



**Deepak Obhrai, MP**  
Calgary East  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
(Asia-Pacific & Africa)

# Media Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Obhrai discusses Canadian help to Uganda with B.C. supporters for Ugandan peace**

(Ottawa) Deepak Obhrai, M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, visited Langley, B.C. on October 21, 2006 at the invitation of Langley M.P. Mark Warawa to discuss the crisis in Uganda with several local interest groups, including students.

The meeting took place on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Belmont Elementary School after the closing ceremonies of the Night to Light Walk earlier that day. The Night to Light walk was organized by 13-year-old Gabrielle Starr. The meeting was co-organized by the Charles-Owor Foundation, a Langley-based non-profit organization whose goal is to see democracy and the development of civil society in Uganda.

Obhrai, who visited Africa during the summer, shared his experience with the audience and explained Canada's ongoing work in Uganda and the efforts being made to bring peace to the African Great Lakes region.

Obhrai pointed out that Canada welcomed the Ugandan government's recent creation of a high-level coordination and monitoring mechanism, and initial actions to improve socio-economic conditions, the protection of civilians, and the rule of law in northern Uganda. He welcomed the ongoing peace talks to end the crisis and hoped that the August 29 ceasefire would be respected by Uganda's warring parties.

Obhrai said Canada stands ready to help with humanitarian and peacebuilding assistance if the peace talks succeed.

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***For more information, contact Mohan Samarasinghe at (613) 947-4567***

**Ottawa Office:**  
Room 426-N Centre Block  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6  
Tel: (613) 947-4566  
Fax: (613) 947-4569



**Constituency Office:**  
Radisson Centre  
Suite 225, 525-28 Street East  
Calgary, AB  
T2A 6W9  
Tel: (403) 207-3030  
Fax: (403) 207-3035