

Olga Lucia Santamaria's Visit to Canada

Olga Lucia Santamaria, President of FANDIC and Professor of physiotherapy at the University of Santander, had a wonderful and fruitful visit to Canada. She participated in a congress, visited universities & institutions, and met very many people. I would like to express my appreciation to CIDA for paying her international flight and hotel accommodation in Quebec City.

Quebec City

Olga Lucia presented a paper on Community Based Rehabilitation in FANDIC and a poster on FANDIC's dance program at the Rehabilitation International Congress in Quebec City, August 25 – 27.



Olga & Chantal (CAPD member who also presented a paper) posing with Colombians attending the conference.



Olga posing with Champlain (in celebration of Quebec City's 400th anniversary), two Colombians and a Costa Rican.



Olga presenting her poster to Damien Hazard, the coordinator of VIDA, a Brazilian association that works with disabled children in a way similar to FANDIC



Olga posing with Christian Champigny, from Handicap International, an organization that works in the area of disability in many countries including Colombia



Olga posing with Dr. Simeonsson, a researcher and developer of the International Classification of Disability, Functioning and Health for children & youth

Montreal

Olga and Chantal Camden visited Laval University in Montreal as well as the Institute of Re-adaptation IRDPQ and CIRRIS a research Institute.



Olga met with the Rector of Laval University and Sylvie Tétréault, professor in the Faculty of Medicine



She also met with physiotherapy professors and gave a presentation to Belgian therapists visiting the University.

Sherbrooke

Olga's last week in Quebec was spent in Sherbrooke visiting Estries Rehabilitation Centre where she observed therapists implementing an evaluation that FANDIC is now using as a result of technology transfer. She also visited various disability organizations in the city.



Olga and Chantal co-presented (Spanish/French) to 28 therapists working at Estries. She also gave a brief presentation to their international committee (composed of therapists interested in forming a relationship with FANDIC).



Finally - Time to relax around the table and to enjoy good food, companionship and conversation.

Calgary

Olga's last week was spent in Calgary where she visited universities, organizations and the mountains. She also gave a presentation to friends of CAPD about the latest developments in FANDIC.



Olga with the Calgary SCOPE Society and Marleny Muñoz (former CAPD Board member).



Olga gave a presentation to students & staff of the Faculty of Social Work and Disability Studies at Mount Royal College. She poses with two professors.



Lunch with the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and Nina Hrycak (in green), Board member of CAPD and professor, and me.



Nilima Parikh, former Board member of CAPD and supervisor of Fanning's Seating Clinic, arranged for us to observe the clinic in action.



Russ Dyck, of Legacy Design Group, gave us a tour of their warehouse.



Craig Baskett, President of CAPD, inducts Olga as an honorary citizen of Calgary, with the White Hat Ceremony.



Olga poses with CAPD Board members at the reception. Left to right are Nina Hrycak, Olga Lucia, Myra Donnelly-Gay, Craig Basket, Rashmi Dhaubhadel and Marlene Wiens.



You guessed it – Moraine Lake!



We threw in a bit of rock hiking as a challenge.



A picture of contentment in front of Bow Falls, Banff.

That concludes our picture book of Olga's visit to Canada. It was wonderful and we want to thank all of those who participated. A visit such as this has much potential for collaboration in the future.

Please contact me if you would like more information about Olga's visit, FANDIC or CAPD. I will be in Colombia soon (leaving October 8) and would be happy to pass your greetings along.

Best Regards,
Marlene
Managing Director of CAPD