



MEDIA ADVISORY

Montreal to host international conference on community philanthropy

Montreal, November 3, 2008 –One of Canada's largest grantmakers is welcoming thinkers, doers and dreamers from more than 25 countries around the world to Montreal this week. Community Foundations of Canada is expecting 700 participants at *Our Communities. Our World*, an international conference focusing on community philanthropy.

Date: Friday, November 7th to Sunday, November 9th, 2008

Location: Centre Sheraton, 1201 Rene Levesque blvd.

Keynote speakers:

- **John Ralston Saul**, Canadian author and intellectual, will kick off the conference at 9am, Friday November 7th in the Level 4 Ballroom Foyer.
- **Akwasi Adoo**, the head of Trust Africa, one of Africa's most influential foundations. 12:30 am, Friday November 7th in the Level 4 Ballroom Foyer.
- **Dr. Sandra Hernandez**, CEO of the San Francisco Community Foundation, practicing physician and well known public health authority.
 - 9am, Saturday, November 8, Level 4 Ballroom Foyer.
- **Sheila Watt-Cloutier**, a Nobel Peace prize nominee for her work revealing the impact of climate change in the Arctic.
 - 9am, Sunday, November 9, Level 4 Ballroom Foyer.
- **The Next Generation**, three young leaders involved in philanthropy share their vision of communities in our technological age.
 - 11:45 am, Sunday, November 9, Level 4 Ballroom Foyer.

Highlighted conference speakers and topics:

- **Philanthropy and Human Rights**, a leader in conflict resolution from Northern Ireland and the head of Trust Africa, which works to secure democracy in Africa, will discuss how community foundations can help promote peace and basic human rights.
 - Workshop A1- Salon A/B, 10:45- 12:15, Friday, November 7th

- **Managing investments in volatile times**, a panel discussion dealing with the worldwide economic upheaval and its impact on foundation assets.
 - Workshop A3- Salon C, 10:45- 12:15, Friday, November 7th
- **The non-profit behind Vancouver 2010**, a leader involved in planning Vancouver's Olympic games shares an insider's view on organizing one of the biggest events on Earth.
 - Workshop B1- Salon 6, 10:30-12:00, Saturday, November 8th
- **Michael Adams of Environics**, shares insight from his recent study on the lives and aspirations of aboriginal people living in Canada's urban centres.
 - Workshop C2- Salon 6/7, 2:45-4:15pm, Saturday, November 8th
- **Foundations and Complex Environmental Challenges**, features stories from organizations involved in environmental grantmaking, including an interprovincial project focused on protecting the massive Lake Winnipeg Watershed.
 - Workshop C9- Salon Drummond East, 2:45-4:15pm, Saturday, November 8th
- **Making Sense of Economic Turmoil**, a leading investment expert from Bank of Montreal demystifies the current crisis and talks about what it means for philanthropy and our communities.
 - Workshop D1- Salon A/B, 10:00-11:30am, Sunday, November 9th
- **Philanthropy in Africa**. Speakers from South Africa and Zimbabwe share their experience of philanthropy and how they balance the cultures and needs of indigenous and immigrant populations.
 - Workshop D7- Salon 4, 10:00-11:30am, Sunday, November 9th

About Community Foundations of Canada

Canada's 164 community foundations help Canadians invest in building strong and resilient places to live, work and play. Together we are one of the largest supporters of Canadian communities, providing \$176 million in support of local priorities and thousands of organizations in 2007. To find out more visit www.cfc-fcc.ca

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