



Photojournalist brings the world to Winnipeg

Canadian photojournalist Wendell Phillips has travelled the world, capturing everything from refugee camps in Iraq to Buddhist Monks living with AIDS to Winnipeg Jets games. Originally from Manitoba, Phillips has collected images and stories from 60 countries, winning him 21 Picture of the Year awards and designation as Canada's News Photographer of the Year in 1988. He has presented his works to sold out audiences all over Canada.

On April 23, MCIC will host Phillips at an exclusive special event, giving Manitobans the opportunity to see his

photos and hear his compelling stories.

This event will be held in the Muriel Richardson Auditorium at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on April 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at McNally Robinson Booksellers (Grant Park and Polo Park locations) and at the MCIC office at 302-280 Smith St. Tickets will also be available at the door.

For more information about Wendell Phillips - his work and his photographs - log onto www.wendellphillips.com.

For more information on the Winnipeg event, contact MCIC at (204) 987-6420 or info@mcic.ca.

Upcoming Events

Project Peacemakers' Annual Eco-Friendly Fundraising Dinner

Tuesday, April 21 - 6:30 p.m.

Location: Charleswood United Church.
4820 Roblin Blvd.

Special guest Archbishop Weisgerber will speak on The Green Gospel. Entertainment will be provided by the Steve Kirby Trio. As always, everyone is invited to enjoy delicious vegetarian dishes, Peacemaker friends and a great silent auction. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For tickets and info, call (204) 775-8178 or email info@projectpeacemakers.org.

Fundraising Concert for Kenya Grandmothers

Saturday, May 2 - 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Location: Manitoba Theatre for Young People, 2 Forks Market Rd.

This event, sponsored by Forest People's Crafts, will raise money for grandmothers in Kenya who are struggling to support their families. Tickets are \$25 regular admission and \$20 for students and seniors. Tickets and information can be obtained by calling (204) 943-3995 or email forestpeoplescrafts@hotmail.com.

Increased Support

The Government of Manitoba brought down its 2009 budget on Wednesday, March 25 and MCIC is very pleased to report that funding for international development was increased by \$250,000 to a total of **\$1 million**.

MCIC administers this funding on behalf of our member agencies for their international development work. The Government of Manitoba has supported this work since 1975.

We are extremely happy that this program funding was increased. We are pleased that the Government of Manitoba continues to support the work of NGOs and their partners in improving the lives of people in the global south.

Results from the One-Month Challenge survey

FAIR TRADE M A N I T O B A

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2009 One-Month Challenge. Almost **5,000** Manitobans signed up, pledging to switch to fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate for 30 days.

As part of this year's One-Month Challenge, participants were asked to complete three surveys on their fair trade consumption before, during and after the Challenge. The survey results are very interesting.

At the start of the Challenge, 43% of participants said they were sometimes buying fair trade products, while 35% said they usually bought fair trade. During the challenge 29% of respondents said they were

having 100% fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate. The Number One reason participants were unable to choose fair trade products all the time? The coffee, tea and chocolate they were offered in social situations wasn't always fair trade. The majority of participants (83.5%) feel the Challenge has helped them become better fair trade shoppers, and six months from now, 67% expect to be usually shopping fair trade.

We received many comments from participants saying they'd like to know more about the different fair

trade products available in Manitoba and where to find them. Fair Trade Manitoba regularly updates the Fair Trade Consumer Guide on its web site and always welcomes suggestions of new stores carrying fair trade products to add to the Guide. We'll also continue to update the website with news on the different fair trade products available in Manitoba, so check back often.

Stay tuned for an upcoming MCIC Fair Trade Manitoba E-Newsletter. If you would like to be added to the Fair Trade Manitoba mailing list, please visit the Fair Trade Manitoba website www.fairtrademanitoba.ca or send an email to fairtrade2@mcic.ca.

Other Fair Trade news

Aside from all the excitement and activity surrounding the One-Month Challenge, MCIC's fair trade work has seen progress in several other areas:

- **Fair Trade Wines** We thank and congratulate the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) and its Minister responsible, Hon. Andrew Swan, Minister of Competitiveness, Training and Trade, for bringing new fair trade wines into the province from South Africa, Argentina and Chile. With our input, the MLCC has promoted the wines and explained in press releases and 'shelf talkers' what fair trade is all about.

- **Fair Trade Government**

Procurement Our thanks again to Hon. Ron Lemieux, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation and his staff for working with us to provide fair trade options to government offices in their daily procurement.

- **Fair Trade is No Gamble** We acknowledge Donna Dagg, Sustainable Development Coordinator at Manitoba Lotteries Corporation (MLC), and her colleagues for meeting with us and promoting fair trade products in their operations.

- **Fair Trade Towns** Gimli Municipal Council, Evergreen School Division and Community Futures East Interlake have all passed fair trade resolutions. At least four Gimli stores and restaurants sell or serve certified fair trade products.

The high school, some local churches and workplaces are on board, and the local media has given fair trade efforts regular coverage. Thus, Gimli is ready to apply for Fair Trade Town recognition.

- **Stolen Dreams Exhibit** The child labour exhibit, 'Stolen Dreams', will be set up at Gimli's New Iceland Heritage Museum from May 1st to July 24th. A May Day evening launch is planned. For more information, contact us at fairtrade@mcic.ca.



Photo from 'Stolen Dreams'

Theatre workshop opportunity

Manitoba Theatre for Young People invites you to attend a three-day 'Theatre for Living' training session with David Diamond (Artistic Director of Headlines Theatre, Vancouver). Wednesday, June 10th – Friday, June 12th 2009.

'Theatre for Living' is based on Brazilian Director Augusto Boal's "Theatre of the Oppressed". It is a way of communicating and working with people so that the 'living community' can tell its stories.

The workshop cost is \$200. More information can be obtained by contacting Loc Lu at (204) 947 0394 ext. 227. Space is limited.

Mennonite Central Committee announces the opening of Sam's Place, a used bookstore, cafe and performing arts venue located at 159 Henderson Hwy. All proceeds from this project will come to MCC after expenses. Come browse the books, have a cup of coffee, eat a meal and listen to music.

Sam's Place is open 10 a.m. -10 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 12 p.m. - 10p.m. on Sundays. For more information call 293-6030.