



Objectif de 5,4 millions \$

# Centraide Outaouais lance sa campagne

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Centraide Outaouais veut amasser 5,4 millions \$ pour les 76 organismes communautaires dont elle finance les activités.

Le président de la campagne de financement de 2008, Daniel Chevrier, l'a annoncé en grande pompe hier matin, devant 800 personnes réunies à l'hôtel Hilton Lac-Leamy.

Il s'agit d'une augmentation de 100 000 \$ comparativement à l'objectif de l'an dernier qui n'avait pas été atteint, a rappelé M. Chevrier. Si la hausse semble modeste, M. Chevrier ne considère pas que Centraide agit avec prudence. « Il s'agit d'une bonne augmentation mais ce n'est rien à comparer avec l'enthousiasme de nos responsables des campagnes dans les entreprises et les institutions publiques. On veut amasser le plus gros montant possible car



MICHEL LAFLEUR, LeDroit

« L'an dernier on a pu maintenir nos subventions mais on n'a pas été en mesure de les augmenter. Cette année, j'aimerais bien les augmenter », a déclaré le président de la campagne de financement de 2008, Daniel Chevrier.

les besoins sont croissants. L'an dernier on a pu maintenir nos subventions mais on n'a pas été en mesure de les augmenter. Cette année, j'aimerais bien les aug-

menter», a déclaré M. Chevrier. La directrice générale de Centraide Outaouais, Guylaine Beaulieu, a précisé que les organismes œuvrant auprès des sans-abri

connaissent une hausse continue de leur clientèle. « Il y a aussi de plus en plus de gens qui sont à risque de devenir itinérants et il faut les aider. Les orga-

nismes qui œuvrent auprès des personnes âgées constatent elles aussi une hausse de leur clientèle en raison du vieillissement de la population », a-t-elle indiqué.



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## Les enfants rendus accros à la nicotine par leurs parents



Photo: AFP



**Mathieu Perreault**  
La Presse

Les parents qui fument en présence de leurs enfants les rendent parfois dépendants à la nicotine, selon des chercheurs québécois. La cigarette en voiture en présence d'enfants, interdite en Nouvelle-Écosse depuis l'an dernier, est particulièrement dangereuse.

Les chercheurs ont découvert que 5% des adolescents qui n'avaient jamais fumé la cigarette montraient des symptômes de dépendance. Le fait d'avoir des parents qui ont fumé en leur présence, particulièrement dans la voiture, augmentait le risque de faire partie de ce groupe. Le tabagisme en voiture des parents augmentait de 20% le risque d'avoir des symptômes de dépendance

chez les non-fumeurs.

«C'est la première fois qu'on montre que la fumée secondaire peut créer de la dépendance à la nicotine», explique l'auteur principal de l'étude, Mathieu Bélanger, épidémiologiste à l'Université de Moncton, qui a travaillé sur un échantillon mis sur pied à l'Université de Montréal. «Il y avait un lien très clair avec le tabagisme des parents.»

Les symptômes étaient évalués à partir d'un questionnaire demandant si les répondants avaient envie de fumer en voyant d'autres personnes fumer, entre autres. D'autres facteurs de risque, comme des frères, soeurs ou amis qui fument, annulaient l'influence du tabagisme des parents à la maison, mais pas en voiture. «En voiture, le fait d'avoir été exposé à la fumée secondaire durant l'enfance demeure un facteur de risque statistiquement significatif pour la dépendance à la nicotine plus tard, à l'adolescence, explique l'épidémiologiste Bélanger, qui a publié l'étude dans la revue *Addictive Behaviors*.

Les chercheurs veulent maintenant mieux comprendre les mécanismes en cause. Et surtout, confirmer leurs

résultats. «Il est possible, mais peu probable, que les enfants dont les parents sont fumeurs soient plus sensibles à la dépendance à la nicotine parce qu'ils partagent les mêmes gènes que leurs parents, plutôt que parce qu'ils ont été exposés à la nicotine.»

Néanmoins, le Dr Bélanger estime que l'étude est une preuve de la nécessité des lois interdisant aux parents de fumer en voiture en présence de leurs enfants, comme c'est le cas en Nouvelle-Écosse.

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## Une école évacuée à cause d'un canular



Photo: Patrick Sanfaçon, La Presse



**Hugo Meunier**  
La Presse

La menace d'attentat à l'explosif proférée hier matin à Longueuil a finalement débouché sur un canular.

Une blague de mauvais goût lourde de conséquences, puisqu'elle a forcé l'évacuation d'environ 250 personnes - dont 150 élèves d'une école primaire - peu après 8h hier, à l'intersection des rues Lavallée et Lamarre. Les locataires de deux immeubles de 16 logements et les élèves de l'école Carillon ont été évacués. Ces derniers ont été relogés provisoirement dans une école du même secteur.

«Ça sent le canular. Les artificiers de la Sûreté du Québec ont ratissé

le périmètre sans rien trouver», a expliqué Martin Simard, de la police longueuilloise. Autour de 10h30, les personnes évacuées ont pu réintégrer leurs logements.

Cette affaire a débuté vers 7h30 hier, lorsqu'une résidente d'un des immeubles évacués a reçu un appel d'un inconnu. L'homme a exhorté la dame à se rendre à son véhicule garé à l'extérieur.

La femme a alors trouvé une note dans son pare-brise lui ordonnant d'aller déposer 200\$ dans les toilettes d'un dépanneur voisin. Si la femme n'obtempérait pas ou si elle contactait les autorités, l'homme au bout du fil menaçait de faire sauter sa voiture et l'immeuble où elle habite. «Le témoignage de la femme avait l'air crédible et la menace employée contre elle a déjà été utilisée dans le passé», a souligné l'agent Simard.

Les personnes évacuées interrogées sur place prenaient la menace avec un grain de sel. À commencer par Gaétan Fleurent, et ce, même si la femme visée par la menace habite en bas de chez lui. «La dame pleurait dehors avec les policiers, mais moi, je savais que c'était un canular. Quel con ferait sauter un immeuble pour 200 \$?» a lancé le locataire, quelques minutes après avoir obtenu le feu vert pour retourner chez lui.

Des maîtres-chiens ont aussi arpenté les étages des immeubles visés, histoire de ne prendre aucun risque.

Une enquête est en cours pour retrouver l'auteur du coup de fil à l'origine de ce branle-bas de combat.

Les canulars semblent à la mode, quelques jours après une fausse menace d'attentat dirigée jeudi dernier contre la direction et les élèves d'une école secondaire de Saint-Hyacinthe.

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## Carleton professor wins top prize for futuristic White House redesign

### Entry puts president's home underground, spotlights surveillance

**Tony Lofaro**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, October 02, 2008*

A Carleton University professor is in New York today to receive an award for a design depicting the White House as an abstract subterranean residence.

Roger Connah's design, *Revenge of the Lawn*, done with partner John Maruszczak, beat 500 entries for the \$5,000 first prize in the White House Redux international competition, which called for designs for a new house for the U.S. president.

The winning entry uses text, animation, new media and film to create a futuristic-looking White House. Mr. Connah calls it "altered architecture."

"We came up with ideas that show how architecture could be taken in different ways over the next 10 to 20 years depending on conditions that may get serious, such as surveillance, technology, new media and with conditions that the American presidency would be put under in future," said Mr. Connah, a visiting professor at Carleton's Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism.

The title of the design was inspired by American author Richard Brautigan, whose collection of short stories, *Revenge of the Lawn*, was released in 1971.

"The lawn is the other space at the White House," Mr. Connah said. "The White House is a neo-classical building and the lawn is the large area in which you often see the president getting off a helicopter, or throwing a ball to a dog. So the lawn becomes the other. In our project it represented the other that would exist in whatever happened to that existing White House."

He said the lawn is "actually the site" for the whole project, because the lawn is lifted and the building is sunken into the ground, creating a series of steps leading down to a subterranean residence. He said the lawn around the White House could also be remodelled in the shape of the American map and have grasses from all over the country.

"It sounds much more abstract than what you see in a normal building. But I think many people think when you see something that is a representation and cinematic it suggests it's not realized. Within this form of representation you can find things that are realized and which you can do," he said.

The competition was launched by Storefront for Architecture and Art, in association with the New York-based Control Group.

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## Art was slain teacher's true passion

Simoahmed El Fenne was a struggling artist who also loved helping students, writes Neco Cockburn.

**Neco Cockburn**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, October 02, 2008*

Simoahmed El Fenne and Patricia McDonnell often shared Saturdays.

Around 11 a.m., the pair, who lived together for seven years before separating in January, headed to Canadian Tire to look at tools before finishing chores with trips to Jean Coutu and Farm Boy, according to Ms. McDonnell.

It was all part of their almost weekly routine: Back at 1093 Chelsea Dr., where Mr. El Fenne lived after the separation, they talked on the back porch and listened to his favourite music, from Dire Straits, Prince and George Benson, she said.

As Ms. McDonnell put it yesterday, they were building a new chapter of their relationship -- a friendship.

Ms. McDonnell said in an interview that she last visited Mr. El Fenne last Wednesday and felt suspicious when she hadn't heard from him later in the week.

She went to see him at about 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, she said. Seeing the house lights on, she went around the house -- which is owned by Mr. El Fenne's sister and brother-in-law -- and knocked on the door, but there was no answer, she said.

The next day, another woman who went to visit Mr. El Fenne entered an unlocked door at the house at about 4 p.m. and found his body inside the Manor Park home, according to his family.

The popular teacher had been stabbed.

Police continued to investigate the case yesterday, analysing the two-storey home and a wooded area behind it.

Meanwhile, Ms. McDonnell, a federal government employee and mother of three, said she and Mr. El Fenne had made a pact that they would remain friends after the separation and he would stay as a fixture in the lives of her children, two girls, aged 17 and 13, and a boy, aged 10.

"He was a second father to them," she said.

"The laughter that came out of my children when they were all together was incredible."

They used to go swimming in a pond near their home, even though Mr. El Fenne preferred the ocean. After the separation, Ms. McDonnell and her children went for couscous dinners at the house on Chelsea Drive, she said.

Mr. El Fenne often talked lovingly about his brothers, sisters and parents, some of whom still live in his birth country of Morocco, Ms. McDonnell said.

He was enjoying his new life as a single man, she said.

Mr. El Fenne had found it difficult to accept that his art was not widely recognized in the Ottawa area, she said. The 46-year-old was known to some people in the sculpting community, but couldn't make a living from his craft and eventually landed contract work at Ecole secondaire De La Salle.

The job wasn't his true passion, but he loved helping students, Ms. McDonnell said. "He always said, 'I do this for those kids'," and the contribution he made to their lives as a mentor, she said.

Outside work, he still concentrated on sculpting and took contracts for art pieces and furniture. Although he often said he was tired, Mr. El Fenne fulfilled many requests for his creations, Ms. McDonnell said.

Now, Ms. McDonnell said she and other family members hope the "heinous crime" is soon solved. Mr. El Fenne was very cautious, always locked the doors and would not let strangers into his home, she said.

"We want justice. I want this person to come forward," she said.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 613-236-1222, ext. 5493, or Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477.

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October 2, 2008

## Kids get KickStart to their school day

### Food bank expands nourishment program for needy kids

By AEDAN HELMER, SUN MEDIA

The Ottawa Food Bank launched the newly expanded KickStart program yesterday to help put nutritious food in the bellies of needy children.

Executive director Peter Tilley thanked corporate sponsors Adobe, Rogers and Sodexo for "incredible generosity" in partnering with the program.

"We felt compelled to put this program together after seeing the increased need in the community," said Tilley.

KickStart supports 16 school meal programs, 10 homework clubs and 13 Community House Summer Camps.

In its inaugural year, the program provided more than 89,000 breakfasts and 26,000 snacks to needy children, as well as 12,000 lunches during summer.

Tilley said the summer component was important for children who didn't have access to school meal programs in July and August.

Irene Cameron, principal of Connaught Public School, praised the food bank and its partners for expanding the program.

For years, principals had to drive to the food bank to get food for their meal programs.

Cameron said the new KickStart program will now deliver a consistent supply of nutritious food -- eggs, yogurt, milk, cheese, cereal and fresh fruit -- to her student-breakfast program.

"This is the kind of program that can really make a great start to a child's day and impact how they will learn and grow," said Cameron.

"All research shows that if a child is well-fed, especially with proper food and nourishment, their productivity will go up, they will learn better and they will attend better," she said.

Tilley said the program will pay immediate dividends.

"What an added bonus for us, that for these children from struggling, poor communities, who have so many problems that they're going through in their homes and their communities, that we can alleviate some of that burden," said Tilley.



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## New Food Bank program to give students jump on day

**Jesse McLean**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, October 02, 2008*

Irene Cameron knows the damage hunger can have on young pupils.

As principal of Ottawa's Connaught Public School, she has seen pupils lash out or do poorly because they're working on an empty stomach.

"If a child's acting out of sorts, I ask if they've had breakfast. Generally, the answer's 'No'," she said.

But that's changing, in large part thanks to the Ottawa Food Bank's KickStart program.

The initiative, which had its official launch yesterday morning at the organization's warehouse, involves weekly deliveries of fresh groceries to 16 public schools and 10 homework clubs across the city.

Pupils can dine on an array of fresh foods, from apples and grapefruits to yogurt and eggs, ensuring they have the necessary nutrients for a productive day at school.

"It's cutting edge. There's already breakfast clubs with cereal and non-perishable foods. But this is a big step towards offering fresh, nutritious food for kids who might not be getting it at home," said Peter Tilley, executive director of the Food Bank.

A trial program began in September 2007 after a \$50,000 donation from Adobe allowed the Food Bank to buy a refrigerated truck.

Since then, the organization has secured \$100,000 more from the software firm and a \$50,000 donation from Rogers. The money enabled the program last year to provide more than 89,000 breakfasts and nearly 27,000 snacks.

As well, food services company Sodexo donated 12,000 lunches during the summer so hungry children can access food all year round.

"Only 10 per cent of our funding comes from the government, so these corporate donations mean a lot to us," Mr. Tilley said.

The KickStart program will also be hiring a registered dietitian to guarantee the pupils are getting the healthiest meals possible.

Pupils may have looked down on school breakfast clubs in the past, associating using one with being poor, Ms. Cameron said.

"But these are for everybody. Whether a student missed breakfast by accident or there's no food at home, it doesn't matter," she said.

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## Thing of beauty

### Vice-principal's mural project erases graffiti by reclaiming wall as canvas for school pride

October 2, 2008

By **EARL MCRAE**, OTTAWA SUN

So I'm walking along a path back of Woodroffe High School, as I sometimes do, and glance over at the west-side brick wall, as I always do, to take in the latest mess from the anonymous graffiti/tagging "artists" who've long been defiling it -- and my eyes behold not the sorry yesterdays, but the promising tomorrows.

They see a thing of beauty.

They see the imaginative solution in the city's high school wars against those who come in the night and release their immaturities and irresponsibilities through the nozzles of spray cans.

They see the vision of a man named Richard King, a vice-principal at Woodroffe High School.

They see psychology: That if artistic beauty is created, those who see it, those in the night with their spray cans -- some from this very school -- will be admiring, respectful, and discerning of the concentrated effort that went into the greater accomplishment, and put away their weapons.

And they have. The hope is that pride of school will grow in souls bereft of it. And it has.

Through a mural.

A pristine mural nine feet high and 150 feet long informally and simply named Woody Character Mural spans the red-brick west wall of the school where graffiti/tagging once reigned. It depicts a series of wonderfully rendered painted faces of different ethnicities symbolizing the cultural diversity of the 880-student population that represents, including Canada, some 60 countries of origin.

At the left end of the mural is the face of a girl blowing dandelion petals along the length of its blue-sky upper half, and the petals are in the form of words, and the words say "optimism" and "integrity" and "perseverance" and "empathy" and "respect" and "co-operation" and "acceptance" and "fairness" and "responsibility" and "appreciation" -- the 10 character words that are part of the Ottawa-Carleton School Board's education program.

Across the lower half of the mural are more words -- "truth" and "knowledge" and "peace" and "joy" and "compassion" and "pride" and "honour" and "hope" and "faith" and "enthusiasm" and "patience" and "care" and "life" and "freedom" and "valour."

Words and faces of inspiration in the reclaiming of Woodroffe High School's west wall from the infidels, the strategy of Richard King, former art teacher, having begun late in May when he decided to seek mural proposals from the students and 80-member staff.

#### ENTHUSIASM

"It generated a lot of enthusiastic discussion between staff and the students. There was tagging and graffiti on a regular basis on that wall because of its isolated location." With not much time to receive and process ideas before the summer holiday, King -- with the strong blessing of principal Renald Cousineau -- came up with the concept himself, work to start at the fall beginning of the new school year.



**Richard King, vice-principal at Woodroffe High School, stands by a large mural on the school's west wall, which is adorned with messages of tolerance, respect, co-operation and multicultural portraits. The mural aims to reduce unwanted graffiti. (DARREN BROWN/Sun Media)**

"My wife and I came one Saturday evening with a projector and traced the outline of the faces on the wall with magic markers. I filled the faces in with numbers where and how the colours would go. It was kind of paint by numbers."

Through the largesse of the school board and Woodroffe's parent council -- about \$1,000 -- paint was purchased along with clear anti-graffiti sealer ("It costs the board a lot of money each year to remove graffiti from the schools"), paint brushes, and paint rollers.

"It was a real, spirited, community project. Teachers, students, families of teachers, families of students, all painting. We did it in less than four days."

His dad Lionel and mom Jackie joined in.

It hasn't stopped with the mural. Every Friday, staff members wear black and white T-shirts made right in the school by students, each shirt with a different word of inspiration on the front, its definition on the back, the shirts so popular that many of the students want to wear them, too, and plans are afoot.

"We're getting calls from other schools interested in the mural idea, and our T-shirts. The mural is such a success that we're considering other areas of the school for next spring, maybe this time a student's design."

Project Pride.

What else can you say except -- beautiful.



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## Wash your hands

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, October 02, 2008*

If anyone understands the value of handwashing, it should be Ontario's healthcare workers.

During the SARS outbreak in 2003, public health officials relentlessly pushed the message that handwashing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of infections. At the time, it seemed the message was paying off.

One study done shortly after the outbreak found almost all people observed in washrooms at Toronto's Pearson Airport washed their hands. At the time, Dr. Donald Low, a SARS expert and chief microbiologist at Mount Sinai Hospital, said he believed health-care workers had also gotten the message. That was understandable, given the high rate of infection among healthcare workers: Two nurses and a family physician were among 44 people in the Toronto area who died from SARS.

Now, five years later, as many hospitals in Ontario and across Canada struggle with outbreaks of potentially deadly *Clostridium difficile*, it may be time for a re-education campaign.

Ontario's auditor general said this week that hospitals personnel are "complying with the rules of good hand hygiene" only 40 to 75 per cent of the time.

The report comes at a time when the province has begun releasing rates of *C difficile* at hospitals. The reporting lets patients see for themselves which hospitals are working to control the spread of infections by handwashing and other practices.

Sadly, with an infection rate of 10 per cent -- one in 10 adults will contract *C difficile* while in a Canadian hospital -- it is clear work needs to be done.

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