



# OPERATIVE REPORT



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**Inside this issue:**

- Injury Prevention in Kawempe 2
- CIDA Minister is introduced to ESS in Tanzania 2

- Summer at the CNIS Vancouver Office 3

- Ehh...What's up Doc? 4

- Vancouver workshop and CNIS AGM announcement 4

## LET'S STOP UNLUCKY 13 IN AFRICA!

**13% of Africans die due to injuries**

**1/13 African women die a maternal death**

This year, the CNIS public engagement campaign is focusing on the premature death due to injury and maternal complications in Africa and the fact that the CNIS is doing something about these tragedies. The goal of our **"STOP UNLUCKY 13!"** campaign is to raise awareness about the issues of injury and maternal death in Africa and to the fact that Canadians can help. To respond to the injury pandemic in Africa, CNIS works with its African partners to implement programs and activities that improve the access to surgical care and reduce the incidence of injury. These activities include the training of Essential Surgical Skills, trauma team training, traffic safety education programs, first aid training, injury surveillance and small arms and non-violent conflict resolution projects. With support, through your memberships and donations, the CNIS is able to respond to this pandemic and further its goals. We have enclosed a **"STOP 13"** campaign button for you to wear. You can help educate the public about the tragedies of unlucky 13 by wearing it on **Wednesday October 13th!** If anyone asks you what the 13 is all about, tell them, 13% of Africans will die an injury death, 1/13 African women will die a maternal death and the CNIS is doing something about it. They can get more information on the web site [www.cnis.ca](http://www.cnis.ca), which is advertised on the button. Save your button for Friday May 13th when the CNIS is planning a major blitz!

Being a member of the CNIS ties you into a network of medical and international development professionals, keeps you up-to-date on international surgical development issues, provides you with an opportunity to implement members projects overseas, and allows you to establish yourself within this exciting area of development. We encourage you to join, or renew your membership and take advantage of these benefits while supporting the critical work in Africa. Your membership fee is also tax deductible. Enclosed, is a contribution form, please fill it in and return it to the CNIS office. You can also donate online at [www.cnis.ca](http://www.cnis.ca).



## THE KAWEMPE SCHOOL INJURY PREVENTION PROJECT & THE ARBUTUS VANCOUVER ROTARY CLUB



From left to right, Em Short, Member, Bill Rankin, President, Michael Jacobson, Past President, Udo Erasmus, Member and Mary Watson, Past district Governor and member of the Arbutus Club.

The Kawempe School Injury Prevention and Control Project is a 2-year project that runs from 2003 to 2005. The project is coordinated by the Injury Control Center-Uganda (ICC-U) management team, with the help of a 10-member committee in the community. The project is funded by the Arbutus Rotary Club in Vancouver, Canada and Rotary Club of Kampala-Uganda. The objectives of the project include; training teachers in first aid and injury prevention; assessing the injury situation in the schools and the community; establishing injury control clubs in schools; increasing public awareness on the injury burden, and improving the physical environment through low-cost interventions. The

project has 40 injury control clubs in the schools. The clubs have actively participated in national events such as the World Health Day and the National Road Safety Campaign. The schools have engaged in activities such as drawing, painting, singing, drama, essay writing, poem recitations, dance, and debates. From a rapid appraisal made in the environment to assess the injury risks of schools, an abstract and paper was written and presented at the 7th World Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Conference in Vienna Austria, in June 2004. A low-cost intervention of speed humps and a zebra crossing have been put up in Kawempe division. Training of teachers in basics of injury prevention, first aid and road safety sensitization to traffic wardens and parents has also taken place.

### ESS Demonstrated to Canadian Diplomats and CIDA Minister in Tanzania



The Canadian High Commissioner to Tanzania Andrew McAllister (pictured on the left with ESS Instructor Dr. Petronilla) and the Minister of International Cooperation, Aileen Carroll (right) were introduced to Essential Surgical Skills and the work of the CNIS in Tanzania.

# SUMMER AT THE CNIS VANCOUVER OFFICE

Fall is here already - boy that summer went by fast! We have been very busy at the CNIS over the summer months. Old projects are continuing, new ones have been initiated and many volunteers have joined our team. In this issue, we thought it would be a good idea to introduce to our membership all the CNIS volunteers and describe the projects they are/have been working on.



Elizabeth Roath



Dr. Henry Litherland

Dr. Litherland (left) started volunteering with the CNIS in Nov. 2002 when we received a donation of surgical instruments from the Vancouver General Hospital. Dr. Litherland, as project Director, has taken the lead of the Surgical Equipment and supplies project, coordinating the work of the volunteers, entering instruments in the database (approx. 3000 are held in stock), organizing shipments to Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia. Elizabeth Roath (far left) has been volunteering with the CNIS since April 2003. Given her experience as a sterile processing technician at the G.F. Strong Centre she was perfect for the job. She has worked several times a week, packaging, labelling and boxing the instruments and helping to retrieve them for shipment to hospitals in East Africa. Elizabeth has made an enormous contribution to the project.

Michael Bailey an industrial designer from Montreal and Sarah Pournaghbi a recently graduated mechanical engineer from Vancouver, have joined the CNIS volunteer team. They are examples of the diverse skills that are needed to help CNIS achieve its mandate. Michael is working on the Hernia teaching model. He is volunteering his time in creating a prototype of the teaching model that CNIS will be able to use in Africa and sell to other teaching organizations. Sarah presently working on designing a portable "surgical skills" teaching table. The CNIS will make this table available to partners teaching ESS in Africa and to institutions who teach surgery in Canada.



Michael Bailey



Sarah Pournaghbi



Ann Wen

Ann has been volunteering with the CNIS for almost two years now. She has helped at many events and this summer has worked on a project—researching foundations for potential CNIS funding.



Elicia Salzberg

Elicia, a UBC Marketing and Finance student recently joined the team of CNIS volunteers. She is helping the Canadian Coordinator organize and implement a cross-Canada awareness contest and membership campaign.



Laura Burgin



Damon Ramsey



Huong Tran

Natasha (right) has been volunteering with the CNIS since September 2002. She started off as an office assistant but has mostly been doing research for Dr. Lett on various topics of interest such as civilian injury in Northern Uganda and HIV risk for health care professionals in Africa.



Natasha Dehghan

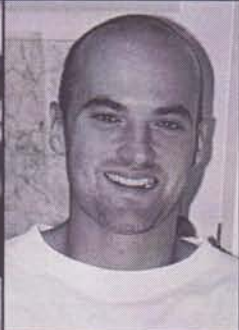
Huong (left) is a UBC MBA graduate. She is writing a business plan for the CNIS Inc. project. CNIS Inc. includes CNIS publications, travel and teaching models.

Damon (above middle) has been volunteering as the CNIS webmaster for the past two years. He has done a tremendous amount of work for the CNIS. His most recent contribution is the new look of the CNIS website. Laura (above left) has joined the CNIS volunteer team and has helped with keeping the website up to date over the summer months.

Elisa, Daryl and Elaine form the CNIS editing task force. Elisa is editing the first edition of the ESS Course Instructors manual. Elaine is editing the Hernia Repair Course Instructors manual. Daryl has been working on the illustrations in both publications. The new publications should be ready by mid-October



Elisa Modugno



Daryl Barnes



Elaine Gibson



# Ehh, What's up Doc?

## CANADIAN NETWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL SURGERY

### Authentic Ethiopia

16-day Tour Fully Escorted by CNIS  
Partake in the colourful festival of Epiphany, discover the history, culture and people of Ethiopia and see first-hand the surgical training done by the CNIS.

For the detailed itinerary visit [www.cnis.ca](http://www.cnis.ca)  
Depart Vancouver January 12 - 27, 2005 Price: C\$4,585  
Book by Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 2004 and save C\$100.

Each traveler will receive a \$500.00 charitable tax receipt.

Contact: Geneviève Caza-Cornish  
604-739-4708 or [coordinator@cnis.ca](mailto:coordinator@cnis.ca)



Paul Moroz, a pediatric surgeon at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) has joined the CNIS Public Engagement Committee. Welcome aboard!



Sandra Gibbs, the CNIS book keeper and Barbara Chew, of Manning Elliott, worked on the audit of the CNIS in August. The audited financial statements were signed on Sept. 27th, 2004.

The CNIS would like to recognize the support of the UBC medical students. For the second year now, the medical students have donated numerous boxes of medical books. These will be donated to our partner medical libraries in Ethiopia and Uganda. Chris Prelypchan, MD, CCFP and his wife Laura Zeznik MD, FRCS of Vancouver, have also donated to the CNIS Library project. The project has been sustained for 9 years by Joan Jamieson of Prince George BC.

The translation, in French, of the of Gulu manuals (Learner's resource and Teacher's guide) is now completed. The manuals will be translated in Spanish for use by PAHO in the Caribbean and Latin America.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP** **SURVIVING & SUCCEEDING AT SURGERY in AFRICA**

On Saturday November 20th 2004 at the Ramada Hotel Vancouver Centre (898 W Broadway), the CNIS will be holding its most recent workshop on "**Surviving and Succeeding at Surgery in Africa**". The objective of this workshop is for participants to learn about practicing surgery in Africa, to find out how to better prepare, what challenges they will face and practice the skills necessary to any surgeon working in a development country. The workshop has been approved by the UBC Division of Continuing Medical Education. It is free of charge-lunch and refreshments will be served. Places are limited so please reserve soon! For more information on the workshop or to reserve a place, please contact the CNIS office at (604) 739-4708 or via email at [office@cnis.ca](mailto:office@cnis.ca).

## **\*\* ANNOUNCEMENT - CNIS AGM \*\***

The annual General Meeting of the CNIS will be held on Sunday November 7th, 2004 starting at 9:00 am at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver, BC. All CNIS members are invited to attend.



### CANADIAN NETWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL SURGERY

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Chair: Dr. Gwen Hollaar

President: Dr. Ronald Lett

Canadian Coordinator: Geneviève Caza

Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Schaefer

### JOIN THE CNIS or RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Individual Memberships: \$50.00

Student Memberships: \$25.00

Organizational Membership: \$500.00

### DONATE

To the ESS, INJURY CONTROL or SCHOOL PROJECTS online or by post. All donations and memberships are matched by CIDA and are tax deductible.