

## **STUDENT EXCHANGES AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT ELSS**

The following are some exciting programs which are on posters and in the morning announcements at Elliot Lake Secondary School. ELSS students have gained incredible life experiences in all of the following programs:

### **Habitat for Humanity**

A proposed trip to Latin America is in the planning stage in July 2010 for ELSS students with Habitat's Global Village Team in Chile or Argentina, perhaps. A student delegation to the Global Village Youth Leadership Conference in Chicago in October will get the ball rolling. More information will follow so check with Guidance staff, the World Issues Club or [www.habitat.ca](http://www.habitat.ca) to find out more.

### **Encounters with Canada**

The largest youth forum in Canada is looking for students from Elliot Lake Secondary School. *Encounters with Canada* brings together 140 students from all across Canada every week. ELSS has sent many students over the years! It's an incredible experience and you'll get to stay at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa with fellow students from all over the country.

You can choose from any of the following themes to focus on during the week: **Sports and Fitness, Arts and Culture, Journalism and Communications, Science and Technology, Canada and the World, Canadian Experience and Law, Business and Entrepreneurship, and R.C.M.P.**

If you're interested, contact the Guidance office for more information. All meals, accommodations and transportation expenses are included in the registration fee. It's not too early to sign up for next semester and not too late for this semester! Click on [www.encounters-rencontres.ca](http://www.encounters-rencontres.ca) to find out more.

### **Free the Children**

Free the Children is the world's largest youth run organization and was started by Canadian Craig Keilberger when he was 12 years old and his brother Marc. They work with young people to raise awareness and funds for eliminating child poverty, child labour and by request from the United Nations, to eliminate anti-personnel land mines because of the devastating effects on children. Through their Leaders Today, program students can travel and volunteer in poorer countries to help children, build schools and work in orphanages. For more information, please visit their website: [www.freethechildren.com](http://www.freethechildren.com).

### **Absolute – Hero Holiday**

Like Free the Children, this organization for youth will train and send students to developing countries to volunteer in schools, orphanages as well as building clinics and schools. Please check out [www.heroholiday.absolute.org](http://www.heroholiday.absolute.org) for more information.

### **Canadian Educational Exchange Foundation**

If you're feeling really adventurous, check out the three month student exchanges to Mexico, Costa Rica and European destinations like France, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain and the Netherlands. You'll stay with your exchange student partner and family for three months there and then you'll host her at your home for three months here in your home. It's an excellent way to travel and see the world as well as being an adventure you'll remember for a lifetime. You will even earn high school credits in the process!! Contact the Guidance office for more information on the Canadian Educational Exchange Foundation opportunities or click on [www.ceef.ca](http://www.ceef.ca).

### **Elliot Lake Rotary Club's Short-Term Exchange Program (S.T.E.P.)**

The Rotary Club of Elliot Lake continues to arrange short term, reciprocal exchanges for ELSS students during the summer months. There are also long term exchanges that last for almost a year in countries like France, Germany, Argentina, Italy, Britain, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. So check out [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) to find out more.

### **Canada World Youth**

If you're 17 or older and want a life-changing adventure for 7 months in a developing country, check out Canada World Youth. You'll spend some time in other Canadian provinces for training, then travel to a country like Egypt, Jamaica, Indonesia, India, Ecuador, Cuba, Brazil or Tunisia, among others, to help out in volunteer organizations involved with social services, teaching, entrepreneurship, and agriculture. You can earn high school or college level credits and broaden your world view while taking in an adventure and gaining experience which you'll never forget. You guessed it, contact the ELSS Guidance office if you're interested in finding out more about the Canada World Youth program or click on [www.cwy-jcm.org](http://www.cwy-jcm.org).

### **The Katimavik Experience or SEVEC Canadian Exchanges**

Live and work in the communities of three different provinces in Canada, learning leadership skills and career experience for seven to 9 months. This is Canada's leading youth service program and gives you an in-depth appreciation of Canada's diverse regions and cultures. Drop by guidance to get more information or click on [www.gokatimavik.com](http://www.gokatimavik.com).

## **MORE EXCHANGES....**

If these student exchange opportunities peek your interest but don't seem to meet your needs and you are thirsty for more, there are tons of other opportunities that aren't coordinated through the Guidance office at ELSS but that doesn't need to stop you!! Check out this site on the net: It's the Exchanges Canada website at [www.exchanges.gc.ca](http://www.exchanges.gc.ca).

## **Canadian Student Leadership Conference (CSLC)**

If you show yourself to be a leader and a volunteer at ELSS you may be chosen to represent our school at this national annual conference held in a different province every year. You'll hear famous leaders inspire, teach and motivate you as you develop your leadership skills while learning what students across Canada are doing in their leadership roles to help their students. Check out the conference website: [www.casaaleadership.ca/conferences.html](http://www.casaaleadership.ca/conferences.html)

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Conference**

If you show yourself to be a leader and a volunteer at ELSS you may be chosen to represent our school at this annual conference held at Camp Bil-O-Wood just north of Blind River every September. You'll meet with students from across the Algoma District to learn about leadership skills and get motivated to be a leader at ELSS and beyond. Check in at the Guidance Office for more information or click on [www.rotarysault.com](http://www.rotarysault.com)

## **World Issues Class and World Issues Club**

Each year in February, the Grade 12 World Issues Club travels to Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to research major challenges facing our nations and our planet. We've been travelling to the United Nations Headquarters in New York City since 1999 (not in 2001 for security reasons) to learn more about how this global institution works to reduce human suffering and environmental damage. This is followed by touring through the Museum of Modern Art (MoMa), the Jewish Heritage Centre, Ground Zero, Central Park, the Empire State Building, Grand Central Station and we've even taken in Yankees games and Broadway plays! We may be heading for the Pentagon and the Smithsonian Institutes in Washington, DC this year. Stay tuned for more updates...