

The Clarion



A Summary of Dr. Maclure's Speech at The Annual CANHAVE Dinner

On September 29th, 2016, CANHAVE Children's Centre held its annual fundraising dinner at the Algonquin College Restaurant International. The dinner was a tremendous success as tickets were completely sold out and guests enjoyed the delightful dishes that were prepared by students of Algonquin's culinary program.



Dr. Robert Maclure

The fundraiser was highlighted by Dr. Robert Maclure, a professor from the University of Ottawa, who gave a compelling speech regarding schooling as the focus of social change in Africa. More specifically, he placed emphasis on the significance of social inclusion, in terms of the need for equal opportunity and accessibility to education for both sexes, within the learning



He began by reiterating the idea of education as a fundamental human right. Such a notion was recognized at the World Education Forum in Dakar Senegal in 2000, where the goal was set not only to increase the enrolment rates of children in primary school, but also to make significant progress toward gender equity in education. The target date to achieve this goal was set to 2015.

Dr. Maclure fast forwarded to 2017, explaining that although there is still quite a lot that needs to be done, there are some noteworthy developments in Africa. This includes public expenditures on education being considerably higher than any other region in the global South and primary school enrolments that have doubled over the last 15 years.

However, despite this optimistic narrative, children's education throughout much of the African continent still faces a number of impediments thus lacking notable progress towards good quality education. Dr. Maclure argues that this is largely as a result of the sense of dissociation between "going to school" and "learning in school". In other words, although there have been evident increases in the quantity of those enrolled in school, there are significant deficits in terms of the overall quality of the education that is provided.

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This issue is dedicated to all the volunteers and donors who continue to make CANHAVE a success. Thank you for supporting CANHAVE'S children!

President's Message

After a successful 20th anniversary year for CANHAVE in 2015, we published only one Clarion in the spring of 2016. In June we presented our audited statements at the Annual General Meeting for 2015 and were pleased to report income of \$75,500.00 and expenditures of \$69,429.00. CANHAVE was delighted by the gifts of individuals and groups, including a generous donation from the faculty and students of the School of Hospitality and Tourism at Algonquin College.

The surplus from 2015 and some donations allowed CANHAVE to outfit a communications hub at the vocational school in Kisubi. Documents can be reproduced and stored; Internet is available for messaging and SKYPE has facilitated face-to-face meetings between the Ugandan volunteers and board members in Ottawa. This facility has increased our sense of partnership and ownership of the Children's Program and the Vocational School Program.

In 2016, funding focussed on the 100 students supported financially by CANHAVE. The Vocational School did not receive operational funding in compliance with an agreement made in CANHAVE's first Memorandum of Understanding. However, CANHAVE Ottawa did agree to promote a number of capital projects to ensure that the school was maintaining its place as a registered school and attracting as many students as possible. The school's main source of income is the fees of paying students and CANHAVE pays the fees of its young people who are trained there. **In 2016, 92 children were at primary or secondary schools; six attended our vocational school in Kisubi and two completed their undergraduate degrees at university. Hilda has just graduated from Makerere University and is working.**



Hilda

CANHAVE did not receive the full sponsorship of the students' fees in 2016, although the financial statements have not yet been audited. Fifty-one thousand, four hundred CAD were transferred to Uganda for the fees. CANHAVE had to dip into the reserve to make up the difference and will concentrate this year on the Children's Program. CANHAVE exists because we believe that the future is built by giving vulnerable children the opportunity to learn and to develop their skills and personal qualities.

Through promoting a number of capital projects in Kisubi, the vocational school has benefitted through a major upgrade of the kitchen which serves as a classroom but also the facility for storing, preparing and serving the meals to the boarding students. The latrines and showers for the boys have been improved and the fishponds have been rehabilitated and caged so the students may practice fish agriculture for sale and eating. The vocational school is now permanently licensed by the Uganda Ministry of Education.

CANHAVE is in transition as it recognizes major changes in giving from Canadians and also the importance of social media for name recognition and attracting new supporters. As announced at the Annual General Meeting in June 2016, CANHAVE is concentrating on finding new board members who represent a younger demographic and finding partners for longer term funding and expansion. We welcome them and thank those new members and volunteers who have dedicated time and energy to CANHAVE.

CANHAVE's faithful supporters gave generously in 2016 and raised monies through various sales, events and presentations. CANHAVE held a wonderful dinner in September at Restaurant International at Algonquin and heard Dr. Richard Maclure speak of the role of the school in community development and engagement. With Uganda's population so young – 50% are fifteen years and younger – it is very important that not only individuals but also families and communities benefit from schooling.

In March 2017, I returned to Uganda after first living and working in East Africa fifty years ago. My experience in Uganda has marked my life. I have been back to Uganda and other parts of Africa several times. I have met with some of my students from 1967 who have remained friends. I shared a meal with new friends whose children attend Ottawa universities and colleges. **But mostly I spent time with our CANHAVE family: children, volunteers, leaders. All care for and work on behalf of the HIV/AIDS-affected students we support.**



In the past year, Fr. Emmanuel, the Chair of the CANHAVE Board of Trustees for many years, has died, as has Caroline Nakayenga's mother. The grandfather of Robert and Ariel, two of our longtime CANHAVE children, died in 2015 under the care of his grandson. Israel had worked as a houseboy at Bishop Tucker College, where I taught in the 60s. He spoke English beautifully because he had had the opportunity to learn in Mukono. We will miss seeing those three persons. May their souls rest in peace.

Learning is an invaluable enduring gift we can share across time and space. CANHAVE is a registered charity that sends most of its revenue to Uganda for the education of orphans. This support changes their lives, as I can attest from my recent visit. It is a priceless investment in their collective future and in our interconnected world. Please be generous and sponsor a child TODAY at www.canhave.org or by using the form at the back of this issue.

Thank you and very best wishes,

Gwynneth Evans

Milly Baino: International Day of the Girl Child



**INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF THE GIRL CHILD**

In many parts of the world, October 11th has been recognized and marked as the “International Day of the Girl Child”. The day was first declared by the United Nations in 2012, making last October’s event the 4th annual celebration. CANHAVE’s Milly Baino released a blog to report Uganda’s current sense of progress and the remaining challenges it faces. More specifically, she sheds light on what Uganda is doing in collaboration with its international partners in order to further advance the wellbeing of girls.

Each year, there is a specific theme that emphasizes the field of focus for the year’s event. This year, the theme was “Girl’s Progress = Global Progress: A Global Data Movement.” Uganda’s First Lady, the Honourable Janet Museveni, is the country’s current National Champion of Adolescent Girls. She explained that the objective of this theme was centred at recommitting Uganda to address all the prevailing challenges that affect adolescent girls and to find ways to overcome the given challenges in order for girls to achieve their full and true potential.

One of Uganda’s main efforts in achieving this goal was the creation of an inter-ministerial task force on adolescent girls coordinated by the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development. The objective of this task force is to further improve and manage priorities of this population group. Moreover, Uganda’s Ministry of Education has also worked in close collaboration with several United Nations’ agencies to develop a national strategy that aims to address the barriers to girls’ education. Together, they have identified a few major impediments. This includes a lack of access to education. Milly notes that 68% of adolescent girls between the age of 15-19 have never attended school. One could suggest that this further emphasizes Dr. Maclure’s argument that there is an evident disparity in terms of gender equity in schooling in Africa. She also highlights the challenge of child marriages. Early marriage remains a recurring obstacle as **49% of 20-49 year olds** (approximately 3 million women) were **married by 18 and 15% were married by 18**. These statistics also illustrate another of Dr. Maclure’s major arguments which is that culturally-related constraints often lead to early school leaving by girls.

Milly Baino notes that the Ugandan government is continuously attempting to become more progressive by working towards collecting more data and systematic analysis, that is both girl-focused and relevant, as guidance measures to inform policy and program-related decisions.

As Dr. Maclure highlights the need for a genuine rights’ based approach to education, Milly Baino addresses the need for increased advocacy for girls’ and woman’s rights. Both issues need to be pursued in order to achieve further progress within Africa’s development discourse. CANHAVE has normally had about 66.6% girls and 33.3% boys in its Children’s Program.



Left to Right: Board members: Teo Kassaji, Deo Kasumba, Dorothy Mitala (Chair), and Joseph Kabali (Coordinator of the Children’s Program) with Milly Baino

CANHAVE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL: Capital Projects

Progress on Three Capital Projects in late 2016/early 2017

CANHAVE donors generously funded three projects requested by the Vocational School in Kisubi. They were: rehabilitation/upgrade of the fishponds; the construction of a catering classroom and incinerator; and the improvement of the sanitation facilities at the boys' dormitory. Work started early in December 2016 after the school had closed to avoid interference with school activities. By March 2017 most of the work was complete.

Two different contractors were engaged for the works: Fisheries Consultancy Services Ltd upgraded the fishpond rehabilitation and POBO Development Consultants Ltd for built the catering classroom and the sanitation facilities.

The new catering classroom was opened officially on March 18, when many of the CANHAVE board members, alumni and present vocational school students were present with Gwynneth Evans and Milly Baino.

Fishponds' Rehabilitation

The deepening of the ponds was carried out but operations of the excavator were seriously affected by the very soft clayey soil around the ponds. Two of the original ponds were expanded and deepened to accommodate upwards of 14 standard size cages that can potentially hold up to 14,000 fish at a time. The edges of the pond were trimmed and properly aligned when the excavated mud around the pond sufficiently hardened to allow safe access. Below are some photos highlighting the rehabilitation.



Deepening the ponds



New Fishpond with cages



Leveling the excavated soil under the pond(final landscape)

Catering Classroom Reconstruction

Work generally progressed well. However, demolition of the old structure, especially removal of the concrete columns bases, created larger than planned excavation that would necessitate the redesign of the ground floor slab to reduce the risk of damage over the backfilled areas. By March 18, 2017 some of the final touches were being done so the kitchen could be officially opened during Gwynneth Evans' visit.



Before



After

The Catering Classroom



The Sanitary Facility for the Boys

DEAR DONORS, CANHAVE NEEDS YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

In 2016, CANHAVE supported the education of 92 orphans in primary and secondary schools. Two students completed university and six were registered at the Vocational School in Kisubi. Four of the vocational school students graduated and are working. By **SPONSORING** a student, you help CANHAVE reach its goal of fostering independence and building the future for 100 AIDS orphans each year.

Your donation of:

- **\$400 per year or \$33.50 monthly** pays the school fees and extras for one child in primary school each year
\$ _____
- **\$150 - \$350** contributes to the fees and boarding expenses of academically successful students entering senior school or post-secondary institutions \$ _____
- **\$25** (to the general fund) offers the donor an annual CANHAVE membership. Every member receives two issues of the Clarion, our semi-annual newsletter, and may vote at the Annual General Meeting
\$ _____
- Please accept my contribution of \$ _____ and use it to where it is most needed .

Opportunities to help

- Make a tribute to a family member, friend on an important occasion \$ _____
- Organize a fundraising event for CANHAVE by having friends for a meal, making and selling your produce and crafts at an event, or having a garage sale.

How to donate: (Tax receipts are issued for all donations of \$20 or more)

- On line, via the CANHAVE website (**www.canhave.org**) through **CanadaHelps**
- Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard) Please call 613-565-6214 to discuss.
- Mail cheque, payable to: **CANHAVE** Children's Centre, Inc.
PO Box 21045,
Ottawa, ON
K1S 5N1

CANHAVE is a not-for-profit organization (**Canadian Registered Charity No. 88992 8396 RR0001**). We encourage individuals wishing to help Ugandan AIDS-affected orphans to join and become a voting member, a volunteer, and/or a donor. CANHAVE has two voluntary boards; one in Canada and one in Uganda. The decisions and leadership for planning and managing the programs are made in Uganda; while the Canadian Board provides direction, policy, and fund raises to support the education and development of each CANHAVE child.

Special thanks to those involved in the creation of this issue: Sheena Barnes, Gwynneth Evans, Milly Baino and Udendo Ba.

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