CNIS SIGNS 2 YEAR PACT WITH CIDA

On July 12th, after many months of waiting and negotiating, the CNIS signed a two-year agreement with the Partnership branch of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). This agreement provides CNIS with funds to continue its ESS, Injury prevention and Surgical information programs in Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique and Malawi. At the end of these two years of activity, entitled "Controlling Injury & Improving Surgical care in Africa 2004-2006", 40 ESS provider and 4 ESS instructors course will have been implemented—over one thousand providers will be trained in ESS and 60 instructors certified. The ICC-U will be almost self-sufficient and a new Injury control center in Tanzania (ICC-T) will be established and conducting injury control project and surgical libraries will be stronger. CIDA's contribution over 2 year will be $606,584 and the CNIS has committed itself to contributing $436,500. Some of these funds are expected from foundations but we still very much need the financial support of our individual and organizational members to meet these important objectives. To view the details of these 2 year activities visit www.cnis.ca.

TRAUMA TEAM TRAINING (TTT)™

The Injury Control Center has been conducting Trauma Team Training in casualty departments throughout Uganda since 1998. The team leader for this training is Dr. Cephas Mjumbi. This year ICC-U has funding from the Road Agency Formation Unit to conduct 10 courses. RAFU has also provided funding for an external consultant from the Transport Research Laboratory in London England, Andres Villavece, who contributed to the editing of the instructors manual. This involved an update of the Uganda trauma registry and the instrument in this registry used to measure injury severity. In April, 3 days were dedicated to making the changes necessary to produce a 2nd Edition of the TTT™ manual. Catherine Nansamba is implementing these changes therefore the 10 courses will have updated material.

From left to right (back row): Stephen Okiria, Cephas Mjumbi, Mable Nikito, Robert Wangoda,
(front row): Andres Villavece, Catherine Nansamba, Martin Ogwang
The Injury Prevention Initiative for Africa, which was founded in 1997, held its 2004 AGM in Vienna Austria. The venue was chosen as Vienna was holding the Global Meeting on Injury Control and Safety Promotion. Many IPIFA members received scholarships to attend the global meeting in Vienna. President Fatma Hassan (Egypt), Secretary General Wilson Odero (Kenya) and Treasurer Babatunde Solegbere lead the discussion on the accomplishment of IPIFA over the past year in particular the multi-country study on small arms injury and the plans to take IPIFA to a new level over the next two years. Professor Odero has obtained funding for a steering committee meeting to be held in Nairobi (Sept. 2004) to address the issues of mutual support in injury research, sponsorship of the African Journal of Safety promotion, the expansion of IPIFA to other African countries and the support of the 2006 Global Meeting on Injury Control to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa. Hosting this important meeting in Africa was seen by all IPIFA members as an opportunity to bring the magnitude of Injury death and disability in Africa to the attention of policy makers from Africa and around the world.

ESS MALAWI—UPDATE

The CNIS became involved in Malawi in 1998. The first ESS workshop (Instructors) was held in Lilongwe, Malawi in the spring of 1999. In 2000, the course was offered, for the first time at the College of Health Sciences in Blantyre. Because of the great enthusiasm shown, the course was held again in 2001 and has now been incorporated in the curriculum at this college. Since then, every year, four providers workshops take place in Malawi, two in Blantyre and two in Lilongwe. The next Instructors workshop, which usually takes place every three years, will take place in the spring of 2005. Since the beginning of ESS in Malawi, Dr. Marcel Schutgens was the patron/director of ESS. Last year, Dr. Douglas Lungu was named ESS Director to support and work with Dr. Schutgens in promoting and advocating for ESS in Malawi. Dr. Bob Taylor, a volunteer surgeon from Vancouver, has been to Malawi 5 times since 1998 to teach the ESS.
On May 12th, the CNIS held its annual African Market event at the Heritage Hall in Vancouver. The event was a success! Numerous vendors sold their African treasures: various arts & crafts, sculptures, paintings, rugs, etc. Fassil Restaurant and 2 other Ethiopian groups were selling delicious traditional Ethiopian food. We all had the pleasure to experience a variety of cultural performances including: the Ethiopian Orthodox church choir, the G-Force girls, West African inspired Joko Band, Yoro Noukossi from Benin on the talking drums and a beautiful fashion show put together by Lilly O'brien, a designer originally from Zimbabwe. It was a beautiful and fun afternoon filled with sounds and flavours of Africa. We would like to recognized all the volunteers who helped out during the event. Without them this event would not have been such a success.
Ehh, What's up Doc?

Mr. Phil Hassen, past chair of the CNIS board and Mr. Doug Wallis, chair of CNIS finance committee both completed their missions in Uganda in April and in June, as part of the 5-year ICC-U Capacity building project, funded by the Harbinger Foundation. Phil Hassen worked on improving the governance of the ICC-U and Doug Wallis worked with the administrator of ICC-U to improve the financial systems and the quality of financial reporting.

In May, Dr. Lett took part in a meeting in Lyon, France to collaborate with the WHO on the French translation of the book. Surgical care at the District Hospital. He has also been named as section Editor for the Canadian Journal of Surgeons.


In January, the Injury Control Center in Uganda recruited Catherine Nansamba as Research Associate. Catherine's responsibilities include injury research, surveillance and the implementation of injury prevention programs at the community and household levels. Her first assignment was to complete a study on the care of trauma patients in the casualty department in Kampala.

On June 12th, in Calgary, at the Colonel Belcher's Hospital, the CNIS held its third public engagement workshop on "The Place of Surgery in International Development". Next workshop will be held in Vancouver in November 2004.

Dr. Robert Taylor, CNIS Program Committee Chair, is doing a Master in International Health by distance education with Curtin University in Australia.

CNIS Completed projects

Over the past three months, the CNIS has completed a number of its projects. The 2-year "Gulu School Project", funded by the Peacebuilding Unit of CIDA was finalized in June. A non-violent conflict resolution pilot for children has been implemented in Gulu. The objective is to obtain a new grant to expand the curriculum to 50 Schools in Northern Uganda. The "Sustaining ESS in Ethiopia" project, funded by the Wild Rose Foundation was also completed in June. This project allowed the CNIS, re-equip the ESS training facilities, re-certify 30 ESS Instructors and train 181 new ESS providers. CNIS also completed the "ESS in Tanzania-First year" project funded by the Donner Canadian Foundation. This project gave CNIS the opportunity to establish ESS in Tanzania. In October 2003, 19 instructors were trained and following the instructors workshop, two providers workshops took place during which 48 interns were trained in ESS. There are already plans in place to expand ESS to schools in northern Tanzania. The first year of the Harbinger Foundation Capacity Building of the ICC-U was also completed.

Canadian Network for International Surgery
1037 West Broadway, Suite 205
Vancouver BC V6H 1E3
Phone: 604-739-4708 www.cnis.ca
Chair: Gwen Hollaar
President: Dr. Ronald Lett
Canadian Coordinator: Geneviève Caza
Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Schaefer

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