



CFCA Board members, staff, interns and volunteers at the unveiling of the Edmonton Peace Mural, June 2001



Change for Children Association



annual ²⁰⁰² report

26 years of solidarity in the struggle for sustainable development and social justice in Latin America and Canada

MISSION STATEMENT

Change for Children promotes action for systemic change and sustainable development through solidarity and partnership, by nurturing community, and by maintaining an integral, vital and stable organization.

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CONTENTS

- 02 President's Message
- 03 Around the Office
- 04 Education Program
- 05 Projects
- 06 The Year Ahead
- 07 Financial Statements

president's message

Like nature, our lives and everything that we do has a beginning and an end. My term as president and board member for Change for Children is now at that end.

Before I begin this letter I would like to thank all of you: staff, members, volunteers, board members, our partners from the south, my family and my partner, for all the support that I have received these four wonderful years at Change For Children. I feel I gained far more than what I gave. This experience will stay with me wherever I go. And my commitment for CFCA will continue, as I will always feel part of CFCA.

Things grow, change, evolve, mature and end. To some extent each one of these stages have happened to CFCA in the last year. We began our fiscal year by saying good-bye to one of our long-term staff, Ron Berezan. We appreciate the long time commitment and unique flavour that he brought to the agency over the past 5 years, and wish him good luck in his new endeavours.

In June, at our 25th Anniversary Celebrations, we were pleased to welcome Chris Peters as our new Education Coordinator. Celebrating the 25th anniversary rejuvenated CFCA with positive energy and strength as we paused to reflect on our past accomplishments and on what we are capable of doing in the years to come. We were able to see the final product of our Painting Peace Project. It was such a wonderful experience to see yet again our CFCA signature showing with this project. We like to do things in a big way and take pride in doing our work well. Soon after the festivities, we wished our interns good luck as they headed to Nicaragua and Brazil for six months, to experience life with our Southern Partners.

To strengthen the work towards our mission, we held a full day workshop on fundraising. As a board, we agreed that our work to raise funds must continue to grow and evolve into something more. In November we had a visit from one of our partners in Nicaragua. He toured with us for three weeks and our bonds with the south grew and matured some more. This winter, we held a board development day where we established goals and created strategies to keep CFCA thriving for another 25 years.

After nine years, Projects Coordinator Ricardo Acuña made the decision to move on from CFCA. As the longest serving staff member at CFCA, it was difficult for us to see him go. With the loss of Ricardo, our staff, board and volunteers rose to the occasion during the adjustment period that followed. What we have achieved in the past year is due in no small part to the support of board members and volunteers, many who gave much more than was expected from them. In this process we learned a lot about ourselves, each other, and the work and strength of CFCA.

And so the work continues in the wonderful cycle of life. Small events contribute to the richness of this cycle. Our library has been organized and developed to better serve the community at large. Two new summer staff have joined us to make ready for the fall's activities. We are in the process of hiring a full-time Project Coordinator, bringing our permanent staff complement back to full strength. And another Youth Tour is currently getting ready to visit Nicaragua this summer.

I want to express my gratitude for the support, encouragement, patience and mentoring that I have received over the last four years. All of you have had something beautiful to share and have given freely of it. With its challenges and rewards this last year has also been a wonderful year. Thank you again for coming through together.

In solidarity,

Delmy Garcia-Hoyt
President, Board of Directors

around the office

This was a year of many changes here at the office. Ron Berezan left CFCA in May after five years as our Education Coordinator to take a position with Canada World Youth. We welcomed Chris Peters in July as our new Education Coordinator. Chris had been with Change for Children in a volunteer capacity and special contractor for several years before taking on this new challenge. She is also an extremely talented graphic designer.

After almost nine years with Change for Children, Ricardo Acuña, our Projects Coordinator, moved on this past January. We wish him well in his new position as Executive Director of the Parkland Institute. A new Projects Coordinator will be hired shortly. Cherie Klassen continued on full-time as our Administrative Coordinator, and is filling in as our interim Projects Coordinator.

Summer employment grants allowed us to hire Andrea Jones and Nicole Smith for the summer of 2001. Andrea worked as our Fund Research Assistant and helped us out with the planning and launch of our new Endowment Fund, as well as seeking potential granting agencies and new funding relationships. Nicole greatly assisted us by co-ordinating the 25th Anniversary Celebration and developing a dynamic multi-media presentation for CFCA. We were also privileged to have Kaia Kjar and Rene Guerra Salazar with us as CIDA interns. Kaia worked with FUNARTE and the Muralism Project in Esteli, Nicaragua, and Rene was placed with the Vocational Training Co-operative with ALMM in



Ron Berezan (left) and Ricardo Acuña moved on

Mangueira, Salvador, Brazil. Successful grant awards allowed us to hire special contractors Nicki Lipton to database and create a library catalogue which will soon be searchable on-line; Lynette Schultz to coordinate the 2001 Youth Summit; and Paul Bellows to design our vibrant new webpage. Our office is, as always, an extremely busy and exciting place to be.

Our Members and Volunteers

Our membership continues to hold steady at over 300 members! We deeply value the on-going support of our membership. We also want to extend a **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all Change for Children volunteers! We simply could not exist without their dedication and commitment. Our volunteers have worked tirelessly over the past year, and many have participated in educational activities, committee meetings, fundraising events and office administrative work. This year over 200 volunteers assisted with our 25th Anniversary Celebrations, the casino, our garage sale, *Just Christmas* and other CFCA events! We appreciate the vision of our members and volunteers and their continued contributions and efforts that help Change for Children flourish!

Board and Volunteer Visioning

The Board of Directors was busy planning this year, keeping the mandate of CFCA at the forefront of our vision for this year. Participating in goal setting workshops, the Board set the following priorities for the coming year:

- To find a new home at reasonable rent (St. Michael's will be closing for good in 2003)
- A fundraising goal for 2002-03 of \$220,000.00, and a rebuilding of the seed fund reserve, using the Endowment Fund plan, with an increase in participation of the Board and volunteers in fundraising activities
- An increase in membership to 350 members by end of March 2003
- To set up at least one formal CFCA satellite chapter outside of Edmonton
- To improve policies defining board, staff and volunteer roles and responsibilities
- The introduction of volunteer "Country Teams" for educational and fundraising purposes

Volunteers also participated in a visioning seminar and established their own priorities for participating at CFCA. They echoed the Board's goals, and reiterated that working with CFCA gives them the satisfaction of being involved in something that changes the world that we live in for the better.

Around the Office continues on page 4...

Other New Initiatives

CFCA Endowment Fund

2001 saw the establishment of our new CFCA Endowment Fund, launched at our 25th Anniversary Celebration. As we build the fund, through donations, bequests and gift annuities and trusts, supporters will be leaving a legacy to continue the fight for justice. This fund, once established, will ensure we continue to maintain a stable organization to carry our work well into the future. The interest generated annually by this fund will be used as project seed funds.

Country Teams

This year we introduced the concept of "Country Teams" through Board and volunteer strategizing sessions. The objective of developing the teams is to increase awareness about our projects in specific countries. Board members and other interested individuals will head up the teams, and educate other volunteers and supporters on our projects. They will then be able to act as informal ambassadors of CFCA for the purposes of friendship and communication to promote better solidarity with our Southern project partners. The teams will also develop country, project and issue specific presentations for our larger community of supporters for fundraising and educational purposes.

Resource Library

We have continued the promotion of our Resource Library in schools and communities across Alberta. Increasing numbers of people are now taking advantage of this rich resource for research, curriculum enrichment tools and personal learning opportunities. The library continues to grow and we are constantly acquiring new videos, books and different periodicals.

education

Painting Peace

The Painting Peace Project continued on in 2001-02. The Edmonton Peace Mural was completed in the spring of 2001, and mounted on the west wall of the Salvation Army building at 96 Street and 101A Avenue. The mural was unveiled to great acclaim as part of our 25th Anniversary celebration in June.

Panels from the Youth of the Americas International Peace Mural were also selected to appear in our Peace Calendar. The 16-month calendar featured CFCA partners and projects, along with important dates in Latin American history and special days dedicated to awareness of human rights, peace, social justice, environmental and other issues.

Almost 1,000 calendars were distributed across the country. Others made their way around the world, including countries such as Mexico, Korea, the Philippines, South Africa, Ireland, and even Afghanistan. The panels are also featured on the PapaInk website, an international on-line archive of children's art.

Youth Initiatives

In partnership with the YMCA and Learning Network, we once again hosted a 2-day *Youth Summit*, focusing this year on the theme of Sustainability. Our *Class Action* school twinning project in support of the Enmanuel Mongalo School in Nicaragua continued this past year, with three new Alberta schools joining the program. Seven young Albertans will visit the school in July, 2002, as part of our fourth *Youth Tour to Central America*.



Juan Pablo Ponce Rios took time out from his speaking tour to visit the Provincial Museum with CFC volunteer Roger Garcia.

Community Outreach

In addition to our many classroom, church and community group presentations, this past year saw the return of our public dialogues on global issues. In the coming year we hope to expand this program with monthly events.

Southern Speakers

In September, The Guatemala Solidarity Committee of CFC presented a lecture by Guatemalan Judge Henry Monroy, exiled from his homeland because of his human rights work. In March, the GSC also presented a screening of the documentary *Haunted Land*, accompanied by Mateo Pablo, a Mayan massacre survivor who was featured in the film.

We were joined for three weeks in November by Juan Pablo Ponce Rios, Executive Director of El Bloque in Nicaragua. Mr. Ponce Rios traveled across Alberta speaking about the devastation of the drought in Central America and the work that El Bloque is doing to combat ongoing environmental degradation and poverty in their communities.

new projects

Vocational Training Cooperative Mangueira, Brazil

Total budget:	\$ 71,000
CIDA Contribution	\$ 37,333
CFCA Contribution	\$ 18,667
Brazil Local Cont.	\$ 15,000

This project in the slum community of Mangueira, in the city of Salvador, Brazil, supports the ALMM (Free Association of the Mangueira Residents) in their establishment of a vocational training co-operative in their community. The co-operative is providing a training course in computer information technologies, but will expand in future years to include other courses such as electronics and mechanics. The courses are taught by young people from the community and include general job skills. The project will result in a decrease in youth unemployment and youth crime, and an increased standard of living for the families in the community.



Thallita - Project Hope Maceio, Brazil

Total budget:	\$ 81,000
CIDA Contribution	\$ 38,000
CFCA Contribution	\$ 19,000
Brazil Local Cont.	\$ 24,000



The Thallita Project of the "Life and Hope" Association is located in the northeastern Brazilian city of Maceio, Alagoas. The project provides outreach activities and intake services for street girls, as well as educational, literacy, health and counseling support. The services are offered on the street as well as through a live-in program. This project will see the Association set up a jewelry-making workshop with the girls, a tele-marketing campaign, and a corporate support strategy to keep the project sustainable. Increased numbers of street girls will be successfully re-integrated in their homes and communities.

Agri Sustainable Development Program (Eco Farm) Bicol, Philippines

Total budget:	\$ 34,000
CIDA Contribution	\$ 20,000
CFCA Contribution	\$ 10,000
Brazil Local Cont.	\$ 4,000

The MAGFAR Living and Learning: Ecology and Organic Farming Organization works with a community of 37 families who have benefited from the Philippine government's land reform plan, in the Magsaysay region outside of Manila. This project supports the community in organizing and developing a sustainable agricultural production base. Activities include a recycling/composting centre, organic crops, animal raising, and extensive training and capacity building for farmers in the community. MAGFAR's mandate is to increase awareness of their own situation, and to organize in order to contribute to the sustainable development of communities and to protect and enhance Mother Earth. This flows from the Filipino custom of "bayanihan" (helping hand) – people helping each other with plowing, planting and harvesting for the good of the entire community.

financial statements

Community Health for Indigenous Communities

Bosawas Reserve, Jinotega, Nicaragua

Total Budget:	\$ 121,900
CIDA Contribution	\$ 68,800
CFCA Contribution	\$ 34,400
Other Contributions	\$ 18,700

The Miskital and Mayangna Indigenous Peoples of the Bosawas Reserve in northern Nicaragua live traditionally (hunting, fishing, and collecting), and rely largely on the forest for their survival. There is very little access to medicine and little government support for these peoples. This "Medicine Chest" project enables the women to set up 25 health posts in their communities, train 25 health promoters (who will in turn train the other women of their villages), stock the health posts with medicines for malaria, dengue, parasites and other diseases, and provide health manuals in the Miskito and Mayangna indigenous languages. The health promoters will also conserve and pass on the traditional healing practices of the region, and make traditional medicine from the botanical resources of the forest. Charging a small price for the medicine distributed in the communities enables the promoters to restock their supplies and sustain the project.



Self-sufficiency and Environmental Awareness

Chinandega & Leon, Nicaragua

Total budget:	\$ 163,720
CIDA Contribution	\$ 91,400
CFCA Contribution	\$ 45,700
Brazil Local Cont.	\$ 26,620

El Bloque has a broad variety of programs in these target communities to address issues of production, poverty, education, nutrition and community organization. This project directly addresses the environmental degradation of the area resulting from both natural and man-made destruction, as well as the exclusive reliance on traditional crops for nourishment, through the establishment of an organic demonstration farm in the department of Leon. The project promotes crop diversification, better nutrition and soil re-generation; as well as micro-irrigation to mitigate the effects of frequent droughts. Local farmers will be provided with hands-on training in these technologies and farming alternatives. The organic farm will demonstrate to the local people that environmentally-friendly alternatives are feasible and efficient.

the year ahead

One of our main goals for the year 2002-03 is to increase participation in the organization, particularly outside of the Edmonton region. This will be accomplished through the pairing of community groups with Southern partners and projects, and through the formation of satellite chapters of CFCA in other towns, cities and provinces. We're off to a good start with the upgrade of our website and the interest in CFCA that it's generated. The site will continue to grow, and will further our education program with the addition of news articles and urgent actions. Visit www.changeforchildren.org.

Revenue and Expenditures

Year Ended March 31, 2002

REVENUE

Federal Grants	
CIDA – Projects	157,227
CIDA – Administration / Development Education	117,034
CIDA – Youth Internships	30,000
DFAIT – Painting Peace	1,800
SCP - Summer Student Program	3,304
Provincial Grants	
Wildrose	25,000
STEP – Summer Employment Program	1,449
Donations	
Canadian	127,372
Foreign	7,612
Donated Services (Rent / Photocopying)	17,500
Fundraising	
Benefits and Functions	7,560
Casino Funds	60,008
Participant Fees – Youth Summit	4,962
Gift shop Sales	13,472
Membership Fees	2,280
Interest	803
TOTAL	577,383

EXPENDITURES

Projects	
Africa	1,566
Philippines	24,235
Central America	137,724
Mexico	34,849
South America	104,545
Project Monitoring	10,505
TOTAL	313,424
Education	
Programming	25,210
Library and other supply	11,470
Newsletters /other printing & postage	18,072
Salaries	32,929
TOTAL	87,681
Administration	
Rent / Photocopying	17,500
CFCA local event	5,200
Gift shop purchases	6,427
Overhead and supply (incl. fundraising)	26,749
Salaries (Administrative and Project Coordinators, CIDA Interns and Summer Staff, Special Contractors)	114,420
Accountant	5,000
TOTAL	175,296
TOTAL	576,401
<i>Excess of Revenue over Expenditures</i>	<i>982</i>

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2002

ASSETS

Cash and Term Deposits	122,034
Accounts Receivable – CIDA & Other	158,785
Endowment Fund	325
TOTAL	281,144

LIABILITIES

Members Equity – Reserve	10,000
General Fund – Administration and Education	30,753
Reserve Fund – Projects	110,319
Accounts Payable – Administration (Accountant Services)	5,000
Accounts Payable – Projects (CIDA)	125,072
TOTAL	281,144

Statement of Net Assets

Year Ended March 31, 2002

	Balance – Beginning	Excess of Revenue over Expenses	Balance – Ending
Members' Equity	10,000	0	10,000
Endowment Fund	0	325	325
General Fund (Admin./Education)	15,806	14,621	30,427
Reserve Fund (Projects)	124,283	(13,965)	110,318
Total	150,088	982	151,070