Winnipeg to Host National Gathering on Public Engagement

For Immediate Release

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On October 11 – 13th Winnipeg will be the center of a national gathering to discuss how to engage Canadians in making our world a better place. <u>The Public Engagement Catalyst Forum</u> will kick off with an event open to the public at 6:30 p.m. on October 11th at the Centreculturel franco-manitobain exploring Artists as Catalysts of Change with storyteller Ivan Coyote, singer-songwriter Heather Bishop and Artistic director Pablo Felices Luna. Tickets can be purchased at <u>icnpresents.eventbrite.ca</u> or at the door. Over the next two days on October 12 and 13th more than fifty activists from across Canada will explore the latest trends and ways to use art, social media and creativity to communicate with Canadians. The conference and evening event will be held at the Centre culturel franco-manitobain.

The event is being organized by the <u>Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils (ICN)</u>, which is a national network of almost 400 non-profit organizations that are tackling some of the most pressing issues on our planet.

"Communicating about our shared global vision is a difficult task and will be the focus of the conference," stated Janice Hamilton, Executive Director of the Manitoba Council for International Development (MCIC). "How, for example, do we communicate with Canadians about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals? Although it is the world's most important agenda that more than 193 countries have agreed to achieve by 2030 including Canada, many Canadians may not even know about the Goals." Learn about them here.

"How do we communicate about topics like global poverty, climate change or human rights and use the latest, most creative and effective technologies?" questions Sara Farid, national coordinator of the ICN. "These are questions that concern the media, educators and nonprofits alike and has resulted in enthusiastic participants from across the country.

Featured speakers include CanWaCH, Results Canada, Feed the Children, YMCA, iDE Canada, Hope International, Inter Pares and other nonprofit leaders from across Canada. There will also be an exclusive tour of the Canadian Human Rights Museum.

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For more information on the conference or the work of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils contact local hosts the Manitoba Council for International Development:

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