

Churchill has been accepted as one of UNESCO'S ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS....*read on*....

The **UNESCO International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century** advocates the **strengthening of four main pillars of learning**:

- **learning to know;**
- **learning to do;**
- **learning to be; and**
- **learning to live together**



to help children and young people promote the ideals of UNESCO and to confront the many new challenges caused by **rapid change, the electronic era, globalization and the widening gap of inequality**.

By taking part in the Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) and conducting pilot projects, schools have the opportunity to make significant contributions to improve the quality of education by reinforcing these pillars.

Learning to know: There is often a gap between what is happening in the classroom and what is going on in the world. Today's young people will quickly become tomorrow's decision-makers. Many **ASPnet** activities enable young people to become more aware of vital world issues and their solutions ranging from conflicts, xenophobia, poverty, drug abuse, environmental deterioration, human rights abuses, HIV/AIDS, or cultural diversity. In a world that has become complex and interdependent, **ASPnet** activities strive to provide holistic learning and meaningful knowledge.

Learning to do: The future will continue to call for even more mobility, flexibility and new skills to respond to employment needs and social change. Rather than being the mere recipients of knowledge, students will increasingly become the main actors in the learning process. **ASPnet** activities are student-oriented with emphasis on involving students in seeking and collecting information, analyzing it and drawing conclusions. Problem-solving techniques, non-violent resolution of conflicts, creativity and communication skills are an integral part of **ASPnet** activities.

Learning to be: As mentioned, knowledge does not suffice. It has to be put to good use to achieve freedom, equity, solidarity, tolerance, non-violence, respect for nature and shared responsibility. **ASPnet** reinforces the humanistic and ethical dimensions of education and helps to forge students' critical thinking, attitudes and commitment to peace and to prepare them for responsible global citizenship.

Learning to live together: In spite of acquiring so much knowledge and know-how, we have still not yet learned the essential: how to live together! One of the greatest challenges before us is that of learning to live together in peace and dignity. Over the years, **Associated Schools** have contributed to reinforcing this essential goal through confirming a sense of identity, self-worth and self-confidence combined with respect for other cultures.

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO

actively advances UNESCO's mandate to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, the natural, social and human sciences, culture and communication and information. It was established in 1957 as an independent division within the **Canada Council for the Arts**. The Commission works as an autonomous forum of consultation and reflection to encourage and motivate governments, individuals and organizations at all levels of society to participate in and contribute to UNESCO's work in its mandated fields.

UN EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

UNESCO

The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** is one of 18 specialized agencies within the United Nations System. It was established on November 16, 1945, as much of the world was emerging from the devastation of the Second World War. Canada was one of the 20 founding members. **UNESCO** was formed to create an organization that would **embody a genuine culture of peace by promoting collaboration among nations through education, the sciences, culture, and communication and information.**

UNESCO works to create the conditions for dialogue and cooperation between the peoples of the world, based upon commonly shared values and respect for individual civilizations and cultures. The Organization also serves as a clearinghouse to share knowledge and ideas with its 190 Member States and six Associate Members. Through diverse and extensive strategies and projects, **UNESCO** is actively pursuing the **United Nations Millennium Development Goals**, placing particular emphasis on initiatives which focus on **eradicating poverty; achieving universal primary education and eliminating gender disparity in education; helping countries to implement national strategies for sustainable development; and halting the loss of environmental resources.**

Since its inception, UNESCO has worked to inspire, encourage and sustain the principles of **democracy, cooperation, non-violence, respect for human rights and cultural diversity**. As the developing countries of the world struggle to find their place, as globalization continues to grow and the world moves rapidly towards knowledge based societies, the work of UNESCO becomes ever more vital.

Through its efforts in the sectors of education, science, culture, information and communication, UNESCO is committed to attaining an ambitious goal: to build peace in the minds of all people.