

## International Education Week 2011: November 14-18

### What is International Education Week?

*International Education Week (IEW) is an annual event celebrated during the third week of November in over 85 countries around the world to promote the awareness and importance of international education and its benefits to society.*



#### This Year's Theme

For 2011, Alberta has chosen to focus this year's IEW theme around the continuum of engagement in international education; from establishing the building blocks of cultural awareness all the way to active participation in international collaboration.

#### Who organizes International Education Week?

IEW is an initiative under the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, and Alberta has actively participated since 2006. In December 2010, a Provincial International Education Week Committee was created to communicate the importance of international education to administrators, teachers, students and parents.

#### Why is it important to celebrate International Education Week?

IEW is an opportunity for Albertans to celebrate the variety of innovative international education programs and activities that happen in our schools everyday such as student and teacher exchange programs, international school partnerships, international student programs or courses that aim to build global awareness. These initiatives bring students and teachers together to build an understanding of our global community and a sense of responsibility to others around the world. Administrators, teachers and parents all play critical roles in the success of these programs. By adding an international element to education, we better prepare our students for future success in our global community and for the future prosperity of our province.

#### Where can I find more information about International Education Week?

Look for the 2011 International Education Week Toolkit posted on the website posted below. The Toolkit can provide you with ideas on how to communicate the importance of IEW to students, parents, teachers and others. It also includes a description of IEW and international education, and suggested activities for students and schools to celebrate International Education Week.

For more information and access to IEW promotional material, visit:

<http://education.alberta.ca/students/internationaleducation/iew.aspx>