

A Message from Coady Institute Director Dr. John Gaventa

This is my first opportunity to address our global network of Coady Institute graduates, and it is a privilege to do so. I've been learning a great deal about the global outreach of this fine institution. In fact, before coming to Antigonish, Nova Scotia, I visited Nepal, where I met several Coady graduates: one helps 'Dalit' people overcome discrimination that denies them education, employment and political rights; another leads a women's NGO at a time when the world needs the creativity and resourcefulness of strong women leaders.

In August, I had the honour of congratulating the first 12 participants to graduate from the Indigenous Women in Community Leadership program. This is a unique course of study for First Nations, Métis and Inuit women across Canada, designed to help them ignite positive economic and social change in their own communities.

There are three exciting new certificate program offerings for 2012: Skills for Social Change; Good Governance and Social Accountability Tools; and Communication and Social Media. We have structured our certificate programs so participants can arrange to take several courses during one visit to Antigonish. In fact, this fall 14 of our 50 certificate participants chose to stay for a second specialized course.

So where to from here? I believe there are significant opportunities to expand our support for citizen-led development and change. Through you, our graduates, and future participants, we will support leaders who are

seeking education to address the challenges in their communities. Whether they are suffering from man-made or natural disasters, those of us connected to the Coady International Institute can make a meaningful contribution to their well-being. I look forward to hearing from you and our many supporters and partners, as we reach out to make a real difference in our world.



Dr. John Gaventa

When I arrived at the Coady Institute, I met other leaders such as Mary Ramsis of Egypt, who participated in the 'Arab Spring', the broad-based, citizen-led movement that toppled a dictator; and Melhem Mansour, our first diploma student from Syria, a passionate young leader who is organizing youth parliaments in his homeland.

Happy Anniversary Silver Jubilee Graduates

Abraham, India; Antonio Adhikari, Bangladesh; Anthony Albert Adomako, United Kingdom; Bishan Singh Bahadur, Malaysia; Paul Bibhuti Bala, Bangladesh; Meli Baledrokadroka, Western Samoa; Fousaba Mensah Banahene, Ghana; Sushanto Biswas, India; Bahig Tadres Bolus, Egypt; John Buadi, Ghana; Constancia Caballero, Philippines; Rev. Rocky Cardoza, India; Shibani Chakraborty, India; James Goanar Chol, Sudan; Mr. Christudas, India; Nicholas Corraya, Bangladesh; John Egwemi, Nigeria; Cecil Fernando, Sri Lanka; Beatrice Fofanah, Sierra Leone; Catherine Francis, St. Lucia; Louiseette Gagnon, Canada; Peter Hamajata, Zambia; Rhoda Ada James, Nigeria; Sharif A. Kafi, Bangladesh; Rev. Paul Kidangan, India; Bowers Omondi Kojino, Kenya; Sr. Amala Joseph Kunmath, Uganda; Bertha Plavia Lobo, India; Sr. Raquel Magahud, Philippines; Frederick Marcus, India; Rasappu Mariaratanam, Sri Lanka; Perpetua Mashelle, Tanzania; Threstamma Mathew, India; Juliana Ester Meade, Montserrat; Idah Thokozile Mofha, South Africa; Peter Mulenga, Zambia; Akasapu Nalini, India; Jacob Ntuni Ntshipi, South Africa; Geraldine Nwosu, Nigeria; Justin Mugo Nyaga, Kenya; Patrick Otumbo Nyagudi, Kenya; Dominic Ogonbona, Nigeria; John Okelo Olwal, Kenya; Joseph Premph, Ghana; Md. Lutfur Rahman, Bangladesh; Rev. Bala Rajendram, Sri Lanka; Dhunu Rana, Nepal; Modesta Anil Rani, India; Leon Jerome Romeo, St. Vincent; June Saturnino-Lim, Malaysia; Sr. Rose Ann Schlitt, Dominica; Scott Smith, India; Gowda Sreekant, India; Susila Suriya, India; Rev. Philip Theempalangattu, USA; Lim Tit, Malaysia; Mzolisi Michael Toni, South Africa; Paul Vleermuis, Namibia

Kenyan Graduate Elected to National Council of NGOs

Humphrey Buradi, a 2009 Coady diploma graduate, has been elected to a senior executive position with Kenya's National Council of Non-Governmental Organizations.

Humphrey is currently executive director at the Western Water and Sanitation Forum (WEWASAFo). He was sworn in to his new position on February 11, 2011 in a ceremony at the High Court of Kenya in Nairobi.

He says he made the decision to stand for election so he could spend more time advocating for the rights of marginalized members of his community, most of whom are women and children.

"I now have the responsibility of promoting participatory citizens' advocacy, by making people aware of their rights, and the obligation of the government of the day to serve their citizens," he said.

"I learned many leadership tips at Coady that prepared me for the NGO Council of Kenya. The asset-based community development approach taught me to appreciate every member of the sector and community. I was able to mobilize them, share my vision, appoint leaders and assign roles for lobbying."

Humphrey shared two of his favourite quotations:

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, in all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." - John Wesley

"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together." - Vincent van Gogh

When asked what he remembers most about his time at StFX, he stresses leadership vision, accountability and transparency. "This will never leave my mind."

Humphrey started his official duties right away, which include capacity-building for civil society organizations, monitoring and evaluating NGO projects, and developing a knowledge management system for effective stakeholder communication.

Humphrey also discovered something he did not learn in Antigonish - the joys of commuting. He'll spend three days each week working in western Kenya, followed by a 400 kilometre drive to Nairobi for the remaining two days.



Humphrey Buradi, 2009 Coady Diploma Graduate, takes his Oath of Office with Kenya's National Council of Non-Governmental Organizations.

We hear from....

Dhruba Newpane, Dip. '09: Admitted to MA in Immigration and Settlement Studies program, Ryerson University.

Emem Okon, CDLW '03: Registered the Kebekekache Women Development and Resource Centre to promote women's leadership in Nigeria.

Mataa Nyambe, Dip. '08: Pursuing MSc in International Rural Development at the Royal Agricultural College in UK.

Bernice Naah, Dip. '09: Appointed campaign coordinator, Amnesty International in Ghana.

Diana Arboleda, CDLW '10: Proceeded with MSc in Applied Development Studies at University of Reading.

Qushou Bassem, Dip. '01: Promoted to director of continuing education, Quds Open University.

Raju Pandit Chhetri, A&CE '09: New job as program coordinator for Climate Action Network International (CANI) based in Nepal.

Hon. Willie Reuben Abel, Dip. '78: Serving third year in the Republic of Vanuatu Ninth Legislature in the National Parliament.

Fr. Emmanuel George, Dip. '94/ Resource Centres for Community Change '03: Re-elected to new service team, provincial chapter of Varanasi Province of IMS.

Ekaete Okon, CDLW '03: Elected to Akwa Ibom State Legislature.

Fr. Devasagaya Raj, Dip. '08: Continues to lead the Dalit Christian rights movement in Tamil Nadu, India.

Dr. Brian Joseph, Dip. '96: Currently serving as commissioner, Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia.

International Centre for Women's Leadership

January 2012 certificate program first step in global outreach

"If you want to set me on fire - go ahead. I am not budging from Tahrir Square." - Asmaa Mahfouz

Strong words from a 26-year old Egyptian woman, with nothing more than Facebook, Twitter and her own courage to back them up.

Today, Asmaa Mahfouz is praised for her role as co-founder of the April youth movement that helped spark the Egyptian pro-democracy campaign and the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak.

Her story, and those of other inspiring leaders, will help shape the Global Change Leaders program - an inaugural Coady Institute certificate course for emerging women leaders in development that will start in January 2012.

The green light came last December, when the Government of Canada committed \$1 million in startup funds to develop a Canadian International Centre for Women's Leadership. The goal is to offer dynamic educational opportunities to women from the global south. Through campus-based education, field placements, mentorships and online platforms, participants will strengthen their leadership capacity and connect with a global network of pioneering women leaders.

"This investment is a demonstration of our government's commitment to higher education and women's

Indigenous Women in Community Leadership

Successful Launch of Inaugural Certificate

The verdict is in - participants, mentors, Coady staff and program funders agree that the first offering of the Indigenous Women in Community Leadership program was a great success. The program engages emerging Canadian First Nations, Métis and Inuit women leaders and offers the practical skills and experience to support their efforts in community development.

"The 12 young women in our first cohort are already considered the movers and shakers in their communities, so they're going to make a big difference," says Sheila Isaac, program manager. "We were very impressed with their passion for positive change, and their commitment to produce tangible results for community-based change."

Participant Rose Julian, a Mi'kmaq leader from Nova Scotia's Paqtnkek First Nation, is applying the Coady's 'asset-based community development' prin-

ciples to her First Nation's future economic development strategy. "The nearby highway twinning project will present opportunities for our people," says Julian. "Making things happen will take considerable planning, and knowing what strengths we already have will be a key part of our plan."



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Alumni Insight

Greetings from Tanzania. I'm sure most of us in the Coady family are always striving to contribute whatever we can to make the world better for all. On my part, the last decade has rewarded me enormously in terms of opportunities to assert for change among people with disabilities in my country and globally. The best have been lobbying my government to become a state party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (2010).

The process was dimaxed by the passing of the Act. As a result, the organization I work for as executive director has embarked on a very ambitious program of popularizing the law in 72 districts (60 per cent coverage of our country). I'm the one charged with the responsibility of training resource persons in all earmarked districts. My consolation is that this has been a time when all the knowledge acquired from the Coady International Institute has been practiced fully, and I'm gratified by the outcomes of the largest undertaking ever entrusted to me. I owe gratitude to all who groomed me (staff and fellow graduates of 1993 and 2006) to be of some use to my group, my society and my country.

My best wishes to you all in whatever you are doing

Koganzi Rutachamagyo, Dip. 1993

On a recent visit to Sierra Leone I met up with Thomas Turay, my Peace Building and Conflict Transformation Professor at the Sierra Leone Adult Education Association House in Freetown. I also had the opportunity to visit the Peace Centre

Thomas and his wife Mary have set up in Mayagba where I met with women groups involved in peace work. With us in the photo is Mr. Peter Koroma the Partners in Adult Education (PADECO) Coordinator. The partners are the Sierra Leone Adult Education Association (SLADEA); the People's Education Association in Sierra Leone (PEA-SL); The Division of Extra Mural Studies (DEMS) Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone; Njala University; The Partners Women Commission; The Non Formal Education Directorate of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Salma Maulidi, Dip 2001

39 Years Later, A Grad Visits Coady

It was a dream of Joe Wong's (Dip. '72) to someday return to the Coady Institute. So when the 64-year old social worker in Hong Kong retired this spring with his wife Maria, they knew what to do with the free air tickets they received as retirement gifts.

"After 39 years, I am so happy to come back," said Wong. "The buildings are new, very beautiful and the staff are still very happy. The town and campus remain quiet and beautiful and so friendly to welcome us. I even went to see room 109 in MacNeil House, where I stayed."

"I left the Coady with a Diploma in Social Leadership and I became a social worker to help labourers organize, fight for dignity and seek opportunities to develop themselves. I worked with factory workers and helped

them fight for their rights and benefits. I brought the Anti-gonish Movement to Hong Kong for many years, and I'm happy to tell people that the Coady spirit is very powerful."

Maria retired two weeks before her husband. She says he was very excited to make the trip.

As Joe said, "I never forgot the Coady. My dreams always called me back."

After I graduated from Coady (1972) I went back to Africa (Burkina Faso) from 1972 to 1976. I was mainly working on water programs. I came back to Canada and worked for the ministry of Indian Affairs for a few years and then for NGOs in the province of Quebec. Then back to Africa, in Senegal, for a few years a counselor to the director of an NGO. The program involved development of the culture of bananas and creation of cooperatives of first level, and then of a federation of those cooperatives was supported by CIDA and the Development and Peace organization. I am now retired and living in France, and occasionally go back to Africa as a consultant in program management for a French NGO. The focus of my career was on management in various development programs, and Coady Institute was certainly the basis of that career; the skills learned, such as finance, bookkeeping, cooperatives, social development, were useful all along in my different postings, either in Africa or Canada.

Ronald Audet, Dip. 1972



Joe and Maria Wong, Coady graduates, visit the Coady Institute.

Coady Youth Associates Engage with the World

Each year, interns spend six-months overseas with a Coady partner organization in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. The program is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

"It was a solid experience," said Sadaf Kashfi. The McGill University graduate worked with the Eastern Caribbean Trading Agricultural Development Organization and the Caribbean Farmers' Network. "The biggest thing I learned was the need for people to show patience and empathy when they meet others from a different culture, which was certainly the case when I showed up in remote farm regions."

Gord Cunningham, then interim director, said the 2010-11 interns did an outstanding job working with Coady's overseas partners. "Not only was this a great learning experience for them as individuals, but it



2010 - 11 Youth Associate Molly Brewis at her placement on the island of Carriacou in St. Vincent and the Grenadines

It's been quite a year for James Bray, Coady Youth Associate and Rhodes Scholar.

It doesn't take long after meeting Jimmy Bray to come away with two conclusions: First, this young Antigonish-area native is going places and second, that he loves to learn and talk about Coady's role in our world.

Bray, 23, graduated from StFX in 2010 with a BA (Honours) in Sociology, then spent six months in Antioquia, Peru as part of the Canadian International Development Agency's 'Youth in Partnership' (YIP) program. Looking back on the experience, he says it was a wonderful introduction to the Coady family.

It was great learning for me at Coady in last year's batch of Markets & Livelihoods. I want to share my experience in the form of a movie on Maitree, a community institution which Srijan (Self Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action) has grounded in the Tonk District of Rajasthan. Presently, Maitree is working in 50 villages, involving 2,200 poor women members in 203 self-help groups. Maitree's journey started in January 2006 as an informal SHG federation, which got registered in September 2009 under the Societies Act. On behalf of Srijan, I would like to contribute a short movie called "Rani Ki Sena: the Story of Women-Run Business Institutions" to the library of Coady. I would like to extend my gratitude to all members of Coady International Institute who made my stay and learning a great one.

First I would like to thank you for encouraging me during my school at Coady. I have moved from CIDRZ and am now working for CARE International in the eastern part of Zambia. My family is still in Lusaka but they come occasionally to visit me. I have finished the theory part of my masters program with Leeds Met University and I am preparing my proposal for research. The knowledge I gained from Coady and the experience I've had over the years has helped me to understand things differently.

Please keep on doing your good work and I shall share with you my graduation joy sometime next year as research ethics approval takes time in Zambia.

Modesta Chilese, Dip. 2007

I hope that everything is well at Coady. It is nice to share with you that the two exhibitions of my 108 bird paintings in Wilhelmshaven in Germany are completed. Eighty-eight paintings arrived in the exhibition venue and final preparation is on. I will take the rest of the other paintings with me. My wife Pabitra and I will fly from Kathmandu for the exhibition.

Bhim Sharma, Dip. 2008

Congratulations to long-time Coady friend Ela Bhatt, on her nomination by the Government of India to the board of directors of the Reserve Bank of India. Ela is founder and general secretary of the Self-Employed Women's Association, Ahmedabad.

2010 Katherine Fleming International Development Award

Anna Meela-Kulaya, a native of Tanzania, was presented with the 11th annual Fleming Award at a ceremony held in the Coady Institute. Meela-Kulaya, a lawyer with the Women in Law and Development organization in Africa, said the award was a surprise and a huge honour.

"Working for women's rights is definitely not an easy thing," she said. "I expect a lot of challenges, and with this encouragement, I will continue to work for women in my country and all over the world."

Meela-Kulaya praises her own mother for raising seven children after her husband died, at a time when gender equality didn't exist.

The Katherine Fleming award is presented each year to an outstanding woman from Africa who leads others with determination and generosity. An endowment fund supports full tuition costs for the Diploma in Development Leadership program.

Two Generations of Leadership at Coady Institute

Leentje Kilipi of Papua New Guinea remembers the first time she heard her mother speak about the Coady Institute.

"Mom (Lilly Kilipi Be'Soer, Dip '09) told me about the Coady when she was accepted in the Diploma in Development Leadership program. At that time Coady was just another school that she was going to and nothing much was said about it." This would quickly change.

"The email and Skype calls became a treat to look forward to. She would describe Antigonish, StFX and Coady Institute. The participants became her new family and the experiences shared both in and out of the classrooms inspired and empowered her. The staff became her friends and created a home away from home for her. She missed us but she loved it here. Coady became a place that she wanted us to know about and we did."

Kilipi was working as a research intern at the UN Women Pacific Regional Office in Suva, Fiji Islands when the regional program director recommended that she apply for the Coady diploma program.

"It was a surprise because Coady was a part of a dream that was in my to-do list like 7 years from now. When I got the acceptance letter, I locked my office door and rolled around the carpet. I was speechless. I was ready to come to Coady the minute I got that letter. I told me understand how my mom truly felt when she was here."

Chris Lamontagne of Saint Lucia has a similar story to tell, but this one goes back much further. His father, Eusebe Alexander, a St. Lucia police officer and president of the police credit union, received his Social Leadership Diploma from the Coady in 1969.

Then in 1980, son Chris joined the Department of Cooperatives in the Ministry of Finance. "Six or seven staff had already been to the Coady. It was held in high esteem for the manner in which it conducted its classes and gave a sense of purpose to the cooperatives."

Is it possible that a third generation in his family might someday apply to the diploma program?

"Most likely, I think. Our three sons are in their early 20s now, busy with sports and customs work. As soon as they get into the co-operative spirit, I will encourage them to apply to Coady."



Leentje Kilipi



Lilly Kilipi Be'soer



Chris Lamontagne



Eusebe Alexander

In Memoriam - Father Alex MacKinnon

Coady graduates and friends around the world mourned the loss of Father Alex MacKinnon in August. The lifelong educator and respected Coady Institute staff member passed away peacefully at St. Martha's Hospital in Antigonish.

Fr. Alex's relationship with the Coady Institute began in 1962 as a student in the Social Leadership Diploma. One month later, he was one of four priests in the Diocese of Antigonish to head overseas as the first organized group to serve the Antigonish Diocesan Program for Latin America.

In 1975, Father MacKinnon came to work at the Coady Institute. He would spend almost two decades devoted to education and development work around the world. He was a respected workshop leader, conducting adult education programs in such countries as Guatemala, Venezuela, Peru, Ghana and Italy.

As the Institute's Registrar in 1975, 'Father Alex' continued to lead the Latin American program while also serving as counselor and chaplain to students attending diploma courses in Antigonish. Following his retirement in 1994, he remained an active member in our community, and would extend the hand of friendship to those who were fortunate to meet him.

Father Alex created a legacy of support for future Coady participants, through the establishment of an endowed scholarship fund. His contribution will support development practitioners who are accepted into future educational programs at the Coady. Gifts toward this scholarship can be made by contacting Erika Gunn at egunn@stfx.ca.

