

Valérie Ouellet

Forces Avenir's Outstanding University Student in 2009



A doctoral student in water science at the *Institut national de la recherche scientifique – Eau, Terre, Environnement** (INRS - ETE) in Quebec City, Valérie Ouellet has shaped her thinking through scientific research and social activism.

True to her dream of a world in which everyone is active and responsible, one of her initiatives has been to set up a student chapter of the Canadian Water Resources Association. This led her to being named to run an educational and awareness-raising program about water for primary and secondary school students.

Valérie is also involved with *Alternance de vie et Éveil social* (AVES), an organization that gives youth opportunities to go on cultural exchanges in other countries, become aware of other realities, and to learn about the principles of social justice.

This young woman has traveled extensively – for instance, besides teaching French and English to youth in the village of Jangas, Peru, she also helped educate the local population there about water management and environmental conservation.

* *National Institute of Scientific Research – Water Earth Environment*