

**CAMPAIGN**  
**FOR**  
**DONATIONS :**  
**NEWS**  
**BULLETIN**

**MAIN**  
**ACTIVITIES:**  
**SEPTEMBER 2009 -**  
**AUGUST 2010**



*« An Half Century of  
Contribution for  
living together in our  
Pluralistic Society »*



Our news bulletin aims to inform you of our main activities during the course of the preceding year. Despite our modest financial resources, we were able to organize some activities around themes that are at the heart of the Institute's mission, and no doubt, equally important to you who have been close to the IIM.

## COMMUNITY RESEARCH-ACTION PROJECTS:

First year of the project **“Intercultural peer-helpers”**: Development of a model of intervention by peer-helpers for prevention of criminality among youth in ethnocultural communities. (This is a three-year project from March 2009 to February 2012.



On June 16 2010, we organized an exchange between the collaborators and the peer-helpers to celebrate the first year of the project. Thus our partner-organizations were able to appreciate the work accomplished since the start of the project.

During the year, the peer-helpers received training to acquire skills in intercultural helping relationships involving teenagers 12 to 16 years of age (the target group identified in the project). As well, they began initiating their action in the Villeray and St-Michel neighbourhoods. They also developed material useful to their roles (a video, a song about the realities of young immigrants, as well as the creation of a name and a logo to identify them).

\* We would like to thank the organizations, COPSI and Trans-Art 2000, for their support as principal partners in the Peer-Helper project.

François, our project agent, was responsible for the promotion of the project among the youth workers in the targeted neighbourhoods, so as to facilitate the collaboration between partner-organizations.



Since the spring of 2010, the peer-helpers patrol Youth Centres, parks, sports centres, the streets, and the areas around schools and cafés; they also participate in community activities and neighbourhood festivals in order to meet with teenagers and create a helping relationship, keeping in mind the prevention of criminality.

Services offered by intercultural peer-helpers:

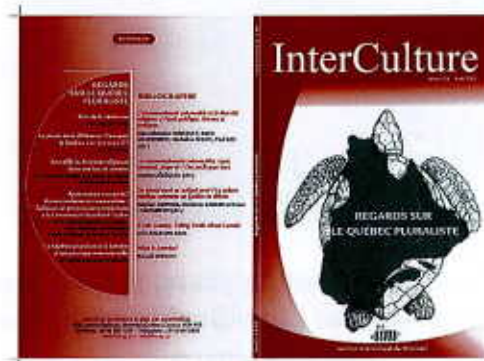
- 1) Individual support, listening and accompaniment.
- 2) Leading group workshops on prevention of risk factors for criminality.
- 3) References and accompaniment to specialized resources if needed.
- 4) Sensitization of parents to the realities of youth at risk.
- 5) Sensitization to polices and schools institutions.

For the second year, we aim to implant the project in the targeted neighbourhoods. We also will increase our collaboration with our community partners, as well as continue the work we have begun with the young teenagers.

## PUBLIC ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

**October 2009: Conference-discussion at the Quebec Social Forum: “Outlook on Pluralistic Quebec”—a critical reflection and dialogue to go beyond the Bouchard-Taylor Commission.**

On October 11, 2009, at the CEGEP Vieux-Montréal, we held a workshop, presenting 4 briefs sent to the Bouchard-Taylor Commission that constituted the issue #156 of the *Interculture Journal*.



**November 2009: Round-Table on the # 156 issue of the *Interculture Journal*: Reflections on pluralistic Quebec.**

On November 26, 2009, at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Sciences of the University of Montreal. The presentation by the authors of briefs that were submitted to the Bouchard-Taylor Commission, and that were published in this issue of *Interculture*.



**December 2009: Inter-religious celebration of the Festivals of Light (Hanukah, Christmas, Diwali, Eid)**

December 18, 2009 a get together at the IIM for an intercultural celebration, drawing on different traditions marking the winter solstice. The activities included a community meal, an exchange of symbolic gifts, rituals, songs and dances.



**February 2010: “Distress caused by the Haiti earthquake: Intercultural issues and approaches to Aid”: reflection and discussion among representatives of various organizations of the Haitian community and other institutions.**

This meeting, organized by Dr. Carlo Sterlin and the IIM, took place at the Institute. The reflection was based on the intercultural approach to the state of psychological distress provoked by this catastrophe, and about the international aid offered to the Haitian people. The aim was to explore ways to take into account the interculturality that could lend efficiency to the help offered by governmental organizations and NGOs involved in this process.

## RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Mai 2010: **Round-table on #157 issue of the *Interculture Journal: The Languages of the « we ».***

This event was held on May 27 2010 at Centre Afrika. The four articles presented in this issue of *Interculture* sought to clarify the different connotations evoked by the notion of “community” (noun and adjective) in Quebec and elsewhere in the world. The presentation ended with a short discussion.



June 2010: **Book-sale of the *Interculture Journal* and other publications of the IIM.**

Liquidation of the surplus inventory of IIM publications. The public was invited to acquire back-issues of the Journal, particularly those prior to issue #150, in exchange for a voluntary financial contribution. Recent editions and other documents produced by the IIM (reference books, research reports, DVDs, etc.) were offered at half-price. This offer will be renewed in the fall of 2010.



We have published the following documents: one of two bi-annual editions of the *Interculture Journal*, entitled *The Languages of the “we”* (issue #157).;



**Finally, as in preceding years, we continue to offer services of individual consultations and references.**