



## A NEW CHAPTER FOR MATCH — FROM TRANSITION TO RENEWAL

Message from Patricia Harewood, Chair of the Board

### RESILIENCE AND COMMITMENT

If there were two words that could characterize the last eighteen months of MATCH's life, they would be resilience and commitment. Resilience, because in spite of our loss of CIDA funding (75% of our revenue) in April 2010, MATCH has weathered the storm and has not only survived, but will hopefully thrive in the not-too-distant future. Commitment, because the few women of the once ad-hoc (now official Board) have stayed the course, with new members joining to lend a hand. Without the strong but mighty spirit of the MATCH board and the backing of our many supporters who have sent us letters of encouragement, urging us to keep our doors open, we could not have done it.

### NEW PARTNERSHIPS

We must also recognize the commitment of our new partner— World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and its dedicated staff. Although MATCH remains an independent organization with its own Board of Directors, by-laws and governance model, our service agreement with WUSC has provided the organization with administrative support as well as program development and proposal writing expertise.

### STRATEGIC RENEWAL

In March, the Board held its Annual General Meeting in which we adopted revised by-laws to improve our governance model. In May, the Board held an all-day strategic planning exercise in which the Board confirmed its commitment to MATCH's mission and vision while providing concrete proposals on how to move forward in the current context by focusing our work. A strategic renewal document has been drafted and will be available on our website on November 1, 2012.

### NEW STAFF



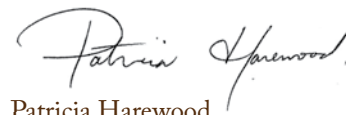
We have recently taken a number of steps to rejuvenate the organization after over a year without paid staff or resources. Chief amongst these is the hiring of our new Executive Director, Jess Tomlin. Jess brings a wealth of experience to MATCH,

having served as the Director of the Women's Platform at CARE Canada and more recently working with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Middle East. Jess also has significant project, program development and management experience and has worked in Zambia, Jordan and Afghanistan amongst other countries.

### MOVING FORWARD

As the Chair of the Board, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for MATCH as we carve out a renewed role for MATCH with the international NGO sector. MATCH has a long and proud history. It remains the only Canadian feminist international development NGO that works exclusively with women's organizations in the Global South to advance women's equality rights. There is no doubt that in 2012, MATCH's purpose remains relevant and the Board continues to be encouraged and thankful for your financial and moral support. We will continue to keep you informed as we move forward, and always welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Sincerely,



Patricia Harewood

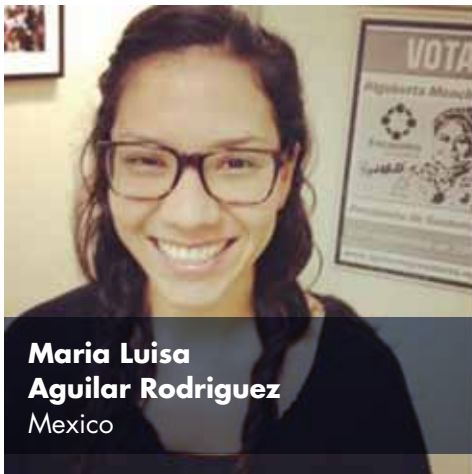
## YOUNG WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVISTS – CONVERSATIONS IN CANADA

This fall, MATCH International teamed up with Nobel Women's Initiative to support Young Women's Rights Activists – Conversations in Canada, a three city Canadian speaking tour which took place in Regina, Winnipeg and Ottawa from October 1st – 5th, 2012.

MATCH provided three participating activists from Mexico, Palestine and Sudan (pictured below) the opportunity to take part in events, exchange ideas around international activism and share their stories with the Canadian public.

At every stop on the tour, the activists bravely spoke about their fights for justice, creating connections amongst Canadians who work towards improving women's equality. The events were attended by dynamic groups of students, civil society, professors and members of the community who were eager to learn from these young women's experiences and find ways to work together, collaborate, and lend support.

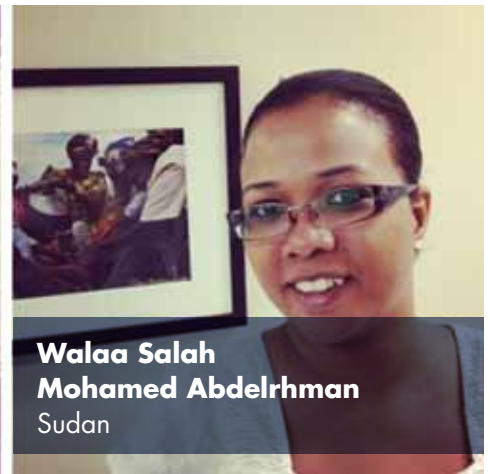
A full feature of this speaking tour will be included in our next newsletter.



**Maria Luisa  
Aguilar Rodriguez**  
Mexico



**Aghssan  
Barghouthi**  
Palestine



**Walaa Salah  
Mohamed Abdelrhman**  
Sudan

## SPOTLIGHT ON A MATCH PROJECT: INCREASING LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF AFRO-DESCENT WOMEN IN PERU

Partnering with World University Service of Canada, the Centro Desarrollo De La Mujer Negra Peruana (CEDEMUNEP), and the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation, MATCH has launched a project in Afro-Peruvian communities of Lima and the Ica Region of Peru.

The project seeks to increase the influence of Afro-Peruvian women in political and public spheres, and to empower emerging and established women leaders in Afro-Peruvian communities.

Groups of women will come together to develop leadership and public speaking skills, as well as improve their knowledge of the political process in Peru (citizen rights, consultation mechanisms, functions of local government, etc.). The project will also facilitate mentorship opportunities between women, men and community leaders.

Ultimately, this project aims to enhance the knowledge of Afro-Peruvian women leaders of the local and national political process, boost their participation in decision making and lend a voice and visibility to this marginalized group of women.

## AN EXTRAORDINARY GIFT: A DONOR'S LEGACY ALLOWS MATCH TO LIVE ON

Earlier this year, as MATCH struggled to raise funds to continue to support women's rights work globally, we received an unexpected and extraordinary gift in the form of a generous bequest. This bequest has been an important source of funding during a challenging time and has played a crucial role in ensuring MATCH's continued engagement within the international development and women's rights community. While the contribution was a private one, we would like to acknowledge this generous legacy gift which has helped MATCH and its important work to live on.



## KEEPING WOMEN'S RIGHTS ON THE RADAR

Violence against women and girls continues to be a serious issue in Canada and around the world. November and December are marked by global and national campaigns focused on ending gender-based violence. MATCH International believes in the principles upheld by the following campaigns and supports these efforts to stop violence against women.

### The International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict

The International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict unites organizations and individuals into a powerful and coordinated effort for change. The campaign demands bold political leadership to prevent rape in conflict, to protect civilians and rape survivors, and calls for effective prosecution of those responsible.

Take the pledge at: [www.stoprapeinconflict.org/](http://www.stoprapeinconflict.org/)

### 16 Days Of Activism Against Gender Violence

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is a global campaign dedicated to ending gender-based violence. This campaign takes place from November 25, the International Day Against Violence Against Women, to December 10 which is the International Human Rights Day. These dates were chosen symbolically in order to link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that such violence is a violation of human rights.

Join the discussion and take action at: [16dayscwg.rutgers.edu/](http://16dayscwg.rutgers.edu/)

### White Ribbon Campaign

In support of the 16 Days of Activism, the White Ribbon Campaign runs in Canada from November 25 to December 6. This campaign is the largest movement by men and boys, in collaboration with women and girls, working to end gender based violence. The ribbons symbolize a pledge to never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls.

Learn more at: [www.whiteribbon.ca/about\\_us/](http://www.whiteribbon.ca/about_us/)

## UPCOMING SIGNIFICANT DATES:

- **November 25:** The International Day Against Violence Against Women
- **November 29:** International Women Human Rights Defender Day
- **December 1:** World AIDS Day
- **December 3:** International Day of Disabled Persons
- **December 6:** The Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre
- **December 10:** International Human Rights Day



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MATCH INTERNATIONAL

For over 35 years, MATCH International has supported women's organizations at the grassroots level and promoted dialogue, learning and action around women's rights issues. With the support of loyal donors like you, MATCH can continue its meaningful work. Our organization remains in a critical financial position, greatly relying on the ongoing support of our donors.

NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
EMAIL:

<input type="checkbox"/> I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A ONE TIME DONATION
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ .....
<input type="checkbox"/> My cheque payable to <b>MATCH International</b> is enclosed
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill my credit card <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/> 
CARD#: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____
EXPIRY DATE (MM/YY): __ / __
SIGNATURE:

..... **OR** .....

<input type="checkbox"/> I WANT TO BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR*
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ .....
Please take my monthly contribution from:
<input type="checkbox"/> My chequing account ( <b>VOID cheque attached</b> )
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill my credit card <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/> 
CARD#: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____
EXPIRY DATE (MM/YY): __ / __
SIGNATURE:

To make a donation via interac payment, please visit Canada Helps at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) and search **MATCH International** by charity name.

**MATCH International**  
1404 Scott Street | Ottawa, ON  
K1Y 4M8

For more information on ways to donate, please contact us at:  
1.800.267.8699 x3661

.....

\* I understand that I may cancel or change my monthly donation at any time by notifying MATCH International

Charitable registration (BN) 12303 7939 RR0001

## FROM HER PERSPECTIVE: THE F-WORD

WORDS FROM MATCH INTERNATIONAL'S SUMMER INTERN

No, not THAT F-Word. Fabulous. Fascinating. Feisty. Fantastic. Fearless. Nope, not those ones either.

### FEMINISM.

For one reason or another, young women and men are shying away from using the term feminism. When asked if they believe in equal pay for equal work they say 'of course'. When quizzed on whether women should have the same access to education, healthcare and politics as men, they are all for it. But, aren't these some of the basic foundations of what FEMINISM is? What it stands for? Is FEMINISM not opportunity, inclusion, potential, choice, representation, and equality? Why, then, aren't young women and men comfortable identifying themselves with the movement?

But, despite the hesitation for some young people to join the feminist movement, young feminism is rising – it is using social media to connect and converse. It's bringing together groups on campus to focus on common goals, allowing young men and women to openly voice their opinions and raise awareness on issues of local and global importance. It is facilitating the opportunity to learn and work inter-generationally; bringing together women who have spent their lives working towards a better future with women and men who have only just stepped into the world of feminist activism. It is providing a platform to question, discuss and challenge.

In my own activism I have grown passionate about issues of women and girls in the Global South. I research and write papers about the impacts of water and sanitation on a girl's opportunity to go to school or the potential and successes of grassroots women's movements to address issues important to the women who operate them. I involve myself in social groups on campus that raise awareness and funds for initiatives benefitting groups of women and girls around the world. And I openly identify as a feminist.

There seem to be those recreating their own definition of feminism – one they identify with and work passionately for. So maybe instead of worrying so much about what young women and men are not doing for the movement, the road ahead should start focusing on what they are doing...being fabulous, fascinating, feisty, fantastic and fearless.

### COURTNEY YOUNG

International Relations and Women Studies student Mount Allison university

# DID YOU KNOW?

Women's equality seems to be losing ground, recent surveys indicate:

## TOP SOCIAL ISSUES FOR CANADIANS GLOBALLY

1. Economy

2. War + Conflict

3. Human Rights

4. Environmental Issues

5. Global Poverty

⋮

**9. Equality between Women and Men**

Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation, "Canadian Engagement on Global Poverty Issues," 2012.

**NEW WEBSITE AND E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP:** Check out the new MATCH website at [matchinternational.org](http://matchinternational.org) and sign up for our e-newsletter to continue getting updates about our projects, events, news and resources. Signing up online helps us stay in touch with you in a paperless way and also provides us with your current contact information. You can also update your contact information by emailing us at [info@matchinternational.org](mailto:info@matchinternational.org) or by calling us at 1.800.267.8699 x3661.

