

# media release



February 27, 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Federal government foreign aid representatives visit UCC**

KAMLOOPS—UCC International plays to host to representatives from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) during a visit to Kamloops Monday, March 4.

CIDA, under the direction of Minister for International Cooperation Susan Whelan, supports sustainable development activities around the world in order to reduce poverty and to contribute to a more secure and equitable world. The agency currently supports about 1,300 projects in more than 150 countries. UCC International and faculty have been involved in two projects funded through CIDA — a humanitarian aid project in Svinia, Slovakia and a social forestry program in East Kalimantan, Indonesia. UCC is also involved indirectly with CIDA through aid programs in Nepal and Russia.

Representatives from CIDA's Educational Institution branch that will be at UCC include Director Louise Bergeron, Anne-Sophie Belzile, Program Officer for Western Universities, and Joe Knockaert, Director of CIDA's Pacific Regional Office.

Ivan Somlai, Associate Director for UCC International Contract Services, says the opportunity for people to meet with CIDA representatives face to face in Kamloops is rare and notes anyone is welcome to attend a public session from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Campus Activity Centre, Room 321.

"This is a great opportunity for people to hear about some of the recent changes that have occurred at CIDA as well as some of the projects that are underway," said Somlai.

The CIDA group will also make time during the visit for UCC faculty and staff who are interested in becoming involved in development projects through the agency.

For more information, please contact Ivan Somlai at 828-5191.

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