



Canadian Student Fair Trade Network  Réseau étudiant canadien pour le commerce équitable

Our mission is to facilitate the growth of local, regional, national and international Fair Trade education and advocacy initiatives through supporting collective communication and resource sharing.

2006-2007

Ce document fut originellement écrit en anglais, la version française paraîtra sous peu. Merci pour votre patience et nous sommes désolés pour les incon vénients que cela peut vous causer.

!an Hussey

Executive Director

1833 TEAKWOOD PLACE

VICTORIA, BC, V8N 5B7

250-514-6801

csftn-recce@care2.com

The Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) sprouted from the grassroots of the Fair Trade movement in 2005 and has been growing organically ever since.

Please see page 23 of this document if you would like to become a member of the CSFTN. If you would like to become involved with the government and management of the CSFTN on a voluntary basis, then email a cover letter (1-page max.) and a resume (2-pages max.) to csftn-recce@care2.com. Please indicate the executive or committee position you are seeking.

It's hip to be fair!

Kelly Bowden, Raeven Geist-Deschamps, Philippe Lapointe, and Pierre-Olivier Legault Tremblay were instrumental in the creation of this document.

The CSFTN connects with people working on local, regional, national, and international Fair Trade initiatives. As a final stage of revising this document, we asked some of our partners in various facets of the movement for feedback on it. We would like to extend our humble thanks to the following for their helpful questions and suggestions: Canadian Federation of Students, Club 2/3, Equita, Équiterre, Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, La Siembra Co-operative, Ottawa Fair Trade Network, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Québec, Results Canada, Ten Thousand Villages Canada, TransFair Canada, United Students Against Sweatshops, Uniterra, and Vancouver Fair Trade Coffee Network.

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VISION

Our vision is to shift the purchasing-decisions of individuals, organizations, businesses, and governments across Canada to choices that encompass a respect for human rights and dignity, and environmental sustainability as understood over decades by the Fair Trade movement.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to facilitate the growth of local, regional, national and international Fair Trade education and advocacy initiatives through supporting collective communication and resource sharing.

MAIN FUNCTIONS

- ▣ to connect students and student organizations, in order to link and strengthen collective Fair Trade education and advocacy efforts across Canada and beyond
- ▣ to act as a clearinghouse of information, providing students with access to academic and non-academic Fair Trade resources, contacts, quick-facts, current events, and a venue through which to seek strategic planning advice
- ▣ to raise awareness and knowledge of Fair Trade in Canadian schools and communities with the ultimate objective of encouraging individuals, institutions, and businesses to adopt Fair Trade purchasing policies
- ▣ to connect students and student organizations who advocate for Fair Trade in Canada with individuals and organizations who work on similar initiatives, such as ethical trade, labour rights, women's issues, social justice, environmentally sustainable trade, amongst others.

HISTORY

August, 2004: Ian Hussey and Jodie Creaser took the initiative to create the Canadian Fair Trade Network (CFTN), a pan-Canadian umbrella-organization which facilitated communication and collaboration amongst Fair Traders across the country and beyond. There is a proposal for the evolution of the CFTN into the Fair Trade Association of Canada (FTAC) on pages 11 and 12 of this document.

February 1 – 14, 2005: with help from several of our partners across Canada, the CFTN organized a Canada wide speaker tour featuring Pascuala Patishtán of the indigenous women's Fair Trade co-operative Jolom Mayaetik ('Mayan Weavers' in Tzotzil) and Merit Ichin Santiesteban of the non-governmental organization K'injal Antzetik ('Land of Women' in Tzeltal). The co-op and the NGO work closely together in Chiapas, Mexico to facilitate women's ability to preserve the traditional craft of weaving, maintain economic autonomy for their communities, and to create new opportunities for women's education and empowerment.

February 18 – 21, 2005: members of the CFTN participated in the United Students for Fair Trade's second annual *InterNational Convergence* in Chicago, Illinois.

March, 2005: the first issue of *Fair Trade Synergy* was published. *Synergy* is the bi-monthly e-newsletter of the Canadian Fair Trade movement. Its purpose is information sharing and consensus building. It has an international readership.

June 2, 2005: the CFTN organized a session on Fair Trade at the Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences held at the University of Western Ontario.

July, 2005: the CFTN participated in a North American wide action against transnational cocoa and chocolate corporations. We joined forces with Global Exchange, International Labor Rights Fund, United Students for Fair Trade, and PeaceDiviners International to promote Fair Trade cocoa and chocolate alternatives at screenings of Tim Burton's blockbuster film *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Events took place in over 40 communities across North America.

July, 2005: the CSFTN was founded by Ian Hussey and immediately gained the enthusiastic support of Équiterre, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Québec, and TransFair Canada. Four months after its creation, the CSFTN had constructed a dynamic executive and had managed to link more than 100 pre-existing student Fair Trade advocacy groups from one coast to the other.

September 30 – October 2, 2005: members of the CSFTN participated in the international *Fair Trade Futures: Living a Fair Trade Life* conference held in Chicago, Illinois.

October, 2005: the CSFTN collaborated with La Siembra, Global Exchange, International Labor Rights Fund, Oxfam America, Fair Trade Resource Network, Coop America, and United Students for Fair Trade in sending a message to the major global candy companies that we are tired of waiting for them to get serious about child slavery. We also encouraged people across North America to serve only Fair Trade Certified chocolate in their homes for Halloween.

December, 2005: the CSFTN collaborated with Ten Thousand Villages Canada to run a holiday campaign which advocated for gift-givers to only buy Fair Trade gifts for their co-workers, friends, and loved ones.

December 2, 2005: members of the CSFTN participated in the *Canadian Forum on Fair Trade: Challenges and Opportunities* organized by Équiterre and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). During this event, the Canadian Consultation Committee on Fair Trade (CCCFT) was launched. Several members of the CSFTN have been highly involved in the CCCFT from its inception.

December 13 – 16, 2005: members of the CSFTN participated in the Fair Trade Fair and Symposium held in Hong Kong during the World Trade Organization's Ministerial Conference.

February 8, 2006: the CSFTN was featured in and contributed to Équiterre's *Guide d'action pour un commerce équitable* (www.equiterre.qc.ca/equitable/guide/index.php).

February 17 – 20, 2006: members of the CSFTN participated in the United Students for Fair Trade's third annual *InterNational Convergence* in Denver, Colorado.

March 18, 2006: Jenyfer Maisonneuve, the CSFTN's Montréal Representative, and HumaniTERRE organized a one day conference on Fair Trade in Montréal.

March – May, 2006: members of the CSFTN and TransFair Canada were consulted by VIA Rail in their decision to begin offering Fair Trade Certified coffee on all of their trains across Canada. As of July 1 2006, VIA Rail is 100% committed to Fair Trade Certified coffee. Philippe Lapointe, at the time the CSFTN's National co-Coordinator, now the CSFTN's Québec Coordinator, was involved in this process and was quoted as saying, "TransFair Canada and the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) are proud to acknowledge and support VIA Rail as the first transportation company to opt for Fair Trade products." ...So, who is next?

June 2 – 4, 2006: the CSFTN played a definitive role in organizing the first national meeting of the Canadian Fair Trade movement, *Fair Trade: People, the Planet, and Profits*. We were honoured and humbled to have Francisco Vanderhoff Boersma as the keynote speaker for the event. The symposium was co-organized with the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) and the Society for Socialist Studies (SSS). It occurred during the 75th anniversary of the Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences at York University in Toronto.

June, 2006: the Canadian Federation of Students, Club 2/3, la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS), and Uniterra (a joint initiative of Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale (CECI) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC)) agreed to begin working in collaboration with the CSFTN and supporting each other in helping to build Canadian student social justice movements.

June, 2006: Ian Hussey, the CSFTN's Founder and Executive Director, joined United Students for Fair Trade's Board of Advisors, and thereby concretely linked the Canadian and American Fair Trade movements.

July, 2006: the CSFTN's Translation Team translated Équiterre's *Guide d'action pour un commerce équitable*.

July, 2006: the CSFTN was featured in and contributed to TransFair Canada's *A Student Guide To Fair Trade Activism* (www.transfair.ca/en/education/highschool/makeadifference/).

August, 2006: the CSFTN's Translation Team translated TransFair Canada's *A Student Guide To Fair Trade Activism*.

August, 2006: the CSFTN was featured in and contributed to World Vision's action guide for global citizens.

Additionally, the CSFTN has given numerous presentations throughout its history, including at the Fair Trade Fair and Symposium held in Hong Kong during the World Trade Organization's Ministerial Conference in December, 2005, at Uniterra's 2006 national leadership symposium, and at Oxfam Canada's 2006 national CHANGE conference. And, we have been featured in and interviewed by several media outlets in Canada and beyond.

Looking forward to this coming year, the CSFTN has begun planning a second Fair Trade symposium at the 2007 Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences (www.fedcan.ca), which is being held at the University of Saskatchewan in June, 2007. Also, the CSFTN is co-organizing and presenting at the Fair Trade Forum happening at the University of Calgary this November 23 (http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dsc/dsc/fair_trade.html). As we will now illustrate, we will also continue to expand our networking, education and advocacy work throughout 2006-2007.

NETWORKING

The CSFTN is a national network comprised of thousands of high school and post-secondary students advocating for Fair Trade principles and purchasing policies. Currently, the CSFTN connects over two hundred student unions and organizations. Student activists play a unique and significant role in the Fair Trade movement. The CSFTN provides a national presence for the Canadian student Fair Trade movement; however, the CSFTN's members and affiliates are autonomous individuals, organizations, and businesses who advocate for Fair Trade principles and purchasing policies, amongst other social justice and environmental sustainability issues. It is our hope that our communal power will help individual students and student unions and organizations with their education and advocacy work.

The CSFTN helps found, sustain, and link Fair Trade education and advocacy groups on campuses across Canada. Joining the CSFTN gives you access to exclusive resources, connects you with individuals, organizations, and businesses who work to promote Fair Trade across Canada and beyond, gives you the opportunity to participate in national and international campaigns, and provides you support for your education and advocacy efforts related to Fair Trade. If you need support or strategic planning advice, email csftn-recce@care2.com.

The Fair Trade student movement is growing internationally. United Students for Fair Trade (USFT www.usft.org) is America's national student Fair Trade network. USFT has done, and continues to do, amazing work; they are an inspiring group. They held their third annual *International Convergence* in Denver, Colorado this past February. In June, Ian Hussey, the CSFTN's Founder and Executive Director, joined USFT's Board of Advisors, and the CSFTN created a similar position for a USFT representative in our organization to solidify the relationship of student Fair Trade advocates on both sides of the border.

Besides our partners directly to the south, there are several other large networks of students from around the world working on Fair Trade issues. The Student Fairtrade Coalition (www.fairtradestudents.org.uk) is the United Kingdom's student network. They work with such organizations as the Fairtrade Foundation (www.fairtrade.org.uk), Oxfam GB (www.oxfam.org.uk), and Christian Aid (www.christian-aid.org.uk) to support and found student Fair Trade advocacy groups across the UK.

There is a continent-wide network of student Fair Trade activists in Africa called PEACE (Plate-forme d'Étudiants Africains pour un Commerce Équitable / African Student Platform for Fair Trade). PEACE is established in over twenty African countries, and is doing commendable work to promote Fair Trade in Africa and beyond. They are working to build their network to comprise students from all African countries. Many African students were directly associated with Oxfam's Fair Trade program that was introduced in West Africa in 2002. In 2003, students from Senegalese schools had their first meeting called "72 Hours of Fair Trade" at Gaston Berger University in Saint-Louis, North Senegal. In February, 2004, Oxfam sent Bertrant Olliang, a Fair Trade student activist from Gabon who is studying in Senegal, to the first USFT Convergence in Santa Cruz, California. In April, 2004, PEACE was founded. Bertrant was the Secretary General of PEACE from the organization's establishment; however, his term for this position came to a close in December, 2005. In April, 2005, PEACE began a partnership with NAYAFS (National Youth Association for Food Security), a Gambian youth organization. Presently, they are working to build similar partnerships with organizations in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Ghana. In addition, PEACE helped organize the second African Youth Conference against Hunger this past April.

Last, but not least, there is Hooked (www.hooked.org.au; www.fta.org.au/FTAANZ/hooked), the national student Fair Trade advocacy group of Australia. Like the CSFTN, Hooked was established in 2005. The Australian Fair Trade movement in general is quite young, the labelling organization, Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand (FTAANZ www.fta.org.au), was founded in June, 2003. However, the Fair Trade market that FTAANZ covers is growing quickly. Hooked also seems to be growing quickly as they held their first national conference this past May.

There are students working on Fair Trade issues in other areas of the world as well. With a quick internet search, one can find information on students mobilizing in nations such as Mexico, Argentina, Nicaragua, and Chile, to name a few. If the connections and collaborations to date are any indication, the international student Fair Trade movement will only continue to grow and become more connected in the years to come.

The Fair Trade movement will also continue its collaboration with related movements such as the anti-sweatshop movement. The CSFTN's partner in the student anti-sweatshop movement is United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS www.studentsagainstsweatshops.org, Amanda Wilson amanda.divito.wilson@gmail.com and Hayley Watson campuschoicerep@gmail.com are USAS' Regional Organizers for Canada). USAS is an international student movement of campuses and individual students advocating for sweatshop free labour conditions and workers' rights. They define "sweatshop" broadly and recognize that it is not limited to the apparel industry. USAS' three cornerstone campaigns are the Sweat-Free Campus Campaign, the Ethical Contracting Campaign, and the Campus Living Wage Campaign. The CSFTN and USAS believe that a school's standards should be in line with those of its students, faculty, and staff who demand that their school procure, sell, and provide Fair Trade, No Sweat, organic, local and environmentally sustainable products whenever possible, and that their school's logo is emblazoned on clothing made in working conditions which meet or surpass the International Labour Organization's Conventions. We are using our power as students to affect industries that thrive in secrecy, exploitation, and the power relations of a flawed system. We advocate for schools to adopt ethically and legally strong codes of conduct, fully disclose their business partners' information, including their factory locations, and commit to working with independent verification agencies to guarantee that the principles of Fair Trade are upheld and that sweatshop conditions are not happening.

EDUCATION

Fair Trade advocates need to be trained to educate about and advocate for Fair Trade. The CSFTN creates educational tools and collects educational resources produced by our partners and distributes them in an effort to educate our members. Our aim is to teach our members about Fair Trade itself, and how to educate about and advocate for Fair Trade so the movement will continue to grow and prosper.

Hence, the CSFTN is an initiator and a facilitator of dialogue surrounding issues of Fair Trade. We encourage and facilitate communication amongst our members by organizing conferences, campaigns, and speaker tours, by publishing *Fair Trade Synergy* and action alerts, by maintaining our website and resource database, by hosting listservs, and by creating advocacy and education committees to work on specific tasks. Our advocacy and education committees develop resources as well as train leaders across Canada on the changing facets of Fair Trade and their role in its promotion and practice.

ADVOCACY

In August, 2004, Ian Hussey and Jodie Creaser founded the Canadian Fair Trade Network (CFTN), a pan-Canadian umbrella-organization which facilitated communication and collaboration amongst Fair Traders across the country and beyond. They co-coordinated the CFTN for the last two years; however, Jodie recently left the network to pursue other career opportunities and Ian has turned his focus to student Fair Trade education and advocacy efforts. But, instead of putting the CFTN to rest, the CSFTN's Executive Committee has a proposal for the Canadian Fair Trade movement for how the CFTN could evolve into the Fair Trade Association of Canada (FTAC), a guiding body for the national movement which would exceed the capacity of the CFTN to facilitate communication, resource sharing and collaboration.

If the FTAC is to be the guiding body of the national movement, it will necessarily be structured in a different manner than the CFTN. It will need to be open and democratic in nature, and to not lose sight of the local and regional pictures. The idea is to create a regrouping of actors from the national movement who can speak for the various facets of the movement in

ways broader than occurred through the CFTN. Hence, membership in the FTAC will need to be truly open and representative in order to maintain an overall commitment to consensus-building. A diverse representation of TransFair Canada licensees and International Fair Trade Association (IFAT) members will be required in order to actually represent Canadian Fair Traders. Canadian Fair Traders face the challenge of strengthening the linkages and the collaborations between one another, often across great distance, and frequently while speaking to the specific products or commodities that they are each passionate about. They do not often sit at a table together and figure out where the common ground between all of their education and advocacy efforts lies, where the synergies are, and what kind of collaborations they could undertake. The FTAC would be a venue in which such meetings and discussions amongst others could occur. The CSFTN estimates that it will take two years to make the FTAC fully functional. We think that the Fair Trade symposium, *Fair Trade: Bridging Communities, Building Understanding*, scheduled for June, 2007 at the University of Saskatchewan is an excellent opportunity to start an organic process of building the FTAC. The idea of the FTAC has been discussed with many of our partners working in various facets of the movement. The initial response was very positive.

CAMPAIGNS

All of these campaigns are annual events, and all are international events except National Fair Trade Weeks.

HALLOWEEN, FAIR TRADE STYLE (OCTOBER 17-31, 2006)

Don't be tricked by your treats! Switch to Fair Trade chocolate this Halloween!

This Halloween, join the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) and Fair Traders across Canada and beyond in promoting Fair Trade, working to eliminate child labour and to alleviate poverty in cocoa and sugar producing nations. Handout Fair Trade chocolate this Halloween; include information on Fair Trade with your Halloween treats; talk to your friends, family, children, and neighbours about Fair Trade and encourage them to join us in working toward a more equitable future. Email csftn-recce@care2.com for further details. Also, surf the site of our partner, Global Exchange, www.globalexchange.org.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MONTH FOR FAIR TRADE (NOVEMBER 1-30, 2006)

This November, the first edition of this international event will be held and will focus on youth actions for Fair Trade. It is one of the results of a discussion initiated by Équiterre during the first International Convergence for Fair Trade Education (organized by Artisans du Monde, in France, in February 2006 with delegations from 18 countries). Inspired by *Fair Trade Days*, "Car Free Day", "buy nothing day" and other similar events, its goal is to encourage youth to create local actions linked to global awareness-raising in order to speak to other youth about Fair Trade.

These local actions could be:

- An information stand
- A sampling of Fair Trade products
- A conference, a debate, or a training session
- An exhibit
- The printing and distribution of informative pamphlets
- A craft sale
- A letter writing campaign to politicians, student union executives, school administrators, or store owners
- An article in a school and community newspaper
- A special Fair Trade radio program
- An original idea that will make you stand out!

The main characteristic of these local actions is that they be youth coordinated and targeted. These actions will be listed internationally in a unified calendar (grouped by country and by city). This calendar will be available at <http://www.equiterre.qc.ca/en/equitable/novembre/> in mid-October.

Activities in Canada are already in preparation (in collaboration with TransFair Canada and the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN)). Preparations are underway in France as well. We are looking for partners who will organize events and collect information on local activities in their region of Canada in order to develop the local calendar. If you are interested, please contact Carle Bernier-Genest, project manager for Équiterre, cbg@equiterre.qc.ca.

NOVEMBRE: LE MOIS DES JEUNES EN COMMERCE ÉQUITABLE **UN ÉVÉNEMENT INTERNATIONAL ET ANNUEL**

En novembre 2006 se tiendra la première édition de ce nouvel événement international, centré sur les actions jeunes en commerce équitable. Ce rassemblement est le fruit d'une concertation initiée par Équiterre lors de la première Rencontre internationale d'éducation au commerce équitable (organisée par Artisans du Monde, en France, en février 2006 et où participaient des délégations de 18 pays).

Inspiré de la Quinzaine du commerce équitable, des journées « En ville sans ma voiture », du « buy nothing day » et des autres événements du genre, il vise à ce que les jeunes créent des actions locales, liées par une mobilisation internationale, pour parler aux autres jeunes du commerce équitable.

Ces actions locales pourraient être :

- Un kiosque d'information
- Une dégustation de produit équitable
- Une conférence, un débat ou une formation
- Une exposition
- Une publication de feuillets d'informations
- Une idée originale qui vous démarquera!

Les actions locales sont organisées pour et par les jeunes. Ces actions seront répertoriées, à l'échelle internationale, par un calendrier (regroupé par pays et par ville) unifié. Ce calendrier sera disponible sur www.equiterre.org/equitable/novembre à la mi-octobre.

Pour l'instant, des activités au Québec et dans le Canada se préparent déjà (en collaboration avec TransFair Canada et le Réseau étudiant canadien pour le commerce équitable (RÉCCÉ)). Des démarches sont entreprises en France et nous sommes à la recherche de partenaires qui accepteraient de prendre en charge la mobilisation et la cueillette de l'information sur les activités de leur région (en vue de produire le calendrier local). Si vous êtes intéressés à jouer ce rôle, merci de contacter Carle Bernier-Genest, chargé de projet en commerce équitable à Équiterre cbg@equiterre.qc.ca.

FAIR TRADE DECEMBER HOLIDAYS (NOVEMBER 13-DECEMBER 1, 2006)

Give globally thoughtful gifts this holiday season. Spread holiday cheer and Fair Trade this year!

Join the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) and Fair Traders around the world in making a global difference this holiday season by buying all Fair Trade gifts for your friends, loved ones, and co-workers. Include information on Fair Trade with your presents so the recipients know just how special a gift you have given them. Nothing says "this gift is from the heart" better than a Fair Trade gift! So help us spread holiday cheer this year by spreading the message and practice of Fair Trade! Email csftn-recce@care2.com for more details.

VALENTINE'S FAIR TRADE DAY (FEBRUARY 1-14, 2007)

Fair Trade is lovely! Let that special someone know you care by giving them a Fair Trade Valentine this year.

Join the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) and Fair Traders around the globe in spreading the love Fair Trade style this Valentine's Day. Buy that special someone a Fair Trade gift and card this Valentine's Day; show them how your love can have a global impact! Email csftn-recce@care2.com for further details.

FAIR TRADE EASTER (MARCH 25-APRIL 8, 2007)

Every bunny loves Fair Trade! Make Easter sweeter for cocoa and sugar producers by buying Fair Trade chocolate!

Join the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) and Fair Traders around the world this Easter in spreading the principles and practice of Fair Trade, working to eliminate child labour, and helping to alleviate poverty in cocoa and sugar producing countries. Give Fair Trade chocolate, gifts, and cards; hold Fair Trade chocolate hunts; talk to your friends, family, children, and neighbours about Fair Trade and joining us in working toward a just future. Email csftn-recce@care2.com for more details. Also, surf the site of our amigos, Global Exchange, www.globalexchange.org.

NATIONAL FAIR TRADE WEEKS (MAY 1-15, 2007)

Each year, the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) actively participates in National Fair Trade Weeks (NFTW). This national campaign brings together Fair Trade activists, commercial actors, non-governmental organizations, and local governments to promote Fair Trade and make it more visible through a variety of colourful and dynamic events. 2007 will mark the 6th anniversary of NFTW and 10th anniversary of TransFair Canada (www.transfair.ca), one of the main organizers of NFTW. **Look out for a very special 2007 edition!**

World Fair Trade Day (May 12, 2007)

World Fair Trade Day (WFTD www.wftday.org/english/index.htm) is celebrated every second Saturday of May, and is endorsed by the International Fair Trade Association (IFAT www.ifat.org), the global association of Fair Trade Organisations (FTOs), comprised of over 300 organizations from over 70 countries around the world. Email details of your WFTD activities to csftn-recce@care2.com by **April 20th**. The Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) will then produce a national calendar of all WFTD events and post it on our website.

COMMUNICATION

Translation Team

The CSFTN's Translation Team plays a pivotal role in the movement. It takes on the challenge of facilitating communication across language barriers and national borders. Team members are paid stipends to translate key documents for the CSFTN and its partners. Contracts are negotiated by the CSFTN's Executive Director. Notable jobs of late include translating Équiterre's *Guide d'action pour un commerce équitable* and TransFair Canada's *A Student Guide To Fair Trade Activism*. Email the Team Leader, Raeven Geist-Deschamps at raeven.geistdeschamps@gmail.com to join.

FAIR TRADE SYNERGY

The CSFTN publishes a bi-monthly e-newsletter called *Fair Trade Synergy*. Issues of *Synergy* will be available as a downloadable PDF file and as a text-only html file on our website. Together with the CSFTN's website and listservs, *Synergy* facilitates the linkage of individuals, organizations, and businesses, and provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and information. Moreover, *Synergy* provides the CSFTN with an additional opportunity to offer updates on the Network and Fair Trade issues in Canada and beyond. In addition to *Synergy*, the CSFTN sends *action alerts* to its members via email.

Submission Guidelines

The CSFTN encourages the submission of a wide range of articles, event listings, commentaries, discussion pieces, book reviews, personal stories, prose, poetry, artwork, photographs, amongst other items that relate to Fair Trade issues. If there is a topic you would like to see in our e-newsletter let us know. We encourage multiple submissions and creativity; as such our submission guidelines are relaxed.

- ▣ Submissions may be written in English and/or French.
- ▣ Everyone is encouraged to make submissions, whether Canadian or not.
- ▣ Submissions must have the following information: title of submission, author(s) name(s) and contact information. You will be sourced as the author; however, your contact information will only be published with your permission.
- ▣ Submissions must be sent as an attachment to csftn-recce@care2.com. Multiple submissions can be sent in one email.
- ▣ The CSFTN does not have any guidelines regarding formatting or length.
- ▣ Have fun and be creative!

LISTSERVS

To help facilitate communication between anglophone and francophone members, the CSFTN has an English and a French listserv, and requires that a summary of the discussion on each is posted on the other monthly.

EMAIL SIGN UP *(en anglais seulement)*

Yahoo Group and Mailing List Subscription

If you already have a Yahoo Profile, you can join the CSFTN's group via <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/csftn/>. If you do not have a Yahoo Profile but wish to create one go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/>. Simply click on "click here to register" on the left-hand side of the browser and follow the instructions. Once your profile is complete you can join the CSFTN's group via <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/csftn/>.

Mailing List Subscription Only

To subscribe to the CSFTN's mailing list only, send a blank email to csftn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. You will receive a confirmation message. Just reply to this message and your subscription will be complete. If you choose this subscription option, you will not have access to all of the CSFTN's group web features (Photos, Files, Links, Polls, Calendar).

Inscription à la liste d'envoi *(in French only)*

Inscription au groupe Yahoo et à la liste d'envoi

Si vous avez déjà un profil Yahoo, vous pouvez vous joindre au groupe Yahoo RÉCCÉ en allant au <http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/recce-csftn/>. Si vous ne possédez pas de profil Yahoo mais désirez vous en créer un, allez sur le site <http://groups.yahoo.com/>, cliquez sur 'Click here to register' dans la marge de gauche et suivez les instructions. Une fois votre profil complété, vous pourrez vous joindre au groupe Yahoo RÉCCÉ en allant au <http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/recce-csftn/>.

Inscription à la liste d'envoi seulement

Pour vous inscrire à la liste d'envoi seulement, écrivez un courriel vide à recce-csftn-subscribe@yahoogroups.ca, vous recevrez un message de confirmation, répondez à ce message et votre inscription sera terminée. Si vous choisissez cette option, vous n'aurez toutefois pas accès à tous les fichiers du groupe RÉCCÉ (photos, fichiers, liens, sondages, calendrier).

Fair Trade: Bridging Communities, Building Understanding

The Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) and the Society for Socialist Studies (SSS – www.socialiststudies.ca) are pleased to announce that we are jointly organizing a second international Fair Trade symposium at the 2007 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences (www.fedcan) at the University of Saskatchewan.

Dates to be confirmed soon: either June 1st – 3rd (Friday – Sunday) or May 31st – June 2nd (Thursday – Saturday).

The symposium will be a multi-faceted event which will bring together activists, businesses, co-operatives, producers, civil society organizations, faith groups, unions, academics, and community members to attend and participate in multimedia presentations, research paper sessions, roundtables, and semi-structured, open discussion periods.

If you are interested in presenting at the symposium please submit the following information IN THE ORDER INDICATED as soon as possible (proposals submitted after Wednesday, February 28, 2007 will not be entertained). Early submissions will be much appreciated as they will ease the organizing process. Presentations can be submitted and presented in English, French, or Spanish. We will do our best to provide translation services.

Presentation proposal format (please include ALL of the information requested in the order indicated):

Title:

Presenter(s) name(s):

Email address(-es):

Affiliation(s) (if applicable):

Mailing address(-es):

Fax(-es):

Phone(s):

Description (100 words maximum please):

Submit proposals in **one** of the following ways to Ian Hussey of the CSFTN:

* By email (**preferred**): csftn-recce@care2.com; please use the subject line: "Fair Trade Symposium Proposal".

* By regular mail: Ian Hussey, University of Victoria, Department of Sociology, P.O. Box 3050, Victoria, B.C., Canada, V8W 3P5

* By fax: 250-721-6217; please use the subject line: "Attention Ian Hussey: Fair Trade Symposium Proposal".

Registration

The Congress Secretariat will organize registration for all participating associations and independent research groups as well as for the Congress as a whole, and will maintain accounts for each participating association.

Registration fees for 2007 are as follows:

- \$ 40 for students, retired and unwaged delegates who register by 31 March 2007;
- \$ 60 for students, retired and unwaged delegates who register after 31 March;
- \$ 60 for post-doctoral students;
- \$100 for delegates registering by 31 March 2007 (i.e. businesses and NGOs); and
- \$150 for delegates registering after 31 March (i.e. businesses and NGOs).

Delegates will be able to register by mail, fax and electronically via our secure server. Registration begins on January 15, 2007 (see www.fedcan.ca for details).

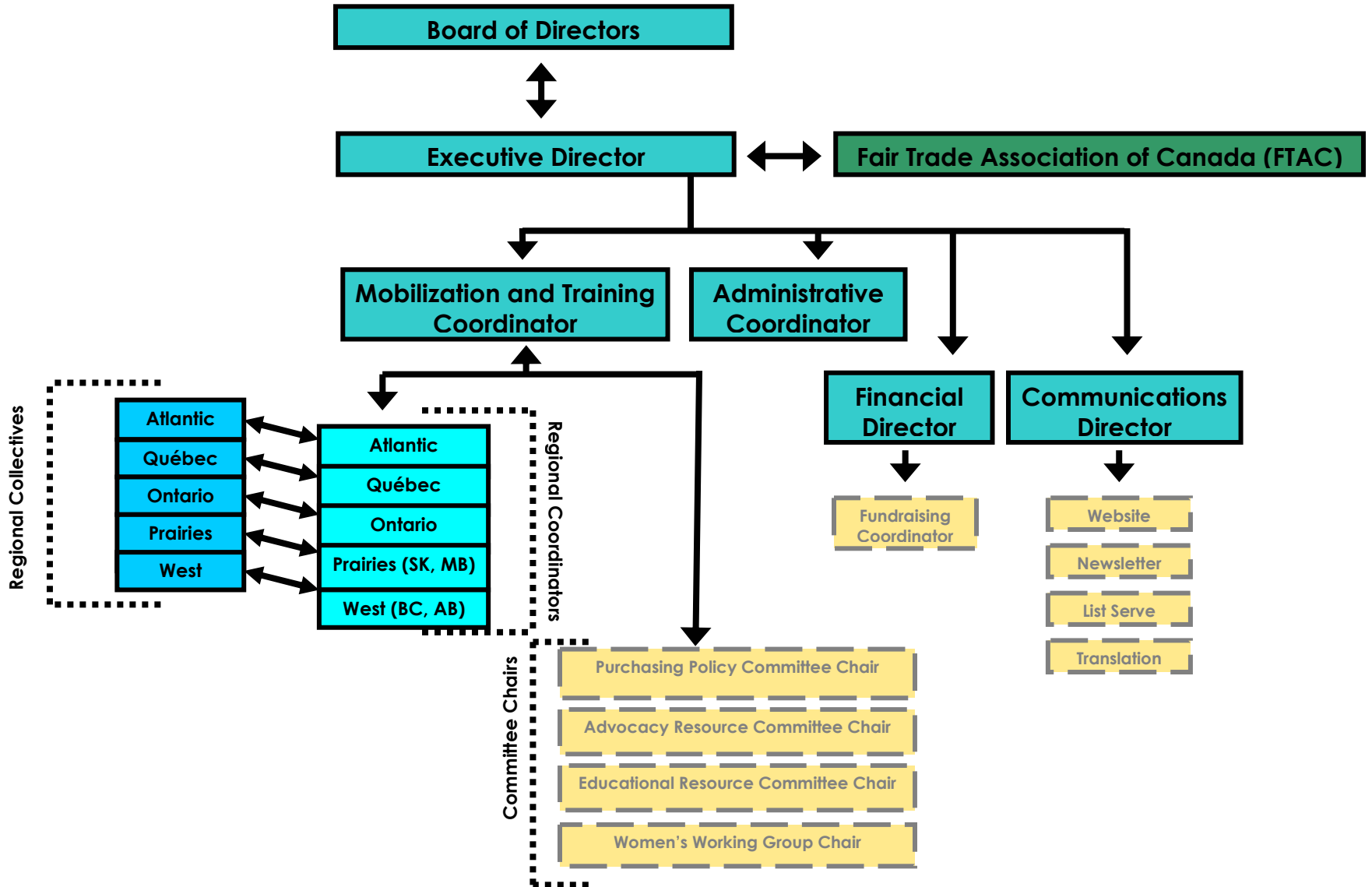
Accommodation

The Congress Secretariat has already booked a large block of residence and hotels rooms for the Congress. They have tried to select hotels close to the campus with a variety of styles and prices and have negotiated significant discounts for Congress delegates. A complete listing of hotels will be posted on the Congress website (www.fedcan.ca) in the fall.

Vendor Fair

We are currently investigating the possibility of organizing a vendor fair at this year's symposium. For more details email csftn-recce@care2.com.

•• GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ••



Executive Committee	Exists to fulfill the needs of organizational development Consists of the Executive Director, Mobilization and Training Coordinator, Administrative Coordinator, Financial Director, Communications Director, and the five Regional Coordinators
Committees	Created and dissolved at the discretion of the Executive Committee
Website Newsletter Action Alerts List serve Translation Fundraising	Can be individual coordinators or committees created for each task The Communications Director and Financial Director may absorb tasks related to their duties until all tasks are delegated
Regional Collective	Is overseen by the appropriate Regional Coordinator Consists of local initiatives, campus groups, the regional offices of cooperating non-governmental organizations and businesses

The following section is the beginning of the CSFTN's bylaws, which are in the process of being drafted for incorporation. Membership in the CSFTN for 2006-2007 is free ☺

**Bylaws Documents
August 2006**

BYLAW ONE (1) Incorporation and Governance

Article I – Membership

Membership in the Canadian Student Fair Trade Network (CSFTN) shall be granted upon the registration of the individual, group, organization or business to the CSFTN's national communication database, and when applicable, the payment of an annual membership fee. Membership will automatically terminate on June 1st of every year and members must re-new their status.

Individual persons belonging to registered groups, organizations or businesses are automatically considered members of the CSFTN. These people will have access to the benefits of the CSFTN through their organizational representative. Should they desire personal access to the below listed benefits, we encourage these individuals to register under the individual membership category. A person's membership in the CSFTN shall be automatically terminated upon the resignation of a registered group, organization or business until that individual registers under another membership category.

INDIVIDUAL membership

Individual membership has no limitations. We encourage professors, teachers, activists and other non-academically affiliated individuals to register for membership with the CSFTN to connect to local, regional, national, and international Fair Trade initiatives.

- a) Members will have access to resources such as the CSFTN e-newsletter, action alerts, the member's only section of the CSFTN website, and other member specific resource tools as they become available.
- b) Members are eligible to be considered as applicants for participation in all national programming.
- c) Members are eligible to hold positions within the governance structure of the CSFTN.
- d) Members receive one vote in all national proceedings which occur within their tier of membership status.
- e) Members are required to pay an annual membership fee (direct or in-kind) which is directed by the Financial Strategy document of the year in question. The amount of this fee must be publicized at least 3 months prior to the day of membership renewal indicated in the statement of membership.

STUDENT GROUP membership

Membership of such groups will be registered under the name of the group in question unless other dispositions apply in the group's bylaws. For the purposes of voting, dialogue and communication, there will be a representative from each group who will speak on behalf of the member group.

- a) Members will have access to resources such as the CSFTN e-newsletter, action alerts, the member's only section of the CSFTN website, and other member specific resource tools as they become available.
- b) Members are eligible to be considered as applicants for participation in all national programming.
- c) Group representatives and members are eligible to hold positions within the governance structure of the CSFTN.
- d) Members hold one seat on the regional collective of the region within which they reside.
- e) Members receive one vote in all national proceedings which occur within their tier of membership status.
- f) Members are required to pay an annual membership fee (direct or in-kind) which is directed by the Financial Strategy document of the year in question. The amount of this fee must be publicized at least 3 months prior to the day of membership renewal indicated in the statement of membership.

ORGANIZATIONAL or BUSINESS membership

Membership of such organizations and businesses will be registered under the name of the organization or business in question. For the purposes of voting, dialogue and communication, there will be a representative from each organization or business who will speak on behalf of the member group.

- a) Members will have access to resources such as the CSFTN e-newsletter, action alerts, the member's only section of the CSFTN website, and other member specific resource tools as they become available.
- b) Members are eligible to be considered as applicants for participation in all national programming.
- c) Representatives from member-organizations and businesses are eligible to hold positions within the governance structure of the CSFTN.
- d) Members receive one vote in all national proceedings which occur within their tier of membership status.
- e) Members are required to pay an annual membership fee (direct or in-kind) which is directed by the Financial Strategy document of the year in question. The amount of this fee must be publicized at least 3 months prior to the day of membership renewal indicated in the statement of membership.

Article II – Officers of the Executive Committee and Expanded Executive

The officers of the CSFTN shall consist of the Executive Director, the Mobilization and Training Coordinator, the Administrative Coordinator, the Financial Director and the Communications Director. They shall constitute the Executive Committee of the CSFTN. The Expanded Executive will consist of the Executive Committee in addition to each of the Regional Coordinators. The Executive Director shall be hired by the Board of Directors and will oversee the hiring of all

other members of the Executive Committee and Expanded Executive. The remuneration of all officers shall be determined from time to time by Resolution of the Board of Directors.

Article III – Mandate of the Executive Committee and Expanded Executive

It shall be the mandate of the Executive Committee and Expanded Executive to carry out the following duties:

- a) The affairs of the CSFTN shall be managed by the Executive Committee and Expanded Executive.
- b) The Executive Committee and Expanded Executive shall each meet at least once annually and shall present a report on activities to the Annual General Meeting of the CSFTN.
- c) The Executive Committee and the Expanded Executive (with the exception of the Executive Director) will be hired for a term of one (1) year, and each member of the Executive Committee or Expanded Executive will normally serve a maximum of three terms in any one position.
- d) The Executive Director will be hired for a term of two (2) years and will be evaluated at the end of each term by the Board of Directors for the purposes of ensuring their eligibility to re-apply for the position.
- e) Any member in good standing may be appointed by the Executive Director to fill any vacancy in the Executive Committee or Expanded Executive. The person so appointed will retain the position for the unexpired term.
- f) The Executive Committee and Expanded Executive shall appoint such committees and Task Forces as may be deemed necessary from time to time.
- g) The remuneration to be paid to the Executive Committee or Expanded Executive shall be such as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine.

Article IV – Mandate of the Board of Directors

It shall be the mandate of the Board of Directors (BOD) to carry out the following duties:

- a) The BOD sees that the CSFTN fulfills its mission statement and objectives while continuing to meet the principles of the organization's vision statement and general philosophy.
- b) The BOD approves the annual budget and fiscal audit presented by the Financial Director and an independent auditor respectively.
- c) The BOD nominates the external auditor to ensure their independence.
- d) The BOD ensures the CSFTN complies with all legal obligations.
- e) The BOD hires the Executive Director and holds legal precedence to terminate their office should a majority vote of 2/3 or greater be exercised.
- f) The BOD creates and supports committees on an *ad hoc* basis to fulfill the Board's mandate. All committees must be deemed a requirement by a majority vote.
- g) The BOD oversees the appointment and proper training of all new Board members.
- h) The BOD identifies risks in the operations of the organization and creates policy to mediate or remove risk contributing factors.

i) The BOD approves and rejects policy put forward by the executive committee.

Article V – Mandate of the Regional Collective(s)

It shall be the mandate of the Regional Collective(s) to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Regional Collective will communicate for the purpose of collaboration on regional initiatives.
- b) The Regional Collective will be a forum for dialogue on obstacles and successes in Fair Trade education and advocacy work within the region.
- c) The Regional Collective will be facilitated by the Regional Coordinator.

Article VI – Mandate of the Executive Director

It shall be the mandate of the Executive Director to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Executive Director shall plan and preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.
- b) The Executive Director, in co-operation with the Executive Committee, shall supervise the work of the National Office and exercise a general supervision of the work of the CSFTN.
- c) The Executive Director shall oversee all external communication on behalf of the CSFTN.
- d) The Executive Director shall coordinate cooperation and communication between the CSFTN and other national Fair Trade and related student movements.
- e) The Executive Director shall work as a member of the Executive Committee to formulate policies and procedures.
- f) The Executive Director shall oversee the coordination of tasks which cannot be properly allocated under the existing job descriptions until officially re-allocated.
- g) The Executive Director shall provide overall direction and advice (vision).

Article VII – Mandate of the Administrative Coordinator

It shall be the mandate of the Administrative Coordinator to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Administrative Coordinator provides support for the Financial Director and the Communications Director.
- b) The Administrative Coordinator works as a member of the Executive Committee to formulate policies and procedures.
- c) The Administrative Coordinator ensures that an accurate record is kept of the proceedings of all meetings of the CSFTN's Executive Committee, including a record of the names and addresses of all in attendance, and ensures that minutes are sent to appropriate members.
- d) The Administrative Coordinator sees that the national membership and communication database is kept accurate and up to date.
- e) The Administrative Coordinator undertakes other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director or Executive Committee.

Article VIII – Mandate of the Financial Director

It shall be the mandate of the Financial Director to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Financial Director administers all monies of the CSFTN under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- b) The Financial Director makes a written annual report in the month of June, including a financial statement that has been reviewed by an independent body.
- c) The Financial Director prepares an annual budget and presents it at the direction of the Executive Director.
- d) The Financial Director develops an annual three-year Financial Strategy Document which details the current and forthcoming financial strategies of the CSFTN.
- e) The Financial Director works to fulfill the Financial Strategy Document.
- f) The Financial Director assists Regional Coordinators in following the financial rules and guidelines of the CSFTN.
- g) The Financial Director works as an *ad hoc* member of Executive Committee to formulate policies and procedures at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- h) The Financial Director provides support for any financial coordinator or committee and represents the coordinator's or committee's interests and concerns to the Executive Director.
- i) The Financial Director undertakes other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director or Executive Committee.

Article IX – Mandate of the Communications Director

It shall be the mandate of the Communications Director to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Communications Director oversees all internal communications of the CSFTN.
- b) The Communications Director develops an annual three-year Communication Strategy Document which details the past and proposed evolution of internal communication tools and resources.
- c) The Communications Director works to fulfill the Communication Strategy Document.
- d) The Communications Director works as an *ad hoc* member of Executive Committee to formulate policies and procedures at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- e) The Communications Director provides support for any communications coordinator or committee and represents the Executive Director.
- f) The Communications Director undertakes other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director or Executive Committee.

Article X – Mandate of the Mobilization and Training Coordinator

It shall be the mandate of the Mobilization and Training Coordinator to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator plans and presides over all meetings organized by the Regional Coordinators.
- b) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator provides support for all Regional Coordinators and Committee Chairs, and represents their interests and concerns in Executive Committee discussions and decisions, including regular reporting on their tasks and accomplishments.
- c) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator provides support and coordination for the execution of (inter-)national campaigns (such as Halloween, International Youth Month for Fair Trade in November, December Holidays, Valentine's Day, Easter, National Fair Trade Weeks, and World Fair Trade Day) across the country.
- d) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator will oversee the organization of all National Meetings of the CSFTN with the support of the Executive Director. The Mobilization and Training Coordinator may select an *ad hoc* support committee for the planning of this meeting if they so desire.
- e) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator encourages and supports communication and resource sharing between the Regional Coordinators.
- f) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator works as a member of the Executive Committee to formulate policies and procedures.
- g) The Mobilization and Training Coordinator undertakes other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director or Executive Committee.

Article XI – Mandate of the Regional Coordinator(s)

It shall be the mandate of the Regional Coordinator(s) to carry out the following duties:

- a) The Regional Coordinator plans and presides over all meetings of the Regional Collective.
- b) The Regional Coordinator provides support for all local and regional initiatives and represents the Regional Collective's interests and concerns to the Mobilization and Training Coordinator, including regular reporting on their tasks and accomplishments.
- c) The Regional Coordinator provides support and coordination for the execution of (inter-)national campaigns (such as Halloween, International Youth Month for Fair Trade in November, December Holidays, Valentine's Day, Easter, National Fair Trade Weeks, and World Fair Trade Day) within the region.
- d) The Regional Coordinator encourages and supports communication and resource sharing between members of the Regional Collective.
- e) The Regional Coordinator sees that regional membership and communication database is kept accurate and up to date and reports these updates monthly to the Administrative Coordinator unless otherwise necessary.
- f) The Regional Coordinator undertakes other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Director or Executive Committee.

Article XII – Signing Officers

The signing officers of the CSFTN shall be the Executive Director and the Financial Coordinator. The Administrative Coordinator or a member of the CSFTN's Board of Directors may be elected to replace the Financial Coordinator as the second signing officer should s/he not be available. All cheques will require the signatures of both signing officers. Cheques for amounts higher than \$1000 require approval of the CSFTN's Board of Directors for transparency purposes.

Article XIII – Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be from the first (1) day of June in each year to the thirty-first (31) day of May in the succeeding year.

Article XIV – Standing Committees

The Executive Committee shall establish standing committees to support the achievement of the CSFTN's strategic direction. Each standing committee chair will be elected for one (1) year and will normally serve a maximum of three terms in any one position.

Article XV – Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be open to all levels of membership, and will be held within three (3) months after the end of the fiscal year of the CSFTN.

Article XVI – Other Meetings

Other meetings of the CSFTN shall be held at such times and places as may be designated by the Executive Committees upon sixty (60) days written notice to the members.

Article XVII – Voting

Voting which involves all levels of membership will occur only for the purpose of strategic advisement of the CSFTN (with the exception of the election of the Board of Directors). General membership votes will be non-binding (also with the exception of the election of the Board of Directors). Voting will occur separately within each tier of membership as outlined in the statement of membership in Article I. Each member will have the ability to vote once. Individual member votes will account for 30% of the total vote, student groups' votes will account for 40% of the total vote, and other organizations and businesses will hold 30% of the total vote. Voting can occur through an online forum or a paper ballot.

Article XVIII—Election of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be nominated by the general membership in a binding vote according to the above outlined procedure. Officers shall serve for a maximum of three years and shall be re-elected in a vote of confidence each year. A president will also be elected for the Board of Directors for the purposes of moderation and facilitation. The president will appoint a nominations committee to oversee the nominations process for new members of the Board.

Article XIX – Appointment of an Auditor

- a) The Board of Directors shall annually appoint an auditor at the Annual General Meeting to inspect and audit the books of account of the CSFTN.
- b) The financial affairs of the CSFTN shall be audited annually as soon as possible after the end of each fiscal year.
- c) The report of the auditor shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Article XX – Removal of Officers and/or Auditors

The CSFTN, by a Resolution, may for cause, remove any Officer, or Auditor before the expiration of their period of office, and may by Resolution, appoint another member in their stead; the person so appointed shall hold office for only the balance of the unexpired term of office of the Officer or Auditor so removed.

Article XXI – Complaints and Membership Suspension

Any complaint made against any member of the CSFTN with respect to any irregular practices carried on by any member of the CSFTN shall be addressed in writing to the Administrative Coordinator. Upon receipt of such complaint, it shall be referred to the Executive Committee who shall investigate the complaint and submit a report to the Board of Directors. If upon such investigation, the complaint is found to be justified, the Board of Directors may suspend the membership of the offending member.

Article XXII – Amendment to the Bylaws

The Bylaws of the CSFTN may be amended by a majority vote of 2/3 or greater at the Annual General Meeting provided that written notice of the motion for the proposed amendment has been received by the Executive Director at least one (1) month prior thereto.

•• ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR 2006-2007 ••

Account	Amount
Total estimated expenditure	33,000.00
Total estimated revenue	33,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	
General and administrative	9,000.00
National communication	5,000.00
Campaigning and programming	14,000.00
Payroll	5,000.00
	33,000.00
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	
Accounting and other legal	1,500.00
Incorporation Fees	1,000.00
Courier & Postage	200.00
Photocopies	150.00
Insurance	2,500.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00
Gifts/Hospitality etc.	250.00
Telephone	1,000.00
Internet	400.00
	9,000.00
DIRECT COSTS: NATIONAL COMMUNICATION	
Letter head design	100.00
Logo design	Donated by TransFair Canada
Annual Report	300.00
Translation	400.00
Website	2,500.00
Advertising	800.00
Educational events and conferences	800.00
Miscellaneous	100.00
	5,000.00
DIRECT COSTS: CAMPAIGNING AND PROGRAMMING	
(Inter-)National campaigns	2,000.00
Regional support during (inter-)national campaigns	2,000.00
Annual general meeting	5,000.00
Leadership training symposium	5,000.00
	14,000.00
DIRECT COSTS: PAYROLL	
Volunteer Stipends	5,000.00
	5,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	
Translation	5,000.00
Individual donors	3,000.00
Organizational and Business donors	25,000.00
	33,000.00



Canadian Student Fair Trade Network  Réseau étudiant canadien pour le commerce équitable

Our mission is to facilitate the growth of local, regional, national and international Fair Trade education and advocacy initiatives through supporting collective communication and resource sharing.

!an Hussey

Executive Director

1833 TEAKWOOD PLACE

VICTORIA, BC, V8N 5B7

250-514-6801

csftn-recce@care2.com

It's hip to be fair!