasonably well in protecting children's rights and promoting children's well-being, yet eighteen years on, too many children still fall through the gaps and live below the international standards for children's rights. UNICEF Canada believes a national Children's Commissioner is crucial to focus national responsibility and accountability for the implementation of the Convention in Canada's federal system.

We need the Commissioner to:

- Monitor the federal government's implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, conduct independent investigations and make annual reports to Canadians
- Speak on behalf of all Canadian children and youth, listening to them and making sure their voices are heard on the national issues that affect them
- Raise awareness of Canadians about children's rights
- Work with provincial child and youth advocates and encourage all levels of government and non-governmental organizations to join together to advance children's rights and well-being

**November 20 is National Child Day!** Mark the day and call upon the Government of Canada to establish a national Children's Commissioner by visiting

<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/SmartDefault.aspx?at=2086>.



### The CRC@18 Website

In commemoration of the 18th anniversary of the CRC UNICEF International has developed a CRC@18 website. Through videos, games, posters, research, classroom activities and even a tour through Second Life, visitors have

the opportunity to learn more about the Convention here in Canada and around the world.

Visit the site at <http://www.unicef.org/knowyourrights/>

### UNITE Against AIDS video competition

UNICEF Canada and IndieMV are inviting youth across the country to showcase their creativity and talent by participating in the UNITE AGAINST AIDS video contest. HIV and AIDS is having a devastating impact on kids, robbing them of their childhood and their future. UNICEF's Unite for Children. Unite Against AIDS Campaign is helping to change that by mobilizing people around the world in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

Go to [www.indiemv.com](http://www.indiemv.com) to find out more!



**UNITE FOR CHILDREN  
UNITE AGAINST AIDS**

### Child Rights to be Taught in School

[NEW DELHI, 1 November 2007] - The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in India has written to district collectors to ask that articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are read out in every class, and morning assemblies, at least twice a week. Children will now be educated about their rights and the laws protecting them in their classrooms.

Since children are least likely to be aware of their rights and the laws meant to protect them, the NCPCR wants the move to begin from 14 November, Children's Day, to make the day meaningful for them.

Besides schools, the NCPCR wants hostels, orphanages, juvenile observation homes, children's homes and shelter homes etc also to take up this activity. "Despite having certain rights and laws, children never complain against the atrocities or the humiliation they face. They are simply not aware about what to do and where to go in such situations. Hence, it is important let them know of articles, laws and issues related to their rights so that they can stand up and speak against atrocities," said a member of NCPCR.

Accordingly, children will be told about their rights in schools and at home. They will be informed that they have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated in body or mind.

[Source: Daily News and Analysis India; [www.dnaindia.com](http://www.dnaindia.com)]

## Regional Update – Alberta



Throughout the month of October schools across Canada participated in the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. Students raised funds in support of the *Schools for Africa* programme which is a joint initiative between UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the Hamburg Society. This year, the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign focused on helping children in Rwanda and Malawi by raising funds to build schools and sanitation facilities, provide school supplies and train teachers. UNICEF provided Canadian schools with learning resources to help students understand the lives of their peers in Rwanda and Malawi.

At **O.S. Geiger Elementary School in Calgary**, an enthusiastic teacher and her team have decided to organize the most innovative Trick-or-Treat Campaign and engage the students to learn as much as possible about what it means to be a responsible global citizen.

The students watched the UNICEF DVD provided in the School Kit, used the lesson plans and activities that we developed over the last year and studied about the lives of children in other countries and compared it with their lives here. They also organized innovative events throughout October. Here is a description of the campaign, provided by Anna Li-Wang, teacher at O.S. Geiger Elementary:

*“On October 17, 2007, we had our first O.S. Geiger Walk for Water fundraiser... each student walked 2 km with an empty bucket, and 2 km with a full bucket around the school grounds.*

*On October 23, we had BUY A SNACK day... students were able to purchase a juice box and a snack donated by a nearby business. We are having a second buy a snack day on Friday, October 26.*

*On October 24, we had our first ever PENNY RACES with a TWIST... students were asked to bring in “silver” money (dimes, nickels, quarters, toonies and loonies) to race down the library hallway... the winning class had 55 feet worth of money taped to the floor... We had 451 feet in total of silver money covering the library hall!*

*On October 29-30 we had a used book sale. “*

We were special guests at the school’s wrap-up assembly, along with the school’s trustee, Mrs. Lynn Ferguson. She was very impressed with how much the students had learned and accomplished during the Trick-or-Treat Campaign and with all the educational resources that were available for the schools. She invited a team of students and teachers to present at the next meeting of School Board Trustees!

This is just one example of how much the students are gaining by participating in this wonderful programme and the enthusiasm it generates in the school and in the community.

If you want to know more about the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF in Alberta Region, please contact Adriana Simon at 1-800-819-0889 or by e-mail at [asimon@unicef.ca](mailto:asimon@unicef.ca)

Dear All,

My name is Adriana Guarinos and I replaced Jana Schultes as the new Manager of Education and Development. I am originally from Argentina but moved to Canada 7 years ago with my family (three kids and a dog) when my husband was assigned to a project in Ontario.

I worked as a teacher in a Teacher Training College in Argentina for thirteen years, and I have recently completed my Master degree in Education at the University of Calgary.

I first encountered UNICEF working for a Literacy Campaign in Argentina in 1986. I worked in a particular province (Rio Negro) as part of the team doing the diagnosis, data collection and analysis of the campaign, looking to develop actions to improve the implementation. After we traveled around the province we built a database and shared that with members of UNICEF who came to help us. Together we analyzed and decided what particular actions should be taken to customize the campaign to the local reality and consequently improve the results.

They did a wonderful job; I was impressed by their passion and commitment to social work as well as their understanding of global problems. Now, many years later, I have the privilege of being a part of this wonderful organization. I am going to continue Jana’s work. As you know, UNICEF Canada works with teachers and school districts to support their interest in bringing global education issues into every school. We can work with you in different ways:

- Teacher workshops that explore a variety of issues relating to children around the world and in Canada;
- Classroom presentations and workshops ( Child Labour, Emergencies, Children’s Rights, etc);
- Support to school-based global education and social justice clubs and events;
- Teacher resources available online;
- Curriculum –linked call to action through our campaigns ( Trick-or-Treat or Spread the Net)

Please feel free to contact me to discuss how I can work with you!

Yours Sincerely,

Adriana Guarinos  
Manager, Education for Development  
301 14 th. Street NW, Suite 140  
Calgary, AB. T2N 2A1  
1-403- 270-2857. Ext: 102  
[aguarinos@unicef.ca](mailto:aguarinos@unicef.ca)

**CONTACT INFO:**  
Community Partnerships & Events Manager,  
Alberta Region  
403-270-2857 [asimon@unicef.ca](mailto:asimon@unicef.ca)



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