

archeologist, perhaps because medicine was too tame for Hollywood. Or perhaps they wanted to disguise the identity of Indy's inspiration. If Indiana Jones is indeed the cinematic version of Harrison, then the 3 films thus far fail to recount his true life adventures. Perhaps the fourth film, due for release in May 2008, will do his story justice.

Harrison's medical school graduation portrait was accompanied by this quotation from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, "I dare do all that may become a man!" If we do get the long-awaited silver-screen version of his life, we may be able to appreciate, with warts and all, the true measure of Dr. Tillson Lever Harrison, Chinese hero *extraordinaire*.

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Militi Succurrimus

As Remembrance Day approaches, readers may be interested to know the origins of the Canadian Forces Medical Services' (CFMS) motto. Dr. Michael Warrington LCol (Hon. Ret'd) recounts the following.

"In 1976, while serving as medical officer in the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), I was asked by the area surgeon, LCol Anthony Grasset, if I had any ideas for a motto for the CFMS. We had both studied medicine at Middlesex Hospital (est. 1745) in London, UK. The hospital's motto *Miseris Succurrere Disco* (I am learning to succour the distressed) was inspired by a quotation from the *Aeneid* by Virgil (70-19 BC) at the part where Queen Dido says to Aeneas when he was cast upon her shores: '*Non ignara mali, miseris succurrere disco*' (Knowing something of misfortune myself, I am learning to succour the distressed). I suggested that we adapt this motto. On Aug. 10, 1988, the CFMS adopted *Militi Succurrimus* (We succour the soldier) as its motto." — Submitted by Dr. Michael Warrington LCol (Hon. Ret'd), Tsawwassen, BC

Film and other media

Filming at the front lines of health

It started out as a 6-week program, but turned into a life-changing experience for the handful of sometime-homeless young mothers who have learned to film, take photos, audiotape and maintain Internet blogs — among other accomplishments.

"It just gives you so much confidence," says 23-year-old Adrienne, one of the 5 mothers who first documented their own lives and then turned to capture some key aspects of the lives of others.

Katerina Cizek, filmmaker-in-residence at St. Michael's Hospital (see page 1240), trained the young mothers to use digital cameras and keep photo-blogs. Their work led to an image and text exhibit, *I WAS HERE*, that provided a window into their own lives and was launched at Toronto City Hall last January. In an artists' statement, the women said they hoped the exhibit would "take the judgemental edge off and change people's perceptions of us."

Next, they organized a "speak out" and invited other young parents to talk about the problems they face and brainstorm about solutions. That led to an astonishingly comprehensive docu-

ment, *WE ARE HERE: A Declaration by Young Parents*, that laid out changes the group wanted to see in areas such as social assistance, childcare, housing, healthcare and education. The declaration has been endorsed by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and has been circulated among social assistance workers.

"As young mothers, we find it hard to speak out, with doctors, social workers and people on the street who stare at us" as if they think we are too young, says Jess. "So there is personal satisfaction about raising the issues, about 'having said that' and letting the public know how hard it is," the 20-year-old explained.

Armed with new skills and confidence, the young women were hired to conduct and audiotape interviews with homeless people on the streets of Toronto. The result, *Street Health Stories*, is a photo and sound exhibit that gives voice to the homeless that is now being mounted in various locations around Toronto. The interviewees tell stories about their lives. Nancy, one of those interviewed, observes: "If people were housed, they could take care of

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Cizek's vérité film, *The Interventionist*, follows a mental health nurse and a police officer as they respond to 911 calls involving "emotionally disturbed persons."