

from Haiti page 1

patient care.

Although the Canadian Healing Hands for Haiti teams have made amazing accomplishments in Haiti, there is more work to do. One of the biggest goals of the team is to improve Haitians' daily lives.

"Haiti is very poor; the environmental and health conditions are so crippling... Over three quarters of the population make less than a dollar a day," said Arsenaault, "It's a challenge for Haitians to live day-to-day."

Many children are abandoned by their families because parents can't take care of their children with the resources they have. Those children are now living in orphanages, waiting for any sort of help they can get.

Arsenaault said simple things the team can do will help individuals and their families.

O'Connell also said that we have to know how lucky we are to live in a developed country.

"It is part of our responsibility to care and assist our neighbors in developing sustainable health care," O'Connell said.

Another of the team's goals is to provide more education to Haitians, "in hopes that someday Haitians will have the rehabilitative skills and services needed to function adequately," she said.

Arsenaault said that providing education and new skills to Haitians is as important as providing medical supplies.

"I hope that giving Haitians more education will make their lives comfortable," he said. "They really don't have anything - clean water or enough food."

Arsenaault recalled the first trip that he went on in 2004, saying, "going to a third world country was definitely a shock."

He admitted that no matter how

much research people do, being on the ground and seeing the poverty with your own eyes has an impact that you might not expect.

"It was sad, but it was also great knowing that we were there to

help out and to try to bring some hope to those people," he said. "That's why I keep going back there."

The Canadian Healing Hands for Haiti team's major fundraiser

will be held at Kingswood Park on November 19 from 2 - 4 p.m. If interested in donating to the team, you can contact the Canadian team (teamcanada@warpsnet.ca) or Marc Arsenaault (k034k@unb.ca).



UNB physician, Dr. Jo Ann Majerovich with a patient who has received critical care from Canadian volunteers. Team Canada played a crucial role in moving him from a hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to a safe orphanage.

from jobless page 1

portunities for working people."

One of the opportunities the Lord Government encourages is the JOB Start Strategy. This government initiative, begun in February of 2003, is designed to address issues of recruitment, retention and repatriation in the province.

Primarily focused at students and recent graduates, the JOB Start Strategy has assisted over 2,500 post-secondary students in finding employment. According to a September 22 press release, more than 500 former New Brunswickers have returned to the province because of the Strategy.

Part of the Strategy is an initiative called Increased Wage Supplements. Through the initiative, the government will pay up to 70 per cent of a qualifying individual's wage, up to \$10 per hour. Though only jobs paying more than \$10

per hour qualify, students can be pre-approved for the program. This means that students looking for employment can use the Increased Wage Supplements as an additional incentive to complement their skills when approaching prospective employers.

"Two and a half years into the JOB Start Strategy, we continue to make excellent progress in recruiting, retaining and repatriating skilled New Brunswickers," said Blaney.

But what is a skilled worker? How is the unemployment rate, an oft-quoted figure, actually calculated?

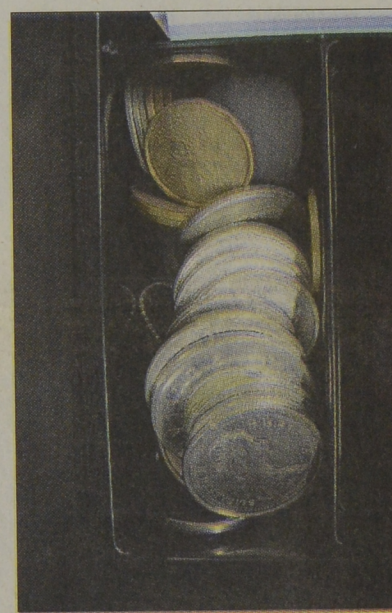
Every month, the government uses a Labour Force Survey to determine the strength of the labour market. According to a Department of Training and Employment Development document, the surveys are done every month during the week of the 15th, known

as the "reference week", and over 3,400 homes are surveyed. Households are selected at random and are surveyed once a month for six months.

The labour force referred to by politicians and economists alike simply means the number of individuals working during the reference week. According to the above-mentioned document, "retired people, students, people not actively seeking work, and people not available for work... [are] not considered part of the labour force, although they may be part of the working age population."

The unemployment rate that is often hotly debated is simply the number of unemployed people divided by the total number of people in the labour force. Though there are a number of different criteria which can determine if an individual is unemployed or not, the document states that,

"an unemployed person is essentially a person without a job who is actively looking for work." All others are classified as "not in the labour force."



from NATO page 1

titled "Canada and NATO: from Kosovo to Afghanistan." His lecture focused mostly on the evolution of NATO from the end of the Cold War to present day. He then briefly outlined the operations to which Canada and NATO currently contribute.

NATO missions worldwide are typically characterized by a conglomerate of task forces provided by any number of its 26 member nations. A founding member of the alliance, Canada's commitment of troops to NATO missions in 2004 totaled over 2,500, and in 2003, Canada contributed \$140 million to Alliance Common Funding. NATO is currently engaged in many operations across the globe.

"By June, [NATO] will have taken over from the U.S. lead coalition of security operations in the southwest corner of the country," said Fenton, referring to operations in Afghanistan, "all the security support for the Afghan government will be provided by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)," a NATO task group.

Fenton went on to mention that even in light of the tremendous controversy produced by U.S. forces presently on the ground in Iraq, the Iraqi government will require heavy NATO assistance to rebuild their armed forces.

"Regardless of how the situation was created, the Iraqi National

Army needs help in training and equipment from NATO," he said. "We provide strategic level training for officers, staff courses, mentoring of people at joint headquarters and national headquarters positions, and we coordinate from member nations' donations of military equipment." NATO has been conducting this form of assistance in Iraq for over a year.

In the Sudan, the African Union's (AU) current peacekeeping force encountered logistical support problems. A recent partnership between the AU and NATO has allowed for an assistance force to step in and provide similar relief efforts to those being conducted in Afghanistan.

NATO is also actively conducting Maritime security operations in the Mediterranean Sea, including compliant boardings and inspections of suspicious-looking vessels.

"They're looking for terrorists, they're looking for weapons, they're looking for smuggling, and other illicit activities that are happening so much in that part of the country," said Fenton.

At its inception, NATO was designed to be a team effort to prevent the colossal tragedy in the inevitable aftermath of international wars.

"An alliance, unlike a coalition, is not reactive in nature," said Fenton. He added that NATO is a long-standing alliance among member nations, aimed at the overall improvement of quality of life around the world.

Pay the Way

by Josh O'Kane

University of New Brunswick students are often encouraged to do what they can for charities. Each residence, for example, has a house charity that many funds are raised for. But what about the staff of UNB? Is there any way they are encouraged to help?

In fact, there is - through the help of the United Way, staff have the option of donating a certain percentage of each paycheck, which can be distributed to up to 30 charities.

Peter McDougall is the Campaign Chair of the United Way program at UNB.

"The United Way is very important to our community, and UNB believes that it is important to support the community that supports us," he explains.

McDougall stresses the importance the school's staff have in the program.

"All of the money is donated by employees, mostly through a payroll deduction program. Last year employees contributed over \$53,000. This was the fourth largest amount of any single organization."

Overall, the United Way campaign raised about \$1.04 million - UNB's contribution was significant. A little help from each person can go a long way.

So where does the money go to?

"The United Way has an Allocations Committee that decides on a three year basis how to distribute the funds that the campaign generates," McDougall says.

There are over 30 not-for-profit agencies that receive allocations from the program; these agencies deliver more than 90 programs with the money.

"Some examples include the CHIMO Help Line, Meals on Wheels, the Boys and Girls Club, VON [Victorian Order of Nurses] and many others," he explains.

The campaign has a history at

UNB; "I have been at UNB for six years and it certainly predates me by many years," jokes McDougall.

There is no sign that the program will slow down, anytime soon, either. Employees this year are showing just as much interest as last, and the donation level has been around \$53,000 in the past few years.

"The donation level has been pretty steady at \$53,000 for the past couple of years, with about 230 donors. We would like to see the total increase if possible, and we would really be pleased to see a larger number of donors getting involved, even if their bi-weekly donation is small."

Even two or five dollars per pay amounts to a significant total after a full year. And employees don't seem to mind it.

Dr. Jane Fritz, Associate VP Academic at UNB, supports the program.

"I am a strong promoter of the United Way because it is the community taking care of itself," she explains. "Our United Way funds help support a large number of non-profit and volunteer agencies that make our community a better place to live, providing an enriched quality of life to many."

She feels a personal connection towards the program: "My own favorite United Way agency is the CNIB, because my mother-in-law's life was greatly enriched by their talking books, visual assistance equipment, and other services... In my mind, a successful United Way campaign translates into a healthy and caring community."

McDougall believes that many employees feel the same way towards the program. "My sense is that employees really think that the United Way and the agencies it funds are important. I also think that most employees feel privileged to work at UNB, and that to share a small part of our good fortune with those that are not so fortunate is meaningful."

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