



CANADIAN COMMISSION FOR UNESCO
COMMISSION CANADIENNE POUR L'UNESCO

www.unesco.ca

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Commission for UNESCO Launches New Publication for International Adult Learners' Week 2008

Ottawa, March 3, 2008. The Canadian Commission for UNESCO marked the pan-Canadian launch of International Adult Learners' Week (IALW) 2008 with the release of a new magazine-format publication, "Share the Road". Sub-titled "A World of Possibilities through Learning", the magazine examines the challenges facing adult learners in Canada, profiles learners and highlights success stories across the country.

IALW 2008 will be celebrated in Canada from March 3 through 9, although events showcasing adult learners and lifelong learning will take place throughout the year. The Canadian Commission has coordinated IALW celebrations in Canada since 2002. However, it relies on its partners across the country to mobilize and organize local campaigns and celebrations that promote the importance of adult literacy and lifelong learning in all its forms. The idea of lifelong learning embraces sustainable development and promotes democracy, justice and equity.

This year, celebrations will focus on the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the right to education and learning. "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that universal access to quality education is a fundamental right for all people," explained David A. Walden, Secretary-General, Canadian Commission for UNESCO. "The celebration of International Adult Learners' Week is a perfect occasion for everyone to take the time to learn more about the Declaration, which affirms the right of all of us to have the opportunity to learn, to become empowered citizens and to participate in building a better society," he said.

Canadian partners represent a broad spectrum which includes governments at all levels, organizations and institutions concerned with adult education both formal and informal, community and literacy groups, multicultural and Aboriginal organizations, unions and professional associations, social, environmental and human rights organizations and individuals committed to the movement of lifelong learning.

Information and updates on International Adult Learners' Week 2008 are available on the Canadian Commission for UNESCO web site at:

<http://www.unesco.ca/en/activity/education/AdultLearners.aspx>

- 30 -

Source:

Shery Alexander-Heinis

Programme Officer, Education

Canadian Commission for UNESCO

Tel: (613) 566-4414 ext 5566 Toll-free: 1-800-263-5588 ext. 5566

E-mail: shery.alexander-heinis@unesco.ca