

NEWS BRIEFS



photo: Canadian Press CP

A landmine victim is fitted with an artificial arm in Kabul. After two decades of fighting, Afghanistan is one of the world's most heavily mined countries.

package of support for Afghan reconstruction announced in the December 2001 federal budget (see *Canada World View*, Issue 15, p. 18). The Canadian International Development Agency will contribute a total of \$8.5 million to MAPA, the UN's Comprehensive Disabled Afghans' Program and the rehabilitation program of the Guardians Institute of Orthopaedics, which works with disabled people in southern Afghanistan.

Milestone in ties between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago

In 2002, Canada and Trinidad and Tobago are celebrating a milestone: four decades of diplomatic relations. Over the years, ties between our two

countries have expanded in the areas of trade, culture, arts and education. Youth has always been an important focus of our relationship; for example, Presbyterians from Canada founded the educational system in southern Trinidad. More recently, the Canadian International Development Agency's Canada Fund has assisted Trinidad and Tobago in many youth-related ventures.

One such venture is Camp ABLE—an acronym for "Active Bodies, Leadership and Esteem." A pilot project held from May 30 to June 2, 2002, in Runnemedde, Tobago, this sports leadership development camp was for deaf or hearing-impaired students from the Caribbean. The

volunteer, non-profit program focused on teamwork, cooperation, confidence building, self-esteem and leadership, both in and out of sport. The camp hosted 25 children aged 12 to 15 from Barbados, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago. Six counsellors and five teachers ran the program.

The camp was the brainchild of Heather Moyse, of Summerside, Prince Edward Island—a youth intern on a nine-month assignment from the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada, serving with the Special Education Unit of the Ministry of Education in Trinidad. This year's success raises hope that Camp ABLE will be held annually and will continue to offer opportunities to hearing-impaired children from the region. 🍁

Participants in the Camp ABLE pilot program, Runnemedde, Tobago, with Canadian intern Heather Moyse (second row, right)



photo: Canadian High Commission, Port of Spain