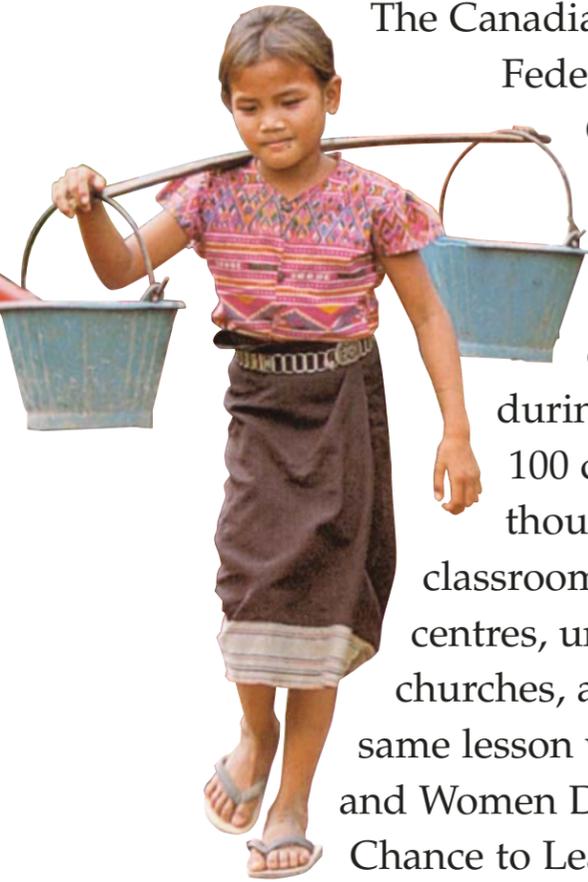


Global Girl Power



The Canadian Teachers' Federation and Oxfam Canada took part in the world's largest simultaneous classroom lesson during April. In over 100 countries and in thousands of classrooms, adult education centres, university campuses, churches, and village halls the same lesson was taught: Girls and Women Deserve an Equal Chance to Learn.



learning for women and girls. The Global Campaign for Education involves over 400 organizations in countries around the world. Says Reiky Stuart, Executive Director of Oxfam Canada, "two thirds of the 110 million children not in school are girls."

The Teachers' Federation and Oxfam have also developed a joint publication for all schools in Canada intended to provide teachers with a resource for teaching about international development.



The initiative was an attempt to make the Guinness Book of World Records but on a deeper level was planned to raise public awareness about the importance of educating girls and women, as a key to better health and economic growth. According to Canadian Teachers' Federation President Doug Willard, "as we start the 21st century 70 million girls are still out of school and 550 million women - nearly one in five - are illiterate." The record attempt was part of the Global Campaign for Education's third annual Global Week of Action to open the doors of



POWER SMART WORK EXPERIENCE

The Power Smart program of BC Hydro offers a work experience and career program opportunity for students in grades 10, 11 and 12. The program is designed to complement the Science, Business, Education, Environmental Studies, and Marketing courses.

Program components include:

- technical workshops and training of teams to conduct energy reviews in district elementary schools
- identifying potential energy savings in schools
- training teams to deliver behaviour change campaigns within these elementary schools
- preparing teams to deliver presentations to school boards and community groups

Scholarships of \$5,000 are offered to outstanding students.

EXPORTING Health Risks

The Washington Post reports that towns along China's southeastern coast have become dumping grounds for obsolete computers and electronic equipment sent from North America, Europe, and Japan, ostensibly for recycling. According to the story, entire communities, including children, work for poverty wages by picking through the technological waste and separating out metals, glass, and plastics under unsafe and unregulated conditions. The story calls it "a mounting toxic nightmare" and adds that rivers and soils in these small communities have soaked up lead, mercury, and numerous

carcinogenic toxins. It goes on to report that local residents are suffering from high levels of infant mortality, birth defects, blood diseases, and respiratory problems.

Each year, almost 50 million computers become obsolete in North America. About 80 per cent of the computers that consumers give to recycling companies end up being shipped to Asia for dismantling.

In China, where 30 per cent of the world's manufactured products are now produced, often in conditions completely free of environmental monitoring, the human costs of economic growth are a concern to the environmental community.

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