

# Canada World View

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## Canada hosts the 28th G8 Summit

Priority: Africa  
Action Plan



Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

Canada

## About **Canada World View**

Published quarterly in English and French, *Canada World View* provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues and features international Canadian initiatives and contributions.

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## Our cover

A boy passes by an AIDS mural outside a government building in Maputo, Mozambique, on World AIDS Day on December 1, 2001. Of the more than 40 million people in the world infected with HIV/AIDS, over two-thirds live in Africa. UNAIDS/WHO estimates are that HIV/AIDS took the lives of 3 million adults and children in 2001—2.3 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa.

At the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, the Global Fund to fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria was created; to date, nearly US\$2 billion has been pledged by the international community.

*Photo: Associated Press AP*

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*Photo: Serge Fournier*

Prime Minister Chrétien greets villagers in Bamishi, near Abuja, Nigeria, on his tour of six African countries in April 2002.

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*Photo: Robert Fowler*

Two boys in Burkina Faso

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# MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JEAN CHRÉTIEN

**F**or two days this summer, the eyes of the world will be on Kananaskis, Alberta, as Canada proudly hosts the 28th G8 Summit.

On June 26 and 27, 2002, I will welcome to Canada the leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the President of the European Commission and the President of the Government of Spain, as representatives of the European Union.

Kananaskis is located amid the breathtaking foothills of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. It is an ideal location for the focused and businesslike meeting my G8 partners and I would like to have.

While Canada has previously hosted three G8 summits, 2002 will mark the first time the summit has been held in western Canada. The meeting will provide a prime opportunity for showcasing the energy, dynamism and beauty of Alberta and the warmth of Albertans.

The agenda will be focused and substantive. We will discuss ways to strengthen global economic growth and fight terrorism. But the main theme is one I am especially committed to: how the G8 partners can work with African countries on strengthening governance, peace and security, education and health, and sustainable economic growth on that continent.

At the summit, we will adopt a G8 Africa Action Plan that responds

to the New Partnership for Africa's Development—an ambitious initiative conceived by some of Africa's most progressive leaders to reverse the marginalization of Africa from the globalization process. This visionary document was keenly endorsed by G8 leaders at the 2001 summit in Genoa. The objective of the Action Plan is to help define a new way of working with Africa on the basis of mutual obligations and accountability and of African ownership and leadership of the development process.

Other G8 issues on which we will seek progress in 2002 include reducing global poverty, promoting universal primary education, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, and bridging the digital divide.

The Kananaskis summit will be the culmination of a year-long process. We will take stock of our achievements and map out our work for the future. Following the summit, a short Chair's Statement—instead of a lengthy, negotiated communiqué—will be issued, reflecting the leaders' talks.

I encourage you to find out more about Canada's hosting of the 2002 G8 process and the Kananaskis summit by visiting [www.g8.gc.ca](http://www.g8.gc.ca) 🍁



Prime Minister  
Jean Chrétien

## SUMMIT VENUES

- 1975 – Rambouillet, France
- 1976 – San Juan, Puerto Rico, U.S.
- 1977 – London, U.K.
- 1978 – Bonn, Germany
- 1979 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1980 – Venice, Italy
- 1981 – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- 1982 – Versailles, France
- 1983 – Williamsburg, U.S.
- 1984 – London, U.K.
- 1985 – Bonn, Germany
- 1986 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1987 – Venice, Italy
- 1988 – Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 1989 – Paris, France
- 1990 – Houston, U.S.
- 1991 – London, U.K.
- 1992 – Munich, Germany
- 1993 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1994 – Naples, Italy
- 1995 – Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 1996 – Lyon, France
- 1997 – Denver, U.S.
- 1998 – Birmingham, U.K.
- 1999 – Köln, Germany
- 2000 – Okinawa, Japan
- 2001 – Genoa, Italy
- 2002 – Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada

# CALENDAR

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

### JUNE

#### June 3–7

International Trade Minister  
Pierre Pettigrew leads trade mission  
to Mexico  
(Mexico City, Monterrey)

#### June 12–13

G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting  
Whistler, British Columbia

#### June 14–15

G7 Finance Ministers' Meeting  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

#### June 17

World Day to Combat  
Desertification and Drought

#### June 20

World Refugee Day

#### June 26–27

G8 Summit  
Kananaskis, Alberta

### JULY

#### July 1

Canada Day

#### July 7–12

XIV International Conference on AIDS  
Barcelona, Spain

### AUGUST

#### August 9

International Day of the World's  
Indigenous People

#### August 12

International Youth Day

#### August 26–September 4

World Summit on Sustainable  
Development  
Johannesburg, South Africa

### SEPTEMBER

#### September 7–8

APEC Meeting of Finance Ministers  
Los Cabos, Mexico

#### September 8

International Literacy Day

#### September 10

International Day of Peace  
Opening of the United Nations  
General Assembly  
New York, U.S.A.

#### September 16–20

IV Conference of the States Parties  
of the Ottawa Convention  
Geneva, Switzerland

### OCTOBER

#### October 16

World Food Day

#### October 18–20

La Francophonie Summit  
Beirut, Lebanon

## CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

### JULY

#### July 12–21

Great Northern Arts Festival  
Inuvik, Northwest Territories

### AUGUST

#### August 8–11

Conference of the Nordic Association  
for Canadian Studies  
Stockholm, Sweden

#### August 22–September 2

Montreal World Film Festival  
Montreal, Quebec

### SEPTEMBER

#### September 5–14

Toronto International Film Festival  
Toronto, Ontario

#### September 14–22

Atlantic Film Festival  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

#### September 26–October 11

Vancouver International Film Festival  
Vancouver, British Columbia

#### September 26–30

Art Forum Berlin  
Berlin, Germany

#### September 26–November 3

Montreal Biennale  
Montreal, Quebec

International Contemporary  
Art Fair (FIAC)  
Paris, France

### OCTOBER

#### October 9–14

Frankfurt Book Fair  
Frankfurt, Germany

#### October 10–20

Montreal International Festival of  
New Cinema and New Media  
Montreal, Quebec

# ROCK STEADY

## Canada's Rockies will be the backdrop for the Kananaskis G8 Summit

**I**n June, Canada will play host to presidents and prime ministers from the world's leading industrialized nations—France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States—along with the European Commission and Spain, which currently holds the presidency of the European Council.

Located southwest of Calgary in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies, picture-perfect Kananaskis, Alberta, is one of Canada's natural wonders: a spectacular ecological area that boasts several provincial parks and is famed for its pristine rivers and lakes.

As chair of the G8 this year, Canada will use these scenic hills and lakes as a backdrop for a summit stamped with a unique character. While Canada has hosted G7 and G8 summits before, in Ottawa (1981), Toronto (1988) and Halifax (1995), this is the first one to be held in western Canada.

"The word summit tends to evoke images either of great pomp and ceremony or, more recently, of violent clashes in the streets between demonstrators and police," says Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to Italy as well as the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and the senior Canadian official responsible for preparing the Kananaskis summit. "It is for this reason that the Prime Minister has, with the agreement of his G8 colleagues, asked me to prepare a different summit, not just a summit done differently. A retreat-style summit that is focused—one of substance, not form. These are my marching orders for Kananaskis."

Informal. Focused. Substantive. These will be the hallmarks of the 2002 summit.

In order to keep the agenda focused and uncluttered, leaders will address three key global challenges: strengthening global economic growth, building a new partnership for Africa's development, and fighting international terrorism.

Of the three, the principal focus of discussion will be a new partnership for Africa. It is an issue close to the heart



Hiking in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies in Kananaskis Country, Alberta

of Prime Minister Chrétien, the dean of the group and a man personally committed to ending Africa's continuing economic marginalization. In April, he spent 10 days visiting six African countries in pursuit of a plan to work with African governments to build lasting peace and security, strengthen democratic governance, address health and education issues, and open trade and investment.

"Poverty is the worst form of violence," Mr. Chrétien told a gathering of the World Economic Forum in New York in February, quoting the pacifist Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi. "Nowhere is this more true than in Africa. The situation throughout much of the continent is bad, and getting worse."

As G8 chair, Canada is leading the development of the G8 Africa Action Plan [see page 7], the roots of which go back to last year's meeting in Genoa, Italy. At Prime Minister Chrétien's initiative, G8 leaders meeting in Genoa agreed to develop a "concrete Action Plan" in support of the New African Initiative, now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The G8 Action Plan will be designed to work with African governments that are committed to implementing NEPAD's principles. This means governments that are committed to working on behalf of their citizens to build durable peace and security, strengthen democratic governance, address the crises in health and education, and open trade and investment.

"It is a vision founded on freedom and democracy, and the principle that the key to progress in Africa lies, first and foremost, with Africans," Mr. Chrétien said in describing the Action Plan to delegates at the Forum.

Africa may be front and centre at the G8, but it will not be the only subject of discussion.

As Canada, Europe and the United States emerge carefully from one of their mildest post-war recessions, and as Japan still struggles with its most severe downturn ever, leaders will also focus on strengthening economic growth both within their own countries and more broadly. The G8 countries are the engine of global growth, accounting

for nearly half (48 percent) of the world's economic output. However, an important area of leaders' discussions will be how to ensure that the other half is sustainable, and that no part of the world is excluded.

Finance ministers and central bank governors, meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on June 14 and 15, will have much to contribute to this effort. Like their counterparts responsible for justice and interior, energy, labour, environment and foreign affairs, finance ministers meet in advance of G8 summits in a far-reaching, policy-building process to support the work of their leaders. In addition to these important meetings, consultations take place through such bodies as the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations.

Not surprisingly, terrorism will also be on the agenda at Kananaskis. Since the late 1970s, G7 and G8 meetings have made significant progress in the fight against terrorism, serving as catalysts for the negotiation of no fewer than 12 United Nations counterterrorism conventions. After the attacks of September 11, G8 leaders asked their ministers to draw up a list of specific measures, including mechanisms to stop the flow of funds to terrorists, improve aviation security, bring about stricter control of arms exports and enhance security cooperation. Many of these measures will be discussed at Kananaskis. 🍁

Photo: Canadian Press CP



The G8 leaders at the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy, where African leaders first proposed the New African Initiative (now the New Partnership for Africa's Development). As G8 chair of this year's summit, Canada is leading the development of the G8 Africa Action Plan.

(left to right): Junichiro Koizumi (Japan), Tony Blair (U. K.), George W. Bush (U. S. A.), Jacques Chirac (France), Silvio Berlusconi (Italy), Vladimir Putin (Russia), Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Gerhard Schröder (Germany), Guy Verhofstadt (Belgium), Romano Prodi (European Commission)

## Africa's New Partnership

### *A plan by Africans for Africans*

When elephants fight it is the grass that suffers, say the Kikuyu people of Kenya. The East African proverb could have been written with the Cold War in mind, or the many localized conflicts that have prevented Africa's development and impoverished millions of people from Côte d'Ivoire to the island of Zanzibar.

Today, Africa is the only continent where poverty is on the rise. Almost half of the 673 million people south of the Sahara live on less than one dollar a day. And of the more than 40 million people in the world infected with HIV/AIDS, over two-thirds are in Africa. Clearly, many donor governments are frustrated that there is not more to show for decades of development assistance to Africa and are convinced that some sort of new approach is required.

At last year's G8 Summit in Genoa, African leaders presented the New African Initiative, now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Designed by progressive African leaders, it was endorsed by 53 members of the African Union (the successor, as of July 2002, to the Organization of African Unity).

NEPAD is the first comprehensive plan for African development to have originated in—and been supported throughout—Africa. It addresses education, health, good governance, action against corruption, market access and much more. It also focuses on those countries that are prepared to take political and economic decisions to produce stable markets in which to attract new private capital, the cornerstone of development efforts in the 21st century.

G8 leaders in Genoa enthusiastically supported the New African Initiative. They agreed to develop a concrete action plan to support its goals and asked Canada, as G8 chair in 2002, to lead the plan's development. Since the beginning of the new year, the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and for the Kananaskis summit, Ambassador Robert Fowler, has been meeting with other G8 representatives and working closely with African representatives to determine how the G8 can best respond to this initiative and where it can add real value. G8 leaders will endorse this plan when they meet in Kananaskis.



Photo: Associated Press AP

Children at a refugee camp in central Sierra Leone. This West African nation was ravaged by over 10 years of civil war, resulting in thousands of displaced people. With 17 million Africans either refugees or internally displaced, Africa has the largest concentration of displaced persons in the world.

"The underlying objective of the G8 Africa Action Plan is not to provide a massive infusion of funding nor to underwrite the actions of others," says Ambassador Fowler. "The goal is to put in place a new partnership that will unlock greater public and private capital over the long term."

At the same time, Canada recognizes that financial and technical resources will be needed in the context of this new partnership. It has created the Canada Fund for Africa, a \$500 million fund in support of the Action Plan, to be disbursed only after the plan is formally adopted by G8 leaders.

The fund is just one part of Canada's long history of engagement with Africa. Through its own efforts in promoting human security and conflict prevention, plus those of multilateral organizations to which Canada belongs, such as the United Nations, La Francophonie and the Commonwealth, Canada has long linked Africa's development to just systems of law and governance. These are the essential guarantors of peace and security and, in turn, economic development. In addition to the Canada Fund for Africa, the Government of Canada recently cancelled some \$1 billion of African debt and announced it would increase international assistance by 8 percent per year for the foreseeable future. 🍁

**To learn more  
about the agenda  
and preparations  
for the  
Kananaskis G8  
Summit, visit  
[www.g8.gc.ca](http://www.g8.gc.ca)**

**For questions or  
comments about  
the G8 Summit,  
you can call the  
toll-free line:  
1-888-316-2002  
(within Canada  
and the United  
States only).**

# O KANANASKIS: WE STAND ON GUARD FOR THEE

## Protecting the natural beauty of the summit venue

**B**ringing world leaders to a wilderness area such as southwestern Alberta's Kananaskis Country requires sensitivity to environmental concerns. That's why, from the very beginning, Canadian G8 summit planners took the unprecedented step of establishing an Environmental Affairs directorate. The directorate is providing summit planners with environmental guidance. During this year's summit, the wildlands are going to be safeguarded as much as the leaders themselves.

Why go to such a remote area for a G8 summit? For this meeting, in Canada for the first time in seven years and in western Canada for the first time, the Prime Minister envisioned a small, retreat-style setting that would allow the leaders to spend as much time as

possible in productive and frank discussions.

That vision led organizers to Kananaskis Village—a small pedestrian-oriented wilderness resort area. Albertans have a deep love for Kananaskis Country. The spectacular 4,000 square-kilometre

natural values of Kananaskis Country will be a priority."

Identifying those natural values—what Bruce Leeson describes as "special species, spaces and times"—was the first task of the directorate. "A major component of our enviro-safe program is compiling information that informs us about places we shouldn't go, and times we shouldn't go, as well as about sensitive species we must avoid. We're concentrating on animals that have a stressful reaction to people, such as grizzlies, cougars, and cow moose and cow elk with calves."

Dr. Leeson, who has 30 years of experience as an ecological integrity specialist with Parks Canada and intimate knowledge of the Kananaskis area, is providing environmental guidance to all the other planning directorates about each identified species and space.

The location of the secure-zone perimeter, for example, and all other security plans are being established taking into account the sensitive species, spaces and times identified by Bruce Leeson and his team.

The effort doesn't stop there. Training is being provided to security forces so that they can undertake their duties with the least impact on the environment and avoid hazards inherent in the wildlands.

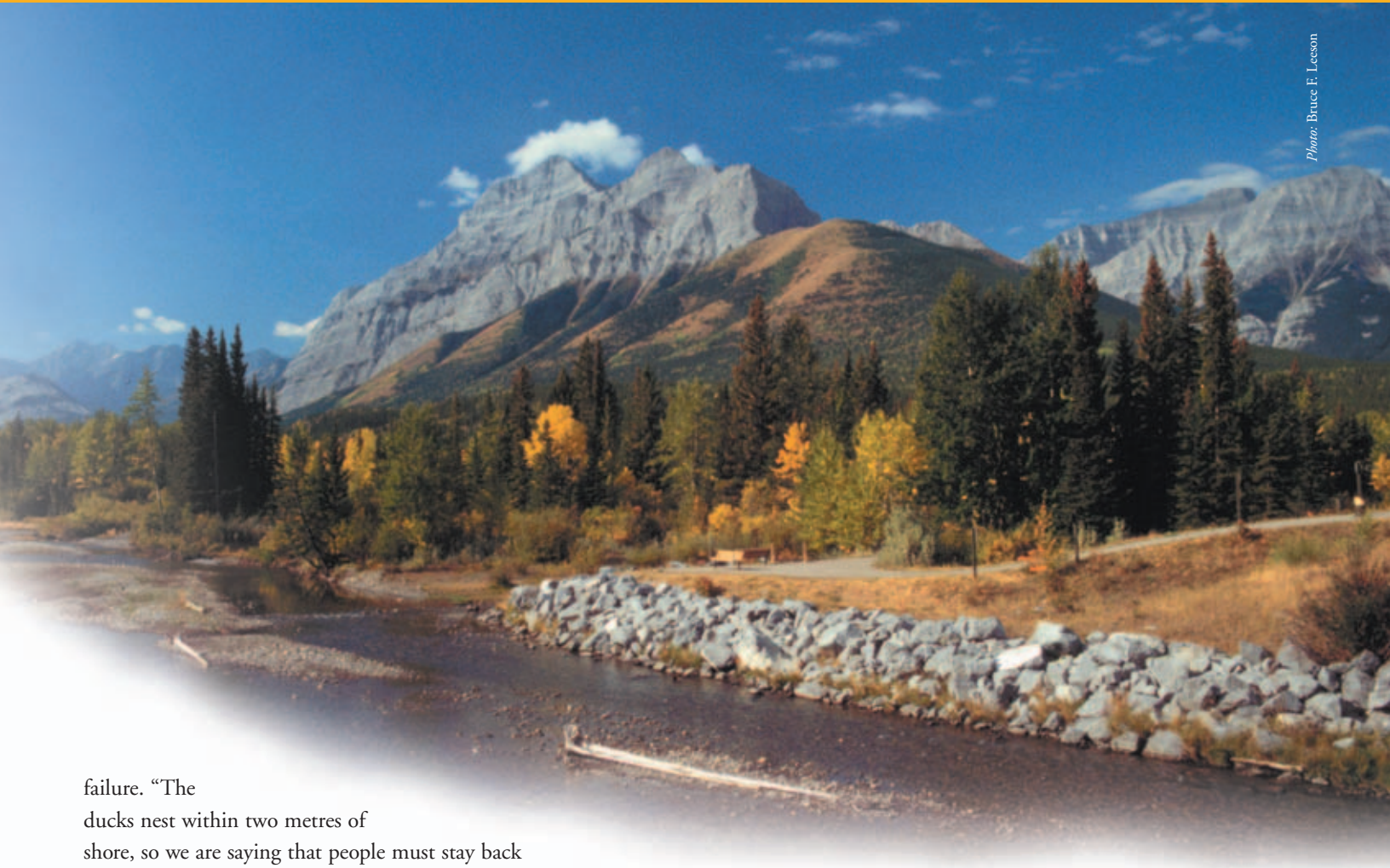
Certain "spaces" will simply be made off-limits to personnel. These include areas containing special flora, as well as the habitats of specific creatures, such as the small shallow ponds that are home to the long-toed salamander, and the river shorelines where harlequin ducks will be nesting at the end of June. In the case of the ducks, constant disturbance by people could lead to nesting



Elk is among the many animal species found in Kananaskis Country.

region has an incredible abundance and diversity of animal and plant species.

The government committed itself to taking extraordinary care to avoid adverse environmental effects. That commitment began with the appointment of Bruce Leeson as the first-ever G8 Director of Environmental Affairs. Dr. Leeson's directorate has been given authority equal to that of all the other summit planning directorates to ensure that environmental considerations are integrated into all areas of decision making. "In all G8 plans and decisions," explains Dr. Leeson, "protecting the special



failure. “The ducks nest within two metres of shore, so we are saying that people must stay back 10 metres from the shoreline.”

Dr. Leeson is aware of two pregnant moose in the area and is keeping tabs on their location so that it can be avoided at the end of June. Other precautions include no-fly zones for helicopters to establish minimum distances from the Rocky Mountain goats and bighorn sheep roaming the alpine country with their young.

In addition, the directorate is aware of the rich Stoney Nakoda cultural, spiritual and ceremonial heritage in the Kananaskis Valley and is taking special care not to interfere with or diminish Native values.

Keeping the public informed on the steps being taken to protect the environment has been a priority for the summit planners from the beginning. Public outreach has included presentations to schools and community organizations, regular contributions to the G8 monthly

newsletter, and ongoing dialogue with an “Enviro-Network” of local and national environmental groups.

Canada’s approach to this summit—reflected in both its location and the environmental considerations taken into account—is unprecedented in the history of G8 meetings. If remote areas become the preferred setting for future summits, the Canadian effort could pave the way for safeguarding the environmental integrity of areas far beyond Kananaskis. 🍁

Mt. Kidd,  
Kananaskis  
Country, Alberta

**For more details about the G8 Summit venue, visit [www.g8.gc.ca](http://www.g8.gc.ca) and click on “Kananaskis.”**

# PRIME MINISTER CHRÉTIEN'S PRE-G8 AFRICAN TOUR – APRIL 2002

> Secretary of State  
(Latin America  
and Africa)  
(Francophonie)  
Denis Paradis  
with villagers in  
Bamishi, near  
Abuja, Nigeria

> The Prime Minister  
is welcomed by a  
young girl at Le  
Palais de la Culture  
in Algiers, Algeria.

> Traditional dancers  
and musicians in  
Abuja, Nigeria

> Learning the Arabic  
alphabet at the  
Centre d'accueil  
pour enfants en  
situation précaire  
de Sidi Moussa in  
Rabat, Morocco

>> A broom/mop  
seller in Addis  
Ababa, Ethiopia

>> A village kitchen in  
Bamishi, Nigeria

>> The Prime Minister  
tours the training  
room at the  
Centre national  
de ressources  
éducatives in  
Dakar, Senegal.



Photos: Serge Fournier



Mrs. Aline Chrétien and Chief (Mrs.) Stella Obasanjo help administer a polio vaccine in the village of Bamishi, Nigeria.



< (from left) MP Mauril Bélanger, MP Jean Augustine and MP Ovid Jackson with a group of children in Sandafa village, Ethiopia



<< Prime Minister Chrétien, Ambassador Robert Fowler (the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and the G8 Summit) (far right), and Canada's Ambassador to Ethiopia, John Schram, present Canadian soccer jerseys to the Semi-Urban Youth Football Team in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

<< Villagers' hut in Bamishi, Nigeria

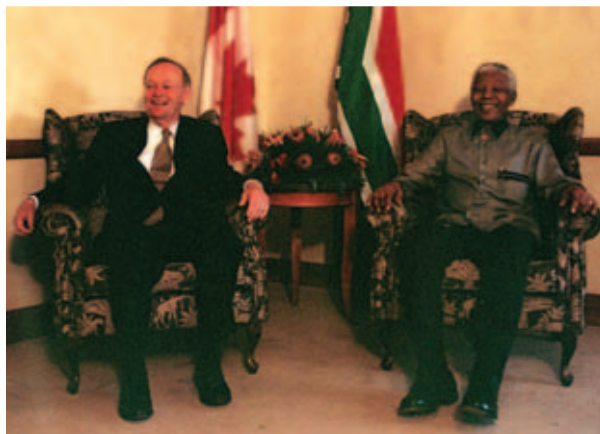
< The Prime Minister and Mrs. Aline Chrétien receive gifts from village officials in Bamishi, Nigeria.



<< Prime Minister Chrétien fills a water jug at the Water and Sanitation Services for the Poor and Destitute Project in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



< Prime Minister Chrétien and former South African President Nelson Mandela (Mr. Mandela became only the second honorary Canadian citizen in November 2001.)



<< Mrs. Aline Chrétien and Mrs. Patricia Dunberry, the wife of Canada's Ambassador to Morocco (second from left), visit the Centre d'accueil pour enfants en situation précaire de Sidi Moussa in Rabat, Morocco.

# A BRIGHTER FUTURE

## for the world's last great economic frontier

**D**espite the developed world's perception of Africa as uniformly plagued by political instability, conflict and corruption, sub-Saharan Africa has led the world in economic growth over the past few years. In fact, Africa is the highest profit-yielding destination for foreign investment. Moreover, a number of governments in the subcontinent are taking steps to improve the business climate in their countries by amending legislation, reducing corruption, liberalizing trade and investment restrictions, and limiting currency controls.



Mozal Smelter Project—SNC-Lavalin/Murray & Roberts Joint Venture, near Maputo, Mozambique

Canada and its G8 colleagues have made a commitment to respond to Africa's call for enhanced trade and investment and to work with African countries to create a framework that will increase investment—both domestic and foreign—in the continent. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), designed by African leaders, seeks to stimulate much-needed economic development and poverty reduction by creating a new partnership in the areas of investment, trade and development assistance. G8 leaders at the Kananaskis summit hope to encourage African governments to put in place the policies and institutions necessary

to promote sustained economic growth and reduce marginalization.

NEPAD calls for good economic and political governance, accountability and peer review as part of the broader strategy to bring Africa into the mainstream of the global economy, thereby decreasing its dependence on aid. All this means increased business opportunities for Canadian companies.

### The Canadian advantage

Canadian companies have enjoyed a number of noteworthy successes in doing business with Africa. Some have been introduced to the continent via the Canadian International Development Agency's Industrial Cooperation Program (CIDA-INC), which provides support to Canadian firms seeking to invest in developing countries and promotes partnerships between the Canadian private sector and the host country client-partners.

Canada has a distinct advantage in Africa that it can build upon to strengthen its economic links with the continent. It does not carry the burden of colonialism, and it enjoys solid relations with many African countries through its membership in both La Francophonie and the Commonwealth. French and English

are the two main languages of business in sub-Saharan Africa, while French is the official working language in several North African countries. In many cases, these linguistic ties are complemented by cultural familiarity: many Africans have been educated in Canada or by Canadian teachers and are therefore familiar with Canadian culture and business practices.

Canadian exports to sub-Saharan Africa in 2001 were about 14 percent higher than in 2000. In 2001, Canada exported \$690 million in goods to sub-Saharan Africa and imported goods worth \$1.02 billion, while Canadian sales of services to the region were about \$1 billion and purchases of services totalled around \$300 million. Last year, Export Development Canada supported 207 exporters in 31 African countries; one-quarter of the business volume was in North Africa and three-quarters was in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2001, CIDA-INC disbursed close to \$10 million to support Canadian companies doing business in sub-Saharan Africa, representing almost one-quarter of the program's total disbursements for that year.

The telecommunications sector is one of the strongest in Africa, with

Canadian companies supplying much of the backbone equipment for the newly privatized telecom and cellular companies on the continent. Other sectors where Canadian companies are present include water supply, power generation, and oil and gas. Africa's vast wealth of resources offers many lucrative business opportunities. Canada is the number one investor in the mining sector in sub-Saharan Africa, and 50 percent of all offshore mining exploration in Africa is carried out by Canadian companies.

### Success stories

Canadian companies currently involved in Africa range from a small bed and breakfast in Ghana (The Four Villages Inn), run by a Canadian-Ghanaian couple, to a documentary film co-production unit in South Africa, to telecommunications companies like WaveRider Communications Inc., based in

Toronto, which is helping Nigerian companies use the Internet to improve their business. In Lagos, a bank is using WaveRider's wireless access equipment to establish a communications link between each of its branches throughout the city.

Then there are the huge corporations. Bombardier has projects in Uganda and Senegal, and, among other contracts, SNC-Lavalin operates an aluminum smelter construction project in Mozambique. Mining giant Placer Dome has a partnership in a gold mine in South Africa. Nortel Networks has formed a partnership with SchoolNet SA, a non-profit South African organization supported by Canada's International Development Research Centre, which promotes the use of information and communications technologies in schools. This past January, Nelson Mandela opened the third centre set up through this partnership.

The Canadian Bank Note Company, based in Ottawa, produces the paper currency for Ethiopia, supplies national identity cards and driver's licences to



Tecsult International's wastewater system rehabilitation project, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Togo, and provides passports to Mali and equipment for the production of passports to Burkina Faso. The Royal Canadian Mint has been awarded three contracts to mint coins for the Banque Centrale de Tunisie.

Among the Canadian companies with high profiles in Africa is the Montreal engineering consulting firm Tecsult International, which is involved in projects in a number of countries, including Algeria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali and Tanzania. Seventy percent of its international activity takes place in Africa. One of the company's projects involves the rehabilitation of the wastewater system in Madagascar.

Another is an \$80 million contract with the Ministry of Transport of Gabon. The contract is for plans and specifications to rebuild and modernize the country's 10 regional airports, as well as to upgrade the runways and safety facilities—such as air traffic control, radar and baggage control—at the country's two main airports.

"Doing business in Gabon is no piece of cake," concedes company president Marc Parent, "but the Gabonese are well aware of Canada's reputation in technology and that we have French as a common language."



Tecsult International's provincial airports rehabilitation project, Lambasena Airport, Gabon



First Calgary Petroleum has a contract to carry out 3D seismic research in southern Algeria. The 3D data will make it possible to determine with precision the optimum location for oil wells to be drilled later in 2002.

Even small Canadian entrepreneurs can play a part in furthering trade and investment in Africa. Ottawa's Benjamin Amosah has initiated a number of deals to develop the potential of the sub-Saharan food industries. Through his holding company, K-Okuta Group of Companies International, Inc., Mr. Amosah has invested in aquaculture ventures in Cameroon, Guinea, Madagascar and Mozambique, all of which export the bulk of their product to markets in the European Union.

A native of Ghana, Mr. Amosah is well aware of the problems in sub-Saharan Africa, but his business philosophy is to seek out the trouble spots. "Actually, I go looking for

them, because where the risk is high, the investment returns can be even higher," he says. But it goes deeper than that. Firmly committed to Africa's development, Ben Amosah believes that "creating jobs for people, something for them to do other than waiting for handouts from development agencies," creates enormous good will toward investors. "The result is a positive attitude toward doing the job right, which along with lower wages makes for an economically sound rationale for my investments."

However, despite Mr. Amosah's optimistic outlook for doing business in sub-Saharan Africa, the region still suffers from an array of problems: heavy debt burdens, over-reliance on one or two commodities, political conflicts, drought and HIV/AIDS.

### Hope for a new Africa

According to Export Development Canada's fall 2001 *Outlook for*

*Emerging Markets*, Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia and South Africa remain the strongest economies in sub-Saharan Africa, while Senegal, in West Africa, has made commendable reform progress and has received debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative as international efforts to reduce debt gain ground.

**For more information on how DFAIT can help Canadian companies do business in Africa, go to [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca) and click on "International Trade," then "Canadian Trade Commissioner Service," or "Countries and Regions," then "Middle East and North Africa" or "sub-Saharan Africa."**

Canada has made trade inroads in many African countries. In November 2001, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Industry Canada organized a trade mission to Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa, which included participation in ITU Telecom Africa, the premier telecommunications event in Africa, held in Johannesburg. A water sector mission is planned for 2002 to six countries in West Africa. As well, there have been smaller trade delegations to Tunisia and Morocco.

### **Africa is the next Asia.**

—Benjamin Amosah

Benjamin Amosah's entrepreneurial spirit makes him see a bright future for Africa. "Africa is the next Asia," he says confidently. "And sooner, rather than later, we will be talking about the African economic miracle the same way we do about Asia's." If he's right, that will mean a truly new Africa for Africans. 🍀

Photo: Canadian Bank Note Company



Francine Roy of the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) and a Mali passport office employee work on the CBN-designed technology for issuing passports.

*Photo: ACIDI/CIDA, Bruce Paton*

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Women participate in an AIDS information session run by the Southern Africa AIDS Training Program and the Canadian Public Health Association, with the support of CIDA. Local volunteers are given AIDS information, and trained in home care skills and counselling.

Photo: ACIDI/CIDA: Pierre St. Jacques



A bakery owner in Accra, Ghana, trains nine girls between the ages of 15 and 22 in how to run a bakery business. This project is part of the Pilot Urban Poverty Partnership Program designed to help improve the living standards of the urban poor, particularly women, through skills development and training.

One of her most vivid experiences occurred during a human rights conference in Nigeria. For three days, she listened to the testimony of widows who had lost everything when their husbands died.

"Most of these women were accused of killing their husbands," she says. "Many were imprisoned. A woman's in-laws could take the car, the house and the children."

A new protocol to protect women's rights in Africa may be on the table at the African Union's July 2002 meetings, and Ms. Joseph is hopeful that it will finally be endorsed. "It will fill a judicial void," she says. "Once it's approved, a process needs to happen to make women more aware of their rights. I think it's already happening.

She worked with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa, a new position based in Togo. It was set up by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, an arm of the Organization of African Unity (as of July 2002 called the African Union). Ms. Joseph is drawing on her experience to help complete her doctorate.

"There was a lot of travelling, and it was very tiring, but it was one of the best experiences of my life," she says. "I have absolutely no regrets."

Photo: ACIDI/CIDA: Stephanie Colvey



Members of the Kangemi Women Empowerment Centre in Nairobi, Kenya, dance and sing to express to municipal officials the need to provide their community with garbage collection.

The new generation of African women is starting to speak up."

Hélène Dion, who recently retired as a social work professor, spent about a month in Senegal on behalf of the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO). She helped a local NGO called DEVSOL prepare an organizational profile, a document that will improve its chances of attracting international support.

About a year ago, DEVSOL began a program to combat the exploitation of young girls aged 10 to 15 who abandon their education in the villages to work as domestics in the cities. The pay is low, and in some cases girls work 18 hours a day. Moreover, employers often sexually abuse the girls.

"It's a terrible dilemma for poor families," says Ms. Dion. "On the one hand, they need the money. On the other, they know the risks, especially the mothers who may have gone through the same experience."

DEVSOL is developing income-generating projects in four villages that aim to break this cycle of exploitation. Ultimately, if families can increase their income, girls can stay in school.

In July 2002, Hélène Dion will return to Senegal for the next phase of work with DEVSOL. This time she'll focus on training in community organization. "It's threatening to become a second career!" she says.

## Putting an end to conflict diamonds

In 1997, a group of Canadians and Sierra Leoneans living in Canada decided to do something about the illicit trade in rough diamonds that was fuelling a deadly war in Sierra Leone.

Within a year, the working group had found a home within Partnership



Photo: Associated Press AP

Diamond miners in central Sierra Leone. The diamond trade fuelled a horrific decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone in which tens of thousands of innocent civilians were killed or maimed. Diamonds have also driven civil conflicts in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia. The May 2002 free election in Sierra Leone is hopefully the first step toward a democratic future.

Africa Canada (PAC), a coalition of Canadian and African NGOs. In 2000, with financial support from DFAIT, CIDA and a host of NGOs, PAC produced a groundbreaking report called *The Heart of the Matter: Sierra Leone, Diamonds and Human Security* that probed the issue of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone. The report, co-authored by two Canadians and a Sierra Leonean journalist studying in Canada, made international headlines.

"The impact of the report has been quite amazing," says Ian Smillie, one of the authors.

PAC's report gave added impetus to Canada's efforts at the United Nations (UN) to address the conflicts in Angola and Sierra Leone. As chair of the Angola Sanctions Committee, Robert Fowler—at that time Canada's Ambassador to the UN—set up an expert panel to look at conflict diamonds in Angola. Several other expert panels followed that examined the issue in Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia.

"When Canada was on the Security Council in 1999–2000, it was instrumental in getting the issue of conflict diamonds raised at official levels," says Mr. Smillie, who sat on the Sierra Leone expert panel. "The NGOs had done it in the media, but the issue wouldn't have got the profile in the UN it did without Canada."

In May 2000, South Africa launched what would become known as the Kimberley Process—an attempt to develop an international certification scheme for rough diamonds. By the end of the year, Canada had co-sponsored a resolution at the UN General Assembly supporting the Process.

The Kimberley Process, which involved governments, NGOs and the diamond industry, culminated in a meeting held in Ottawa in March 2002.

"The agreement in itself was remarkable," says Mr. Smillie. "However, we didn't get independent monitoring of all national systems. Without that, the whole thing is in jeopardy of not working." In response,



Photo: Robert Fowler

Angolan soldier with AK-47



The UN High Commissioner for Refugees and international aid agencies supplied trucks to assist in the return of refugees to Rwanda in 1996 following the 1994 genocide.

NGOs are exploring a voluntary scheme that could encourage countries to open their doors to independent monitors.

Meanwhile, with support from DFAIT and other agencies and foundations, PAC continues its research and advocacy with partners in Belgium, Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom. Its efforts have not gone unnoticed. In March 2002, PAC and its British partner, Global Witness, were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for their work around the Kimberley Process.

## Healing the scars of genocide

By the mid-1990s, Richard Batsinduka had been living in exile from his native Rwanda for more than 20 years. He had completed high school and university in Burundi, worked in Swaziland, and by 1992 was employed in Ottawa as a French teacher. When the 1994

genocide took the lives of between 800,000 and 1 million Rwandans, Mr. Batsinduka lost his parents, two brothers, a sister and some 500 members of his extended family.

"I was not able to teach any more because what happened profoundly affected me," he says.

By 1996, he was enrolled at the Canadian Institute for Conflict Resolution (CICR), a non-profit organization based in Ottawa that offers community-based conflict resolution programs. During his one-year residency, Mr. Batsinduka saw how the principles of resolving deep-rooted conflict could benefit his homeland. With support from the Institute, he wrote a proposal for a pilot project that was ultimately funded by CIDA.

In 1997, Mr. Batsinduka returned to Rwanda for the first time in 24 years. "It was really hard to start the work, but the Canadian embassy gave me a lot of support. The key issue was to bring victims and perpetrators

together in a safe environment to do the training."

The sessions went so well that CIDA funded an 18-month follow-up project. This involved "training the trainer" sessions in Ottawa for eight of the 350 Rwandans who had taken the course.

When one of the eight trainees returned to Rwanda, she trained a group of women who had been widowed by the genocide. The training had a profound impact on them. By the end of the five-day session, the women had decided to bring food to genocide suspects as a peace offering.

"There were so many small movements like this, and they were all the right ones," says Mr. Batsinduka. In 1999, he had his own epiphany. He decided to meet with the alleged killer of his brother and sister-in-law in a Rwandan prison.

"I talked with him for about half an hour," he says. "Something happened inside of me. I forgave him."



The closing of the first conflict resolution training session for Rwandan participants in July 1997 at CICR in Ottawa. Participants are holding an Aboriginal "dream catcher."

To learn more about Canada's policies and initiatives for helping developing countries become less marginalized, go to [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca) and click on "Foreign Policy," then "Global Issues, Peace and Security" or "International Development." You can also visit the CIDA Web site: [www.acdi-cida.gc.ca](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca)



Ryan watches the drilling of the first "Ryan's Well" in Uganda. He has helped to contribute funds for wells in Ethiopia, Malawi and Zimbabwe, and is working with Canadian Olympic gold medal wrestler, Daniel Igali, to build a well and school in Nigeria, Daniel's birthplace.



Jimmy Akana and Ryan Hreljac at the first "Ryan's Well" in Uganda in July 2000

## Inspiring children to make a difference

From its humble beginnings in 1990, a global education project run by the Canadian Organization for Development through Education (CODE) has grown to involve about 400 primary school classes across Canada.

Every Valentine's Day, as part of Project Love, young students prepare thousands of packages of school supplies that are shipped to students in Africa and the Caribbean.

"There are so many ways to integrate Project Love into the curriculum," says Judith George-Landles, a teacher at Churchill Alternative School in Ottawa who has been involved in the project for close to a decade. In her classes, students learn about the nature of community, food, music and how climate affects our choice of housing. One year, they learned about landmines and she integrated the lesson into a schoolyard game.

While children typically depend on parents and teachers to tell them about global issues, sometimes the tables get turned.

In 1998, six-year-old Ryan Hreljac learned at his school in Kemptonville, Ontario, that people in Africa did not

have easy access to clean water. He begged his parents for \$75, the amount he thought was needed to drill a well. To humour him, his parents gave him extra chores to earn the money.

When Ryan brought his \$75 to WaterCan, a Canadian NGO that builds wells in developing countries, he discovered he really needed \$2,000. Undeterred, he kept going. Two years later, the well was built, and he travelled to Uganda to see it, an odyssey captured in a documentary film called *Ryan's Well*, which premiered on Vision TV in November 2001.

Meanwhile, word of Ryan's work quickly spread. Cheques addressed to "Ryan's Well" began to arrive.

There was a cover story in *Reader's Digest*, an appearance on the Oprah Winfrey show and countless presentations to schools and community groups. He's met Dr. Jane Goodall, Prime Minister Chrétien, the Prince

of Wales, and in the fall of 2002 Governor General Adrienne Clarkson will present him with a Meritorious Service Decoration (Civil Division).

Today, Ryan's Well Foundation accepts donations from all over the world, which it channels to WaterCan and Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR). By May 2002, the Foundation—with matching contributions from CIDA—had raised about \$500,000 for new wells in Africa. It has also received funding from DFAIT.

The family tries hard to carve out time for Ryan to be a 10-year-old. He figures he spends about a quarter of his time on Foundation work. "The rest of the time I'm just a kid going to school," he says. Ryan's message is not simply about the need for clean water. Rather, it's that everyone—no matter how young—can make a difference in the world. 🍀

Children carry water for the family from the village well. In Africa, women and children often walk 4–5 km to get water.



# AFRICAN-CANADIAN SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

**O**ne of the first things you notice upon entering the Compagnie Danse Nyata Nyata studio on rue Saint-Laurent in Montreal is a picture of Nelson Mandela surrounded by dignitaries, hugging a small, beaming woman. The woman is Zab Maboungou, founder and artistic director of Nyata Nyata, and the picture is a cherished reminder of her performance of *Hommage*, a piece she choreographed to help Canada honour Mandela during his historic visit in 1990.

Zab Maboungou has the distinction of being the first African choreographer to receive funding from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec. While continuing to study the traditional dances and music of Africa, Ms. Maboungou has developed a unique and contemporary approach. Based on a philosophy that seeks to explore the source of movement, to identify its generic structures and, from that knowledge, to create, Zab Maboungou's art and ideas are sought after throughout Canada, the United States and Africa.

Zab Maboungou is one of the many talented African artists who have come to Canada in search of a new life and made outstanding contributions to Canadian culture. In Vancouver, the Masabo Culture Company is another example. Led by Fana Soro, a balafon master from Côte d'Ivoire, the Masabo Culture Company is a multidisciplinary

ensemble that features top-notch artists from Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Nigeria. The result is a feast of traditional song, story, dance, acrobatics and music that brings thousands of years of African history to Canadian stages.

of African and Creole cinema, is an ever-growing festival of films from Africa and the diaspora—the only one of its kind in North America.

But Vues d'Afrique is more than a film festival. Its programs touch on all aspects of African culture.

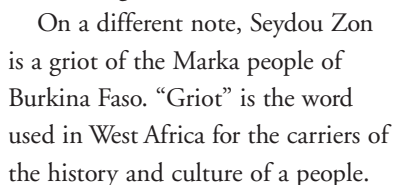
Within the scope of the upcoming G8 Summit, for example, the Vues d'Afrique team made the most of the unique gathering of African writers, filmmakers and journalists in attendance from around the world. Through meetings and informal networking, organizers galvanized the African intelligentsia and coordinated concrete, proactive proposals to offer to G8 leaders.



The Masabo Culture Company, Vancouver, British Columbia

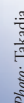
Just as Nyata Nyata and the Masabo Culture Company are signs of a thriving community of African-Canadian performing artists, so Vues d'Afrique attests to a burgeoning African film industry. Held each April in Montreal (2002 marked its 18th year), Vues d'Afrique, which is officially a festival

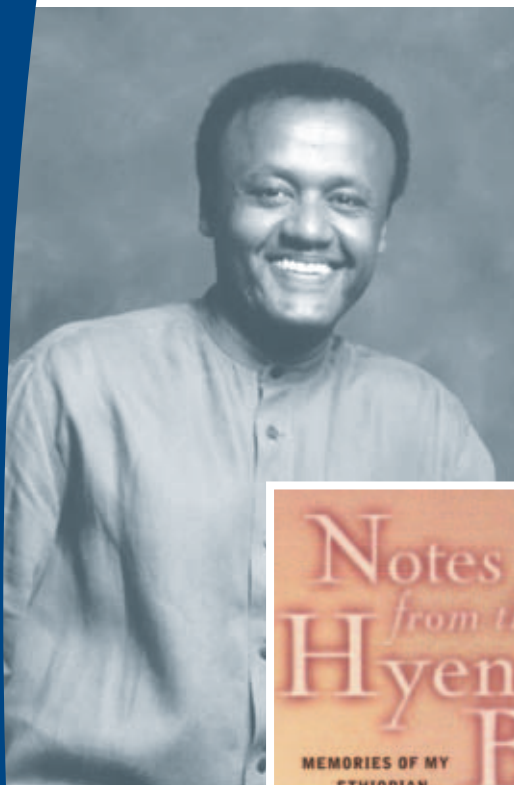
The film festival itself provides a wealth of engaging and provocative perspectives on Africa, both cultural and political. Over 80 films were screened this year, and the work of some of Canada's brightest lights was showcased, including Vincent Glès's *Le Bucheron de Zietrou* and



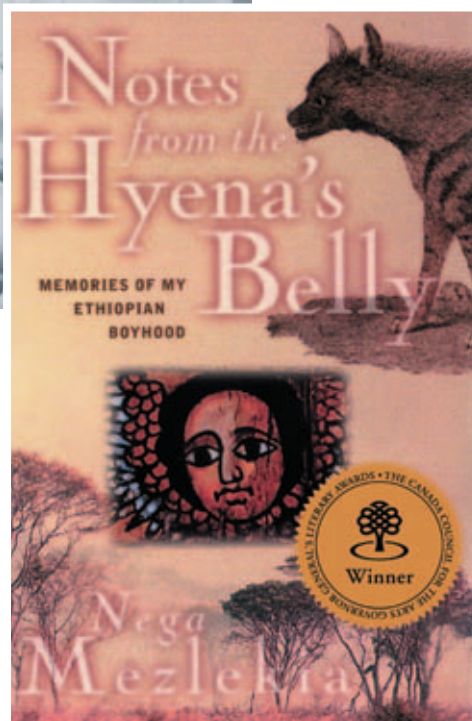
In a totally different key is Takadja, winner of the 1996 Juno for Best Global Recording. Their music is a blend of African and French-Canadian culture. Three members, including the founder and the principal kora player, are French Canadian. According to Ugandan-Canadian music critic Opiyo Oloya, writing in *AfroDisc* in May 1996, they should not, however, be mistaken for amateurs. While they don't possess any African heritage in their background, Mr. Oloya recognizes them as "serious students of African music that have gone beyond the mere mastery of techniques [to] embody the very spirit of griot music as it exists in West Africa today."

The diversity of talent evident among musicians is also found among African-Canadian writers. In all genres, and in both official languages, African-Canadian writers are making





Ethiopian-Canadian writer Nega Mezlekia, winner of the 2000 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction



their mark while educating, entertaining, inspiring and enlightening Canadians with new perspectives.

Nega Mezlekia was the recipient of the 2000 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction. His memoir, *Notes from the Hyena's Belly*—an elegant mix of the political and the cultural—is a bittersweet account of his youth in Ethiopia, setting the innocence of childhood against a backdrop of

turmoil and horror.

Mr. Mezlekia came to Canada as a refugee in 1985 and completed two university degrees before turning his efforts to writing. In 1995, he received an Explorations grant from the Canada Council for the Arts—

a good investment, given the result, for *Notes from the Hyena's Belly* is a hauntingly beautiful book that has touched many hearts and minds the world over.

Originally from Burkina Faso, Angèle Bassolé Ouédraogo is an up-and-coming French-language poet, journalist and academic. Her first book of poetry, *Burkina Blues*, was published in 2000 with a foreword by notable writer and journalist Abdourahman Waberi. Her next book, *Du silence à la parole : Poètes africaines francophones*, is a study of Franco-African women poets and is due for publication this year.

Tololwa M. Mollel is a Tanzanian-born storyteller and dramatist, and the author of over 15 children's books. His style combines a unique and engaging synthesis of the stories of his homeland with an academic knowledge of African drama to create stories that can be appreciated by children (and the not so young) from any cultural background. Mr. Mollel's books have received numerous awards and honours, including the Governor General's Award for *The Orphan Boy* (1991), the Writers Guild of Alberta Award for Children's Literature for *Big Boy* (1995) and the American Booksellers Association Pick of the Lists for *The Flying Tortoise* (1995). More recently, Mr. Mollel received the African Studies Association 2000 Children's Africana Award for *My Rows and Piles of Coins* (2000). His books have been published in Australia, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as in Canada. 🍁



## Daring to Be

One highlight of the community events happening concurrently with the G8 Summit will be the performance by the DAREarts Children's Choir in Calgary.

Since its inception in 1996, the DAREarts Foundation has run a student outreach program to provide children from all cultural backgrounds with opportunities for self-expression. Through a mentor system that includes professional artists from virtually every discipline, DAREarts shows children the value of self-discipline and leadership. The program offers them the chance to express themselves through music, drama, dance, visual arts and literature.

As the North American affiliate of Centipede Children for Peace, DAREarts had children performing with the international Centipede Children's Choir at the 100th Anniversary Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo in 2001. Conducted by DAREarts founder Marilyn Field, the choir sang with musical celebrities from around the world, joining Sir Paul McCartney for the finale, "Let It Be."

Now the DAREarts Children's Choir is busy rehearsing for its performance in Calgary on June 25, as well as for a show at the NATO summit in Prague in October. All funds raised will go to the Centipede Children's Fund to help build classrooms in Africa and Afghanistan.

DAREarts has received funding for the Calgary concert from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), and is being encouraged by DFAIT to focus its fundraising projects on Africa this year. 🍁



Members of DAREarts perform with the international Centipede Children's Choir at the 100th Anniversary Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo in December 2001.



The African drumming and dance group Sankofa perform at the second Children for Peace Concert at the Toronto Centre for the Arts in November 2001.

*First six photos: Serge Fournier*



*Last six photos: Robert Fowler*