

University of King's College student wins prestigious award in international development

Ottawa, Ontario November 14 2011 – University of King's College student, Ryan Hreljac was awarded the **Lewis Perinbam Award in International Development** for his tireless efforts providing clean and accessible water to people around the world.

Ryan was honoured this past weekend during [World University Service of Canada's International Forum](#). The awards gala took place at Ottawa's Delta City Centre Hotel where over 400 hundred professionals, students and high-ranking delegates were in attendance.

At just 20-years-old, Ryan is the founder of the [Ryan's Well Foundation](#), an organization committed to delivering access to safe water and empowering people of all ages to make a difference in the world. At the age of six, Ryan was shocked to learn that people in Africa were dying because they didn't have clean water, and he took it upon himself to raise money to build a well in Uganda.

Since then, Ryan's Well has helped build over **700 wells** and **820 latrines**, bringing safe water and improved sanitation to more than **723,000 people in 16 countries**. Ryan is currently attending the University of King's College in Halifax, pursuing a degree in International Development and Political Science.

The Lewis Perinbam Award comes with a cash prize and is in recognition of the grassroots achievements of outstanding individuals who've helped to improve lives in developing countries and raise awareness of development issues in Canada.

About the Lewis Perinbam Award: The award was named after former WUSC Executive Director, Lewis Perinbam who passed away in 2007. Perinbam's long career in international development includes working for the United Nations, CIDA and the World Bank. The award in his honour seeks to commend individuals who make volunteer contributions to international development.

About World University Service of Canada: WUSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to human development and global understanding through education and training. WUSC has along development projects in 22 countries overseas and local committees on more than 80 university and college campuses across Canada.