

# Foreign Policy and Youth

## Keeping connected



**"Here, they are giving us a say—youth, academics, who aren't part of the government. This way we have our own voice, we have our say in things and that's important."**

The speaker is Marie-Joëlle Dulude, one of many young participants in the 1999 National Forum on Canada's International Relations, organized by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). Among others attending the Forum were Alison Hartley from Douglas College in New Westminster, British Columbia; Youth Vice-President Brent Nyznyk of the Winnipeg UN Association; and Native Student Union spokes-person Vanessa Nevin. Together, all provided a unique perspective on Canada's foreign policy.

Keeping Canada's youth connected is an important part of CCFPD's mandate. Young Canadians participate in roundtables with Ministers, officials, academics, NGOs and others.



In early May, the second annual CCFPD Graduate Student Seminar brings together 14 young scholars from across the country. With government officials, they will discuss human security and their academic work. Among last year's presentations were: "Canada's Role in Peacekeeping Operations in the 21st Century," by Sunil Ram; "Gender and Human Security," by Holly MacLeod; and "La participation canadienne à la reconstruction de la Bosnie-Herzégovine," by Jade Duchesneau Bernier. Students also participate in the Academic Roundtable immediately following the Seminar.

In 1999, another major event for young Canadians was the Francophonie Summit Youth Consultations. Six meetings across the country drew more than 300 participants in the first half of the year. Their views and recommendations were presented at the Moncton Summit of La Francophonie last September. Says Suzanne Hébert of Bouctouche, New Brunswick, "It went very well. We young people had a chance to express ourselves to representatives of the Department, who listened attentively to what we had to say. Again, many thanks! It was super!" ●—



Canadian Centre  
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Development

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has announced the National Forum 2000 for Youth on War-Affected Children. It will bring together Canadian youth through Internet projects, at community meetings and in Winnipeg in September, at the same time as the meeting of the International Conference on War-Affected Children. "Canada's youth have a key role to play in our foreign policy and in building human security in the world," says Mr. Axworthy. "Young Canadians can make a difference for war-affected children here at home and abroad. I look forward to their ideas and help."

For more information, visit the CCFPD Web site ([www.cfp-pec.gc.ca](http://www.cfp-pec.gc.ca)), or contact the Centre by telephone at (613) 944-4150/-0391, by fax at (613) 944-0867 or by letter at:  
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