



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

Sport-in-a-Box reaches out in the Province of Ontario

Wednesday, June 28, 2006, Ottawa-The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is proud to announce the expansion of our *Sport-in-a-Box* programme throughout diversified communities in Ontario thanks to the Communities in Action Fund (CIAF).

The Communities in Action Fund as sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion aims to help bring about a physical activity and community sport culture in Ontario.

Thanks to this proactive grant *Sport-in-a-Box* will target marginalized communities in both urban and rural spheres in creating a means to promote a life long engagement in sport and physical activity. *Sport-in-a-Box* will now reach 8 regions in Ontario, for a total of 20 unique regions across Canada.

Sport-in-a-Box will be focusing on new Canadians, aboriginal communities in Ontario, girls and women in sport, lower income groups and persons with a disability. Connections from all of the encompassing targeted regions will be made in addressing the Social Determinants of Health and how they play an intrinsic role in Sport and Physical Activity.

With the CIAF fund *Sport-in-a-Box* will be developing a trainer's manual for teenagers to participate as mentors to the project demographic of children aged 9 to 12. The two year grant funding will also culminate in a 2 day symposium of sport, physical activity and their contributing social factors.

Sport-in-a-Box empowers young Canadians to think globally, act locally and share their ideas through the universal language of sport and physical activity. Furthermore, it relies on the power of sport as a vehicle to promote health, education, development and peace. *Sport-in-a-Box* asks the question 'what would you put in the box?' in engaging youth to share their perspectives on sport, physical activity and global education.

UNA-Canada is a national charitable organization celebrating its landmark 60th anniversary. As a 'think and do' organization, UNA-Canada supports a network of fifteen volunteer branches with a National office in Ottawa and Western professional office in Vancouver. Our mandate is to engage Canadians in the work of the UN and the critical global issues which affect us all, through innovative projects, policy research, and on-going communications with Canadians.

For further information please feel free to contact:

Jason Oliver

Communications Officer

United Nations Association in Canada

(613)232-5751 ext.237

jason.oliver@unac.org