

Camp volunteers sought UNB grad wins citizen award

By Janice McConnell
Brunswickan News

Enjoy working with children and would like to experience living in Finland for a month this summer?

Canadian International Summer Villages (CISV) is looking for volunteer leaders to supervise delegations of eleven year old children in an international camp.

CISV is an independent, non-political volunteer organization that promotes peace education and cross-cultural friendships. The organization hopes that world peace can be promoted by friendships that stretch across cultures.

More than fifty villages are held throughout the world each year. At each camp location, children from ten to twelve different nations gather together for a month for an international camp. A delegation of children consists of two boys and two girls for every leader. The delegations along with Village staff creates a global community of more than 70 people.

During the month, the children get to know many different cultures. The cultures of the children in the group are represented on theme days. For example, on Guatemalan day, the children eat Guatemalan food, play Guatemalan games and listen to Guatemalan music.

"The experience opens the children's eyes to the international community," said Mary Anne Pollack, Village Selection Coordinator. "The children will turn up the news when

they hear about earthquakes in Asia. It makes the world real to them and brings it a little closer."

"The children suddenly become sincerely concerned about world events because people they love are scattered all over the globe. If they learn to understand other cultures, they will grow up to be people who won't want to harm others," said Pollack.

Pollack's daughter participated in the program and Pollack commented that she is now a much warmer and perceptive person.

"She is more patient with people's differences. Everyone doesn't have to be the same," she said. "The children keep up communication with their friends and friendships have often continued into adulthood."

Dr. Doris Twitchell Allen, a psychologist from the University of Cincinnati established the first camp in 1951 in the aftermath of World War II specifically to encourage young children to understand international cultures. The program now involves over 90 different countries.

David Suzuki, scientist, writer and environmentalist, is a patron of CISV and actively supports their initiative.

There are plans for an international village to take place in Fredericton in 1996.

There is an information meeting at the Fredericton Public Library on January 25 at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in being a leader should contact Dianne at 455-1618.

Brunswickan News

UNB graduate Carmen Kilburn has been chosen as a recipient of the 1995 Distinguished Citizen Award.

Kilburn is a native Frederictonian and has had a distinguished career spanning 40 years in policing and crime prevention.

Kilburn is an original member of the Association of New Brunswick Chiefs of Police, and has set the standard for those around him through his many endeavours.

After spending one year in the airforce, in 1953, Kilburn graduated from the RCMP training academy. In 1956, he was an investigator and prosecuted his own cases. For more than 20 years, Kilburn was involved with the force and from 1967 to 1974, he filled the role as legal advisor for the RCMP. In 1992, he retired from the position of special advisor to the Solicitor General of New Brunswick which he had held for 19 years.

He received a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Chicago in 1961 and then received a

Bachelor of Common Law from UNB in 1967.

In 1974, Kilburn became the first director of policing for the New Brunswick Police Commission. In 1977, he was appointed acting chairman of the commission. During this chairmanship, he created an operation manual for police forces which set the standard for such publications.

In 1978, Kilburn initiated Crime Prevention week, a concept which was later adopted nation-wide. In 1987, he received a certificate of merit from the Federal Solicitor General in honor of his crime prevention efforts.

He earned a life-saving medal in the 1950s, the RCMP long service award in 1973, the Canadian Chief of Police Medal in 1983 and the 125 Governor General Medal in 1993. He has also been recognized and congratulated or has received awards from the Queen, the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier and Leaders of the Opposition, Senators, MP's, MLA's, Judges and others during his distinguished career

in policing and law enforcement.

Kilburn has also served as the chairman of the NB branch Marine Law Section and on the Canadian Bar Association, he has lectured on the topic of criminal law at universities, police colleges and throughout the country for various governments.

Kilburn is currently a consultant on law enforcement and security, serves on the Board of Directors of CHSR radio and is a member of the Municipal Development Committee. He hosts a weekly program on CHSR FM 97.9 and hosts a television program, "According with Carmen", on Fundy Cable TV Channel 10.

Kilburn is also currently involved with a new mentoring program at the University of New Brunswick which pairs students with people in the community to share experiences and give advice and guidance.

Kilburn is currently conducting a North American speaking tour on Crime Prevention as part of the International Year of the Family, and has addressed an audience at the White House in Washington.

Homophobia discussed at STU

By Cheryl McLean
Brunswickan News

Homophobia awareness was highlighted at Saint Thomas University this week.

On Wednesday night, a small group of students met to ask questions and to listen to how students have dealt with being gay/lesbian. The forum was held for anyone interested in discussing issues and for trying to understand why homophobia exists.

UNB and STU students sat casually in a circle verbalizing their thoughts and sharing stories.

The group felt that many straight people do not understand why sexuality has to be such an issue. There were contrasting opinions in the group about the effect of being gay on one's life.

"People see it as an all-encompassing issue -- it's just one small issue about who one falls in love with," claimed a student.

Other students commented that they felt that one's sexuality affects everything because it is a part of you. Some choices are made because of a fear of intimidation and

many are tired of feeling that everything they do is taken as a political statement -- "When all you're doing is going for dinner," as one person said.

"When you first come out, it becomes an issue to reaffirm that it is positive - this is who I am. It's only an issue if someone reacts negatively," said one man.

One woman argued that "for the rest of your life you'll be coming out."

The overall consensus was that you can't argue with ignorance. So the question remains: how to get people to accept one's sexuality? One person suggested that you "change the world by changing yourself."

However, another felt that it would be "a lot easier if the government legislated some laws to show support against harassment."

The need to label instead of simply accepting people for what they are was questioned by the group.

"I ask myself questions - do I dress different, have a different hairstyle, etc -- there is no need for stares or whispers," said one man.

"If more people made the step to

be open, things would be much different," said another person.

"There is no such thing as a gay lifestyle- we are all humans," said one man.

Things have changed quite a bit in the past few decades, some commented. One woman told the story of how she was asked to leave Mount Allison University when she came out.

The most important thing for people to realize is that people should accept others for who they are. No one should be expected "to change for someone who's passing you by," as one woman said.

Another main theme of the discussion was that many people have gay/lesbian friends but are unaware of it. Some people have fears that if they show support for gays that they will be assumed to be gay/lesbian.

Some students felt that STU was more tolerant toward the gay and lesbian community than other campuses.

Fredericton has the second largest gay population per capita after San Francisco.

Shane Donovan, President of STU SU and Dave Lewis from the Social Issues Committee put together the forum. Anyone interested in more information can contact the Gays and Lesbians Association (GALA).

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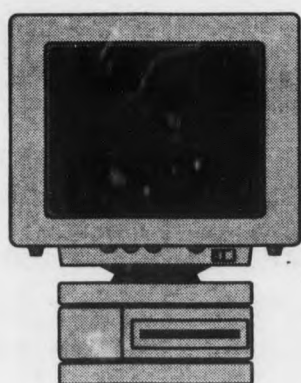
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