



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

UNA-Canada e-Newsletter

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UNA-Canada Supporter Highlight

Paul Gagner Celebrates the "Skills of Diplomacy"



**Kate White (left) President & CEO with Paul Gagner and Mieka Buckley Pearson, Programme
Manager, Education & Youth**

“My first involvement with the United Nations Association in Canada can be traced back to 1986 when I was working for an events planning company and I was asked to organise the following year’s Branch Gala dedicated to children” said Paul Gagner, a long-time supporter of UNA-Canada.

Since this first engagement, Paul has played an integral role in the Association’s work, serving as President of the Montreal Branch for five years and as member of the National Board. He sees the work of UNA-Canada as a vocation and understands the importance of planting the seeds of hope and tending to the cultivation of UNA-Canada’s mission towards a brighter future. In 2008, Paul was recognized as an Honorary Life Member of his Branch for his service.

Driven by his passion to equip Canada’s next generation of leaders with the necessary knowledge of the global commons and with opportunities to learn and practice the skills of diplomacy, the “Prix Paul Gagner” was established in 2004, first in collaboration with the Montreal Branch in support of Quebec delegations going to an American Model UN. As of 2013 we are delighted to have it awarded to young delegates to UNA-Canada’s Canadian International Model UN (CANIMUN). The prize recognizes delegates who demonstrate leadership, a passion for diplomacy and a commitment to finding multilateral solutions for international issues during CANIMUN.

According to Paul: “Since 2004 this prize, while encouraging students to participate in UNA-Canada’s programmes, also provides positive reinforcement and recognition to young participants who work hard and believe they can help build a better world. I know many will go to be future representatives of Canada abroad.”

Paul feels strongly in the Association’s mission to strive for a better world through innovative national projects focused on pressing global issues of concern to the UN.

He also firmly believes that the United Nations is the best option to keep democracy and peace intact globally. “If you can find a better global concept than the United Nations I’ll pay attention. I haven’t seen it yet!”

Paul Gagner is the very model of a global citizen- not least through his investments in growing the next generation of critical global thinkers. Thank you Paul!

CANIMUN is a bilingual experiential learning simulation designed to provide youth with the ability to learn, negotiate and exemplify representatives of the global community, finding resolutions surrounding security, human rights, environmental issues and humanitarian intervention. The annual conference comprises daily committee sessions, ceremonies, keynote speakers, embassy visits and social events.