



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

For Immediate Release

**UNA-Canada launches innovative National Youth
Employment Programme with Employment and Social
Development Canada support:
*Canada Green Corps/Brigade verte du Canada***

OTTAWA, October 17th, 2016 – The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is pleased to announce the launch of a new and innovative youth employment programme, *Canada Green Corps*. Funded by Employment and Social Development Canada, *Canada Green Corps* is a youth employment programme designed to accelerate Canada's green economy. *Canada Green Corps* will provide meaningful employment opportunities for 150 talented un- and under-employed young Canadians while bringing fresh skills to Canadian businesses and institutions.

This wage-matching programme offers green businesses and organizations and those wanting to reduce their carbon footprint and enhance their green engagement an opportunity to escalate their initiatives while giving an important bridge to sustainable employment for young Canadians. *Canada Green Corps* placements will start in December 2016 and will vary from 3-6 months in length. Interested youth should monitor the UNA-Canada website www.unac.org for application details. The Programme will place emphasis on diversity and inclusion reflecting this great Canadian asset. Companies and organization wishing to host *Canada Green Corps* members should contact UNA-Canada.

Canada Green Corps builds on the strategy of the Government of Canada to create sustainable green jobs and increase commitment to carbon reduction and green innovation. UNA-Canada has a 70-year history of innovative programming engaging Canadians on issues that affect the global commons. UNA-Canada builds this programme on the 20 year history of the successful, prestigious International Development & Diplomacy Internship Programme (IDDIP); on hosting Canada's largest national diversity and anti-racism programme reaching to racialized and marginalized youth and communities for over 15 years; to training vulnerable and diverse young entrepreneurs with business skills training, and to UNA-Canada's presence in every province and territory with well-developed partnerships with the private sector.

Growing Global Citizens § Citoyens du monde à venir

Announcement details:

LAUNCHING THE PROGRAMME: **The Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk**, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Kathryn White, President & CEO of UNA-Canada

DATE: Tuesday, October 18, 2016

TIME: 8:15 AM

LOCATION: Shopify
150 Elgin Street, 7th floor
Ottawa, Ontario

Kathryn White, President & CEO of UNA-Canada: *“ESDC’s investment in Canada Green Corps will escalate the green economy. It will employ un- and under-employed young people; build long term skills and showcase Canada’s diversity advantage. UNA-Canada has received overwhelming support and enthusiasm from green companies and those seeking to reduce their carbon footprint while providing meaningful youth employment. Building on 20 years of successful diversity programming, youth internships and gender equity, UNA-Canada welcomes the vision and support of **Minister Mihychuk**, **Minister McKenna** and the Government of Canada”.*

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change:
“Canadians understand that protecting the environment from further damage is not a problem for tomorrow, but a challenge for today. I am very happy that green jobs are now starting to make their way into Canadian society”

The Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour: *“I am pleased to highlight a project that will make such a positive difference for Canada’s youth. The skills and experience that youth acquire through this Career Focus project will have a long-lasting impact on both their career and the environment”*

Amy, IDDIP Junior Professional Consultant, 2013 *“It was a catalyst for my career in development and humanitarian work. And it was a profound learning experience personally and professionally - and quickly revealed some of the realities of working in the sector.”*

- 30 -

Growing Global Citizens § Citoyens du monde à venir

For more information please contact **Scott Bohachyk**, Director, Work Integrated Learning
Scott.Bohachyk@unac.org (613) 232-5751 ext. 253

Julie-Pier Nadeau, Project Office, Canada Green Corps
Julie-Pier.Nadeau@unac.org (613) 232 5751 ext. 234

The United Nations Association in Canada

The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is an historic, national charitable organization providing a leading policy voice on multilateralism in Canada, with 25 000 members from coast to coast to coast. Established in 1946, UNA-Canada was a founding member of the World Federation of United Nations Association and today holds the elected Vice-Chair, representing global civil society.

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to educate and engage Canadians in the work of the UN and the critical international issues that affect us all. We believe that a strong and effective United Nations is essential if we are to secure a future based on equality, dignity and justice for all. UNA-Canada is dedicated to promoting constructive Canadian participation in the United Nations system and to **growing global citizens** in Canada who embrace the principles of the UN Charter.

Our Work

UNA-Canada engages citizens and decision makers at every level of Canadians society. We invest across generations, bringing empathy-based educational resources on health, citizen education, diversity, peace and the environment to both the best and the brightest and to most marginalized youth within Canada and in the world's poorest countries.

We meet our mandate with a national network of branches, volunteers and education programmes that are inspiring and mobilizing Canadians in support of the principles and critical work of the UN. By **growing global citizens**, we are building a stronger, more outward looking Canada ready to accept the greatest challenges of our time.

Growing Global Citizens § Citoyens du monde à venir