BUILDING
GLOBAL LEADERSHIP
FOR OUR FUTURE

COADY
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006
The Coady International Institute has been called Canada’s best kept secret. But it is no secret to Coady’s nearly 5,000 graduates. These community and organizational leaders are working with millions of people in over 130 countries to build the fair, prosperous and secure world that Canadians want for ourselves and others. Coady graduates and partners are the dedicated unsung heroes who work within their communities and societies to provide opportunities for people to earn a sustainable living and for children to go to school; to prevent the further devastating spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases; to ensure honest and effective government; to utilize our natural resources in a sustainable way; and to promote peace.

Established by St. Francis Xavier University in 1959, and named for Rev. Dr. Moses Coady, the Coady Institute works with innovative people and organizations to create effective and practical solutions to reduce global poverty and injustice. Coady accomplishes this through education, action partnerships, and initiatives to help young Canadians become active global citizens.

“We desire above all that they will discover and develop their own capacities for creation... They will use what they have to secure what they have not.”
— Rev. Dr. Moses. M. Coady

A GLOBAL NETWORK OF LEADERS IMPROVING THE WORLD

“THEY WILL USE WHAT THEY HAVE TO SECURE WHAT THEY HAVE NOT ”
Coady International Institute is built upon our belief and investment in people, their communities and their nations. Our greatest challenge as a global community is to help people build better lives for themselves free from poverty. This year over 200 community development leaders joined a network of nearly 5,000 other Coady graduates around the world who, through our on-campus and overseas educational programs, have shared their experience and gained new perspectives, skills and the knowledge required to reach our common goal of reducing poverty and increasing the wellbeing of the poorest populations in the world.

*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.* — Nelson Mandela
Idah Nambeya Mukuka has been called “the soul of CIDRZ.” Dedicated to the prevention and eradication of HIV/AIDS, the Center for Infectious Diseases in Zambia, not only encourages Zambians to get tested for HIV and to seek treatment, but also works to reduce stigma and fear surrounding the disease.

As the Community Coordinator, Idah implements education, health and community support programs for people infected, and affected, by HIV/AIDS. CIDRZ is also engaged in an antiretroviral drug distribution program in partnership with the Zambian government in Lusaka.

Idah attended the 2005 Diploma in Community-Based Development. “I came to the Coady to learn, but it was my heart that told me I was in the right place. The Coady helped me understand my passion for this work and to see how bright the future can be.”

The Coady International Institute is a global institution focused on action oriented education. A Coady education is an immersion in the world – the world of development professionals from every region committed to putting their education into action to improve people’s lives.

A number of years ago, the Institute made a commitment to focus more of its energies on recruiting in sub-Saharan Africa, the poorest region in the world. In 2005, 56% of participants in Coady Institute educational programs were from the African continent, up from 36% in 2004.

During this year:
• 97 development practitioners successfully completed Coady’s on-campus Diploma and certificate programs.
• 115 development leaders participated in Asset-Based Community Development educational programs overseas

• Coady worked with the Department of Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier University to launch the new Masters of Adult Education – Community Development Stream. The first class of participants began their program in October 2005. Coady also continues its participation in the delivery of the Development Studies Program at StFX.

Campus Based Education Programs Offered in 2005/2006
• Diploma in Community-Based Development
• Certificate in Women’s Leadership
• Certificate in Advocacy and Citizen Engagement
• Certificate in Advanced Adult Education for Participatory Development
• Certificate in Youth Leadership
• Certificate in Asset-based Approaches to Community Development
• Resource Centres for Learning & Change
At the Coady International Institute, we believe in the power of education to improve lives. We believe in community cooperation and action to achieve social and economic prosperity. Most of all, we believe in people and their capacity to positively change their own lives, and the lives of others.

The Coady Institute’s approach has evolved over nearly 50 years of offering education and action programs for community leaders, but our fundamental belief in people’s capacity to drive their own development to achieve positive social, economic and political change has remained steadfast.

Our approach is a positive approach. We recognize and appreciate that everyone has strengths, gifts, talents, and skills they can tap into and build upon for their own development. Although we acknowledge that there are tremendous needs and deficiencies in the world that is not our starting point. Our focus is on the successes, resources, capacities, and the wide range of assets — human, financial, natural, physical and social — that individuals and communities can build and mobilize themselves to achieve long-term, positive change.
EXEMPLARY LEADERS IMPROVING LIVES

We were both fortunate this year to have the opportunity to meet with a number of Coady International alumni in Zambia and Ethiopia. Seeing our graduates putting their Coady education directly into action was inspiring. The leadership and skills these development professionals bring to their communities and organizations has inspired individual and collective action towards building strong and resilient societies for both this and future generations.

In Zambia, we witnessed Idah Mukuka’s charismatic leadership as she motivated her fellow Zambians to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS and helped to mobilize and organize many thousands of people living with HIV/AIDS into support groups with the motto “living positively”. Emily Sikazwe, the dynamic Executive Director of Women for Change, introduced us to her team’s impressive work in improving women’s participation in all aspects of Zambian society. Constance Hambwalula, the Executive Director of the Zambian National Association for the Physically Handicapped, recounted her personal and professional struggle in gaining access to education and other opportunities as a person afflicted with polio. We accompanied Viness Mangoye Lourenz to Nkandela Village which serves as the rural headquarters of Panuka Trust, a community-based women’s education and economic development organization she founded. These four outstanding Coady graduates exemplify the leadership, talent, passion and commitment of Coady’s network of almost 5,000 graduates from every region of the world.

From Zambia we traveled to Ethiopia where Coady has been partnering for the past three years with Oxfam Canada on an approach which uses community assets, strengths and successes as a starting point and one which helps build communities from the inside out. Early results of the partnership are positive with Ethiopian citizens and rural communities embracing leadership roles, driving their own development and accomplishing many concrete social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Witnessing the team in action on the ground and seeing direct tangible results in the villages reconfirmed for both of us how critical it is for Coady to continue to focus our efforts on leadership education, innovation and organizational capacity building. Capable people, the right ideas and effective organizations are the key engines for improving the world.

Coady’s challenge in the years ahead is to build upon our success and to significantly scale up our efforts in response to the growing demand for our work. We welcome Harold Redekopp as our new Advisory Committee Chair. Harold and our committed group of advisors are guiding and challenging Coady to respond in a strategic and sustainable manner.

We want to thank our staff and volunteers for your commitment of talent and energy. Our donors provide us with the critical means to carry out our work. John and Anne Chisholm and the employees of Nova Construction are to be congratulated for their outstanding leadership gift to our campaign. We thank each and every one of our donors and encourage all of you to join us as we help people everywhere to build a better world.

MARY COYLE
DIRECTOR, COADY INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
VICE PRESIDENT, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

DR. SEAN RILEY
PRESIDENT, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY
The Coady International Institute finds itself at a critical period in its evolution. On the one hand, it is uniquely placed to play a critical role in promoting social justice in many troubled areas of the globe. And on the other hand, there is a demonstrated need for Coady to do much more.

The theme of this year’s report is “Building Global Leadership for Our Future.” The Coady Institute is playing a vital role in developing a worldwide network of capable and committed development professionals who have the necessary drive and skills to make a positive difference in our world. Evidence of Coady’s leadership can be seen in Education (programs offered in Antigonish), Innovation (our Action Research and Knowledge Networks) and Action (building capacity in community-based organizations, Youth Partnership and Xtending Hope).

Coady’s story is truly compelling. Those who are working on the ground in developing countries to promote social justice have high praise for Coady and its solid track record of touching issues of peace, community development, youth engagement and the mobilization of knowledge for making positive change in the world. And they would like to see Coady do much more.

Therein lies Coady’s current challenge: to engage major national and international funding agencies and foundations to see how Coady’s vision might align with where these agencies are headed. This will require a fresh articulation of Coady’s strategic direction. To that end, a number of new, prominent Canadians have recently joined the Advisory Committee with a view to helping Coady position itself successfully in order to respond to the call to “do much more.”

Your interest in the Coady International Institute and its extensive worldwide network is particularly vital now as it aggressively moves forward to meet the growing demand for its services. And your support can make a difference as never before.

HAROLD REDEKOPP
CHAIR, ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESPONDING TO A GROWING DEMAND

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RESPONDING TO A GROWING DEMAND
The Coady Institute’s work with Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) is an extension of its roots in the Antigonish Movement — a people’s movement for economic and social justice which began in Nova Scotia during the 1920’s, and later spread throughout the world.

ABCD is a strengths-based approach to community development. It recognizes that all communities have assets, skills, capacities and resources that they can mobilize to improve their social and economic realities. By focusing on these strengths and by building upon small successes, energy is directed toward opportunities to further strengthen community capacity to drive its own development.

The Coady International Institute is in the process of completing a three year action research and learning program with a network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Ethiopia, Kenya and the Philippines. Under a grant from the Comart Foundation, case studies from this work, together with case studies of successful examples of community-driven development elsewhere in the world are being conducted. In 2005-06, staff completed field research for case studies in the Philippines, Kenya, India and Ethiopia.

The action research in Ethiopia is based on an innovative and highly successful partnership with Oxfam Canada. Through this partnership, the Coady Institute and Oxfam have moved from working with three Ethiopian NGOs in the initial action research phase to working with 19 local and international NGOs to integrate asset-based approaches into their work at the community level. Central to the success of the partnerships is a core team of Coady alumni on the ground working with our talented staff.

“Initially, ABCD was unclear for me, but after I learned more about ABCD, I realized that ABCD is the beginning, just like the alphabet. (We) were able to recognize our assets, as well as inflows and outflows at the communal and household levels. As a result, I have seen a great improvement in my livelihood. I can now send all of my children to school and can better clothe my family.” — Ato. Hdera G. Hivot
THE JAMBI KIWA STORY

Created by an association of largely indigenous women in Ecuador, Jambi Kiwa is a cooperative business that was set up to grow, process and market medicinal and aromatic plants on the global market. To succeed, these women have drawn on indigenous knowledge, traditional forms of cooperative activity, and the resilience borne out of the struggles of poverty and discrimination. They are determined to maintain and build on local assets, proceeding to secure trade partnerships in national and international markets.

Coady Institute, with funding from the Comart Foundation, researched and produced a case study on Jambi Kiwa in 2005. The Jambi Kiwa Story demonstrates how community assets can be mobilized and employed to grow and sustain a community-driven initiative that has helped improve the livelihoods of hundreds of families in dozens of small rural villages throughout the mountainous region of Chimborazo.

FINANCIAL CAPITAL: EARNING A FAIR LIVING AND BUILDING ASSETS

Hundreds of millions of people worldwide earn a living by growing, making and selling products. Individuals and communities require access to capital, financial services, and markets in order to sustain their livelihoods. Coady’s work in Asia and Africa is helping people build the assets they need to earn a fair living and provide for their families. In India, our partner SEWA Bank is working to increase poor women’s access to a wide range of financial services such as savings, credit, pensions, insurance, investments, and financial literacy. In Ethiopia, Coady and Oxfam Canada have worked with four communities to help them recognize ways they can use their existing social, financial, physical, natural and human assets to identify and develop economic opportunities.

Rosa Guamán is a founder of the Association of Producers of Medicinal Plants — Jambi Kiwa. Her work began with organizing indigenous women and their communities and continues today in her role as one of the founding members and inspirational leaders of Jambi Kiwa.
The majority of the world’s poor live in rural areas. In some areas such as Sub-Saharan Africa more than half of the population is rural. Today, about 600,000 million people in the world lack access to basic financial services to build assets for their households and communities. In many developing countries, the self-employed comprise more than 50 percent of the labour force. Access to small loans with reasonable interest rates enables the poor to increase their assets - allowing them to send their children to school, to feed their families, and to grow small businesses.

In July 2005, the Coady International Institute was awarded a three year grant from the Ford Foundation to conduct a comparative study of member-owned microfinance institutions providing services in remote, rural areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Six cases have been selected from Mexico, Ecuador, Niger, Mali, India and Indonesia to provide a diversity of member-owned models and remote, rural contexts.

In 2005, the Institute launched the research program under the leadership of Nanci Lee with a literature review of best practices in the area of member-owned financial institutions. Key lessons from this review included:

- What the poor need most is access to the financial system and not just financial capital.
- Savings services, with strong democratic management, serve the poor very well.
- Promoting and enforcing self-management, lowers risk and reduces the costs of running a microfinance program, making it possible to reach remote areas.
- Self-management promotes innovation in services, adapted by the members to suit their respective contexts and needs.
- Self management not only builds members financial capital, but also develops trust and strengthens social relations.

Reaching people living in rural and remote areas is a significant challenge facing the microfinance sector. The growth of the global microfinance movement has shown that microcredit can be a powerful tool to assist poor and vulnerable peoples to better use their own assets to build on these for future prosperity. According to the Global Microcredit Summit Campaign, 3,164 microcredit institutions were reaching 92,270,289 households. More than half were among the poorest when they took their first loan, and most were women.
Coady’s First Nations At-Sea Mentoring Initiative, funded by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, works in partnership with First Nation’s communities to develop the technical skills of Aboriginal fishers working in the Maritime commercial fishing industry. The Coady Institute provides an important link between qualified fishers and Aboriginal fishers who are committed to a career in the fishery. In 2005, the Institute worked with the Maritime and First Nations communities of Pictou Landing, We’koqma’q, Eskasoni, Membertou, Abeqweit, Woodstock, Tobique and Indian Brook.

FIRST NATIONS AT-SEA MENTORING INITIATIVE (ASMI)

Creating Knowledge for Action

Publications 2005-06


Knowledge Networks

The Open Access Movement and Information for Development

The Institute’s knowledge networks connect our graduates and partners around the world and enable them to share experiences and knowledge of effective development practice. From May 29 – June 9, 2006, the Institute convened an online discussion on Open Access using the Dgroups: Development through Dialogue forum. “Open Access” refers to the growing practice of making research articles available online, free of charge in order to share knowledge more effectively worldwide. The forum created a space for people to discuss what Open Access can mean in terms of adult education and development in the Global South. More than 140 participants from 35 countries took part including librarians, adult educators, IT specialists, development workers, academics, and youth.

Oxfam-Canada and the Coady International Institute have prepared a series of brochures outlining lessons learned in Asset-Based Community Development in Ethiopia and introducing useful approaches and tools. These brochures have been distributed to NGOs, community-based organizations and donors throughout Ethiopia.
Youth around the globe are an invaluable asset to the future development of our world. At Coady, we believe in investing in youth through leadership education — both on campus and throughout the world — and by offering overseas volunteer opportunities for young Canadians. By helping youth identify and mobilize their strengths to create positive change in their communities, we are building the next generation of engaged local and global citizens.

• Through the Coady’s Youth In Partnership Program, 10 Canadian youth leaders had the opportunity to work for six months with community development organizations in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Botswana, and India. Five of them worked with Xtending Hope partner organizations focused on HIV/AIDS prevention and care in Rwanda and Botswana. The others worked on initiatives in the areas of microfinance, private sector development, governance, disaster prevention education, and food security.

• Coady supported four StFX undergraduate students, two funded by the AUCC/Canada Corps University Partnership Program and the others by the Millennium Development Scholarship Fund program, in coordinating volunteer placements with non-governmental organizations in Uganda and Rwanda.

"My experience in India has shown me new aspects of myself, more than any degree or experience in Canada could ever have. It took this experience for me to understand that giving people something doesn’t solve their problems. It is through education and the facilitation of growth that people are able to take responsibility for their own development."

—— Youth Associate Ashley Ward — seen here in the flood affected areas of Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh, India — worked for five months with Arthik Samata Mandal developing disaster preparedness curriculum for schools in coastal communities of South East India.

Youth Associate Nicolas Moyer volunteered with Silqee Women’s Development Association in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia founded by Zertihun Tefera, a 2005 Coady Diploma graduate. Moyer was instrumental in expanding and improving the organization’s self-help microfinance program for women, enabling women to build assets by starting small businesses, upgrading their education, and becoming confident leaders in their communities.

Coady continues to engage youth on the StFX campus through the Development Studies Program, student societies — such as the newly formed Coady Student Society — classroom speakers, and public education events.
Although Sub-Saharan Africa is home to just over 10% of the world’s population, it remains the epicenter of the global AIDS pandemic. It is estimated by UNAIDS that more than 60% of all those currently living with HIV — approximately 25.8 million people — live in the region.

With funding from the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW), the Xtending Hope Partnership in its third year continued to build upon its strength of working with partner organizations in Botswana and Rwanda that are committed to preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and to care for those who are infected and affected by the pandemic. By building the capacity of partner organizations through specialized training and in-country volunteer placements, and by educating Canadians about the pandemic, the Partnership is effectively addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis.

- Nine volunteers worked with partner organizations in the areas of health promotion, youth leadership, nursing, curriculum development, project planning, event coordination, fundraising, and gender.
- Two Canadian volunteers, one Rwandan and one Motswana received specialized education opportunities at Coady in community-based peace and conflict transformation, advocacy and networking, management of development organizations and youth leadership.

“Those who have been involved in Xtending Hope have been on the ground in communities that are under assault by the force of the HIV/AIDS pandemic doing everything from helping with administration to following home-based care, to doing advocacy work. They are effectively saving lives, prolonging lives, dealing with orphans, dealing with women who are particularly vulnerable. It’s a terrific undertaking. I wish people understood how important it is.”

—Stephen Lewis, United Nations Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa.

Ronald Nkusi is the President of the Youth Association for Human Rights Promotion and Development in Rwanda, a youth advocacy organization working in the areas of health, economics, and human rights. Nkusi completed two development leadership programs offered by the Coady Institute last year, a Certificate in Youth Leadership for Development and a Certificate in Advocacy and Networking.
COADY’S CAMPAIGN FOR THE FUTURE

This was a breakthrough year for the campaign to construct the new Coady International Centre in the heart of the St. Francis Xavier University (StFX) campus. Nova Scotia business leader, John Chisholm, President of Nova Construction, and his wife Anne donated $1-million, the largest private donation ever received by the Coady International Institute. He chose to name the 1,800 square foot glass learning pavilion in the centre of the new Coady International Centre in honour of the late Marjorie (“Margie”) Desmond, a longtime friend and employee of the Chisholm family and a supporter of the Coady.

A bequest of $252,500 was donated this year from the estate of StFX alumnus Patrick Mooney ’61 and ’62. His desire to support educational and poverty reduction programs inspired his family to contribute this generous gift to the Campaign for the new Centre where a tribute to his memory will be established.

Most recently, Steve and Kathy Smith and associates of the Central Group of Companies made a $250,000 leadership donation to the campaign.

With these significant contributions, Coady is making strides in reaching its goal of $12-million, having already raised over $4.5 million.
COADY INTERNATIONAL CENTRE CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

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Thanks to the financial assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and numerous individual and institutional donors, the Coady International Institute is continuing to increase our reach around the world and expand and adapt our programs. We thank you for your continued commitment to helping our graduates and partners create the just, peaceful and sustainable world we want for ourselves and others.

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