

THE AFRICA SOCIETY

PROFILE OF

MS CARRIE MACLEOD

*Director of Development Education,
CAUSE Canada*

Carrie MacLeod is the Director of Development Education for CAUSE Canada. She holds a B.A. in English and Drama from the University of Calgary. She went on to complete her M.A. in Theatre for Development from King Alfred's University in Winchester, England. This combined program of development studies and community drama has created unique opportunities to work in a variety of contexts and communities. Theatre for Development aims to utilize indigenous forms of oral tradition, dance, mime, drama and other forms of cultural expression in order to identify and address community development issues. Participatory theatre advocates a process of collective creation and maximizes audience participation.

Recent Projects include:

Ermineskin First Nations, Hobbema Alberta - Co-ordinated, designed and facilitated a Theatre for Development Project with Youth Services Canada, the Alternative School, and the Wellness Centre. Forum theatre, storytelling, and mask performance became a platform to address pertinent issues surrounding positive choices available for the youth, suicide prevention, diabetes awareness, and overall care for the elderly in the community.

Women's Agricultural Co-operative, Rajasthan, India - Created and facilitated a Theatre for Development Project in the village Oriya with the Women's Co-operative. A dramatic approach was used as a form of capacity building in the initial stages of forming the community development plan of action.

Youth at Risk, Southampton, England - Assisted in the creation of a Community Profile with Youth at Risk. Participatory workshops, video and performance provided an accessible forum for the youth.

Ms. MacLeod is currently interested in exploring ways in which a 'theatre for development' approach could be integrated into CAUSE Canada's rehabilitation and reintegration programs targeting war-affected children in Sierra Leone.

For more information, contact:

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