

# *GLOBAL EXCHANGE Ottawa and Winnipeg #10278*

*Ottawa, Canada 9-16 February, 2011*

*Winnipeg, Canada 17-24 February, 2011*

A total of 19 Ambassadors from Sunshine Coast, 6 from other Australian clubs and 6 from USA - a total of 31 Ambassadors participated in the first week of the exchange in Ottawa. During the second week in Winnipeg we gained an additional 4 from USA and also lost one from USA making a total 34 for the week in Winnipeg.



The programs provided by both clubs were outstanding. There was a good balance of exciting physical activity and cultural experiences. All of us managed to cope with the cold climate - we just had difficulty making sure we had on the correct clothing. The warmth of the hosts compensated for the cold of the climate.

The experiences provided were first time experiences for most of the Ambassadors. The fact that we were so positive about the opportunities provided and the exciting experiences really contributed to making the

exchange such a success. Even the locals started to look at their winter climate in a more positive manner.

We went dog sledding, saw ice sculptures, snowshoeing, ice fishing, visited a Maple Syrup Bush Camp, tobogganing, torch light parade across the junction of two rivers, sleigh rides and toasted marshmallows, listened to the Speaker in the Legislature talk about his childhood being raised as an Inuit (Eskimo) and living in an igloo and riding whales etc., saw an ice hockey match and tried our hand at curling etc.



The unexpected bonus during the week in Winnipeg was the exposure to the media. At a few activities we had 5 different TV stations. We were in the newspaper, radio interviews, TV film clips and the most exciting interview was held on a morning breakfast TV show when Keith Guy (dressed in shorts and T shirt) and Chris Smith from Sacramento were interviewed.



This exchange was a great success and I believe that all Ambassadors and Hosts enjoyed the experience. I would have no hesitation in encouraging other clubs to participate in a Snowy Winter Wonderland experience.

Gayle Macready  
ED Global Exchange Canada #10278

