



# OPERATIVE REPORT



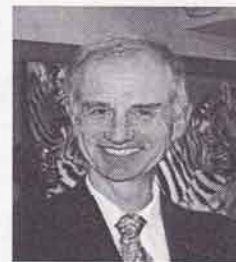
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## CNIS UPDATE: RECENT CHANGES TO THE BOARD

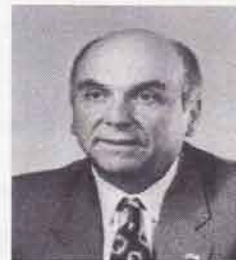
- Memorial Gift* 2 The CNIS is happy to announce the appointment of Dr. Bob Taylor as a new member of the CNIS Board of Directors and Chair of the Program Committee. Dr. Taylor, who is from Vancouver, has had a long time involvement with the CNIS and has been our "Man in Malawi" for five years, facilitating the Essential Surgical Skills Course. Dr. Taylor is a dedicated volunteer and he will bring valuable experience and knowledge to the board of the CNIS.
- Wild Rose Foundation* 2
- Gulu School Project* 2
- Inventory of surgical Instruments* 3 Executive positions have also been changed. Dr. Gwen Hollaar of Calgary has been promoted from Vice Chair to Chair. Dr. Vic Neufeld of Hamilton will take the position of Vice Chair. Vic's role will be as an advisor to the CNIS board. Phil Hassen, the former Chairperson will remain on the executive committee with Gwen and Vic as Past-Chair. Phil Hassen's specific role will be to provide continuity with CIDA and the negotiations of CIDA agreements. The board felt that it was important that the relationships that Phil has made with CIDA were important to the CNIS and should be maintained by formally giving Phil the assignment of negotiations with CIDA. The terms for all three of them continues until the fall of 2004.
- ESS Mbarara* 3
- The Donner Canadian Foundation* 3
- Photos Volunteer Recognition Wine & Cheese* 4



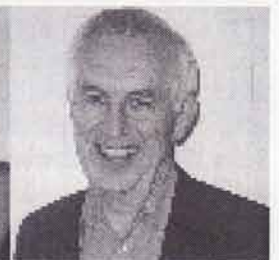
Bob Taylor



Gwen Hollaar



Phil Hassen



Vic Neufeld

### NEW CANADIAN COORDINATOR

The CNIS would like to introduce Geneviève Caza, the new CNIS Canadian Coordinator. Geneviève, a former employee of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and of the Red Cross in Ottawa, just recently moved to the West Coast. Her past experience with CIDA and the Red Cross has led her to travel to West Africa and to Haiti. Having mostly worked on issues relating to Child Trafficking and Children Affected by War, Geneviève is looking forward to her new role as the CNIS Canadian Coordinator and to learn about a new field – International Surgery.



Geneviève Caza

### CIDA UPDATE

The CNIS negotiated a twelve month contract extension, with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The contract was signed on February 24th, 2003 for the amount of \$288,000. New monies that were included in the contract will be used for Public Engagement activities, more specifically two development workshops in Montreal and Vancouver and for funding to start Essential Surgical Skills (ESS) in Tanzania.

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

In December 2002, CNIS received a donation given in memory of Dr. Ted Thomas, a wonderful surgeon and teacher who passed away earlier during the year. CNIS would like to thank Mrs. Cathy Thomas for the

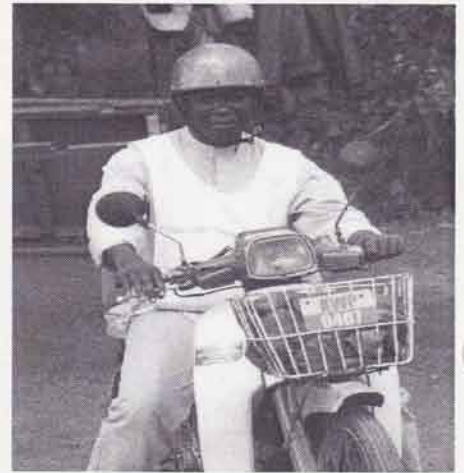
## SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A Special *thank you* to Mrs. Shannon Long and the Richmond Hospital Library who have donated close to two dozens of medical text books to CNIS. These books will be sent to our partners in Africa via the CNIS Library project. Thank you for your support.

## ICC-U "VISIBILITY" PROJECT IN KAWEMPE

On March 2, 2003 the ICC-U launched a new project, in an attempt to reduce risks for cyclists in Kawempe Division of Kampala district. Under the project, "Protecting vulnerable road users through visibility enhancement", up to 1000 motor cyclists and even more pedal cyclists will be provided with retro reflector wear and bike sticker tape, to make them more conspicuous in traffic. This pilot project is funded by the Global Forum for Health Research.

The launch was held at the Kawempe Division offices. The Guest of Honour was the Legal Council Chairperson. The Division Police Officer, The Officer in charge of Traffic, The Director ICC-U and other Division Officers were in attendance. A total of 280 Visibility Enhancement Material (VEM) packages were distributed during the launch.



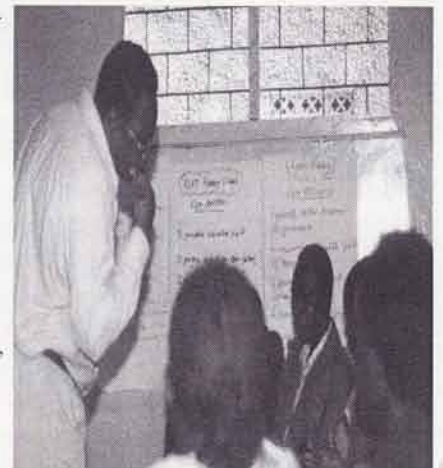
Motorcyclist wearing the VEMs

## GULU SCHOOL PROJECT—TEACHING THE TEACHERS



The Gulu Peace Building project started in October 2002 with school surveillance, ethnographic study, First Aid training and distribution of First Aid kits. The project has now entered the most important stage of Curriculum development and testing. The objective is to impart a culture of peaceful resolution of conflicts in the primary school children in Gulu. It is hoped that in future the curriculum will be incorporated into the national curriculum. The National Curriculum Development Center; Jamii ya Kupatanisha, JYAK; a local NGO skilled in peace building, the ICC-U, and the CNIS are the key players.

In March 2003, Shannon Tito, a CNIS Board member, a school teacher in Langley B-C and volunteer for the CNIS, traveled to Uganda to teach the Gulu teachers how to use and implement the new Curriculum. The Gulu teachers will start using the "Peace Curriculum" in June 2003.



Shannon Tito in a classroom in Uganda, working with the Gulu teachers

## THE WILD ROSE FOUNDATION

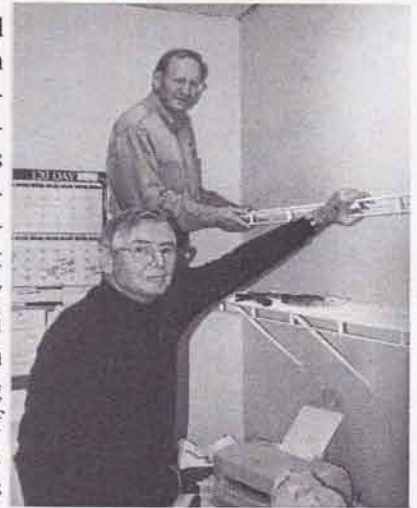


The CNIS received a \$16,500 grant from the Wild Rose Foundation to assist with the Hernia Course—a structured clinical training for general practitioners and interns in Uganda. Funding will be directed toward the publishing of an instructors manual, medical instruments and supplies for the course and towards the airfare of the Canadian surgeon who will help give the course. The first two courses will take place in Mbarara and Jinja in June 2003 and the third course will take place in Kampala in October 2003. Dr. Gwen Hollaar from Alberta will be traveling to Uganda and giving the Hernia course with Dr. Ronald Lett.

## CNIS INVENTORY OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

In British Columbia, hospitals updating their surgical instruments have donated functional surgical instruments, many of them unused, to the CNIS. CNIS is preparing to transfer these instruments to Uganda, Ethiopia, Malawi and Mozambique, where it arranges for Canadian Surgeons to teach Essential Surgical Skill courses. Upon completion of the courses the instruments will remain in the host country. Several hundreds instruments have been sorted into surgical disciplines and identified according to their use or purpose, size, manufacturer's name, description and part number. Each instrument is put into a plastic bag and labeled and the content of each bag is being entered into a database.

The bagged instruments are being placed into boxes of appropriate size and then shelved. The instruments are now catalogued and can be retrieved in a few minutes just by consulting the inventory. This inventory will greatly facilitate the transfer of the surgical instruments to our partners in the developing countries. Thank you to Dr. H. K Litherland, Dr. Henry Hildebrand, Shahnaz Atashband, Ruhi Khan, Jennifer M. Phillips and Elizabeth Roath, the Volunteer Inventory Working group, who have given many hours of their time to put this inventory together. The inventory of surgical instruments has been doing so well that it is now an official CNIS project and Dr. Henry Litherland has been named the project director.



Dr. Henry Litherland and Dr. Henry Hildebrand setting up shelves in the CNIS office.

## Mbarara ESS Instructors Course and ESS Workshop



Participants of the Mbarara ESS Instructors Course – March 2003 Emil Mutakoha (far left—middle row) and Patrick Kyamanywa (centre-back row)

In March 2003, 10 new ESS Instructors were trained in Mbarara. Shortly after the instructors course, an ESS workshop was also held in Mbarara, during which, 60 medical practitioners were trained in essential surgical skills. The ESS training started in Mbarara in 2000 with the support of the CNIS. Today, the training is entirely managed by the Department of Surgery and receives only financial support from the CNIS. The new ESS Director Patrick Kyamanywa and the ESS patron Emil Mutakoha are doing excellent work.

## ESS TANZANIA AND THE CANADIAN DONNER FOUNDATION

On May 21st, 2003, the CNIS received some very good news. The Canadian Donner Foundation, based in Toronto, authorized a \$17,500 grant to the CNIS in support of its first year of Essential Surgical Training in Tanzania. The grant will allow the CNIS to purchase all the necessary teaching equipment and initiate the ESS training in Tanzania. A huge thank you to Anita Winsor, the member of the Foundation who supported this grant application and to Helen McLean and Amy Buskirk who helped make things happen.

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION RECEPTION - WINE & CHEESE



The Howe Street Gallery of Fine Art located at 555 Howe Street Vancouver hosted the event.



Mr. Shannon Tito presenting the CNIS Volunteer of the Year award to Ms. Addy Kgomo on behalf of the CNIS board.

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003, the CNIS held its annual Volunteer Recognition Reception – a wine and cheese that took place at the Howe Street Gallery of Fine Arts in Vancouver. Dr. Ron Lett, international president of CNIS, pointed out the value and importance of the work of volunteers and in a few words presented the CNIS goals for 2003 and officially launched the “For the Life of Africa-2003” campaign.

The CNIS presented the Volunteer of the year award to Ms. Addy Kgomo for her valuable work in the CNIS office, particularly with the organization of the CNIS AGM held in Toronto in November 2002. The plaque was presented to Ms. Kgomo by Shannon Tito, Director and Chair of the CNIS Public Engagement Committee. The CNIS itself received a donation of \$2,862 from the Rotary Club for the purchase of a projector. Mr. Latevi Anani-Bo Lawson was the lucky winner of the door prize donated by the Howe Street Gallery of Fine Arts – a hand painted egg originally from Africa.



Susan Burrack, Dr. Ronald Lett, Steve Emerman and Michael Jacobson—Members of the Rotary Club-Arbutus, presenting a cheque to Dr. Ronald Lett of the CNIS

## Vancouver Public Engagement Workshop

### “THE PLACE OF SURGERY IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT”

On Sunday, September 21st 2003, at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver, the CNIS will be holding its first Public Engagement Workshop. The objective of the workshop will be to gain a better understanding of international development with a particular focus on international surgery. The workshop is open to anyone interested in learning about these development issues. The workshop is free of charge—refreshments will be served. The number of places is limited, so call now at 604-739-4708 to reserve a spot.



#### CANADIAN NETWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL SURGERY

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Chair: Gwen Hollaar  
President: Dr. Ronald Lett  
Canadian Coordinator: Geneviève Caza  
Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Schaefer

#### JOIN THE CNIS or RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Individual Memberships: \$50.00  
Student Memberships: \$25.00  
Organizational Membership: \$500.00

#### DONATE

To the ESS, INJURY CONTROL or SCHOOL PROJECTS online or by post. All donations and memberships are matched by CIDA and are tax deductible.