

GUYANA CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (CANADA) INC.

534 Rouge Hills Drive, Toronto, ON M1C 2Z8 -- Tel. No. 416-912-6814

Website: <http://www.gcccanada.org> Email: info@gcccanada.org

Registration No. 89096-5643-RR0001



VOLUME 42

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DONATED DENTAL OFFICE GIVEN TO GEORGETOWN PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. (GCC) received and donated a complete functioning Dental Office, *comprising of X-Ray machines and frames, chair, irrigation systems, compressor, miscellaneous parts, operating manuals, cabinet with sink and several other cabinets*, to Georgetown Public Hospital (GPH). This equipment, valued at approximately CDN\$25,000, was donated by Rev. Daniel Narine, Bread of Life Humanitarian Ministry Inc. (a registered charitable non-profit organization) to Brian Farnum, who is a member of GCC. Rev. Narine (a Guyanese) and his wife, Hattie (a Filipino) *practice their Ministry as full-time Missionaries in the Philippines. Since they could not readily make use of the equipment in the Philippines in their Ministry*, they generously offered the equipment to GCC.

The equipment was received by Harry Narine Nawbatt, Guyana High Commissioner and Donald Ramotar, Advisor to the President of Guyana. They expressed their gratitude and a big "thank you", on behalf of Guyana to GCC and its members for their commitment and for the wide spectrum of charitable activities, especially to Guyanese.



L-R: Ken Singh, President and CEO of Atlas Cargo; Lance Doobay; Harry Narine Nawbatt, Guyana High Commissioner; Kumar Singh, VP of GCC; Donald Ramotar, Advisor to the President of Guyana; Sattie Sawh, Consul General (Acting); and Benny Pereira, Manager of Atlas Cargo.

All the equipment, carefully packed by Volunteers of GCC, was on our shipment to Guyana on October 19, 2011.

OUR MISSION

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. is a volunteer, non-profit charitable organization, registered in Canada, dedicated to providing aid and assistance to Guyanese organizations, individuals and others in need

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Supporters, Friends, Members and Volunteers:

'THE BEST IS THE LEAST WE CAN DO'

Greetings to everyone! I am glad you are in receipt of this newsletter and I hope you will find it interesting and informative.

Our last issue was just four (4) months ago but much has happened over that period. Although we usually try to take a two-month break in the Summer, there is always something that keeps us busy to ensure that our mission is accomplished.

Our May 2011 Fund Raising Dance was once again very successful. **Thanks to all who attended.** Your feedback made us feel very happy indeed. We organize these events to raise funds for our many charities but also for everyone who attends to have a good time so that they would come back again! It is hard to believe that our September 2011 Fund Raising Dance has come and gone! **AGAIN this event was successful ... AGAIN thanks to our supporters.** We listen to your comments and try to improve areas, where some people suggest, need improvement but – we have only a few people doing so much that sometimes we have no choice but to turn to outside help to cope and trust you will understand why everything is not always as perfect as you/we would like them to be. **If you can assist us in any way to improve our dances and/or any project you think need improvement, please contact any member of the Board of Directors.**

As we often heard while growing up in Guyana '*no rest for the wicked!*' We at Guyana Christian Charities must be VERY wicked because we never seem to get any rest! It seems that as soon as one project is over we start working on the next...but we somehow manage to succeed. Recently, it was organizing, baking, cooking and all that goes into making our Food & Bake Sale the event of the year for many.

Regardless of all the hard work put in by our members and volunteers, it is always extremely heartening when we receive so many sincere '*thank you notes*' from several of the charities. These notes give us the strength and encouragement to continue what we are doing. Excerpts of a few 'thank you notes' received can be found later in this newsletter.

Thank you to all those who submitted their email addresses to receive our newsletters. This will certainly save us dollars which can be put to use to assist our many charities. If you have not given us your email address as yet – please do. Also, if you receive this newsletter by email and post – do let us know so that we can delete you from our mailing list. This issue of our newsletter has some very interesting reports. Please take the time to read them all. You will be reassured that your donations, support and assistance are all put to good use. Without each and every one of you, our mission would only be a dream. No doubt the thanks we offer you will be far outweighed by the gratitude of those who stand to benefit directly from your kindness.

In closing I would like to say that your repeated acts of kindness to Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. are a witness of your concern for improving the lives of the poorest of the poor in Guyana. The Charities we support witness the daily miracle in caring for the

many very needy children, the elderly and the sick -- they truly realize how great our debt of gratitude is to you.

May God bless you and your families for your participation and generosity.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Abdool

President

He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward him for what he has done. –Proverbs 19:17

A SCHOOL OF NURSING

-- FIRST FOR GUYANA



Professors Carr (Dr. Tony) and O'Connor (Rev. John), with support from many others, made it **Christmas** in September 2011 for the **20 First Year Nursing Students** at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Each student has been given a personal netbook to assist them with their studies. As many of you know, books and journals are expensive and outdate quickly – and futurists tell us there is no nursing job that will be the same in 10 years.

Now up-to-date information is immediately available to all First Year students. Professors Carr and O'Connor have introduced a new learning model, **Problem Based Learning**, which relies heavily on student initiative and internet resources. The computers will be a huge help in this learning mode.



Besides being ardent volunteers at School of Nursing of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Georgetown, Guyana and at various other programs/projects in Guyana, both Professors Carr and O'Connor, are members of GCC. If you wish to read more, please check out www.revjoc.blogspot.com. Also you can look at the photos that people might want to send as cards. They are linked to Professor O'Connor's blog or are at <http://www.redbubble.com/people/revjoc>.

All of the proceeds from the sale of these will go towards his volunteer work.

How to Receive GCC'S Newsletter

If you are not already on our mailing list you may either view or print our newsletter from our website <http://www.gcccanada.org> or request to be put on the mailing or email list via "info@gcccanada.org". If you do not have a computer, you may call 416-912-6814 and ask to be added to our mailing list or if you do have a computer, send us your email address.

PACKING AND SHIPPING UPDATE: -- OCTOBER 2011



Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. (GCC) has collected, sorted and packed enough boxes to load a 40 ft. container for shipment to Guyana. Our members and volunteers must be complimented for their hard and dedicated work, to ensure that this shipment (2nd for this year) arrives in Guyana in time for distribution for the *Christmas Season*. This container is scheduled to arrive in Guyana early November. Distribution should be completed well before the Festive Season.

The container is loaded with an abundance of toys, Christmas decorations, clothing, shoes, medical supplies and equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, bicycles and other sporting goods and supplies. An anonymous benefactor has donated a large number of backpacks with school supplies, clothing and miscellaneous items. Also included in this shipment is equipment for a complete Dental Office. Please see details of this donation in our feature article on the front page.

Over 65 organizations and individuals across Guyana are recipients of these donations. In addition, two GCC members, Lauren Harry and Wendy Grenada will be in Guyana during December to personally distribute a large number of boxes with a wide variety of items to the very needy individuals across Guyana from GCC.

Again, many thanks to all suppliers for their donations in kind and/or cash. Such generosity enables us to achieve our mission and to assist many charities in our homeland of Guyana. We continue to receive new requests for donations from Guyana for such items as medical supplies, various equipment, bed linens, etc. If you are aware of any organizations or individuals that have any surplus of these items, please call one of the following members to arrange collection:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Terry De Freitas | 416-438-5992 |
| Anne Marie Reigber | 416-755-6958 |
| Stephen Choo-Wing | 905-420-2789 |
| Desmond de Barros | 905-837-0135 |
| Kumar Singh | 416-498-9962 |
| Elizabeth Abdool | 416-912-6814 |



MAIL BOX -- Extracts from
some Letters of Appreciation
for our help

"Thank you and all at GCC for sending us those boxes of shoes, clothes and books. All the boys at the Home got shoes and a few of the men who help us at the Home found shoes to fit them."

Sr. Noël, Mercy Boys Home

"On behalf of the residents of the community, I take this opportunity to express gratitude to you, the donors, for your generous donation to this entire community. I would like to assure you that the generator, wheel chair, clothing and all other articles will bring a great measure of happiness to every home."

Saxacalli, Essequibo River

ST. JOSEPH MERCY HOSPITAL RECOVERY PROJECT



The Recovery Project is being carried in two stages:

- ▶ **Phase One** will involve the redesign and refurbishment of the North Wing which was not damaged in the fire on May 10, 2010.
- ▶ **Phase Two** will result in the construction of a new building to replace the section of the hospital lost in the fire.

Opportunity will be taken at this time to upgrade equipment, for example, -- X-ray, Laboratory, Ultra-sound, etc.

Work has commenced on **Phase One**, and thanks to your generous donations, GCC has collected \$53,517.00 so far. From the above donations, at the request of the C.E.O. of the Hospital, we have financed the purchase of new **Laparoscopic and Arthroscopy equipment** to the value of US\$17,883.00 and will shortly be assisting in the purchase of new **Neo-natal equipment** costing US\$13,286.00.

The Recovery Project Committee in Guyana, which is chaired by Mr. Chris Fernandes, has held a number of fundraising events and is receiving good support.

If you would like to contribute to this most worthy cause, please send your donations to:

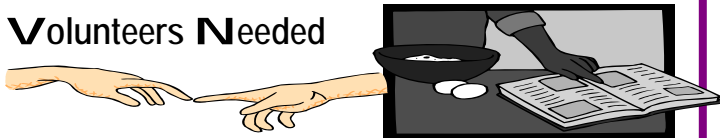
Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.
534 Rouge Hills Drive
Toronto, Ontario, M1C 2Z8.

Income Tax Receipts will be provided.

Everybody can be great. Because any body can serve.
You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve....
You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace.
A soul generated by love.

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Volunteers Needed



Ready to lend a hand?

Interested in **baking/cooking/making goodies?**

Join our seasoned volunteers and turn your spare time into social good....and at the same time learn the skills of recipes of a special item you might want to do for family, friends or yourself.

Contact us by

phone: 416-912-6814 -- email: info@gcccanada.org

KARASABAI, NORTH RUPUNUNI ... CAN YOU HELP?

In March of this year, the Tildonk Ursuline Sisters from India began a convent in Karasabai (which is north of Lethem on the border of Brazil), with an aim to improving the life of the residents in the village.

In Karasabai there is a Nursery School and a Primary School which goes to Grade 9 and one of the Sisters is a teacher who can help with language studies, but she does not offer math, so Sister Mary Peter Ngui, from the Ursuline Convent in Georgetown, was invited to fill this need. She was only too happy to accept. And so, within a month she had to pack, leave St. Ann's and go to Karasabai with 20 lb of luggage. Much more arrived by jungle trail a month later.



The Sisters go from village to village and would really appreciate one or two LADIES bicycles. Do you have one which you do not use? If so – please let us know. We would be most happy to send it down to Karasabai.

Sister Mary Peter tells us that Karasabai is another world. It is situated on a savannah surrounded by the Pakaraima Mountains. The houses are spread out without fences or pattern, but numerous wide-spreading mango trees and lots of cashew trees (with nuts) everywhere. *(Maybe she was trying to make all of us jealous.)* Cows, donkeys, sheep and chickens can roam at will all around one's home. One day an anteater passed through the village and had animals and people running 'helter skelter' for refuge until it ran into the bush. Another day there was a snake (dead) on the ground in front of the school gate. There are no modern conveniences – no telephone, no post office, no electricity, and no shops. However, Sister Mary Peter did point out several positives in the area: no traffic, lots of space and clean air and healthy food from the farms. Sister also mentioned that they have a vegetable patch with lots of seasoning, ochroes, squash, karaila, bora, etc. *(making us jealous again)* and added that the villagers are very friendly and generous – often bringing gifts from their farms, their hunting, and their fishing. The school and library have solar power, compliments of the Guyana Government, and they can have access to the internet a few hours on some days, but it is unpredictable and tends to go off in the middle of your letter.

Sister Mary Peter was born in Regent Street, Georgetown, went to school at St. Angela's and St. Rose's, entered the Ursuline Noviciate in England, returned to teach in Barbados and later at St. Rose's High School and Teachers' Training Colleges in Guyana and Jamaica. For the last nine years she helped Sister Beatrice Fernandes in St. Ann's and did some emergency Math teaching at Marian Academy.

Remembering Sister Beatrice

Sister Beatrice Fernandes, O.S.U. passed away on July 24, 2011, after a long illness.

She was the daughter of John and Alda Fernandes, the sister of several siblings, some of whom are members and all of them supporters of Guyana Christian Charities.

GCC enjoyed and benefitted from her guidance in connection with our assistance to St. Ann's where she was Administrator for many years.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to all the family. May she rest in peace.

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

-- Albert Pike

WITH SYMPATHY

We would like to express our sympathy to the families, members, volunteers, supporters of the following persons who have recently passed on:

Sr. Beatrice Fernandes
Mervyn Vincent
Ernest King
Michael Correia
Gertrude Tranquada
Elaine Osborne
Juliet Mendes de Franca
Bertley Farnum
Julian Vasconcellas

Eternal Rest Grant onto them O Lord.

Sincere thanks to those who listed Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. to receive donations in lieu of flowers.

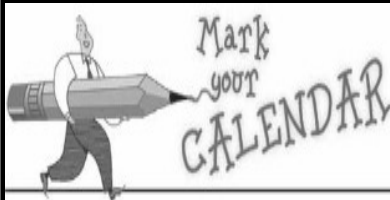
A DEDICATED DIRECTOR, MEMBER AND SUPPORTER

We were sorry to learn of the death of Mervyn Vincent, a founding member and Director of Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. until 1991.

Mervyn was a very active participant in all our fundraising events...one would always know when he was around...you heard him, usually with a wicked and jovial comment or hearty laughter.

Mervyn moved out West for a few years but always kept in touch with several members to find out how GCC was doing. This continued interest was much appreciated.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mervyn's family. May he rest in peace.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

Come Join us and Enjoy

**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 11,
2012
at 7:00 p.m.**

VALENTINE DINNER & DANCE
Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Church Hall
1490 Markham Road
(North of 401 – Entrance on Milner Avenue)
**Music: BAND: Triple Play
& DJ.: Bakes**

**SATURDAY,
MAY 5,
2012
at 7:30 p.m.**

SPRING DANCE
Pickering Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering --
(Liverpool and Highway 2)
**Music: Band: } Fuh Fun
DJ.: }**

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER
22, 2012
at 7:30 p.m.**

FALL DANCE
Pickering Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering --
(Liverpool and Highway 2)
**Music: Band: } T.B.A.
DJ.: }**

Tickets can be obtained for the dance from:



Joe Castanheiro -- 416-286-1956
Mike Gonsalves -- 416- 420-0565
Des De Barros -- 905-837-0135
Dennis Choy -- 905-839-0434
Theresa Gonsalves -- 416-284-2496
Karen Heifa -- 416-287-2526
or Any GCC Member



Guyana's History You thought you knew

Q: Which Guyanese, best known as a writer and thinker, once acted with Sir Laurence Olivier while he was living in London?

A: Jan Carew

Q: The first Europeans to settle in Guyana were the Dutch. What crop did they first cultivate?

A: Cotton.

Q: A generally held belief among old-timers in Guyana was that Dutch settlers would bury their accumulated treasures under a certain kind of tree. What kind of tree?

A: The silk-cotton tree.

Give a Helping Hand

☒ **YES! I WANT TO HELP**

☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other

☐ General ☐ Marian Academy Scholarship Fund
☐ In Memory/Honour ☐ Bernard Gonsalves Memorial Education Fund
☐ St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Fund

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal Code _____ Phone: _____

Your donation is tax-deductible Charitable (No. 89096-5643-RR0001).
A receipt will be mailed. Please send your cheque and this form to:

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

534 Rouge Hills Drive, Toronto, ON M1C 2Z8

Donations may also be made through our website:

<http://www.gcccanada.org> (through CanadaHelps.org)

NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST

☐ I would like to be on your Newsletter Mailing List/ email list

☐ My address has been changed

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

email: _____ Phone: _____

Mail form to: Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

534 Rouge Hills Drive, Toronto, ON M1C 2Z8

FRIENDS OF GUYANA CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (CANADA) INC.

☐ Yes, I wish to become a member of your organization

☐ Yes, I would like to join the youth committee

☐ Yes, I wish to assist with donation of items/supplies

☐ Yes, I would like to help with the:

☐ Food Fair ☐ dance ☐ packing for shipments

☐ transporting donated items

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

email _____ Phone _____

Mail form to: Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

534 Rouge Hills Drive, Toronto, ON M1C 2Z8

Thank you for your generosity and support

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**We publish two newsletters each year
(June and October)**

If you would like to advertise....

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Stan Niccols 416-651-2482

email: stanandmarg@yahoo.com





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