

# General Information



**AIDS 2006**  
*Time to Deliver*

**XVI International AIDS Conference**  
**13-18 August 2006 • Toronto, Canada**  
**[www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org)**

## Conference Organizers

Organizers



Co-organizers



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# Welcome Words

## Welcome to AIDS 2006



Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the International AIDS Society (IAS) and Conference Organizing Committee, welcome to the XVI International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2006).

Over the past two years, an international team of volunteers and staff have worked to develop a dynamic and exciting conference programme. Throughout the planning process, our Toronto hosts have shown tremendous hospitality and leadership, and we are extremely grateful to them, and to our five co-organizers. Collectively, our number one commitment has been to build a programme that explores the latest developments in the areas of HIV science, programming and policy, and to create a robust learning environment in which an estimated 20,000 participants can, together, build a stronger and more effective global response to HIV/AIDS.

To this end, we are pleased to introduce several new programme features at AIDS 2006. Newly structured sessions will allow for greater interaction between speakers and delegates. More on-site opportunities for networking will be available. And, for the first time, AIDS 2006 will feature designated groups of sessions designed to focus attention on five key challenges in the global response to AIDS. Based on input gathered through the IAS Future Directions Project, Key Challenge sessions are designed to take advantage of this unique, international gathering of people involved in the response to AIDS, to promote interdisciplinary dialogue on a few complex issues, and to identify shared agendas in moving forward on these challenges.

For nearly three decades, we have struggled mightily against this epidemic. We have lost over 25 million of our loved ones, family members and friends to AIDS. And, over time, we have gained a much greater appreciation of how HIV vulnerability is inextricably linked to underlying societal issues such as poverty, gender inequality, discrimination and homophobia. It has been a difficult struggle, and there is no one among us who has not, at times, felt weary and discouraged.

Yet, at the 25-year mark, let us also take a moment to acknowledge the tremendous progress we have made. We know what works to prevent HIV, and through ongoing research, additional prevention technologies will soon be available that will help to accelerate prevention efforts. A decade of experience with highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) has demonstrated that HIV treatment prolongs life, and can be provided effectively in even the poorest of settings. Today, in all regions of the world, efforts are underway to scale up HIV prevention and treatment. And, despite a slower pace than the epidemic demands, momentum is most definitely on our side. As we gather here in Toronto, let us hold ourselves, our institutions and our leaders accountable for building on this momentum until our goal of universal access is realized.

The International AIDS Conference has always been more than a conference; it is a catalyst for change. Over the course of this week, I hope you gain knowledge, inspiration and renewed commitment, and that your work at home is strengthened by your experience here in Toronto.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helene D. Gayle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

**Helene D. Gayle, MD, MPH**  
 Co-Chair, XVI International AIDS Conference  
 & President, International AIDS Society  
 President and CEO, CARE USA  
 Director, HIV, TB and Reproductive Health,  
 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

## Welcome to Toronto



Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers of the Toronto Local Host, welcome to Toronto and to AIDS 2006.

Our theme, *Time to Deliver*, reflects a growing sense of urgency in bringing effective HIV prevention, treatment and care to communities the world over. With only a fraction of those in need receiving such services today, we have a great deal of work ahead of us. AIDS 2006 is an opportunity to take stock of progress and forge a new path forward, one that demands accountability and mobilizes the world into action.

This is the third International AIDS Conference to be hosted by Canada, following Montreal in 1989 and Vancouver in 1996. As such, it builds on Canada's tremendous experience and resolve to fight the pandemic at home and abroad. The conference represents an unparalleled opportunity to build upon current strategies to prolong life and prevent new infections, particularly among Aboriginal populations and other at-risk groups. The conference will also allow us to share lessons learned from around the world

and reaffirm our commitment to a more effective global response to the pandemic, while helping us in our continuing fight against AIDS here in Canada and across North America.

We appreciate the generous support from the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and the City of Toronto as host city. We are also grateful to our many public and private sponsors, as well as our community partners, including scientific, health and AIDS service organizations that join us in hosting this event. We especially thank the many national, regional and local leaders of the Canadian AIDS movement, and representatives of a wide spectrum of Canadian community groups, for their leadership, guidance and support to ensure the success of AIDS 2006. Lastly, this event would not be possible without the tremendous dedication and hard work of our many volunteers.

Among all these players, we especially thank the people living with HIV/AIDS who have worked with and challenged us, and extended us their confidence to ensure that AIDS 2006 makes a lasting difference in the battle to end the epidemic.

In this, the 25th anniversary year of the epidemic, I sincerely wish all delegates and participants a successful conference. It is my hope that we leave with a confirmed path, a renewed commitment, and a shared confidence that now is our *Time to Deliver*. Indeed, we all hope that the realization of this theme will be the legacy of this conference.

**Mark A. Wainberg, OC, OQ, PhD**

Co-Chair, XVI International AIDS Conference  
and Chair, AIDS 2006 Toronto Local Host  
Director, McGill University AIDS Centre  
Professor of Medicine and Microbiology



SIR MOIRNIE E. DAVIS  
JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL  
A MCGILL UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL





PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

## Letter of Welcome from the Prime Minister of Canada



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Toronto, Canada for the XVI International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2006). Canada is privileged to be hosting this significant international conference, the world's largest and most comprehensive gathering of people involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Canada has an important role to play in the efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and has been actively involved on both the international and domestic fronts. For example, Toronto is the third Canadian city to have the honour of hosting this Conference; it was held in Montreal in 1989 and in Vancouver in 1996. It was at the Vancouver Conference that a highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), a breakthrough in HIV/AIDS treatment, was announced. It is noteworthy that this Conference is being hosted in Canada during the 10 year anniversary of this innovation as the world moves towards the goal of universal access to treatment.

From our experience in fighting HIV/AIDS, it is clear that everyone's contribution is important. By forming new partnerships and embracing new ways of working together, we will strengthen the effectiveness of our efforts. We can also learn by drawing on the influence of leaders from across all sectors, from all walks of life and among all ages.

On behalf of the people of Canada, I thank you for your dedication to this enormous and critical challenge and I wish you much success in your collaboration with your fellow delegates. I hope that you will enjoy your stay in Toronto and that you will leave confident that the XVI International AIDS Conference has made a tangible contribution to the global fight against HIV/AIDS.

**The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.**  
Prime Minister of Canada



## A message from the Minister of Health for Canada



As Minister of Health for Canada, I am delighted to welcome you to Toronto for AIDS 2006, the XVI International AIDS Conference.

This year marks 25 years since the first reports of a new illness, which later came to be known as AIDS. Since that time, the world has lost more than 25 million people to this deadly disease. Shockingly, there are an estimated 40.3 million people around the world living with HIV/AIDS, many of whom are the most vulnerable, such as children. It is unfortunate that people living with HIV/AIDS continue to face stigma and discrimination on a daily basis.

The theme of AIDS 2006, *Time to Deliver*, underscores the continued urgency of our work in bringing effective HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support strategies to people and communities around the world. You are joining more than 20,000 people from over 190 countries who share your passion and resolve for taking action on HIV/AIDS.

Whether your focus is on science, community or leadership, I hope you will find that the Conference presents a unique opportunity to share knowledge, to advance thinking and to collectively seek solutions to overcome this dreaded disease.

I look forward to seeing you at the Conference and to hearing first hand how you think we can work together to take action on HIV/AIDS.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tony Clement". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**The Honourable Tony Clement, P.C., M.P.**  
Minister of Health



Ontario

## A message from the Premier of Ontario



On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the XVI International AIDS Conference, convened by the International AIDS Society (IAS) and Toronto Local Host and organized jointly by the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations, the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the Canadian AIDS Society. The Province of Ontario is proud to be host to such a crucial component of the international fight against HIV/AIDS.

The latest global estimates of people living with HIV clearly demonstrate that the world continues to have a major and deadly epidemic on its hands — one that demands and deserves urgent and concerted action. This conference, whose inspirational theme is *Time to Deliver*, is very much a part of that needed action — the coming together of the broadest possible spectrum of the HIV/AIDS community in exploration of ways to address key challenges in the global response to AIDS. I commend all participants for their vital contributions to bringing effective HIV prevention and treatment strategies to communities around the world.

I would like to give my sincere thanks to all those who have been instrumental in making this much-anticipated event a reality. I applaud, in particular, the hard-working members and volunteers of the AIDS 2006 Toronto Local Host Secretariat for their invaluable role in ensuring the success of the XVI International AIDS Conference.

I would also like to welcome all participants to Toronto — our province's capital and our country's largest and most diverse city. I hope that, when not attending the dynamic mix of sessions offered by the conference, you will have the opportunity to enjoy some of the many unique attractions that the Greater Toronto Area has to offer.

Please accept my best wishes for a highly productive conference.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Dalton McGuinty'.

**Dalton McGuinty**  
Premier of Ontario



## Greetings from the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care



I'm delighted to add my voice to those welcoming delegates, participants, observers and media to the 16th International AIDS Conference here in my home town of Toronto. It is a source of great pride for Toronto, for Ontario and for Canada to host this conference - the largest of its kind in the world.

Having had the privilege of attending the last conference in Bangkok, I know how vitally important events such as this are in the battle against HIV/AIDS. Here in Ontario we continue to be extremely active on the HIV/AIDS file and events like these help us to remain focused, keep our knowledge current, provide an opportunity to learn from other parts of the world, and allow us to share our successes and achievements.

AIDS 2006 will attract more than 20,000 delegates to Toronto including scientists, health-care providers, activists, researchers, U.N. workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, and community, business and political leaders. We also expect more than 3,000 members of the media from every corner of the globe.

The six-day conference will expand public awareness of HIV/AIDS, highlight recent successes, and help to advance the research being done worldwide to combat this deadly pandemic. The agenda for this year's conference is ambitious and I am confident that AIDS 2006 will achieve these goals and prove to be extremely worthwhile for all participants.

I want to offer my heart-felt thanks to everyone attending AIDS 2006. I look forward to working together with you as we fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Smitherman".

**George Smitherman**  
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

## A Message from the Mayor of Toronto



Today, I am privileged to welcome you all to the AIDS 2006 Conference, *Time to Deliver*, and am honoured that Toronto is host to the world's largest and most diverse international AIDS gathering.

This conference underscores the continued urgency in promoting access to effective HIV/AIDS related science, prevention, accountability, treatment, and resources to all. It marks the tenth anniversary of the breakthrough in HIV/AIDS treatment known as 'Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy' that proves that access to preventative and effective treatment saves lives.

The City of Toronto has a proud history of being active in the fight against HIV/AIDS in our community through our public health harm reduction strategies and our support to AIDS service organizations. Today, we re-state our resolve to do more and to join you in advancing the cause of building a world-wide strategy to deliver global change.

This conference brings together the best medical and scientific expertise with the voices and shared visions of front line activists, caregivers and persons living with HIV/AIDS. On behalf of the residents of Toronto, I congratulate the organizers and sponsors for their tremendous leadership

to bring together the AIDS 2006 Conference, *Time to Deliver*. I also commit our city to continue working with all of you towards the crucial objectives of prolonging life and preventing infection in the hope that one day, together, we will end this terrible disease once and for all.

We are proud to be a part of these efforts and on behalf of Toronto City Council, encourage everyone to join the fight against this pandemic within and beyond our borders.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller".

**Mayor David Miller**



## A Message from the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto



I am honoured to welcome you all to the AIDS 2006 Conference, *Time to Deliver*. This is an exciting opportunity for public health practitioners from across the world to join other health professionals, community members and researchers to share knowledge and expertise so that collectively we can make a difference.

Prevention, Harm Reduction, Treatment and Research – both clinical and on effective community strategies – are all essential responses to the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. To make progress we must also address the underlying issues of HIV/AIDS stigma that too frequently undermine prevention efforts and the ability of people infected and affected to come forward for treatment and support.

As the Medical Officer of Health for Canada's largest and most diverse city, I am committed to reducing health disparities both within our city and globally. This can only happen if we work together to confront the challenge of HIV/AIDS. I urge everyone to use the opportunity presented by this conference to increase our capacity and renew our efforts to end the pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. McKeown". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Dr. David McKeown**  
Medical Officer of Health



## Conference Organizers

### International Aids Society



The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with more than

7,000 members from 153 countries. The IAS is a non-profit organization founded in 1988, and acts as an independent voice in the global response to AIDS on behalf of its members. The organization's official journal is AIDS, which has a broad, cross-disciplinary focus.

The IAS is the custodian of the International AIDS Conference, the paramount gathering of all disciplines in HIV/AIDS, held every two years. These prestigious conferences provide a unique forum for the interaction of science, community and leadership, with the goal of sharing the latest research findings, best practices and lessons learned in order to accelerate the global response.

The IAS also organizes the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention. This conference occurs every two years and focuses on the scientific and medical aspects of HIV/AIDS. The next conference in this series will take place in Sydney, Australia, in 2007.

The on-site IAS office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 716.

International AIDS Society  
PO Box 20  
CH-1216 Cointrin  
Geneva  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41 22 7100 800  
Fax: +41 22 7100 899  
Website: [www.iasociety.org](http://www.iasociety.org)

### IAS Prizes and Awards at AIDS 2006

The International AIDS Society sponsors a number of scientific prizes and awards aimed at rewarding promising young researchers who are doing outstanding research on HIV/AIDS.

#### ANRS/IAS Prize

The US\$3,000 prize is funded by the Agence Nationale de Recherches sur le SIDA and supports young researchers who demonstrate excellence in the area of research programmes related to the scaling up of prevention and treatment interventions in resource-limited settings.

Abstracts must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- The presenting author must be under 35 years of age.
- The presenting author must be a citizen of a non-OECD country.
- The research must have been carried out in a non-OECD country.
- The research must, directly or indirectly, be related to increasing access to prevention and/or treatment in resource-limited settings.

#### Young Investigator Awards

To encourage young researchers, the IAS has established Young Investigator Awards of US\$1,000 each, awarded to the highest scoring abstract in each of the five scientific programme track categories. The prize has been increased from US\$500 to US\$1,000 for the XVI International AIDS Conference. Abstracts must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- The presenting author must be no older than 35 years of age on 1 February 2006.
- Track A: Biology and Pathogenesis of HIV
- Track B: Clinical Research, Treatment and Care
- Track C: Epidemiology, Prevention and Prevention Research
- Track D: Social, Behavioural and Economic Science
- Track E: Policy

#### IAS/ICRW Young Investigator Prize: Women, Girls and HIV/AIDS

The International AIDS Society (IAS), the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW) and the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), are pleased to announce a new award for AIDS 2006. The Young Investigator Prize: Women, Girls and HIV/AIDS will be awarded to a young woman investigator from a resource-limited setting whose abstract most demonstrates excellence in research and/or practice in addressing women, girls and gender issues related to HIV/AIDS.

The US\$3,000 prize is jointly funded by the IAS and ICRW and supported by ICW. The investigators must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- The investigator must be a woman under 35 years of age.
- The abstract must have been accepted by the Scientific Programme Committee for oral or poster presentation.
- The investigator must be from a non-OECD country.
- The investigation must have taken place in a non-OECD country.

The ICRW, ICW and IAS hope that the establishment of this prize will serve both to highlight the challenges faced by women and girls in this epidemic and to encourage young women investigators from resource-limited settings to pursue research in this area.

### Toronto Local Host Organization



The AIDS 2006 Toronto Local Host is incorporated as a not-for-profit non-governmental organization (NGO) governed by a Board of Directors. It comprises leaders engaged in the Canadian response to HIV/AIDS, who are volunteering their time to ensure the success of AIDS 2006. The Toronto

Local Host is responsible for preparing Toronto and Canada as host city and host country of AIDS 2006, as well as a number of programme activities. These activities include the Outreach Programme, the Youth Programme, the Cultural Activities Programme, the Global Village, the Lounge for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS and the Scholarship Programme for Residents of Canada. The Toronto Local Host has also provided operational and logistical support to the conference and delegates by providing childcare, health and medical services, security for participants and VIP's, and travel entry and visa support.

The Toronto Local Host is grateful for the tremendous financial and other support from all three levels of government – the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto - as well as significant sponsorship from the private sector and other national governments. The Toronto Local Host also acknowledges the enormous support from community partners, and national, regional and local AIDS service organizations.

## Conference Co-organizers

### The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)



UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, brings together the efforts and resources of 10 United Nations system organizations to the global AIDS response. Co-sponsors include the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank. Based in Geneva, the UNAIDS secretariat works on the ground in more than 75 countries worldwide.

The on-site UNAIDS office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 714.

UNAIDS  
20, Avenue Appia  
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland  
Telephone: +41 22 791 3666  
Fax: +41 22 791 4187  
E-mail: [unaids@unaids.org](mailto:unaids@unaids.org)  
Website: [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org)

### Canadian AIDS Society



The Canadian AIDS Society (CAS) is a coalition of more than 120 community-based AIDS organizations across Canada.

Our member organizations are directed by people living with HIV/AIDS and people from communities affected by HIV/AIDS. Our mandate is to speak as a national voice and act as a forum for the community-based response to HIV infection, as well as to advocate for persons so affected. We also act as a resource for our member organizations and coordinate community-based participation in a national strategy on HIV/AIDS.

CAS is involved in work that links many activities along the continuum of prevention, care, support and treatment. As an organization with linkages to all of these areas, CAS is able to provide the support and information required by its membership to provide a sustained response to HIV/AIDS in Canada.

CAS operates six programmes which allow it to carry out its mandate: Policy Analysis, Development and Advocacy, Strategic Alliances, Organizational Support, Capacity Building, Communications and Governance.

The on-site Canadian AIDS Society office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 712B.

Canadian AIDS Society  
190 O'Connor Street, Suite 800  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K2P 2R3, Canada  
Telephone: +613 230 3580  
Fax: +613 563 4998  
E-mail: [casinfo@cdnaids.ca](mailto:casinfo@cdnaids.ca)  
Website: [www.cdnaids.ca](http://www.cdnaids.ca)

### The Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+)



GNP+ is a global network for and of people living with HIV/AIDS. Its overall aim is to improve their quality of life. GNP+ works within three closely interrelated areas: advocacy, capacity building, and communication.

The Global Advocacy Agenda is the policy platform guiding the advocacy work of GNP+. It consists of three key areas:

- Promoting global access to HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment.
- Combating stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Promoting the greater and more meaningful involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS in the decisions that affect their lives and communities.

The Central Secretariat of GNP+ is located in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Individuals can join any of GNP+'s affiliated networks in the following regions:



Africa:	Network of African People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAP+)
Asia/Pacific:	Asia/Pacific Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (APN+)
Caribbean:	Caribbean Regional Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (CRN+)
Europe:	European Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+ Europe)
Latin America:	Latin American Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (RedLa+)
North America:	GNP+ North America (GNP+ NA)

The on-site GNP+ office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 706A.

GNP+ Central Secretariat  
P.O. Box 11726  
Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Telephone: +31 20 423 4114  
Fax: +31 20 423 4224  
E-mail: [infognp@gnpplus.net](mailto:infognp@gnpplus.net)  
Website: [www.gnpplus.net](http://www.gnpplus.net)

### The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW)



ICW is the only global network run by and for HIV positive women and young women. It was founded in 1992 due to a desperate lack of support, information and services available to women living with HIV, and to the need that HIV positive women felt to influence policy development. The founding members were a group of 56 HIV positive women from around the world attending the VII International Conference on AIDS held in Amsterdam in July 1992.

ICW's Vision is a world where all HIV positive women:

- Have a respected and meaningful involvement at all political levels, local, national, regional, and international, where decisions that affect their lives are being made.
- Have full access to care and treatment.
- Enjoy full rights, particularly sexual, reproductive, legal, financial and general health rights, irrespective of culture, age, religion, sexuality, social or economic status/class and race.

ICW has adopted a human rights framework for all its work. ICW campaigns to promote gender equity, universal access to care, treatment and support, and solidarity with and involvement of HIV positive women at all levels of decision-making that affect their lives.

ICW works internationally, regionally and nationally, ensuring worldwide links of mutual support, learning, and advocacy among HIV positive women and their organizations, and between HIV positive women and their allies and partners. We have a growing membership of over 5,000 HIV positive women and girls from around 130 countries. ICW members engage in activism and advocacy at local, national and international levels.

As an international network working to support all HIV positive women, ICW is able to share experiences, strategies and advocacy messages, strengthen globally as a united movement for the rights of women living with HIV, and empower and build the capacity of positive women in advocacy.

The on-site ICW office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 712A.

The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS  
2c Leroy House  
436 Essex Road  
London N1 3QP  
United Kingdom  
Telephone: +44 20 7704 0606  
Fax: +44 20 7704 8070  
E-mail: [info@icw.org](mailto:info@icw.org)  
Website: [www.icw.org](http://www.icw.org)

### The International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)



ICASO, the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations, works to support and strengthen the community-based sector to mobilize and advocate for its needs and concerns in responding to HIV and AIDS. This is achieved by convening, connecting, consulting, and communicating with non-governmental and community-based organizations and networks throughout the world.

Founded in 1991, ICASO operates from its International Secretariat in Toronto, Canada, through Regional Secretariats based in five continents: AfriCASO (Africa); APCASO (Asia-Pacific); AAE (Europe); LACCASO (Latin America and the Caribbean); and NACASO (North America).

Working through a lens of human rights, ICASO actively works with other community sector organizations to oppose policies that restrict and undermine human rights. Such policies only serve to undermine the fight against HIV and AIDS and to increase the fear, stigma and discrimination of the most vulnerable and marginalized in society.

Within this context, ICASO is currently working in partnership with others to amplify community sector voices and support their direct involvement in global, regional and national policy fora. Currently, this includes:

- 1) Community-based Advocacy and Networking to Scale-up Prevention Alongside Expanded Treatment Access.
- 2) Advocacy for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.
- 3) Advocacy, mobilization and capacity building for implementation and monitoring of the UN Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.
- 4) Supporting programmatic participation of the community sector in International and Regional HIV/AIDS Conferences.
- 5) Community Advocacy for Prevention Technologies.
- 6) Application of the NGO Code of Practice in community organizations' programs.
- 7) Supporting community sector participation in national and global policy fora, including UN-led initiatives, human rights, and the Three Ones.

The on-site ICASO office is located in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Level 700, Office 706B.

International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)  
 International Secretariat  
 65 Wellesley Street E., Suite 403  
 Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1G7  
 Canada  
 Telephone: +1 416 921 0018  
 Fax: +1 416 921 9979  
 E-mail: [icaso@icaso.org](mailto:icaso@icaso.org)  
 Website: [www.icaso.org](http://www.icaso.org)

## Conference Overview

### Conference Publications

General Information, Conference Programme and the AIDS 2006 Abstracts CD-ROM are all included in the conference bag that delegates receive upon registration.

The General Information booklet contains general information on AIDS 2006, including details of the vision, structure and organization of the conference.

The Conference Programme contains a complete list of all oral sessions, poster discussions and exhibitions, satellite meetings, and skills building workshops taking place during the conference.

The CD-ROM contains all abstracts presented in the abstract-driven sessions (oral, poster discussions and the poster exhibition). They can be purchased in print format for US\$20 in the registration area.

### Online Conference Programme

The Conference Programme is also available on the conference website at [www.aids2006.org/planner](http://www.aids2006.org/planner). You can navigate from the overview of the conference programme (Programme-at-a-Glance) to individual sessions, and build your conference itinerary by selecting the sessions and presentations you want to attend. In some cases links to Power Point presentations, webcasts, podcasts and transcripts will also be available.

### AIDS 2006 Vision

AIDS 2006 is rooted firmly in the vision that the International AIDS Conference should foster an environment of scientific inquiry, forthright dialogue, collective action, and accountability among all parties. The conference theme of *Time to Deliver* reminds us of past and present commitments for action on HIV/AIDS and underscores the need to dramatically scale up access to HIV prevention and treatment. With 25 years of experience behind us, AIDS 2006 is an opportunity to review lessons learned and set an agenda for future action.

Specifically, the conference organizers seek to:

- Underscore the central role of basic, clinical and prevention science in the global response to HIV/AIDS, and the need for evidence-based programming that is based on sound research.
- Expand public awareness of the continued impact of and global response to HIV/AIDS.

- Highlight recent successes and current challenges, as well as the potential to overcome such challenges.
- Influence key policy makers to increase commitments and take responsible action based on evidence.
- Support the engagement and destigmatisation of people living with HIV/AIDS and those working professionally in HIV/AIDS.
- Enable those working in the field of HIV/AIDS to be better prepared to meet the needs of those affected by and living with HIV/AIDS.
- Be inclusive of those engaged in the response to AIDS, and transparent in the conference's implementation.

As a gathering that brings together so many people to focus on such a politically charged life and death issue, the International AIDS Conference will always generate controversy. However, it must also be a place that emphasizes evidence over ideology and outcomes over rhetoric. To that end, AIDS 2006 will encourage productive discourse and healthy debate, acknowledge and disseminate best practices, and engage the global AIDS community to collectively tackle the key challenges before us.

### AIDS 2006 Theme

The AIDS 2006 conference theme, *Time to Deliver*, underscores the urgency to bring effective HIV prevention, care and treatment to communities the world over. Twenty-five years ago the first reports of a mysterious new illness appeared in the US. Since then, HIV/AIDS has burgeoned into a devastating pandemic: the magnitude of this crisis demands that all stakeholders deliver on their commitments.

*Time to Deliver* recognizes that the scientific knowledge and tools to prevent new infections and prolong life among those living with HIV/AIDS already exist. The challenge at hand is to garner the resources and the collective will to translate existing knowledge and experience into widely available HIV prevention, care and treatment programmes, and to deliver on new and improved technologies for the future. The global movement to scale up HIV services is well underway. AIDS 2006 will accelerate this momentum.

## Conference Logo

Through both colour and design, the AIDS 2006 logo embodies the values of diversity, engagement and humanity. Two faces in profile, with hands outstretched in greeting, emphasize the importance of dialogue. The lips represent communication, reflecting the conference's unique ability to bring together the many different stakeholders responding to AIDS. The eyes denote sight, and illustrate how the eyes of the world will be upon Toronto. Together, the symbols and spacing of the design form the letter "T", calling to mind both the location of the conference, as well as the theme, *Time to Deliver*. The AIDS 2006 logo was designed by Toronto-based Forbes Design Group.

## Opening Session

The Conference Opening of the XVI International Conference is scheduled for Sunday, August 13 2006, at the Rogers Centre at 1 Blue Jays Way, immediately adjacent to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Front Street. Beginning at 19:00 hours, it will feature a variety of local, national and international speakers, dignitaries and artists to welcome the delegates. Simultaneous interpretation will be available in five official languages of the United Nations (English, French, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin).

The opening session is free to conference delegates, who must present their registration badges for admittance.

## Volunteer Programme

More than 1,000 dedicated volunteers are working on your behalf to ensure the success of the conference. Identifiable by their brightly coloured vests, they are organized in teams to ensure the smooth functioning of the conference. The volunteers are there to provide assistance and to ensure delegates have everything they need to participate effectively in the conference. You will see them at registration, the PLWHA Lounge, the Health Clinic, Global Village, and in other areas of the conference venue.

## Faith-based Participation

Representatives of faith-based organizations and people of faith engaged in the response to HIV/AIDS are organizing and involved in a number of activities in conjunction with AIDS 2006. Details are available at [www.e-alliance.ch/iac.jsp](http://www.e-alliance.ch/iac.jsp).

### Interfaith Pre-conference

Faith-based participants of AIDS 2006, from a wide variety of religious traditions and organizations, will come together on 12 August 2006 at the University of Toronto, 89 Chestnut Street, to prepare for the conference.

### Ecumenical Pre-conference

Over 400 representatives and members of Christian churches and organizations involved in the response to HIV/AIDS will meet from 10 to 11 August at the University of Toronto, 89 Chestnut Street. Plenary sessions, skills building workshops, and daily worship will be offered under the theme *Faith in Action: Keeping the Promise*. Simultaneous interpretation in French and Spanish will be provided.

### Interfaith Prayer and Meditation Room

An oasis for quiet prayer and meditation can be found in Room 103 on Level 100 in the North Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre during the International AIDS Conference. The room is available for individual prayer and meditation as well as organized prayers. The following daily prayers are scheduled:

Islamic prayers (Salat) at 13:20 and 17:15  
 Buddhist meditation at 10:15  
 Roman Catholic mass at 12:15  
 Protestant worship at 15:45

A full daily schedule will be posted at the entrance to the room, available at conference information desks, and printed in the daily bulletin of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance. Other traditions are welcome to use the room for organized prayer. Check at the prayer room for possible times.

A multi-religious team is available throughout the conference to provide spiritual accompaniment. If you would like to talk with someone from your faith, it can be arranged at the prayer room.

### Interfaith Exhibition

Many different faith-based organizations have joined together in an interfaith exhibit to share information and resource materials. The exhibit is located on Level 800 of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. There will also be a faith-based presence in the Global Village.

### **Exhibition of Children's "Letters to the World"**

Letters from young people to national and world leaders calling on them to "Keep their promise" in fighting HIV and AIDS will be on display at AIDS 2006. The letters were part of an education and advocacy campaign coordinated by the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance and supported by the World AIDS Campaign and UNAIDS in advance of the 2006 United Nations High-Level Meeting on AIDS.

### **Ecumenical Media Team**

Media professionals from a number of different organizations will coordinate their efforts in producing a daily bulletin available to all conference participants. The bulletin will include news stories in multiple languages, audio and video clips, and photographs, all of which can be downloaded free of charge. The team aims to report on the faith-based response to HIV/AIDS, faith-based input to the conference and on the conference through faith-related media.

### **Daily Conference Newspaper**

Six issues of the daily conference newspaper will be available in English, French and Spanish (Sunday 13 August to Friday 19 August). The conference newspaper is printed free of charge by The Globe and Mail and can be picked up wherever plenary sessions are being held.

### **Online Conference Coverage**

#### **Conference Website**

Extensive coverage of conference news and events will be available on the conference website at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org), including daily rapporteur summaries, press releases and links to other sites. In addition, we invite you to visit our Virtual Media Centre for interviews, presentation slides, photographs and other conference information.

Official online coverage of AIDS 2006 will be provided by [kaisernetwork.org](http://kaisernetwork.org) and Clinical Care Options.

#### **Kaisernetwork.org**

Visit [www.kaisernetwork.org/aids2006](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/aids2006) to view the official AIDS 2006 webcasts produced by [kaisernetwork.org](http://kaisernetwork.org), a free online health policy news and information service provided by the Kaiser Family Foundation.

During the conference, and archived online after the conference, [www.kaisernetwork.org](http://www.kaisernetwork.org) will provide:

- Live and tape-delayed event webcasts, transcripts and slide presentations, including the opening and closing sessions, all plenary sessions, and selected other sessions and press conferences.
- Daily video and print highlights of conference developments.
- Extended news coverage in the *Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report*, including summaries of coverage from international news sources as well as on-the-ground coverage of select conference sessions.
- Interviews with newsmakers and journalists to summarize conference developments.
- A free daily conference update e-mail.

#### **Clinical Care Options**

Clinical Care Options is the official provider of online conference coverage (HIV science and medicine) and continuing medical education (CME) activities based on the XVI International AIDS Conference. Visit [www.clinicaloptions/aids2006](http://www.clinicaloptions/aids2006) for:

- Daily news coverage from CCO's reporters and Kaisernetwork.
- Individual Capsule Summaries of the most clinically relevant studies, selected by CCO's expert faculty.
- Audio MP3 podcasts in which leading clinicians and researchers review highlights of the previous day.
- Downloadable CCO PowerPoint slides summarizing key data.
- CME-certified Expert Analyses, in which panels of international leaders debate and dissect the conference data, organized by topic.

#### **Abstracts and Presentations Online**

The online, peer-reviewed, open-access journal of the International AIDS Society (eJIAS) features the complete abstracts, in searchable format, of AIDS 2006 at [www.ejias.org](http://www.ejias.org).

Abstracts will also be available from the AIDS 2006 Programme-at-a-Glance, available online at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org).

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# Scholarship Programme

## International Scholarship Programme

The International Scholarship Programme is an integral part of the conference and provides full and partial scholarships to successful applicants. The aim of the International Scholarship Programme is to provide assistance to those whose participation will help enhance their work in their own communities, to those who are able to assist in the transfer of skills and knowledge acquired at the conference, and to those whose abstracts and skills building proposals have been selected for the conference programme.

Approximately 850 recipients were chosen from a pool of 16,000. Applicants were selected according to recommendations and criteria established by the Scholarship Working Group, an international group of people working in HIV/AIDS nominated by the Conference Organizing Committee. The conference also supports other types of international scholarships for speakers, committee members, and facilitators/chairs.

Following a discussion of all relevant factors, the Scholarship Working Group presented their recommendations on the allocation of scholarship funds and the ideal profile of scholarship recipients. Considerations included:

- geographical region
- field of activity
- occupation
- number of years worked in the field of HIV/AIDS
- applicant profile (age, gender, HIV status).

The IAS Scholarship Department would like to take this opportunity to thank the Scholarship Working Group members for their support and assistance:

**Jacqueline Coleman**, United States  
**Pia Engstrand**, Sweden  
**Gloria Escheverria**, Venezuela  
**Ian Grubb**, Switzerland  
**Justin Hill**, United States  
**Mini Jacob**, India  
**Srey Mony**, Cambodia  
**Promise Mthembu**, South Africa  
**Devan Nambiar**, Canada  
**Viola Onwuliri**, Nigeria  
**Leonardo E. Sanchez Marte**, Dominican Republic  
**Gregory Vergus**, Russian Federation  
**Nicci Stein**, Canada (independent observer)

## The Scholarship Programme for Canadian Residents

The Scholarship Programme for Canadian Residents (SPCR) provides assistance to residents of Canada living with HIV and/or working or volunteering in the field of HIV/AIDS who would not be able to attend the conference without support. The SPCR received over 1,300 applications and was able to provide financial assistance to approximately 1,000 scholarship recipients based on criteria developed by the Canadian Scholarship Working Group. The working group gave priority consideration to:

- Women
- People living with HIV
- Aboriginal applicants
- Youth (including young researchers)
- Activists/advocates
- Community-based researchers
- Applicants from grassroots organizations (NGOs)
- Applicants who had submitted abstracts, skills building workshop proposals and proposals to the Global Village and Cultural Activities Programme
- Applicants that could help ensure balanced geographical representation
- Applicants from rural and remote areas

The Toronto Local Host Scholarship Department would like to take this opportunity to thank the Canadian Scholarship Working Group members for their support and assistance:

**Andre Goh**, Ontario  
**Anita Rachlis**, Ontario  
**Barby Scaling**, British Columbia  
**Brian Finch**, Ontario  
**Dionne Falconer**, Ontario  
**Emily Elder**, British Columbia  
**LaVerne Monette**, Ontario  
**Lorraine Acuna**, Alberta  
**Ralf Jurgens**, Quebec  
**Terry Pigeon**, Quebec  
**Troy Perrot**, Prince Edward Island  
**Trudy Parsons**, Newfoundland  
**Michael McCulloch**, observer – Public Health Agency of Canada

## Media Scholarship Programme

The goal of the Media Scholarship Programme is to facilitate the attendance and conference coverage of journalists from predominantly resource-poor settings. The programme also seeks to improve the reporting skills of journalists, particularly as they relate to HIV/AIDS issues, to increase journalists' overall knowledge of all aspects of the epidemic, and to facilitate networking among journalists and experts in the HIV/AIDS field.

Scholarships were awarded based on the following criteria: region (with preference given to developing countries); medium (with preference given to radio journalists); and reach (with preference given to those with the greatest distribution).

All media scholarship awardees will undergo an intensive three-day training before the conference. The training – called Journalist 2 Journalist – is conducted by experienced international journalists, and is coordinated by the US-based National Press Foundation.

## Programme Activities

### Global Village

The AIDS 2006 Global Village is an interactive and participatory community-focused space that aims to engage, challenge and inspire. It is the first point of contact for delegates as they enter the conference venue each day and is also open to the general public.

Global Village activities include fora, panels and debates on cutting-edge issues in HIV/AIDS; networking zones focusing on priority populations, issues and geographic regions; daily lunch time Meet the Plenary Speaker sessions; cultural activities and performances; NGO and marketplace booths; small meeting rooms to enhance opportunities for collaboration and networking; youth activities in the Youth Pavilion; a video lounge and an interactive Virtual Village web site featuring e-discussion boards, live e-forums and web casts of Global Village forums for those who are not able to attend the conference.

Details about Global Village activities are available in the Programme Activities Booklet included in conference delegate bags and are also available on the conference website at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org).

### Cultural Activities Programme – Viral Culture

Throughout history, artistic and cultural expression has been used to describe, understand and shape the human experience. Because traditional models of health education, prevention and support have had many limitations in the global response to HIV/AIDS, artists have been able to illustrate alternative and creative approaches to HIV/AIDS issues, using them around the world to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and as a call to action.

Theatre and performance art in particular have the ability to involve and engage audiences in dialogue that enhances learning through experience. Visual arts can evoke strong emotional responses to issues and can renew energy and inspire action.

The AIDS 2006 Cultural Activities Programme (CAP), which has been named Viral Culture, provides opportunities for educators, professional and amateur performers and community members from across the globe to share their methods and tools for alternative communication and education. The programme includes visual arts, literature, film and video, performance art and other innovative mediums of expression.

Activities will take place both within the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and across the city, with many events accessible to the general public. Details about events and performances can be found in the Programme Activities Booklet included in the delegate bags and on the web site at [www.aids2006.org/culturalprog/](http://www.aids2006.org/culturalprog/).

### Youth Programme

In many countries, youth are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS and are often marginalized from prevention, treatment and support efforts. The Youth Programme promotes youth participation and inclusion of youth issues throughout the conference. In addition to supporting and developing mentorship opportunities for young delegates, opportunities for dialogue will be expanded, with an emphasis on how to strengthen relationships between youth and their supporters.

A partnership between the Youth Programme, the Toronto Local Host and the Toronto Youth Force (an international coalition of youth advocates) has resulted in a wide range of exciting and innovative youth activities and events. Comprehensive information about the Youth Programme can be found in the Programme Activities Booklet which is included in the delegate bags as well as on the conference web site at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org).

### Outreach Programme

The Outreach Programme supports the accessibility, integration and inclusion of marginalized and traditionally excluded communities and sectors throughout the conference planning, development and implementation. Focusing on the identified priorities of the Scientific, Leadership and Community Programme Committees, the Outreach Programme has expanded the involvement of vulnerable populations and marginalized communities in the conference and enhanced opportunities for collaboration and networking.

During the week of the conference, the Engagement Tours Programme provides delegates with unique learning experiences through interactive site visits to local organizations, educational institutions, research laboratories and grassroots community programmes in the Toronto area. The goal is to exchange knowledge, best practices, successes, challenges, and innovative solutions through presentations, discussions and hands-on activities facilitated by representatives from the diverse

participating host organizations in and around Toronto. Details about the Engagement Tour Programme, including registration, sites, schedule, departure times and points, and transportation are available in the Programme Activities Booklet included in the delegate bags and also available online at [www.aids2006.org/outreachprog/](http://www.aids2006.org/outreachprog/).

The Cultural Activities Programme, Global Village, Community Engagement Tours and Youth Programme offer American Sign Language Services, (ASL) available to delegates only upon request to ensure that they can maximize their participation in the ancillary events of the XVI International AIDS Conference.

For anyone who has additional special needs or require ASL, contact us at [specialneeds@aids2006toronto.org](mailto:specialneeds@aids2006toronto.org).

# Special Thanks

## Abstract Mentor Scheme

After a successful launch at the XV International AIDS Conference, the abstract mentor scheme was offered again for AIDS 2006. The purpose of the scheme is to support young and less experienced abstract submitters develop their skills in abstract preparation. They had the opportunity to seek advice and guidance from people experienced in abstract submission and, more generally, in international conference participation. The scheme was entirely independent from the abstract review and selection process.

More than 500 questions and requests were submitted, with only a limited number of mentors able to actively participate. The experience from the AIDS 2006 abstract mentoring scheme will help strengthen this programme for future conferences.

Special thanks are extended to the abstract mentors listed below who volunteered to be part of this scheme and responded to questions:

**Ebunoluwa Adejuyigbe**, Nigeria  
**Sandeep Bhalla**, India  
**Joan Cates**, United States  
**Brad Hare**, United States  
**Eno Isong**, United States  
**Kai-Lih Liu**, United States  
**Joel Mayowa**, Nigeria  
**Nicole Ngo-Giang-Huong**, Thailand  
**David O'Connor**, United States  
**Orratai Rhucharoenpornpanich**, Thailand  
**Bernardino Roca**, Spain  
**Andrea Savarino**, Italy  
**Elie Valencia**, Netherlands

## International Abstract Review Committee

The XVI International AIDS Conference broke a new record in abstract submissions, with almost 13,000 abstracts submitted to one of the five track categories. Given the volume and quality of abstracts, the peer reviewing process became an even more critical part of designing a strong Scientific Programme.

Over 1,100 specialists from around the world in one or several fields of expertise volunteered to serve as peer reviewers, helping to ensure that the abstracts presented were selected on the basis of a rigorous review and of the highest scientific quality.

We extend our special thanks to these individuals for the time they dedicated to the success of the conference:

### -A-

**Quarraisha Abdool Karim**, South Africa  
**Abu Abdul-Quader**, United States  
**John Aberle-Grasse**, Malawi  
**Olaposi Olakunmi Isaiah Abiola**, Nigeria  
**Naeemah Abrahams**, South Africa  
**Donald Abrams**, United States  
**Elaine Abrams**, United States

**Barry Adam**, Canada  
**Marina Adamyman**, Armenia  
**Sylvia Adebajo**, Nigeria  
**Alix Adrien**, Canada  
**Olayemi Agboola**, Canada  
**Simon Agwale**, Nigeria  
**Waheed Ahmad**, Pakistan  
**Angela Aidala**, United States  
**Martha Ainsworth**, United States  
**Campbell Aitken**, Australia  
**Atsushi Ajisawa**, Japan  
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**Ajaz Akhtar**, Pakistan  
**Arash Alaei**, Iran, Islamic Republic of  
**Kamiar Alaei**, Iran, Islamic Republic of  
**Jose Alcami**, Spain  
**Anna Aldovini**, United States  
**Grace Aldrovandi**, United States  
**Anna Alexandrova**, Canada  
**Sarah Alkenbrack**, United States  
**Ghalib Alkhatib**, United States  
**Robert Allard**, Canada  
**Dan Allman**, Canada  
**Charles Altman**, Canada  
**Dennis Altman**, Australia  
**Mary Grace Alwano**, Botswana  
**Milton Amayun**, United States  
**Joseph Amon**, United States  
**Gabriel Anabwani**, Botswana  
**Gail Andrews**, South Africa  
**Jonathan Angel**, Canada  
**Sylvia Anie**, Ghana  
**Francisco Antunes**, Portugal  
**Francis Anyona**, Kenya  
**Sevgi Aral**, United States  
**Keikawus Arasteh**, Germany  
**Chris Archibald**, Canada  
**Gabriele Arendt**, Germany  
**Radka Argirova**, Bulgaria  
**Eric Arts**, United States  
**Muhammad Aslam**, Pakistan  
**Habtam Asmeche**, Kenya  
**Clive Aspin**, New Zealand  
**Dini Nur Astari**, United Kingdom  
**Jana Atkins**, Canada  
**Pål Aukrust**, Norway  
**Maria Mercedes Avila**, Argentina  
**Gloria Aykroyd**, Canada  
**Ali Azizi**, Canada

### -B-

**David Back**, United Kingdom  
**Andrew Badley**, Canada  
**Andrew Ball**, Switzerland  
**Scott Bamber**, Thailand  
**David Bangsberg**, United States  
**Giuseppe Barbaro**, Italy  
**Benoit Barbeau**, Canada  
**Francis Barin**, France  
**Kevin Barlow**, Canada  
**Françoise Barre-Sinoussi**, France  
**Paulo Barroso**, Brazil  
**John A Bartlett**, United States  
**Francisco Bastos**, Brazil  
**Manuel Battagay**, Switzerland  
**Sharon Baxter**, Canada  
**Eduard Beck**, Switzerland  
**Richard Bedell**, Canada  
**Monica Beg**, Bangladesh  
**Georg Behrens**, Germany  
**Lizanne Beique**, Canada  
**Lynne Belle-Isle**, Canada  
**Jorge Beloqui**, Brazil  
**Reina Bendayan**, Canada  
**Marcos Benedetti**, Brazil  
**Serge Benichou**, France  
**Tarik Bereket**, Canada  
**Marge Berer**, United Kingdom  
**Philip Berger**, Canada  
**Erik Berggren**, Sweden  
**Ruth Berggren**, United States  
**Colm Bergin**, Ireland

**Andreas Berglöv**, Sweden  
**Ben Berkhout**, Netherlands  
**Nicole Bernard**, Canada  
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**Chris Beyrer**, United States  
**Kevin Bezanson**, Malawi  
**Sanjay Bhagani**, United Kingdom  
**Manisha Bharti**, United States  
**Mabel Bianco**, Argentina  
**Gunnel Biberfeld**, Sweden  
**Debbie Bix**, United States  
**Caroline Bishop**, Senegal  
**Victor Bittar**, Argentina  
**Derek Bodell**, United Kingdom  
**Ties Boerma**, Switzerland  
**Francesca Boldrini**, Switzerland  
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**Robert Bollinger**, United States  
**Clotet Bonaventura**, Spain  
**Vera Bongertz**, Brazil  
**Leonard Boniface**, Tanzania, United Republic of  
**Frikkie Booysen**, South Africa  
**Charles Boucher**, Netherlands  
**Frédéric Bourdier**, Cambodia  
**James Bradac**, United States  
**Brian Bramson**, Malawi  
**Donald Branch**, Canada  
**James Bremer**, United States  
**Carlos Brites**, Brazil  
**Norbert Brockmeyer**, Germany  
**Barbara Broers**, Switzerland  
**Tim Brown**, United States  
**Françoise Brun-Vezinet**, France  
**Christopher Buchner**, Canada  
**Kristy Buck**, Canada  
**Michael Bukrinsky**, United States  
**Elizabeth Bukusi**, Kenya  
**Sandra Bullock**, Canada  
**David Burger**, Netherlands  
**Robert (Bob) Burgoyne**, Canada  
**Dennis Burton**, United States  
**Ines Bustamante**, Peru  
**Anne Buvé**, Belgium  
**Ligaya Byrch**, Canada  
**Denise Byrd**, United States

### -C-

**Luisa Cabal**, United States  
**Robinson Cabello**, Peru  
**Samuel Cabrera Jr.**, Philippines  
**Carlos F. Caceres**, Peru  
**Roy Cain**, Canada  
**Domenico Calla**, Canada  
**Alexandra Calmy**, Switzerland  
**Liviana Calzavara**, Canada  
**Cristina Camara**, Brazil  
**Irma Caplinskiene**, Lithuania  
**Alex Carballo-Dieguez**, United States  
**Dora Cardaci**, Mexico  
**Gloria Careaga-Perez**, Mexico  
**Giampiero Carosi**, Italy  
**Andrew Carr**, Australia  
**Henri Carrara**, South Africa  
**Jose Carvalheiro**, Brazil  
**Miguel Cashat-Cruz**, Mexico  
**Jorge Casseb**, Brazil  
**Jesús Castilla**, Spain  
**Christopher Castle**, France  
**Erika Castro**, Switzerland  
**Ward Cates**, United States  
**Rodrigo Cavalcanti**, Canada  
**Luca Ceccherini-Nelli**, Italy  
**Heather Cecil**, United States  
**David Celentano**, United States  
**Joana Chakraborty**, United States  
**Rana Chakraborty**, United Kingdom  
**Venkatesan Chakrapani**, India  
**Sofia Chalkidou**, Greece  
**Elaine Chase**, United Kingdom  
**Anindya Chatterjee**, Switzerland  
**May Chazan**, Canada



**Claire Checkland**, Canada  
**Peter Chege**, Kenya  
**Yi-Ming Chen**, China  
**Geneviève Chêne**, France  
**Cecilia Cheng-Mayer**, United States  
**Peter Cheung**, Canada  
**Tom Chin**, Canada  
**Nkechinyelum Chioneso**, Canada  
**Maureen Chirwa**, Malawi  
**Ian Chisholm**, Canada  
**Kyung-Hee Choi**, United States  
**Terence Chorba**, United States  
**Timothy Christie**, Canada  
**Paola Cinque**, Italy  
**Ken Clement**, Canada  
**Mario Clerici**, Italy  
**Nathan Clumeck**, Belgium  
**David Coetzee**, South Africa  
**Calvin Cohen**, United States  
**Eric Cohen**, Canada  
**Myron Cohen**, United States  
**Robert Colebunders**, Belgium  
**Ann Collier**, United States  
**Evan Collins**, Canada  
**Lynn Collins**, United States  
**Simon Collins**, United Kingdom  
**Alexandra Compagnucci**, France  
**Jerry Coovadia**, South Africa  
**Karen Copeland**, Canada  
**Gene Copello**, United States  
**Jacques Corbeil**, Canada  
**Liz Corbett**, Zimbabwe  
**Andrea Cossarizza**, Italy  
**Dominique Costagliola**, France  
**Helene Cote**, Canada  
**Pierre Côté**, Canada  
**Mark Cotton**, South Africa  
**José Carlos Couto-Fernandez**, Brazil  
**Frances Cowan**, Zimbabwe  
**François Crabbé**, Cambodia  
**Mia Crampin**, Malawi  
**Levinia Crooks**, Australia  
**Siobhan Crowley**, Switzerland  
**Maria Leticia Cruz**, Brazil  
**Joanne Csete**, Canada  
**Susanna Cunningham-Rundles**, United States  
**Matthew Curtis**, United States

## -D-

**Eric Daar**, United States  
**François Dabis**, France  
**Luigino Dal Maso**, Italy  
**Gina Dallabetta**, India  
**Ronald D'Amico**, United States  
**Volker Daniel**, Germany  
**Emmanuel Danso Apau**, Ghana  
**Jean-Luc Darlix**, France  
**Antonella D'Arminio-Monforte**, Italy  
**Richard Davey**, United States  
**Yvonne Davis**, United States  
**Linda Day**, Canada  
**Varuni Dayaratna**, United States  
**Alina Maria De Almeida Souza**, Spain  
**Rafael De Andrés-Medina**, Spain  
**Maria de Bruyn**, United States  
**Carmem Aparecida De Freitas Oliveira**, Brazil  
**Anita De Rossi**, Italy  
**Isabelle De Vincenzi**, France  
**John De Wit**, Netherlands  
**Isabelle de Zoysa**, Switzerland  
**Patrice Debre**, France  
**Naushaba Degani**, Canada  
**Laura Delany**, Canada  
**Eric Delaporte**, France  
**Jean-François Delfraissy**, France  
**Inge Derdelinckx**, Netherlands  
**Don Des Jarlais**, United States  
**Alice Desclaux**, France  
**Annabel Desgrees du Iou**, France  
**Roger Detels**, United States  
**Beverly Deutsch**, Canada

**Ygor Dias Moura**, Brazil  
**Sharon Diave**, Papua New Guinea  
**Carl Dieffenbach**, United States  
**Douglas Dieterich**, United States  
**Ursula Dietrich**, Germany  
**Melissa Ditmore**, United States  
**Vivek Divan**, India  
**Dawn Dixon**, Canada  
**Kate Dolan**, Australia  
**Le-Ann Dolan**, Canada  
**Antonina Dolei**, Italy  
**Pere Domingo**, Spain  
**Ángela Domínguez**, Spain  
**Brenda Done**, Canada  
**Véronique Doré**, France  
**Daniel Douek**, United States  
**Robert Downing**, Uganda  
**Gary Dowsett**, Australia  
**Sonja Weinreich**, Germany  
**Joseph Drabo**, Burkina Faso  
**Stephan Dressler**, Germany  
**Geraldo Duarte**, Brazil  
**Michael Dube**, United States  
**Françoise Dubois-Arber**, Switzerland  
**Margaret Duckett**, Australia  
**Elizabeth Dudu**, South Africa  
**Sheila Dutta**, United States

## -E-

**Matthias Egger**, Switzerland  
**Maria Ekstrand**, United States  
**Jonathan Elford**, United Kingdom  
**Denielle Elliott**, Canada  
**Richard Elliott**, Canada  
**Joanne Embree**, Canada  
**Sean Emery**, Australia  
**Bissagnene Emmanuel**, Côte d'Ivoire  
**Gilbert Emond**, Canada  
**Jose Este**, Spain  
**Eka Esu-Williams**, South Africa  
**Emmanuel Etim**, Nigeria  
**Jesper Eugen-Olsen**, Denmark  
**Jean Louis Excler**, India

## -F-

**Martin-Mary Falana**, Nigeria  
**Pat Fast**, United States  
**Gerd Fatkenheuer**, Germany  
**Sylvie Faucher**, Canada  
**Eva Maria Fenyo**, Sweden  
**Guido Ferrari**, United States  
**Cristine Ferreira**, Brazil  
**Saviour Fianu**, Ghana  
**Sarah Fidler**, United Kingdom  
**Sarah Fielden**, Canada  
**Erin Finnerty**, United States  
**Susan Fiscus**, United States  
**Dennis Fisher**, United States  
**William Fisher**, Canada  
**Lisa M. Fitzgerald**, United States  
**Margaret Fitzgerald**, Malawi  
**Stuart Flavell**, United States  
**Douglas Fleming**, Botswana  
**Tom Fleming**, Canada  
**Markus Flepp**, Switzerland  
**Charles Flexner**, United States  
**Marise Fonseca**, Brazil  
**Rosemary Forbes**, Canada  
**Steven Forsythe**, Mexico  
**Pieter Fourie**, South Africa  
**Odile Frank**, Switzerland  
**Sandra Freire**, France  
**Martyn French**, Australia  
**Gerald Friedland**, United States  
**Sam Friedman**, Canada  
**Samuel Friedman**, United States  
**Vincent Frimpong Manu**, Ghana  
**Hayford Frimpong Otchere**, Ghana  
**Janet Fröhlich**, South Africa  
**Stig Frøland**, Norway  
**Jon Fuller**, United States

**George Füst**, Hungary  
**Donna Futterman**, United States  
**Knut Fylkesnes**, Norway

## -G-

**Dana Gabuzda**, United States  
**Massimo Galli**, Italy  
**Robert Gallo**, United States  
**Stephen Gange**, United States  
**Wen-Yi Gao**, United States  
**Homyar Gardin**, India  
**David Garmaise**, Canada  
**Hiroyuki Gatanaga**, Japan  
**José M. Gatell**, Spain  
**Joseph Gathe**, United States  
**Thomas Gegeny**, United States  
**Clemon George**, Canada  
**Haileyesus Getahun**, Switzerland  
**Grace Getty**, Canada  
**Peter Ghys**, Switzerland  
**Diana Gibb**, United Kingdom  
**Charlie Gilks**, United Kingdom  
**Noel Gill**, United Kingdom  
**Sue Gill**, Canada  
**James Gillett**, Canada  
**Albert Gimenez-Masat**, Spain  
**Adam Ginter**, Canada  
**Bethel Girma Shiferaw**, Ethiopia  
**Jean Claude Gluckman**, France  
**Frank Goebel**, Germany  
**James Goedert**, United States  
**Ron Gold**, Australia  
**Irene Goldstone**, Canada  
**Fabiano Gontijo**, Brazil  
**Alfredo Gonzalez**, United States  
**Ana Cristina Gonzalez-Velez**, Colombia  
**Frances Gotch**, United Kingdom  
**Matthias Götte**, Canada  
**Kevin Gough**, Canada  
**Michael Grant**, Canada  
**Glenda Gray**, South Africa  
**Nicole Gray**, United States  
**Dirceu Greco**, Brazil  
**Daniel Gredig**, Switzerland  
**Minrie Greeff**, South Africa  
**Kim Green**, Viet Nam  
**Robert Greener**, France  
**Jeffrey Grierson**, Australia  
**Beatriz Grinsztejn**, Brazil  
**Howard Grossman**, United States  
**Kathie Grovit-Ferbas**, United States  
**Ian Grubb**, Switzerland  
**Andrew Grulich**, Australia  
**Sofia Gruskin**, United States  
**Mauro Guarinieri**, Italy  
**Rachel Guglielmo**, United States  
**Mark Guimaraes**, Brazil  
**Roy Gulick**, United States  
**Hema Gupta**, Canada

## -H-

**Alejandro Haag**, United States  
**Ibrahim Halkano**, Tanzania, United Republic of  
**Elizabeth Hamilton**, United States  
**Lisa Hansen**, Canada  
**Mary Haour Knipe**, Switzerland  
**Dave Haran**, United Kingdom  
**Alexandre Harari**, Switzerland  
**Deborah Hardwick**, Canada  
**Thomas Harrer**, Germany  
**Anthony Harries**, Malawi  
**Mark Harrington**, United States  
**Marianne Harris**, Canada  
**Steve Harris**, Canada  
**Jagdish Harsh**, India  
**Graham Hart**, United Kingdom  
**Trevor Hart**, Canada  
**Oliver Hartley**, Switzerland  
**Kenji Hattori**, Japan

**Stephen Hawes**, United States  
**Norman Hearst**, United States  
**Hans Heiken**, Germany  
**Robert Heimer**, United States  
**Sarah Hendriks**, Canada  
**Philippe Hermans**, Belgium  
**Jaime Hernandez**, United States  
**Rosalinda Hernandez**, Ghana  
**Nancy Hessel**, United States  
**Alison Hickey**, South Africa  
**Hakima Himmich**, Morocco  
**Martin Hirsch**, United States  
**Bernard Hirschel**, Switzerland  
**Jennifer Ho**, Thailand  
**Mindy Hochgesang**, Malawi  
**Vida Hodara**, United States  
**Colleen Hoff**, United States  
**Margaret Hogan**, Tanzania, United Republic of  
**Robert Hogg**, Canada  
**Mark Holodniy**, United States  
**Mitsuo Honda**, Japan  
**Andrzej Horban**, Poland  
**Amy Horton**, Canada  
**Sean Hosein**, Canada  
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**Christine Hughes**, Canada  
**Michael Hughes**, United States  
**Joyce Hunter**, United States  
**Michael Hurley**, Australia  
**Winston Husbands**, Canada  
**Ingo W. Husstedt**, Germany  
**Nancy Hutton**, United States

## -I-

**Chikwe Ihekweazu**, United Kingdom  
**Isaac Ikpekha**, Nigeria  
**Kazuyoshi Ikuta**, Japan  
**Catalina Iliuta**, Romania  
**Tomozumi Imamichi**, United States  
**Moses Imayi**, Nigeria  
**Silvia Inchaurrega**, Argentina  
**Cesar Infante**, Mexico  
**Elisabete Inglesi**, Brazil  
**Sheila Isoke**, United States  
**Aikichi Iwamoto**, Japan  
**Sujatha Iyengar**, United States

## -J-

**Helen Jackson**, Zimbabwe  
**Randy Jackson**, Canada  
**Mark Jacobson**, United States  
**Kuan-Teh Jeang**, United States  
**Richard Jefferys**, United States  
**Shirleen Jejeebhoy**, India  
**Ping Jia**, China  
**Shibo Jiang**, United States  
**Katarina Jiresova**, Slovakia  
**Nadine Job-spira**, France  
**Paul Johnson**, United States  
**Victoria Johnson**, United States  
**Grace John-Stewart**, United States  
**Heidi Jones**, United States  
**Peris Jones**, Norway  
**T. Stephen Jones**, United States  
**Ida Jooste**, South Africa  
**Gonzague Jourdain**, Thailand  
**Christian Junet**, Switzerland  
**Ralf Jürgens**, Canada

## -K-

**Sandra Kabir**, United Kingdom  
**Auguste Kadio**, Côte d'Ivoire  
**Olalekan Kaffo**, Nigeria  
**Fabiana Kakehasi**, Brazil  
**John Kaldor**, Australia  
**Pontiano Kaleebu**, Uganda  
**Kerstin Käll**, Sweden

**Esper Kallas**, Brazil  
**Mitsuhiro Kamakura**, Japan  
**Anatoli Kamali**, Uganda  
**Lori E. Kamemoto**, United States  
**Claudes Kamenga**, Ghana  
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**Elena Kanigan**, Canada  
**Phyllis Kanki**, United States  
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**Shuaib Kauchali**, South Africa  
**Rupert Kaul**, Canada  
**Edna Kavuma**, Canada  
**Michel Kazatchkine**, France  
**Peter Kazembe**, Malawi  
**Michael Keefer**, United States  
**Kevin Kelly**, South Africa  
**Stephen Kent**, Australia  
**Thomas Kerr**, Canada  
**Ligia Regina Kerr-Pontes**, Brazil  
**Luc Kestens**, Belgium  
**Vuyiswa Keyi**, Canada  
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**Walyaro**, Kenya  
**Chirasak Khamboonruang**, Thailand  
**Priyakamon Khan**, Thailand  
**Medha Khandekar**, India  
**Ayesha Kharsany**, South Africa  
**Ndunge Kiiti**, United States  
**Peter Kilmarx**, United States  
**Satoshi Kimura**, Japan  
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**Ole Kirk**, Denmark  
**Kamal Kishore**, Fiji  
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### Skills Building Workshops

The Skills Building Workshop Programme has become an integral part of the International AIDS Conferences. The goal of the programme is to enhance the practical skills and knowledge of participants so they can plan and implement effective HIV/AIDS policies and programmes in their communities. Eighty-three workshops will be presented on 81 different topics. Skills building workshops will be presented in 10 different languages by facilitators from all corners of the world. Over 750 skills building workshop proposals were submitted under the five workshop categories, corresponding with the four Key Challenges and additional Focus Area.

#### Key Challenges

- Accelerate Research to end the HIV/AIDS Epidemic
- Expand and Sustain Human Resources to Scale Up HIV/AIDS Treatment and Prevention
- Intensify Involvement of Affected Communities
- Build New Leadership to Advance the Response

#### Additional Focus Area:

##### Scaling Up - Lessons from the Field

Over 40 individuals from around the world in one or several fields of expertise volunteered to serve as peer reviewers, helping to ensure that only the highest quality workshop proposals became part of the programme.

We extend our thanks to these individuals for their tremendous effort and valuable input which contributed to the success of this programme:

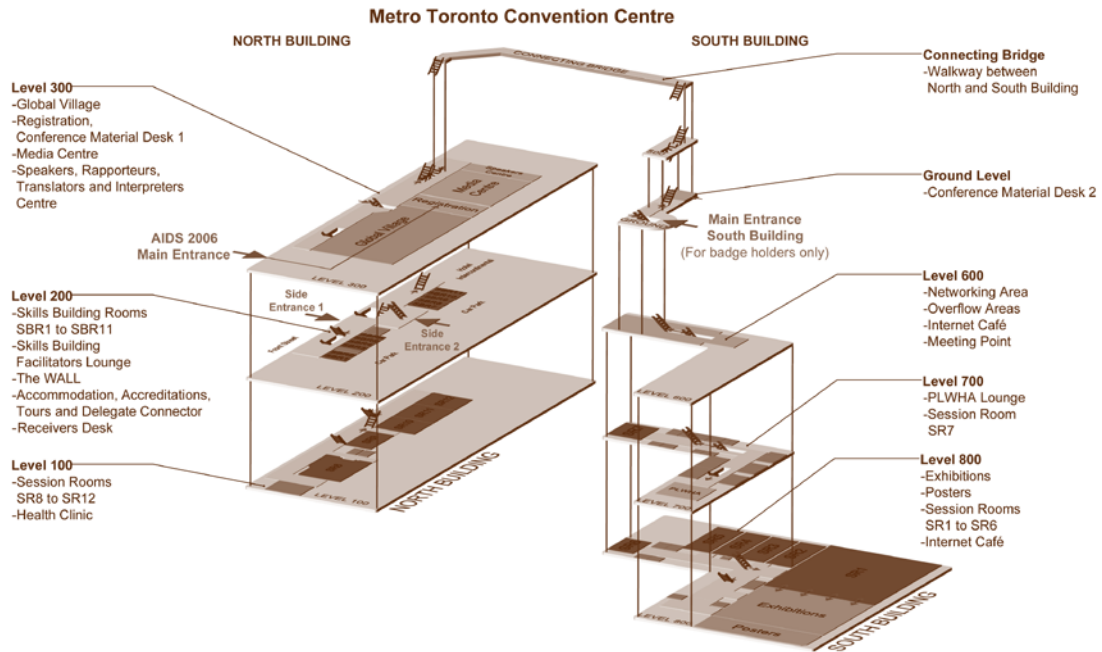
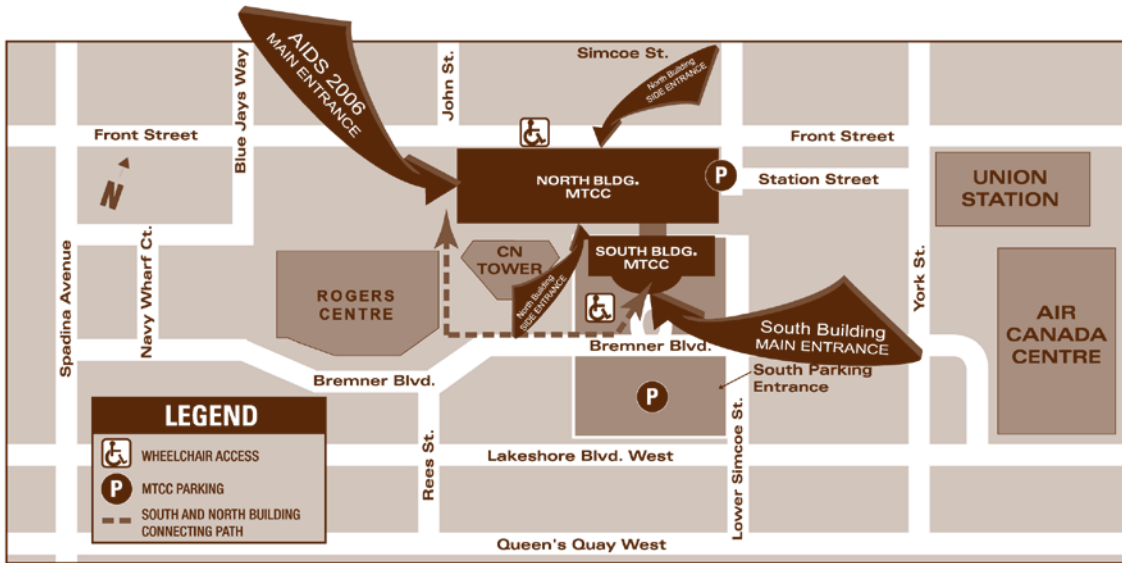
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# Conference venue

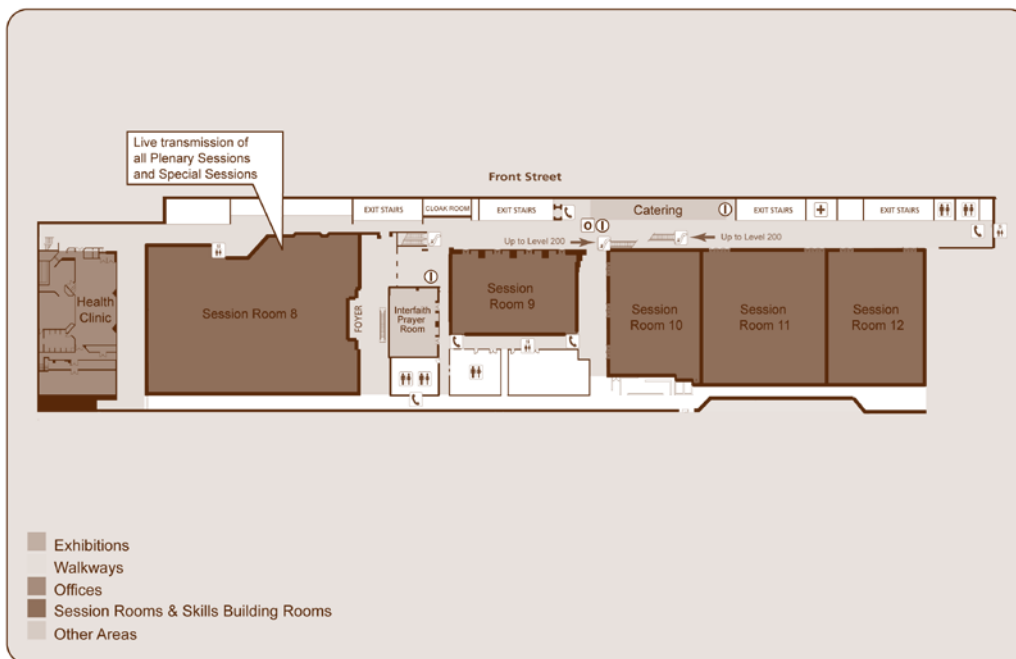
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The South Building entrance is located at 222 Bremner Blvd, one block north of Lakeshore Blvd., west of York Street.

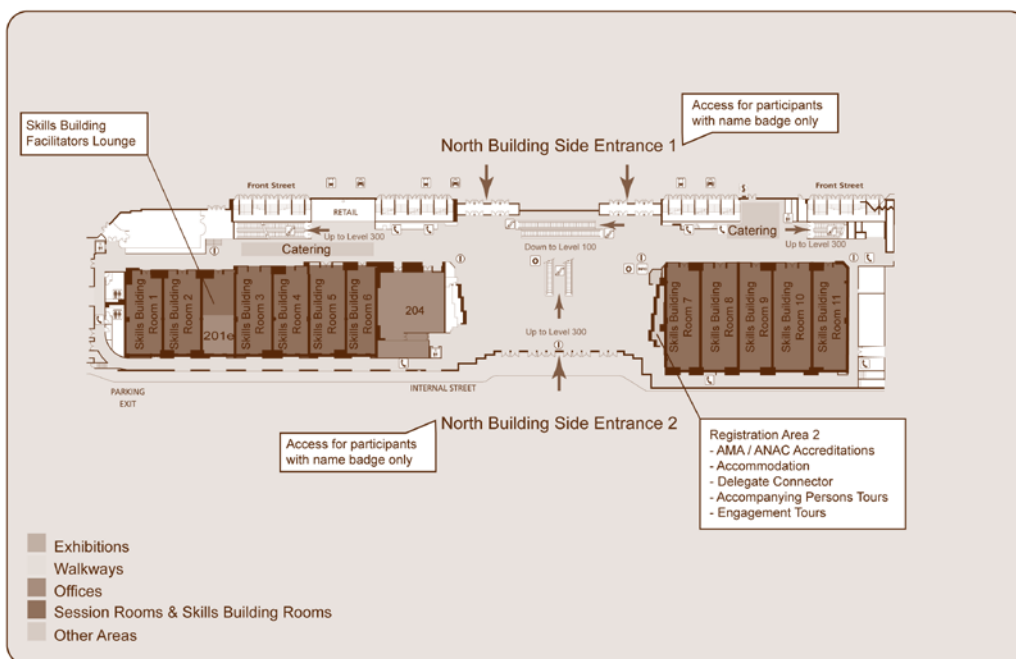
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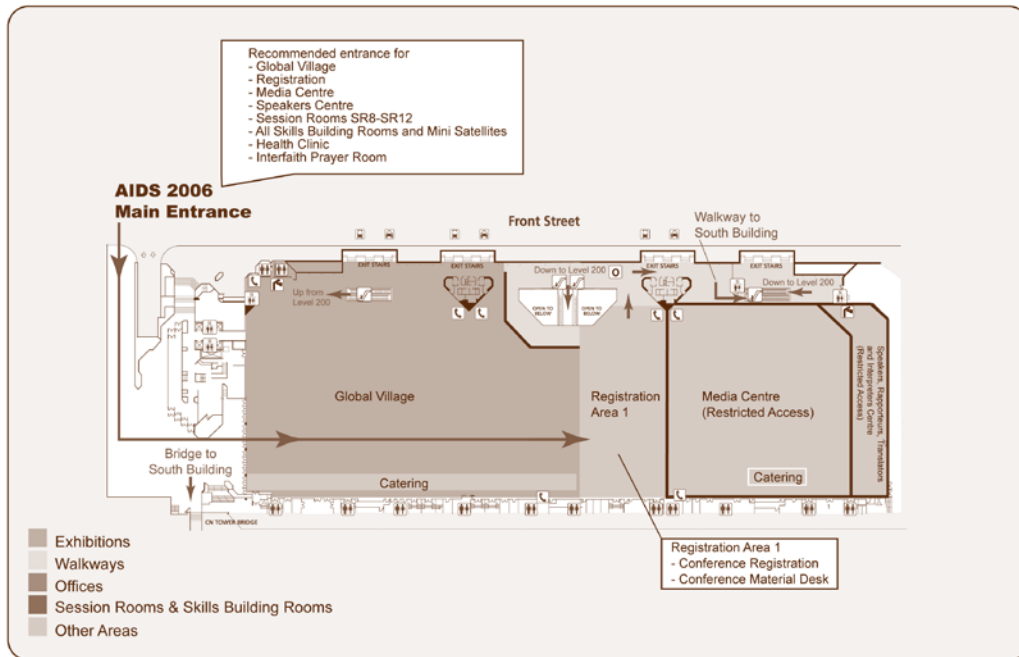
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|  Overview all levels |  Bus arrival / departure |  First aid         |
|  Public elevator     |  Taxi stand              |  Payphone          |
|  Water fountain      |  Information screen      |  Information desk  |



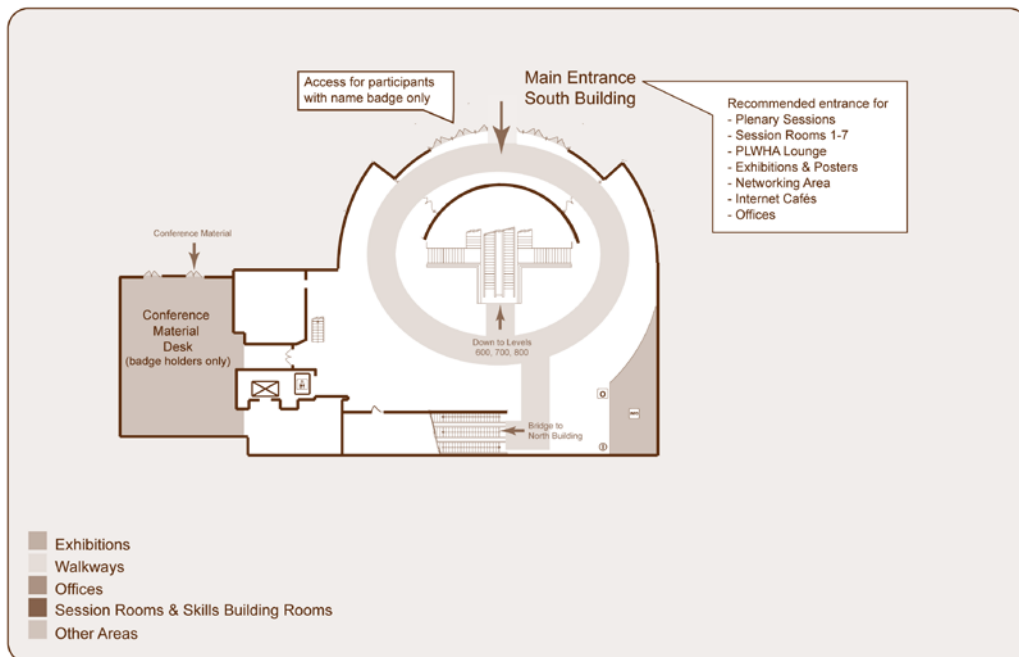
**NORTH BUILDING - LEVEL 100**



**NORTH BUILDING - LEVEL 200**

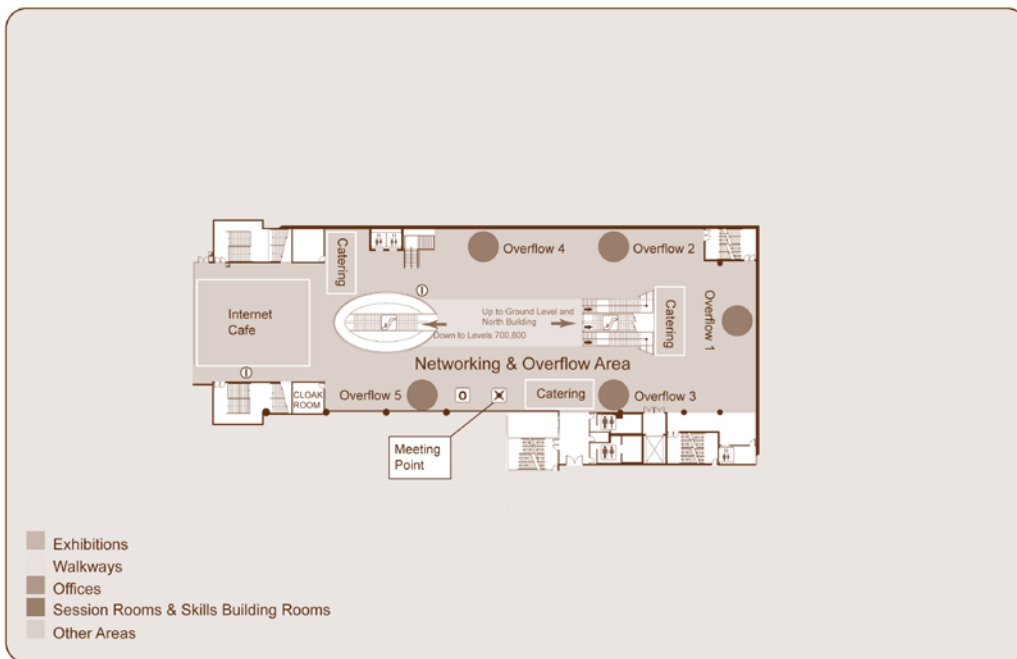


**NORTH BUILDING - LEVEL 300**

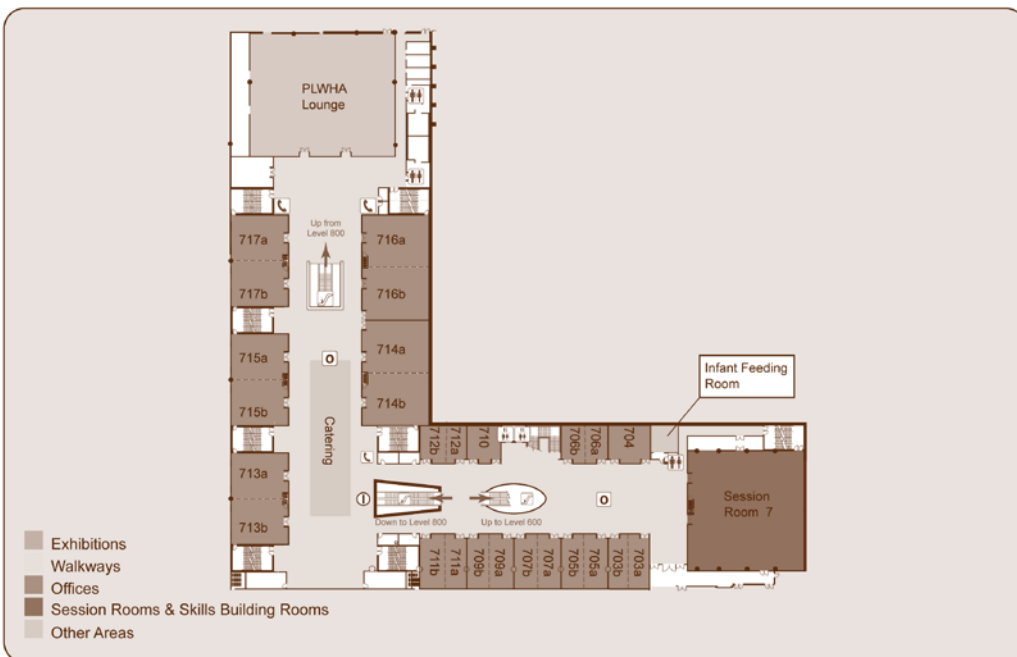


**SOUTH BUILDING - GROUND LEVEL**

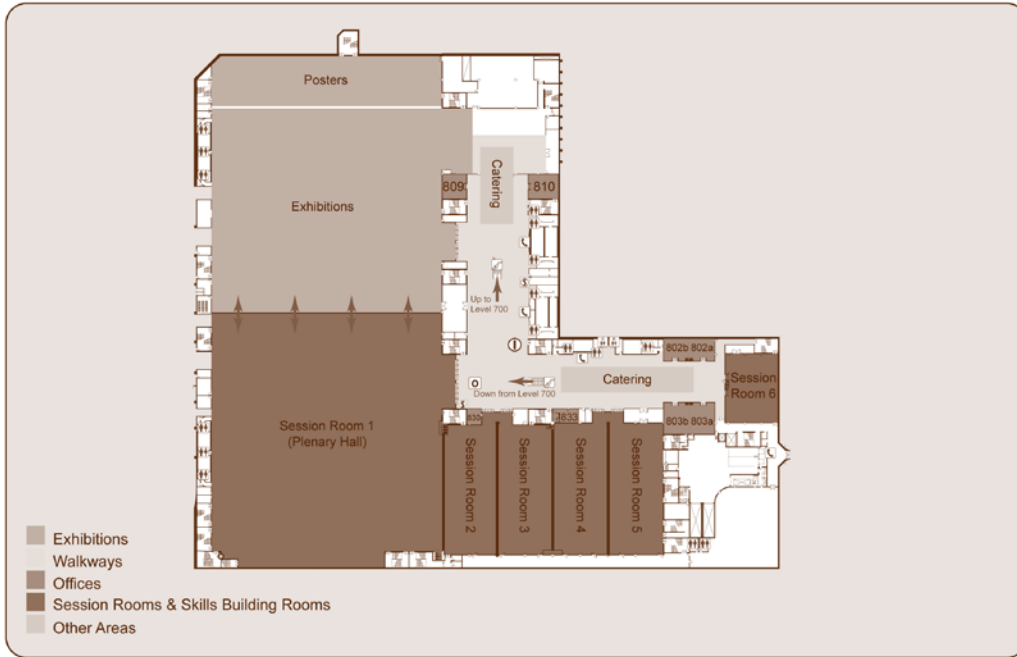




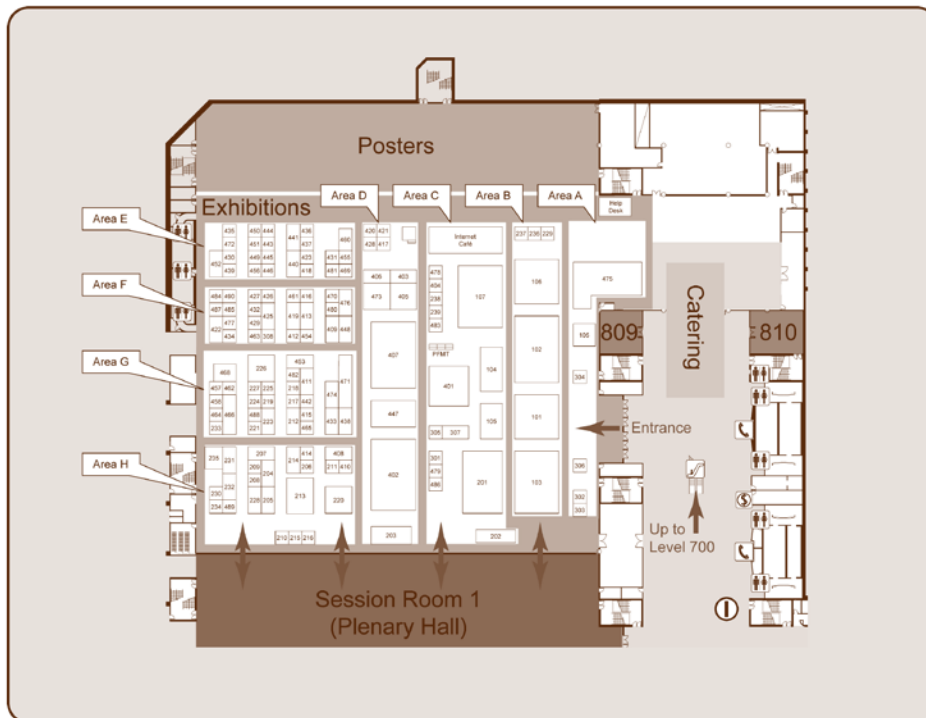
**SOUTH BUILDING - LEVEL 600**



**SOUTH BUILDING - LEVEL 700**



**SOUTH BUILDING - LEVEL 800**



**SOUTH BUILDING - LEVEL 800 - Exhibitions**

## Registration

Registration desks are open at the following times:

Saturday 12 August 2006 12:00-20:00

Sunday 13 August 2006 06:30-19:30

Monday 14 August –  
Thursday 17 August 2006 06:30-18:30

Friday 18 August 2006 08:30-13:00

The registration fee for regular delegates, students/youth/post-docs and media representatives includes entry to all conference sessions, the exhibition and poster area, the opening session and the closing session.

The registration for accompanying persons and children includes entry to the conference venue, the opening session, the closing session, and a city tour. Entry to the exhibition, the poster area and the conference session rooms is not included.

## Principles and Values of Conference Participation

By attending the XVI International AIDS Conference, participants agree to comply with the Principles and Values for Conference Participation. AIDS 2006 endorses freedom of expression as an essential principle in the fight against HIV/AIDS and in promoting full participation in the conference. The combined efforts of all stakeholders in the public and private sectors and civil society are required to halt and reverse the AIDS pandemic. Recognizing the role of activism and advocacy, the conference will provide local space near, but separate from, the conference venue to plan and coordinate the meaningful participation of community activist and advocacy participants and their organizations.

Peaceful protest has always been and continues to be a key element of participation at the conference. However, the conference opposes the destruction of property; the use or threat of physical force; and the disruption of conference sessions or satellite meetings that prevent dialogue and debate from taking place. Destructive or violent actions will be dealt with in accordance with the laws of Canada. Further, security personnel may escort participants from the venue or revoke their access to the remainder of the conference.

Additional information and the full statement regarding the Principles and Values of Conference Participation are available at the on-site Registration

Desk and on the conference web site at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org).

## Electronic Name Badge

All participants will receive an electronic name badge. This name badge must be worn at all times during the conference and is not transferable. If, for whatever reason, a participant's name badge is used by another person in his/her stead, the participant is fully liable for any consequences arising from this person's actions.

Access to the conference facilities and session rooms will not be granted without a proper name badge. For security reasons, your name badge will be scanned at the entrance to the conference venue.

Delegates who wish to keep their conference registration information confidential may request this at the registration desks. **Information on delegates who request confidentiality will not be shared with third parties.** The data collected will be used by the conference organizers for statistical purposes and, unless confidentiality is requested, will be shared with third parties who may use this information to communicate with delegates. The electronic name badge can be used as an electronic business card at the exhibition booths.

## Registration Name Changes and Lost Name Badges

A handling fee of US\$60 will be charged for every name change to an existing conference registration.

If a participant loses, misplaces or forgets his/her name badge, he/she needs to inform the registration staff immediately. A replacement name badge can be requested at the registration desk. The old name badge will then be de-activated.

## Certificate of Attendance

All conference delegates may print out their personal Certificate of Attendance by presenting their electronic name badge at the Certificate of Attendance counters located in the registration area on Level 300.

The Certificates of Attendance will be available for printing on:

Wednesday 16 August 2006	06.30 – 18.30
Thursday 17 August 2006	06.30 – 18.30
Friday 18 August 2006	08.30 – 14.30

Please note that the AIDS 2006 Registration Department will not send out Certificates of Attendance after the conference.

### Guidelines for Youth Delegates

Participants between the age of 18 and 25 as of 13 August 2006 must be able to produce an official, state- or institute-issued document providing proof of age.

Participants who are between 16 and 17 years old as of 13 August 2006 must be able to produce an official, state- or institute-issued document providing proof of age as well as the signed official Parent/Guardian Information and Consent Form. They are allowed to attend the conference on their own.

Participants who are 15 years old or younger as of 13 August 2006 must be able to produce an official, state- or institute-issued document providing proof of age and must attend the conference with a parent, guardian or an organizational representative. If these participants are supervised by a parent or guardian, they must be able to provide the signed official Parent/Guardian Information and Consent Form. If these participants are supervised by a representative of an organization, they must be able to provide the signed official Parent/Guardian Information and Consent Form for Sponsored Delegates. Both the parent or guardian and the representative of the organization must be officially registered for the conference, be at least 18 years old as of 13 August 2006, and must be able to produce an official, state- or institute-issued document providing proof of age.

### Business Services

The MTCC offers fax, photocopy and FedEx courier services from outlets located on Level 200 in the North Building and Level 800 in the South Building. A limited supply of retail items and tools are also available for sale or rent.

### Hotel Desk

A hotel desk is conveniently situated in the Registration Area on Level 200 of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building.

### Internet cafes

Two Internet cafes will be available in the Networking Area (Level 600) and the Exhibition Area (Level 800). The Internet cafe on Level 600 will have laptop zones equipped with power outlets and internet-ready network cables. Access to the Internet cafes is free for delegates throughout the conference, but will be time limited.

### Information Desks

Two information desks are available for all general inquiries related to the conference. One is located in the North Building on Level 200 and the second one in the South Building on Level 500.

### Networking Area

To facilitate and promote more and better networking the organizers have set aside a large Networking Area in the South Building on Level 600. It is available throughout the conference period and is open to all delegates. It can be used by individuals or groups on a first-come-first-served basis.

### Delegate Connector

The Delegate Connector is a conference feature that allows delegates to connect with each other through the conference website or the Delegate Connector desk on Level 200. This service will be available before, during and after the conference.

Delegates were asked on the registration form whether or not they wanted to participate. It is possible sign up or opt out of the Delegate Connector any time at the Delegate Connector desk.

During the conference, among other means of communication, SMS (or text messages) will be used to contact delegates, so make sure to register your mobile phone number at the Delegate Connector desk or at the registration counters (if you have not already done this on the registration form).

## The WALL

The Way to Accessible Learning and Living ("the WALL") is your place to find and exchange practical skills and ideas most needed today in the AIDS pandemic. It is a service of the skills building programme for all delegates of the XVI International AIDS Conference to put learning into action.

If you have a skill or expertise in a specific area and want to help others or if you need help in a particular skill area, post a message on "the WALL". The virtual WALL will be accessible through the conference website a few weeks before the conference. In addition to listing the skill you have or skill you need, postings will include an easy way to meet during the conference and some optional personal information about you. More information can be found at [www.aids2006.org/thewall](http://www.aids2006.org/thewall).

During the conference, you can find a physical WALL as well as terminals for access to the virtual WALL on level 200 at the MTCC.

## The Lounge for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)

The PLWHA Lounge helps delegates living with HIV/AIDS to maximize their participation in the conference. The lounge is open during conference hours and offers PLWHA a place to rest and retreat from the hectic conference schedule. The lounge provides a calm and supportive environment with spaces for informal discussion and peer support, quiet relaxation, complimentary refreshments and a safe place for taking prescription medication.

The PLWHA Lounge has been established with the support and leadership of the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation. It is located in the South Building on Level 700, Room 718. Signs to the PLWHA Lounge are located throughout the Convention Centre.

## Simultaneous Interpretation and Sign Language Interpretation

English is the official language of the conference. However, simultaneous interpretation from English into all other official languages of the United Nations – Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish – will be available at the opening session. Simultaneous interpretation into Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish will be available at plenary sessions, special sessions and the closing session. In addition, a selected number of concurrent sessions also offer simultaneous interpretation into French, Russian and Spanish.

Delegates who indicated on their registration form that they would be using interpretation services are invited to collect their simultaneous interpretation receiver at the Receivers desk on Level 200. Additional receivers will be available on a first-come-first-served basis for a minimal charge.

Interpretations will be transmitted on the FM radio band, which means that FM radios can be used to receive them (for example, many mobile telephones have built in FM radios that can be used).

Sessions providing simultaneous interpretation are marked with **ES** **FR** **RU** **CH** in the conference programme.

American Sign Language interpretation will be available at the opening session, plenary sessions, special sessions and the closing session.

## Media Centre: On-site and Online

An international media centre for accredited journalists will be located on-site at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The media centre will be equipped with workspaces with telephones, computers with high-speed Internet access, laptop hookups, printers, faxes, and photocopiers. Broadcast media facilities are also available.

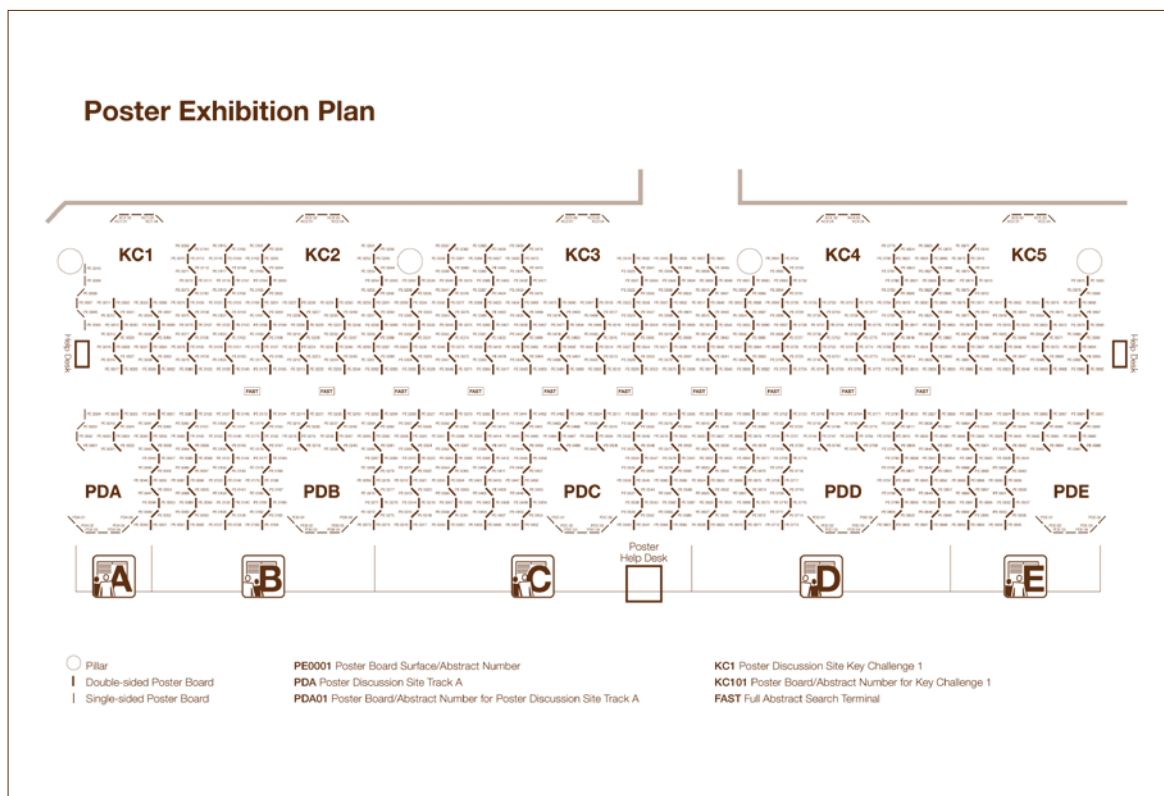
Access to the media centre is strictly limited to accredited journalists only.

A virtual media centre has been established on the AIDS 2006 web site for all journalists – including those not attending the conference – and other interested parties to view press conferences, interviews, transcripts, presentations and other conference related information.

Visit [www.aids2006.org/mediacentre](http://www.aids2006.org/mediacentre). For more information, email us at [media@aid2006.org](mailto:media@aid2006.org).

## Meals and Snacks

Catering concessions offering light, nutritious snacks and beverages will be available on a cash basis throughout the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Items on offer will include sandwiches, wraps, salads, pizza, sushi, fruit, smoothies, etc.



## Procedures for Speakers, Abstract Presenters and Exhibitors, Session Chairpersons and Moderators

The Speakers Centre is intended to support all speakers, abstract presenters, chairpersons and moderators.

All invited speakers, oral abstract presenters, chairpersons and moderators must check-in at the Speakers Centre at least 12 hours before the start of their sessions. As it will not be possible to run PowerPoint presentations directly from a laptop in the session room, all PowerPoint presentations must be uploaded at the Speakers Centre. If your session is going to be simultaneously interpreted into another language, you also need to turn in a transcript at the Speakers Centre. Chairpersons and moderators are required to collect their final session schedule and important security information and instructions.

The Speakers Centre is located on Level 300, behind the Media Centre. Hours of operation are as follows:

Saturday 12 August 2006	12:00-18:00
Sunday 13 August 2006 –	
Thursday 17 August 2006	08:00-18:00
Friday 18 August 2006	08:00-12:00

After checking in the Speaker Centre, an optional, one-minute "Speakers training" will be available. The training will take place in a mini-session room next to the Speakers Centre. At the training the technical equipment available in your session room, will be demonstrated. A technician will be available to answer questions and provide last-minute presentation guidance.

There will also be an optional "Speakers orientation session" where further guidance on how to improve an oral presentation will be provided. The same session will take place four times during the conference: Monday 14 August 2006 to Thursday 17 August 2006, 08:00-08:30 in Session Room 6. Presenters and speakers are asked to respect their time limits. Chairpersons are instructed to close any presentation that exceeds its allotted time.

Abstract posters are displayed in the poster exhibition on Level 800. Authors are responsible for hanging their own posters. Posters must be mounted between 08:00 and 10:15 and removed between 18:00 and 19:00 on the day of presentation. The poster service staff will remove posters that are not taken down in time but will not assume any responsibility for the material left behind.

The poster exhibition area is open from 10:15 to 18:30. All poster exhibitors are requested to be present at their posters to answer questions between 12:30 and 14:00 on the day they are presented.

There are moderated daily Poster Discussion sessions for a small number of selected abstracts from each track and key challenge. These will be held in the respective Poster Discussion sites from Monday 14 August to Thursday 17 August between 12:45 and 13:45.

## Banking Facilities

Cash machines/ATMs are available in both the North and South Buildings of the convention centre. A currency exchange centre is located in the North Building on Level 200 for cash and travellers' cheques exchange.

## Health and Medical Services

A wide spectrum of health and medical services will be provided during the conference.

### First Aid Services

First Aid volunteers are present daily at the conference to attend to minor first aid issues. These volunteers are easily recognizable and will attend to any first aid issues immediately.

### Health Clinic

An on-site health clinic provides delegates with immediate access to medical doctors and nurses, if required. The health clinic is located in the North Building on Level 100 of the Convention Centre. Signs are located throughout the centre directing delegates to the clinic.

## Emergency Medical Services

Highly trained and skilled Emergency Medical Services personnel are available on-site throughout the week to respond immediately to those requiring urgent medical care. An ambulance is stationed on-site for anyone requiring emergency transportation to any one of several nearby hospitals.

## Transportation in Toronto

### Public Transportation

The City of Toronto's public transportation system is called the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC). The TTC is a quick, convenient and safe way to get around Toronto. The subway system is linked to buses and streetcars to get you around Toronto on one fare, provided it's a one-way trip with no stopovers. If you have not already purchased a TTC Conference Pass, you may do so at the conference registration desk. If you do not wish to buy a pass, a one-way fare is CAD\$2.75 and exact change is needed when boarding buses or streetcars. Subway stations have collector booths and do not require exact change. If your trip involves connecting routes, you will need a "transfer", which you can collect from the automated transfer machine after you pass through the turnstiles in the subway stations. On buses and streetcars, ask the operator for a transfer after you pay your fare. You do not need to use transfers if you have a TTC Conference Pass. A TTC map has been included in your delegate bag.

### Taxis

There are a number of different taxi companies in Toronto. Fares are standard, metered and non-negotiable. The driver should start the meter at the beginning of your ride and stop it when you reach your destination. Refuse to ride in a taxi without an operational meter. The meter should start at CAD\$3.00 and should increase CAD\$0.25 per 0.170 km travelled, or per 31 seconds waiting time. If your service was acceptable, a 10-15% tip is customary.

### Public Transit for People with Disabilities

Wheel-Trans provides door-to-door transit service for people with disabilities seven days a week. Weekdays the service is available from 06:00 to 01:00 and weekends and holidays it is available from 07:00 to 01:00 within the City of Toronto. You can use your TTC Conference Pass for this service.

If you did not purchase a pass, a one-way fare will cost CAD\$2.75 per person.

#### **Wheel-Trans Customer Service and Registration**

Weekdays from 08:00 - 16:00  
416-393-4111

#### **Wheel-Trans Trip Reservations**

416-393-4222

### **Driving Around Town**

Toronto's streets follow a basic grid pattern and are fairly easy to navigate. Speed limit signs are posted on each street. The speed limit on most streets in the downtown area is 40 kilometres per hour.

### **Parking**

Parking on most downtown streets is limited to specific times of day, and often requires the purchase and display of a ticket from parking machines located along the street. Cars parked in no parking zones or on streets with restricted parking times may get ticketed or towed away. A variety of public parking lots are available throughout the city. City-owned lots are indicated by a large 'P' in a green circle. The Metro Toronto Convention Centre has 1,700 indoor parking spaces and there are 17,000 more in the immediate vicinity.

## **Transportation to and from Pearson International Airport**

### **Public Transportation**

To get to Pearson International Airport on public transportation take the subway to Kipling Station on the Bloor/Danforth Line and transfer to the 192 Airport Rocket Bus. Buses stop only at Kipling Station, Dundas Street and East Mall Crescent, Terminal 3 (Arrivals Level), Terminal 2 (Arrivals Level), Jetliner Road/Airport Road shuttle bus stop, and Terminal 1 (Ground Level). This service operates from approximately 05:30 to 02:00, seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 20 minutes. If you purchased a TTC Conference Pass you can use it for this service. If you did not purchase a pass, a one-way fare will cost CAD\$2.75 per person.

### **Airport Express Bus**

There is an Airport Express Bus that offers shuttle service between selected downtown hotels and Pearson International Airport. The rate for a one-way trip is CAD\$16.45. The pick up locations are the Bond Place Hotel, Delta Chelsea, Fairmont Royal York, Holiday Inn on King, InterContinental Toronto Centre (Front Street), Metropolitan Hotel, Sheraton Centre and Westin Harbour Castle. You do not have to be a guest of these hotels to take the airport shuttle. Tickets can be purchased from the driver. The locations closest to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre are the Fairmont Royal York and the InterContinental Toronto Centre (Front Street).

### **Taxis to the Airport**

You can request a flat rate to the airport from the taxi driver. You must request this rate before the meter is turned on. Regular metered rates will apply if the taxi driver does not offer a flat rate.

### **Childcare**

The conference offers limited childcare services for children aged 18 months to 12 years available at nearby day care centre(s) that are operated by fully licensed and registered childcare staff. This service, available only by pre-registration with parental consent and appropriate documentation, supports delegates with children to participate fully in the conference activities while the children are looked after in a safe, supportive and friendly environment. Childcare service is available only during the conference hours for the duration of the Conference, 13 - 18 August 2006. Times for drop-off and pick-up of children is tightly restricted, and parents or guardians must drop off and pick-up children at designated times at the childcare location. Check with the Information Desks (Level 200 in the North Building and the Main Entrance in the South Building) and/or the conference website at [www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org) for information about childcare services.

### **Infant Feeding Room**

A quiet and private area for parents to breast or bottle-feed their infants is located on Level 700, Room 702, next to Session Room 7.



## Smoking Policy

It is illegal to smoke in all indoor public places in Toronto. Smoking is therefore not permitted in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

## Security

Toronto is among the safest cities in North America. Delegates to the conference need not take any special precautions as they move about the city other than applying normal traveller common-sense considerations and being aware of their circumstances at all times.

A few common-sense rules for travellers to any city:

- Avoid areas of the city that are unfamiliar to you.
- Always travel with someone or in a group.
- Keep your passport in a safe place, preferably in a locked safety deposit box in your hotel room.
- Avoid carrying large sums of money with you.
- Always let people know where you are and carry a mobile phone with you if possible.
- Always carry identification with you, along with the name, address and contact information of your hotel.

## Security at the XVI International AIDS Conference

Providing a safe, secure environment for all delegates and the general public is one of the highest priorities for conference organizers.

The conference organizers are working with a professional security company, as well as local, provincial and national police and security services to implement a security programme that will keep participants safe throughout the conference.

## Name Badges

Delegates and other participants at the conference will be issued with name badges. Delegates will be issued with an electronic name badge. Badges must be worn at all times as they verify that you are an authorized conference participant.

## Entering the Conference Site

The Global Village is the only part of the conference that is open to the public. All other parts of the conference venue will be restricted to official delegates. Delegates will pass through a security entrance whenever entering the conference venue.

Conference security personnel may carry out inspections of bags, briefcases or other carried packages.

## Liability

The liability of the conference organizers – for whatever legal reason – shall be limited to intent and gross negligence. The liability of commissioned service providers shall remain unaffected by this. Delegates shall take part in AIDS 2006 at their own risk. Oral agreements shall not be binding if they have not been confirmed in writing by the IAS.

## Accompanying Person City Tour

The city tour for accompanying persons is scheduled for Wednesday 16 August 2006, with departures at 09:00 and 13:00. After signing-up at the Tours Desk located on Level 200 in the North Building of the Metro Toronto Conventions Centre, accompanying persons will receive a voucher for the tour, which includes pick-up time.

## Sightseeing Tours

Please visit the Tours Desk located on Level 200 (North Building) for detailed schedules, reservations and further information about these tours.

Note: All tours (except for the Harbour Cruise) depart from and return to the North Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

## Niagara Falls

A licensed guide will provide a detailed tour, outlining the historical, cultural, and geographical highlights of the region. At Niagara Falls, guests will be able to stand at the very edge of the spectacular Falls. Once aboard the Maid of the Mist, they will feel the spray and see the falls from the Whirlpool Rapids below. Lunch will be provided in a restaurant overlooking the falls. Afterwards, participants will be able to browse through the gift shops or simply enjoy the view. The next stage of the tour is in Niagara-on-the-Lake, one of the oldest settlements in Ontario, famous for the War of 1812 between Canada and the United States. The town has been beautifully restored to depict its heritage.

- departures: Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
- duration: 9 hours (lunch included)
- price per person: CAD\$130 (includes 7% GST)

### Toronto City Tour

This is the perfect activity to capture a glimpse of the many wonderful sites available in Toronto. This "get acquainted" tour will include such famous attractions as Queen's Park, the Parliament Buildings, Old and New City Halls, Nathan Phillips Square, St. Lawrence Market and Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, the Annex, the CN Tower, Rogers Centre, Roy Thomson Hall, Casa Loma, Eaton Centre, the Bay-King financial district, Harbourfront, Chinatown, the shops on Bloor, the elegant neighbourhood of Forest Hill and the trendy Yorkville area.

- departures: Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
- duration: 3 hours
- price per person: CAD\$46 (includes 7% GST)

### Downtown Morning Walk

Starting at the North Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, staff will lead a morning walk through interesting Toronto neighbourhoods.

- departures: Monday and Thursday
- duration: 1 hour
- price per person: free

### St. Marie Among the Hurons and Boat Cruise

Located on the shores of Lake Huron, Sainte Marie is a reconstruction of the 17th century French Jesuit mission that was Ontario's first European community. Guests will board a comfortable boat for a 1 1/2 hour cruise to enjoy a unique and unforgettable time-travel adventure. Following the cruise, the magic begins with a tour of Sainte-Marie. A costumed guide will lead visitors through the actual site where two cultures came into dramatic contact between 1639 and 1649. The experience ends with an authentic First Nations legend, recounted by flickering firelight in Sainte-Marie's historic longhouse. Casual comfortable attire is strongly advised.

- departure: Tuesday
- duration: 9 hours (lunch included)
- price per person: CAD\$130 (includes 7% GST).

### Toronto Harbour Cruise

Leave the hustle and bustle of the city streets for the tranquillity of the "island lagoons". Participants will board a sightseeing boat for a one-hour cruise through the Toronto Islands and Harbour area. This tour provides a spectacular view of the ever-changing Toronto skyline. Departs from Queen's Quay (Toronto Harbourfront).

- departures: Wednesday and Friday
- duration: 1.5 hours
- price per person: CAD\$35 (includes 7% GST)

### McMichael Canadian Collection

Of all Ontario's beautiful spots, none more dramatically combines the grandeur of nature and the creativity of man than the McMichael Canadian Collection, in the village of Kleinburg. The gallery, situated on the west of the Humber Valley and comprising 15 rooms constructed out of hand-hewn timbers and native stone, provides an impressive setting for some 500 works by Canada's most famous artists. Visitors will enjoy the art of the historic Group of Seven (the celebrated Canadian landscape artists) and their contemporaries, as well as a fine collection of Native Indian and Inuit art, which is housed in a separate wing of the gallery. Lunch will be at The Doctor's House in Kleinburg.

- departure: Wednesday
- duration: 6 hours (lunch included)
- price per person: CAD\$125 (includes 7% GST)

### Tourism Toronto

Cultures and languages from all over the world thrive in Toronto, one of the most multicultural cities in the world, making it the ideal host for the diversity and vibrancy of AIDS 2006. Canada's largest city, Toronto, is commonly referred to as "the world within a city". Boasting more than 4.8 million residents representing more than 80 ethnic groups, Toronto is known for its unrivalled array of over 5,000 restaurants, world-class theatre scene, diverse neighbourhoods, and assorted highlights unique to Ontario's capital city.

As Canada's financial centre and top visitor destination, Toronto offers its residents and guests a plethora of things to see and do. Year-round sights and attractions include the Ontario Science Centre, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Hockey Hall of Fame, the Toronto Zoo, and not-to-be-missed Niagara Falls, located a little more than an hour's drive from Toronto. International sport competitions and professional teams vie for attention, while Toronto's vibrant performing arts scene explodes

with excitement and magic. Toronto's restaurants reflect the multitude of cultures that harmoniously thrive together around the city.

A trip to Toronto wouldn't be complete without exploring the city's many shopping opportunities, from the upmarket boutiques of Yorkville to the alternative shopping and art gallery scene of Queen Street West. Visitors must view the dazzling panorama of Lake Ontario, Toronto Island and the city itself from the top of the CN Tower, the tallest building in the world.

Distinct neighbourhoods include Little Italy (west of College and Bathurst Streets), Queen Street West (a soho-style shopping and entertainments strip east of Spadina Avenue), the Entertainment District (bounded by Front and King Streets, and University and Spadina Avenues), the Fashion District (Spadina and King), Greektown on Danforth Avenue, Little India (Gerrard Street East), and two downtown area Chinatowns, (Spadina and Dundas, Gerrard and Broadview).

Harbourfront Centre, a 10-acre cultural oasis at the heart of Toronto's waterfront, (minutes away from the Metro Convention Centre) provides innovative events and activities that enliven, educate and entertain a diverse public. In recognition of AIDS 2006, Harbourfront Centre will feature their renowned 'World Café.' This outdoor cafe offers a variety of international cuisine prepared by a rotating selection of popular Toronto restaurants and caterers and will be open daily during the week of the conference from 12:00 to 20:00. For more information call the Harbourfront Centre Information line at 416 973-4000.

For more information on Toronto, visit the City of Toronto official web site at [www.toronto.ca](http://www.toronto.ca) and click on "Our City".

## Useful Information for Your Stay

### Banks

Banking hours and days of business will vary depending on the bank and its location. Generally, banks are open from Monday to Friday, 10:00 to 16:00. Some banks also open on Saturday and/or operate longer business hours. Limited banking and foreign exchange services will be available on-site at the conference. Major Canadian banks are located near the Convention Centre. The TD Bank is the Official Bank of the conference.

### Business hours

Most stores are open from Monday to Saturday from 10:00 to 18:00 and usually on Sunday.

### Climate

The climate in Toronto is temperate, comparable to cities such as New York City, London and Paris. During August, the temperature in Toronto averages 26° C (79° F).

### Clothing

Generally anything goes in the summer in Toronto – from shorts and sandals to jeans and sundresses – but please take note that shirts and shoes are mandatory at most dining and retail establishments.

### Drinking water

Toronto tap water is safe to drink for all people, including persons living with HIV/AIDS or with compromised immune systems.

### Language

Canada's two official languages are English and French. In addition to these, the top five languages spoken in Toronto are Chinese, Italian, Tamil, Portuguese and Spanish.

### Local time

Toronto is in the Eastern Standard Time zone (EST) which is five hours earlier than Greenwich Mean Time (UK) and is in the same time zone as New York City.

### Money

The money system in Canada is based on Canadian dollars (CAD\$). International currency exchange services are available at Pearson International Airport as well as at banks and currency exchange outlets located throughout the city.

US dollars are accepted in many establishments in Toronto, although change from transactions will be provided in Canadian currency and exchange rates will differ with each merchant.

Cash machines/ATMs (automated teller machines) are available in most banks, hotels, shopping malls and at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, with cash dispensed in Canadian currency.

Traveller's cheques and credit cards are accepted at most major retailers.

## Taxes and Tax Rebates

You will be charged 15% sales tax (GST/PST) in addition to the cost of most purchases or services. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a 7% tax that is charged on most goods and services sold or provided in Canada. Purchases or services in Toronto are also subject to the 8% Provincial Sales Tax (PST).

Non-resident visitors to Canada are entitled to a GST refund on certain goods they take out of Canada as well as on short-term accommodation.

Keep your receipts if you wish to apply for the tax refund. A copy of the Tax Refund Application for Visitors can be picked up at any Canadian customs office or most tourism information centres, duty-free shops, department stores and some hotels.

Some private firms also process tax refunds on behalf of visitors for a fee.

More information is available via the Canadian Tourism Commission website at [www.travelcanada.ca](http://www.travelcanada.ca).

## Tipping

Tips or service charges are not usually included in restaurant bills in Canada. Where service has been satisfactory, it is customary to leave a tip of 15% on the pre-tax amount. Some restaurants will place a mandatory service charge on a bill for a large group.

Tips are also expected for services such as haircuts, shoe shines and taxi rides. The standard tip for these services is also 15%.

## Customs (Leaving Canada)

International travellers should check with the customs authorities in their home country before travelling to determine what goods or money they will be allowed to bring back with them. Travellers should also check the rules in their home country for returning home with any medicines and medical equipment that are intended for personal use.

Visitors returning home to the US, or from other countries going on to visit the US, are advised to review the information at [www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/). This includes information on documentation requirements for entry to the United States.

Canada has restrictions in place to keep objects that are of historical, cultural or scientific significance in Canada. If travellers wish to take objects that

are more than 50 years old (fossils, archaeological artefacts, fine and decorative art, technological objects, or books and archival material) out of the country, they must first contact the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board on +1 819 997 7761, or fax them on +1 819 997 7757, to determine if an export permit is required.

## Hours of Service

### Accommodation Desk (Level 200)

Saturday 12 August	12:00-20:00 (Level 300)
Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August	06:30-18:30
Tuesday 15 August	08:00-13:00
Wednesday 16 August	07:00-13:00
Thursday 17 August	08:00-13:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-13:00

### Banking (ATM)

Open 7 days a week from 07:00 to 21:00

### Cloakrooms (Levels 100 and 600)

Sunday 13 August	07:30-20:00
Monday 14 August	–
Thursday 17 August	06:30-21:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-15:00

### Delegate Connector desk (Level 200)

Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August	–
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-15:00

### Exhibitions Area (Level 800)

Sunday 13 August	12:00-18:30
Monday 14 August	–
Thursday 17 August	10:15-18:30

### Health Clinic (Level 100)

Sunday 13 August	08:00-19:00
Monday 14 August	–
Thursday 17 August	08:00-20:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-16:00

### Global Village (Level 300 - Main entrance)

Sunday 13 August	09:00-18:00
Monday 14 August	–
Thursday 17 August	08:30-20:00
Friday 18 August	08:30-12:30

**Information Desks (Levels 200 and 500 - Main South Building entrance)**

Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-15:00

**Interfaith Prayer Room (Level 100)**

Sunday 13 August	12:00-20:00
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	08:00-20:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-13:00

**Internet Café (Level 800 - Exhibitions)**

Sunday 13 August	12:00-18:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	10:15-18:30

**Internet Café (Level 600)**

Sunday 13 August -	
Thursday 17 August	08:00-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:00-15:00

**PLWHA Lounge (Level 700)**

Sunday 13 August	09:30-17:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	08:00-18:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-10:00 (PHA only) 10:00-13:00 ("Open house")

**Media Centre (Level 300)**

Saturday 12 August -	
Friday 18 August	08:00-20:00

*The Media Centre is for conference-accredited journalists only.*

**Networking Area (Level 600)**

Sunday 13 August -	
Thursday 17 August	08:00-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:00-15:00

**Posters Area (Level 800)**

Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	10:15-18:30

**Registration Area (Level 300)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-20:00
Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-15:00

**Conference Material desk 1 (Level 300 - North building)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-20:00
Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-15:00

**Conference Material desk 2 (Level 500 - Main South Building entrance)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-20:00
Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-15:00

*On Friday 18 August the Conference Material desk in the South Building will be available as a luggage deposit desk.*

**The WALL (Level 200)**

Sunday 13 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-18:30
Friday 18 August	08:30-13:00

**Speakers Centre (Level 300)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-18:00
Sunday 13 August -	
Thursday 17 August	08:00-18:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-12:00

*The Speakers Centre is for conference speakers, presenters, moderators, rapporteurs, translators and interpreters only.*

**Skills Building Facilitators Lounge (Level 200)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-18:00
Sunday 13 August -	
Thursday 17 August	06:30-20:30

**Tours Desks (Level 200)**

Saturday 12 August	12:00-20:00 (Level 300)
Sunday 13 August	06:30-19:30
Monday 14 August	06:30-18:30
Tuesday 15 August	08:00-13:00
Wednesday 16 August	07:00-13:00
Thursday 17 August	08:00-13:00
Friday 18 August	08:00-13:00

## Next Meetings

### International AIDS Society AIDS Conferences

#### 2007

**4th IAS Conference on  
HIV Pathogenesis, Prevention  
and Treatment  
Sydney, Australia  
22-25 July 2007**

[www.ias2007.org](http://www.ias2007.org)



Bringing Together the World of HIV Science to Address the Challenges of Research, Prevention and Treatment, IAS 2007 will be an important opportunity for people living with HIV/AIDS, advocates, community leaders, scientists, health care providers, funders, and policymakers to gather and focus on the key challenges in our collective efforts to provide HIV care and treatment and to prevent new infections.

Come visit us in the Exhibition area, booth number 401 (International AIDS Society).

#### 2008

**XVII International AIDS Conference (AIDS  
2008)  
Mexico City, Mexico  
3-8 August 2008**

Mexico will be the first country in Latin America to host in 2008 the International AIDS Conference.

The event will bring together the world's foremost researchers, health-care workers, civil society, policy makers, activists, people living with HIV/AIDS and donors, to share current knowledge on the full spectrum of issues about the global epidemic. Come visit us in the Exhibition area, booth number 401 (International AIDS Society).

### Regional conferences

#### 2006

**8th International Congress on Drug Therapy  
in HIV Infection  
Glasgow, UK  
12-16 November 2006**

[www.hiv8.com](http://www.hiv8.com)

The forthcoming Eighth International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection will bring together HIV-treating physicians, involved healthcare professionals and community workers. The focus will be on how drug treatments can best be used in the management of this global threat.

**Contact:**

Eighth International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection  
c/o Organizing Secretariat  
TGCG, Victoria Mill  
Windmill Street  
Macclesfield, SK11 7HQ, UK  
E-mail: [hiv8@tgcg.thomson.com](mailto:hiv8@tgcg.thomson.com)  
Tel +44 (0)1625 664390  
Fax +44 (0)1625 664391

#### 2007

**FORO 2007  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
18-20 April 2007**

FORO brings together governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, civil society working on HIV/AIDS as well as international organizations and their local and most important representatives.

This event creates a powerful social, political, cultural and academic-scientific impact. Its impact goes beyond the boundaries of Latin American and Caribbean countries.

**Contact:**

Conference Coordinator or Organizing Committee  
E-mail: [foro2007@msal.gov.ar](mailto:foro2007@msal.gov.ar)

**The Eighth International Congress on AIDS  
in Asia and the Pacific - 8th ICAAP  
Colombo, Sri Lanka  
19-23 August 2007**

The 8th ICAAP provides the platform and the impetus to significantly reduce the current gap between promise and fulfillment; the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS is the common purpose and guiding star. The four- day congress will bring together more than 3,000 delegates from over 60 countries in Asia and the Pacific.

**"Waves of Change. Waves of Hope."** The theme represents collective regional commitment to address and overcome the many challenges of HIV/AIDS.

**Contact:**

The 8th ICAAP Secretariat  
3, Castle Avenue, Colombo 8, Sri Lanka  
Tel +94 11 2697731/ 2693786  
Fax + 94 11 2688055  
E-mail: cds@eureka.lk

**CONCASIDA 2007  
Managua, Nicaragua  
5-9 November 2007**

[www.concasida.org](http://www.concasida.org)

The Central American Conference on HIV/AIDS - CONCASIDA facilitates the exchange of lessons learned in the response to HIV/AIDS in the region. CONCASIDA 2007 programme will dedicate the first two days to discuss the progress on: ARVs access, stigma and discrimination and capacity building. The following three days will include workshops, lectures and round tables on pertinent HIV/AIDS and STI topics grouped under four categories: Clinical and Basic Science; Community and Social Involvement; Gender, Diversity and Human Rights; and Public Health & Epidemiology.

**Contact:**

Nicaraguan CONCASIDA National Committee  
Ms Esperanza Camacho [camacho@ibw.com.ni](mailto:camacho@ibw.com.ni)

## Others

A number of other regional and sub-regional AIDS conferences are foreseen for 2007. They include the International Conference on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa (ICASA) and the Eastern European and Central Asian AIDS Conference (EECAAC). Exact dates and venues will be announced later.

# XVII International AIDS Conference



**Banamex Convention Centre, Mexico City**  
**3 - 8 August 2008**

**International Chair of the Conference:**

Pedro Cahn, Argentina

**Local Co-Chair:**

Luis Soto-Ramirez, Mexico

**[www.aids2008.org](http://www.aids2008.org)**





# See you in Sydney

## 22 - 25 July 2007

4<sup>th</sup> IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention

*Australia has been at the leading edge of HIV research since the early days of the epidemic. It is a privilege for us to welcome our colleagues and friends to the beautiful city of Sydney, for the first IAS meeting to be held in this country.*

**David Cooper, Local Conference Chair**

### IAS 2007 Conference Organising Committee (to date)

Pedro Cahn, IAS President-Elect and Conference Chair, Argentina / David Cooper, Local Conference Chair, Australia

Sharon Lewin, Deputy Local Conference Chair, Australia / John Kaldor, Deputy Local Conference Chair, Australia

N.M. Samuel, Regional IAS representative, India / Craig McClure, IAS Executive Director, Switzerland

Mats Ahnlund, IAS Conference Director, Switzerland / Levinia Crooks, ASHM CEO, Australia

[www.ias2007.org](http://www.ias2007.org)



## Message from the Government of Sweden

### Time to deliver – promises to fulfil

In Bangkok two years ago the theme for the International Aids Conference was Access for all, a challenging theme that called for action, a theme that inspired many targets, promises and commitments.

This year the Conference theme is even more demanding; to live up to targets, to fulfil promises and act on commitments. The theme, Time to deliver, is forceful. The message is clear, more needs to be done, faster and better. Words must be transformed into action.

Time to deliver affects all areas of the fight against HIV and AIDS, from prevention to treatment and care, but also research and impact mitigation.

Time to deliver means a renewed emphasis on evidence-informed HIV prevention. A massive social mobilization is needed to dramatically reduce the number of new HIV infections. And we must all agree that HIV prevention is a complex topic that cannot be easily captured in acronyms and slogans, a topic that cannot be isolated from issues such as poverty, development, human rights and gender relations.

Time to deliver means strengthened and sustainable action on treatment and care, with testing, counselling and affordable medicines being made available for all those who need it.

Time to deliver means a greater focus on the rights perspective: right to information, knowledge and services, right to condoms and other affordable commodities, right to sexual and reproductive health care and services; and freedom from sexual harassment and violence. The rights perspective also means the right not to be excluded, not to be subject to stigma and discrimination and the right to have control over ones own body.

Time to deliver means to grasp a window of opportunity, for those already infected, for those affected and for all those at risk of being infected. In many areas, this requires strong and courageous action, and it requires increased resources, human and financial. And, first and foremost, it requires greater accountability; at all levels, in affected countries and among international partners. Systems must be built that makes it possible to judge if promises have been fulfilled, if commitments have lead to delivery.

Time to deliver, that time is now!

### Lennart Hjelmåker

Swedish Ambassador on HIV/AIDS





**AIDS 2006**  
*Time to Deliver*

[www.aids2006.org](http://www.aids2006.org)