

# **Progress Report**

Winter 2014/2015

# Empowerment through Education





# In this Issue:

President's Letter

Hygiene Promotion

New Partnership

Questionnaire

Presentation

Graduation

**Global Citizenship** 

Student Sponsorship Story

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#### President's Letter

By: Mary-Ann Stushnoff, President

Our values are the building blocks of People for Progress Foundation. Through integrity, accountability, collaboration, empowerment and sustainability, the vision of People for Progress Foundation, "Empowerment through Education," is accomplished.

We empower students with integrity by creating and maintaining education programs based on moral and ethical



By maintaining continuity from our fundamental principles through our program development, People for Progress Foundation, along with our supporters and constituents is continually witnessing, "Empowerment through Education," in the individuals and communities we reach.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



# Hygiene Promotion

By: Angela Chen

Recently, the world was struck with the Ebola outbreak. Ebola is a severe and often fatal disease that is transmitted through contact of bodily fluids which can be greatly improved with enforcing sanitation and hygiene practices, specifically in countries where there is a lack of it. We at People for Progress believe that this begins with the new generation of students and are currently implementing a project to encourage these practices. The poster shown to the left is visibly displayed in public

washrooms to remind the students to wash their hands. Educating them in such a way allows for prevention of the spread of disease. Like a ripple effect, we hope that they will bring this knowledge to their homes and share, by example, these practices to their families and communities. Ultimately, we hope to empower these students to take initiative in creating a healthy community.

Integrity Accountability Collaboration Empowerment Sustainability



#### **Working Together to Empower Communities**



Mary-Ann Stushnoff, president of PFPF and Lana Pogacic, Donations Coordinator of ERA.

People for Progress Foundation is excited to announce our new partnership with Electronic Recycling Association. Upon contacting this organization, they graciously donated to us laptops and mobile phones for the administrative purposes People for Progress Foundation at its base in Calgary, Alberta as well as in Kenya, Africa, for the staff and students of our various programs.

Electronic Recycling Association (ERA) is a not for profit organization that has been reducing unnecessary electronic waste since 2004.

They reduce adverse environmental contribution through recycling, repurposing and donation of electronics and other IT Equipment. Their primary Canada bases are in Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Saskatoon, Toronto, and an electronic pickup service of ERA provides a meaningful way for organizations and individuals to deal with the equipment in a safe and secure manner that matches or exceeds government standards.

For more information, please visit: https://www.era.ca/

# A message from Daniel Ching

I only had a small amount of time with People for Progress, but in that time, I was able to get a taste of the work they are doing in the area [Tanzania]. I could also start to see the impact [through the education programs] that is happening in area as well. I really appreciate the use of local resources to do the work. They are the ones that live among and really know the people in the area, as well as their needs.





### Question:

What do you like to do in your free time? What kind of hobbies do you enjoy?

#### Answer:

Kicking balls, play toys (cars), TV

# Question:

If one of your friends is struggling (lost, hurt, lonely, confused), what would you do to help?

#### **Answer:**

Tell teacher, tell parents, try to help, tell adult

# Question:

What have you learned at school?

#### **Answer:**

Letter sounds, numbers, object recognition, language

#### Question:

Since your child has gone to school, have you noticed any behavioral differences in your child?

#### **Answer:**

Increased self esteem, more sociable, more disciplined, likes to read, more independent

# Questionnaire

From the students and parents at

**Raven Education Centre** 

# Question:

How has your child's participation in PFPF programs benefitted your family and community?

#### **Answer:**

Family happy when child doing well, feel welcomed; child has role models, free education [and] food. [Now] child can help community in [the] future

# Question:

What is your favorite song?

#### **Answer:**

Baby Jesus, Baa Baa Black Sheep, The Sun is There, kamares kamares, maua maua

# Question:

What do you like to eat?

#### **Answer:**

Fruit, chapatti, potatoes, rice, spaghetti

# Question:

What do you want to be when you grow up?

#### **Answer:**

Teacher, Lorrie driver, doctor, pilot

Sustainability

Integrity Accountability Collaboration Empowerment





Lorraine Mertz speaking to St. Gabriel's Parish in Chestermere, Alberta.

# St. Gabriel's Catholic Parish Chestermere CWL Presentation

On October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of October, People for Progress Foundation gave a presentation at St. Gabriel's Catholic Parish in Chestermere on their donations to People For Progress Foundation and how the donations were used to provide a hygiene station for the children and a ventilation system for the kitchen at Raven Education Centre in Dandora, Kenya. Thank you to the CWL and members of St. Gabriel's Parish for their donations and continued interest in PFPF educational programs in East Africa.

#### **Graduation 2014**

We are happy to announce that our fourth year at Raven Education Centre has concluded successfully and another group of children graduated on November 13, 2014! Congratulations to our amazing students and their hard work this year. We would like to also thank our teachers and staff at Raven Education Centre for their efforts in making this year such a success! We look forward to the new school year. We hope to continue to encourage empowerment through education as our students grow to become leaders in their community.

















#### **Global Citizenship and the Butterfly Effect**

Dr. Arthur Clark Global Citizen

In the film "Sliding Doors" (with Gwyneth Paltrow) we are presented with a story (branching into two parallel stories) that awakens us to an important truth about reality: Small events, even something as small as whether you get on a subway car before the sliding doors close, can make an enormous difference in which path subsequent history will follow.

"Sliding Doors" is one example of how the "butterfly effect" has been used in fiction. The concept of the butterfly effect is of interest for many reasons but the point here is that you can apply it to societal change. The butterfly effect influences facts.

An example from my own life illustrates the point. Once – and I think it was only once – my father said to me something (in the context of a conversation we were having, the details of which are lost to my memory) that changed my life. "Leave the world a better place for your having passed through it," he said. I think his father had given him the same mission. And that one moment, that one brief statement in the context of that long-ago conversation, has had an indelible effect on my consciousness, my life, and my choices. An *idea* became life-altering.

We are at a point in human evolution when we need to transcend tribalism, nationalism, and "us versus them." We need to become global citizens. This paradigm shift must play itself out at every level from the personal to the local to the global, and in our relationship to the natural environment. Conceptually, that's a big picture, and it's made up of pixels. The pixels are in constant flux, and are constantly influencing the pixels around them. That's perfect for intentional use of the butterfly effect.

You can apply the butterfly effect and change the course of history. There are countless ways of doing this. You will find the ones that work best for you. Here I would suggest only that very simple observations, inserted into a conversation, can have a transformative effect on the content. In writing *The ABCs of Human Survival: A Paradigm for Global Citizenship* (Athabasca University Press 2010) I offered very basic concepts (five axioms, thirty principles) that are easy to understand and articulate. For example, in response to the endless expressions of pessimism that mark the "sophisticated intellectualism" of our culture, the thirtieth principle offers this game-changer from Norman Cousins: "Pessimism is a waste of time." To create the butterfly effect, *all you have to do is say it.* The consequences ripple forward.

A simple idea can change the content of a conversation and the course of a person's life. You can use the butterfly effect. It's easy and light and it can make all the difference in the world.



#### A Sponsorship Story

Erica understands what it's like to overcome challenges. Born with cognitive difficulties, she has little likelihood of ever earning above minimum-wage, even though she is most senior in her position in terms of length of employment. She empathizes with young women in communities that don't have the resources we do and wants to encourage them through sponsorship.

"Erica is a testimony to philanthropic giving. I first met Erica when I was coaching and she was training in cross country skiing for the Special Olympics. We had hopes that with hard work and dedication she might have a chance to go to nationals. What we didn't realize, was that the determination of this young lady would take her all the way to the World Special Olympic Games in Japan! Beyond her training and commitment to Special Olympics, Erica Erica holding bracelets she made for her sponsored student. supports and encourages her sponsored student. I honor and respect Erica as a competitor, a friend and a contributor to People for Progress Foundation." -Mary-Ann Stushnoff

Erica sends care packages to her sponsored student, receives letters from her and keeps up to date with her progress at school. Erica is working full-time, training for Special Olympics several times a week and still finds the time to give back to her community.



Priscilla, Sponsored by Erica



#### The Gift of Giving

By: Ron Bennett

It is always so nice to give.

And some gifts are so much more gratifying to give.

Hope, opportunity, respect, dignity, a feeling of worth, a feeling of being loved.

Education is one of the most empowering things that can be given.

It brings hope, encourages growth, builds self-image and produces confidence.

Give hope, give opportunity, give a feeling of worth.

Empower someone through supporting education programs in developing nations where they may not otherwise be able to get an education.

Empower others through education.

# Personal Sponsorship Opportunities- Donate now at peopleforprogress.net

**Humanitarian Outreach** \$ 10 per family care package includes rice, sugar, maize and or beans. \$ 85 **Secondary School Student** per month or \$1025/year, includes tuition, room and board. Teacher's Salary \$ 100 per month or \$1200/year for a full time, qualified teacher. \$ **Children's Meal Program** 170 per month or \$2000/year provides 2 meals/day for 65 children. \$ 200 per term provides for 65 children, includes delivery of donated items. **School Supplies College or University Student** \$ 100 per certificate ex: computer skills, driver's license, leadership training. 1000+ ex: Nursing Assistant, Beauty, Business Administration. per diploma \$ 3000+ per degree ex: Nursing, Business Management, Communications.

# Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities-Donate now at peopleforprogress.net

People for Progress Foundation appreciates your support and would like to have the opportunity to acknowledge your business in our newsletter, website, event signage and social media. For Sponsorship opportunities, please contact admin@peopleforprogress.net.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Harambee - Concert and Silent Auction Coordinator September - November

Lead a team of experienced volunteers

**Book Keeper** 

Monthly Assistant to Treasurer Bank Reconciliation Financial Reports

**International Volunteers** 

Travel to Kenya and Tanzania
Assist with Program Development
Must provide personal travel expenses

**Newsletter Editor** 

Semi-annual

Edit articles and put in a news letter format

**Fund Development Coordinator** 

Apply for government grants and corporate sponsorship

**Event Committee Members** 

Varying schedule primarily September to November Attend meetings to organize and facilitate fundraising events

Board Members
Monthly Meetings

#### Leaders

Carmen Riguedell Ron Bennett Muriel Keeling Grace Clark Angela Chen Phillip Poon Events
Marketing
Administration
Graphic Design
Media Publications
Website

#### **Board of Directors**

Mary-Ann Stushnoff Dr. Bernadette Curry Carmen Riguedell Julia McMillan Phillip Poon Deng Kuany Patrice Ndikumana



www.peopleforprogress.net

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