



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

For Immediate Release
March 19, 2007

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION FILM SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

***Media Imagery and Messaging: Fostering Dialogue
or Encouraging Stereotypes?***

OTTAWA - UNA-Canada's *A Sense of Belonging* project will mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with a film screening, followed by a panel discussion examining the relationship between media and racial discrimination in Canada.

Western Eyes, the feature film, examines the search for beauty and racial identity through the eyes of young women of Asian decent contemplating cosmetic surgery to make their eyes look more "western." The film also deals with media imagery and messaging in modern society and its effects on minority communities.

The panel discussion will feature the film's director, Ann Shin; Creator and Host of CHIN Radio's *Dialogue with Diversity*, Dr. Qais Ghanem; and, University of Toronto Professor, Dr. Minelle Mahtani. The panel will be moderated by UNA-Canada Executive Director, Kathryn White.

This event is open to the media. Free Admission. Please RSVP to attend.

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA - AUDITORIUM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 7:30PM
OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

A Sense of Belonging promotes diversity and combats racism and discrimination in local communities across Canada through outreach and public education. The United Nations Association in Canada, through this initiative, builds opportunities for fulsome and equal participation in Canadian society, enhancing social cohesion. Through the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the project reaches nine communities across Canada.

The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is a national charitable organization celebrating its 61st anniversary. As a think and do organization, UNA-Canada supports a network of 17 volunteer branches and local contacts, with a National office in Ottawa and a Western professional office in Vancouver. Our mandate is to engage Canadians in the work of the UN and the critical global issues that affect us all through innovative projects, policy research, and on-going communications with Canadians.

For more information:

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