



INTERNATIONAL MEETING  
FOR SOCIAL STREET WORK'S PROFESSIONALS

# Such a World of Relations and Learning

QUEBEC, CANADA  
FROM JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> TO JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> 2009

Organized by



in partnership with

Le Regroupement des  
Organismes Communautaires Québécois  
pour le Travail de Rue



## GET INVOLVED ...

For nearly 10 years now, social street workers from about thirty countries have been holding meetings with young people on various projects either during symposiums, workshops or humanitarian exchanges.

Within the framework of ~~the International Network of Social Street Workers~~ **l'Association des travailleurs et travailleuses de rue du Québec (ATTRueQ)** will be hosting in **Quebec City** an international meeting for social street work's professionals between June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

## WELCOME EVERYBODY ...

Whether we call them **social street workers** and/or **street entertainers, proximity workers, workers in open environment, detached workers or street workers**, all of them regularly and resolutely commit themselves in the field working at counteracting social discrimination and providing quality services where **human dimension, respect** and trust form the cornerstones of the action.

## THE TOPIC ...

### **Such a World of Relations and Learning**

Carrying on the network tradition of combining two streams of thought related to practice and research, "**Such a world of relations and learning**" workshop will address the challenges that social street workers are faced with in North America and raise the issue on street workers training. These matters were chosen with a view to sharing the yet unknown social street work particularities in this part of the world. They will brainstorm on the social street workers training aspect which constitutes a major concern in several countries. This topic will be part of the next collective work issue to be brought up by the International Network.

## THEMATIC AREAS ...

### **The research: Street workers training**

Social street work, here as elsewhere, was mostly experienced in the field and transmitted from person to person, as well as it was verbally shared between insiders and beginners. However, for the past years, due to the increasing need for this practice, social street workers from around the world have been working at illustrating their actions, theorizing what is emerging from their practice in order to modernize the development and to maintain the foundations.

It is mostly the awareness of the importance of a long-term commitment with a view of building a relationship of trust with societies going through social strain that have led our organizations'

first priority to the development of resources promoting the practitioners stability and turnover. In the same vein, although the topic on the training is not a new concern, it has now become a crucial priority. In fact, since the professionalization of the practice is becoming increasingly inevitable, it seems imperative for those involved in this field to provide a strong leadership in the training area so that it draws its inspiration from the valuable experience and learning of this emerging practice environment. Social street work training needs to be intense and that is why the International Network will, in the coming years, make it the priority of their concerns, following those already dedicated to the communication with the media (2006) and the street work methodology (2009).

### **The practice: Social street work challenges in North America**

In addition to contributing to the furtherance of the training issue, the 2009 Quebec City workshop also aims to consolidate the Canadian and the Pan American networks as far as social street work is concerned. In fact, although bonds with colleagues from Europe, Africa, Asia and Central and South America have solidified over the past several, it stands to reason that there is still a need for more joint efforts between English speaking Canada and United States practitioners.

Moreover, the reason for engaging in this issue is to emphasize on the challenges faced by the social street workers in this part of the world. Without ignoring what the Southern and Eastern countries social street workers are experiencing, we must pay attention to the numerous difficulties of rejection a number of North American young people and adults are facing (mental health disorders, homelessness, prostitution, injection drug users (IDU) (drug overuse, etc.), and moreover, to focus on the way practitioners cope with this Nordic reality context (the change of seasons, tailored practices).

### **EXHIBITION ...**

The exhibition will take place on Tuesday afternoon and will involve initiatives from around the world with regards to the social street work training: booth, video, activity, book, etc..

### **QUEBEC CITY ...**

Capital of the province of Quebec ...

Cradle of French civilization in North America ...

City of the world heritage ...

Quebec has an identity of its own ... [www.ville.quebec.qc.ca](http://www.ville.quebec.qc.ca)

### **REGISTRATION ...**

The registration fee for the workshop includes:

- attendance to all workshop activities;
- housing (including breakfast);

- meals on workshop days;
- workshop attendant kit and literature;
- attendance to social activities;
- report of meetings

For the sake of solidarity cost, fees may vary depending on the GDP of the country:

- Pre-registration period up to April 5<sup>th</sup> inclusively :
  - \$ 450
  - \$ 350
  - \$ 225
- Registration period from April 6<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> inclusively :
  - \$ 525
  - \$ 400
  - \$ 300

## **HOUSING...**

Rooms have already been reserved for participants in the Sainte-Foy CEGEP area.

The number of rooms being limited, we urge you to register and reserve your housing accommodation as quickly as possible.

## **VISA AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ...**

Travelers entering Canada will be required to have in their possession a valid passport and / or a valid travel document.

### **Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)**

Citizens of certain countries will be required to obtain a temporary resident visa (TRV). Refer to the following website <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp> to look for the countries involved.

## **Invitation**

An invitation letter will be delivered to the participants who will have completed their registration and paid their fee in full.

To apply for an invitation, please contact the event organizers at :  
[rencontre\\_qc2009@ymail.com](mailto:rencontre_qc2009@ymail.com) .

Please note that the invitation will apply to scheduled workshop dates only and the Saturdays and Sundays immediately preceding or following the workshop.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ...**

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