



# IIC Info News

News Letter of the CISV International Interchange Committee  
for National & Local Interchange Coordinators

IN THIS ISSUE

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1. That CISV Spirit
2. Canada, Insurance and Interchange
3. IC 2003 Update
4. IC Matchbox for 2004 / 2005
5. Mini Camps in IC
6. In Conclusion

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.....  
PLEASE SHARE THE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER WITH  
YOUR LIC's and Other Friends of Interchange  
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## **CISV SPIRIT – Waydago..... Japan, Thailand & Philippines**

In these troubling times many parents are questioning sending their children into world areas of strife and turmoil. In the last IIC Info News we saw how Norway parents were not prepared to let negativism affect their decision to send their children to an Interchange in Indonesia. The article in the Jakarta Post was a glowing testament to the faith that CISVers have in each other and the goodness of mankind.

During the past months the Japanese parents wrestled with the decision to send their children to Thailand & the Philippines. In addition to considering the political strife in the area, the parents also had to take into account the issue of SARS in Asia. We are glad that the parents considered the risk to be manageable and the Interchanges proceeded. The IIC wished to acknowledge the courage of the Japanese delegation. We also wish to thank Thailand & Philippines for giving the Japanese the comfort level they needed to make their decision to complete the second leg of the Interchange.

## CANADA, INSURANCE & INTERCHANGE

No doubt by now you have all heard of the insurance issue that Canada has faced. In short, because there was no insurance company that wanted to insure Canada for a liability risk; Canada has had to cancel ALL their CISV Programme involvements.

In organizing and planning our Interchange itineraries for this coming summer we should all sit up and reflect on why Canada was not able to get liability insurance. This is a wake up call for all of us. The short and long of the reasons why are very simple - insurance companies find that what we organize for our youth to be very risky and the insurance companies are hesitant about taking on the risk.

What we in CISV and particularly in Interchange need to do is reduce the risk and give the insurance companies a NEW comfort level that we are doing everything possible to make the programmes safe for our youth. This past week IO issued a reminder of the importance of Police Checks ( where permitted ) for those people in direct contact with the youth. For now, at least, the implication is that only leaders and staff need this check. But in the case of Interchange, and this is a sensitive question, what of parents??? To what degree do they need to be checked?? It is therefore important that the local chapters, at the very least, conduct a parent interview and do a home visit. Forms that can help you in this regard can be found in the Resource Section of [www.cisv.ca/iic](http://www.cisv.ca/iic)

Equally important when we talk about risk are two more things: 1. Supervision of Delegates During the Day and 2. Risk Management concerns of planned activities. In both these cases we should all be reading the Risk Management Manual located on our web site.

Many of you will recall the discussion we had 18 months ago about what level of supervision should be provided to the delegates during the time group activities are not planned and the delegates are at home during the day. As a result of these discussions the policy of Home Supervision in the Risk Management Manual was developed. Please take this seriously ,particularly, in the case where no parent is at home during the day. Each chapter should be asking the question of each other as to what policy they have with respect to home supervision. It is strongly suggested that the delegations discuss this and that each delegation /

“Official”  
IIC Web Page

[www.cisv.ca/iic](http://www.cisv.ca/iic)

Links To Other  
CISV Sites

[www.cisv.ca/iic](http://www.cisv.ca/iic)

Need a Hug  
Today

Go to  
[www.cisv.ca/iic](http://www.cisv.ca/iic)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**  
**IC's STARTING**  
**JUNE / JULY 2003**

**MAR. 31 - Matching of Delegates to be completed**

**MAR. 31 - No more Interchange matches after this date**

**APR. 15 - First group meeting of parents, delegates, leaders & LIC**

**May 1 - Final Notification of travel and programme details**

**May 25 - Matchbox Data Form from LIC to NIC**

**June 1 - Matchbox Data Form from NA to IO**

**30 Days Before Arrival - Notify traveling delegation of hosting agenda**

parent be comfortable with the answers provided.

I know that many of you have attended the Interchange Seminars / Workshops given over the past two years. During those Workshops, four Risk Management scenarios were explored. The purpose of the scenarios was to demonstrate that each activity, each event that you do in an Interchange has a certain amount of risk. Insurance companies like to know that we have considered the risk and have taken steps to minimize the risk in all that we do. Hopefully each chapter will have a Risk Manager that will help in planning of the Interchange hosting agenda.

The topic of RM is important to the very existence of CISV, therefore as NICs, encourage all people connected with the Interchange Programme to read the International Risk Management Manual.

## **INTERCHANGE2003 UPDATE**

By March 31, 44 ICs were handed back / cancelled which is approx 37 % of those we started with after the AIM. At the present time, with re-matching, we have 79 active ICs

The totals for 2002 were 71 compared with 89 in 2001, 92 in 2000 , 78 in 1999 and 80 in 1998.

## **INTERCHANGEMATCH-BOX SELECTION FOR 2004 / 2005**

Yikkes, you are reading that right - 2004 / 2005 approaches and again it is time to think one year in advance.

Now is the time that you as NICs need to collect matching data from your LICs . So, please ask your LICs to ask their local boards what destinations they would like for Interchanges starting in the year 2004.

The whole matching procedure is described in the file "Interchange Matchbox Procedures" located on our web page. More information will follow in the next IIC Info News.

**DATES TO REMEMBER  
IC's STARTING  
DEC, 2003 / JAN. 2004**

**AUG. 15** -  
Administration Fee payable  
to IO for cancellations  
after this date

**AUG. 15** - Only cancelled  
countries on the Open List  
at this time will be  
allowed to rematch

**OCT. 15** - Application  
Forms for traveling  
delegations received by  
hosting  
chapter for matching

**OCT. 31** - Matching of  
Delegates to be completed

**OCT. 31** - No more  
Interchange matches after  
this date

**NOV. 15** - First group  
meeting of parents,  
delegates, leaders & LIC

## **MINI CAMPS IN INTERCHANGE**

A three day mini camp is a requirement of the IC Programme. It affords the delegates an opportunity to develop a closer relationship with their partner as well as with other members of the visiting delegation.

We strongly recommend that a co-ordinator be appointed to organize the mini camp. The co-ordinator sets up the logistics of the camp, similar to a Village or Summer Camp. The content of the mini camp is mutually agreed to by the co-ordinator, the leaders, members of JB and others with camp experience. With the help of a mini camp co-ordinator, the leaders can concentrate on emphasizing the educational component of CISV with the delegation and is not bogged down with organizational details.

Mini camps tend to be the highlight of the hosting agenda. Many chapters are exploring innovative extensions to the mini camp experience including:

- expanding one mini camp to 4 days
- in longer ICs, the use of 2 mini camps. The first is a short 'get to know you better' camp followed later on in the month with an Educational / Theme orientated camp and
- in short ICs, a 'get to know you better' mini camp in one country followed by the Educational Camp in the partner country

A Mini Camp Guideline can be found in the Resource Section of our web page. We trust that it can be of use to your LICs - therefore, please make them aware of it

# Imagine

tens of thousands of  
volunteers from 65 countries  
working together towards a  
common goal

# Imagine

children from  
countries as diverse as Israel,  
Faroe Islands, Thailand, USA,  
Slovenija, Jordan and Ecuador  
learning together to shatter  
stereotypes and build bridges for  
the future

# Imagine

a worldwide network  
of youth and adults running  
innovative social action  
programmes to improve their  
local communities

and

can you

# Imagine

life without CISV

## IN CONCLUSION

I am always looking for some 'good news' items from the world of Interchange. Here is one that is shared to us by Jennifer, the Secretary for Great Britain.

".....my own Norwegian Interchange partner , whom I have visited several times since we took part in the second ever Interchange in 1963, has decided that she must return to Newcastle before our 40th anniversary - so I look forward to welcoming her here at the end of March!!! .....

Thank you Jennifer for sharing and I hope that you had a wonderful time with sweet memories. How about sharing some photos.

The past month has been a trying time for the entire global CISV family. Our belief in universal world peace has been challenged and the excitement of programmes with our Canadian friends has brought great disappointment to our members. However, at birth we are given a wonderful gift... the gift of hope. It is the hope of the IIC that after we come out of this dark tunnel, peace and understanding will await us. The IIC also wishes to express our sincere heart felt apologies to the youth and families who have had their expectations shattered by Interchange cancellations.

The past month also marks the first anniversary of the passing of our founder - Doris Allen. In these troubled times her words of "The power of love is stronger than the love of power" seem more relevant than ever before.

Stay well my Interchange Friends  
Peace to All  
Heinz Boehnke - IIC Chair

