

University and retired secondary school teachers. The artwork by children from around the world contained in *Children of the Wind* provided the opportunity for students to compare and contrast their own lives with the lives of children around the world and also introduced the subject of children's rights as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The portraits of children working that make up the main component of the *Stolen Dreams* exhibit encouraged participants to think about the various types of work done by children and the many problems they may face as a result. The portrait of Iqbal Masih and information on his life and work, as well as the displays by the various local and international groups confronting the problems associated with child labour provided inspiration to the participants and insights into what they could do to help solve the problems.

Information presented by Sheena Komal of *Free the Children* included additional facts and insights about the situation for children in various parts of the world. Compelling examples of the terrible situations faced by many children made an impact on the participants. Information on what *Free the Children* is doing to address the problems, including providing health kits and school kits and raising funds to build schools in areas where they are needed, helped build a sense of empowerment in the participants.

The presentation by *Free the Children* founder, Craig Kielburger, and a third *Free the Children* representative was very well received by participants. They were inspired by Craig's experiences and what he had helped to accomplish and encouraged by the fact that young people without the profile of Craig Kielburger were doing valuable work to help children around the world. In addition to outlining his experiences and providing insights on the situation for children throughout the world, Craig answered questions posed by participants and provided his thoughts about what Canada and Canadian citizens should do, as well as the types of policies that Canada should adopt. His focus was on Canada's ability to use its influence in international areas to place children's issues on the agenda.

The first workshop series was designed to build knowledge amongst participants of the various related issues and the complexity of international problems. Five options were available and each workshop consisted of information and opportunities for discussion and reflection.

Workshop A - Child Exploitation

Conducted by Alpna Munshi of the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) McMaster this workshop examined what it means to say that children around the world are exploited, why it happens and what can be done about it. Case studies and discussions were used to illustrate the problems that children may face and why they end up in these situations. Work in several different industries, including the sex trade, was discussed. Reasons employers hire children and why children work were examined. The negative long term consequences for children, their families and their countries were outlined. Finally, various ways of addressing the problems, including providing basic education and laws such as the one in Canada that permits prosecution of people who engage in commercial sex with children while abroad, were suggested as examples of what can be done.