



The Soong Ching Ling Children's 加拿大宋慶齡兒童基金會 Foundation of Canada NEWSLETTER

FALL 2008



Stars & Rain Centre for Autism Beijing —Workshop Presenters

THE STARS AND RAIN CENTRE FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM—Beijing

The SCLCFC Board decided back in 2007 that it would be very cost-effective to present a workshop in Beijing for the Stars and Rain teachers as well as teachers from other parts of China, at a budget of \$12,500. Dr. Suzanne Jacobsen, a leading Canadian expert on educating autistic children, agreed to present a four day workshop on Applied Behaviour Analysis/Verbal Behaviour. Hugo Chan, who worked for BC Autism Community Training, agreed to accompany Dr. Jacobsen and to present a one-day workshop on Positive Behaviour Support.

These two workshops were held in April 2008, and were attended by about 30 teachers from Stars and Rain and the Beijing area, and another 30 teachers coming from other parts of China. Approximately 20% of the \$12,500 project cost was expended to subsidize the train fare of some of the participants.

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During this four-day workshop, Dr. Jacobsen introduced the basic principles and logic of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA), and provided many concrete examples and showed video footage of children in Canada being educated using these techniques. The participants had many opportunities to practice the new techniques with each other, so that they were able to better learn and absorb the teaching material of the workshop. The success of Dr. Jacobsen’s efforts was demonstrated by the rapt attention paid by the teachers to her presentations, despite long hours of sitting in hard chairs.

Hugo Chan a current Board member of the Foundation who worked for Autism Community Training, presented a one-day workshop at Stars and Rain in Chinese on “Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) based on principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis. This one-day workshop was attended by the 62 teachers and parents of approximately 60 children currently attending the Stars and Rain Institute.

During the closing ceremony, the teachers expressed their appreciation, and explained that living far from Beijing, they have had no access to training of any kind. The training provided by the workshops had not only given them invaluable knowledge, but new confidence and inspiration to continue to work hard to help these children.

**Workshop for teachers ...
“Enthusiastic and receptive
participants “**

Dr. Suzanne Jacobsen stated that she had never before encountered such enthusiastic and receptive participants in her workshops, and expressed her wish to continue to work with SCLCFC and the Stars and Rain on similar projects.

The Board of SCLCFC is very encouraged by the far reaching impact of these workshops, and plans to raise \$25,000 to fund a strong follow-up programme in the coming year.

Hastings Community School

Outreach Project

In 2004, fundraising dinner proceeds of \$12,000 saw the beginning of the Foundation's support for Hastings Community School. The monies raised were used to fund the salary of a part-time, Chinese speaking, family support worker to support new immigrant families, introducing them to the available school programmes and support systems, and the Canadian education system.

This service is important in helping children settle down in a new environment, and integrate into the Canadian culture. The Foundation provided annual funding of \$12,000 in the past four years. The plan for the new 2008-2009 school year is to reduce this annual funding from \$12,000 to \$6,000, as some parent volunteers have been trained to provide this service and new government funding has been made available to support this service at the school.

The Kids First Programme

Hastings Community School offers a "no fee for use" after-school programme for students from a variety of ethnic backgrounds considered to be at high risk due to their family circumstances. This Kids First programme provides supervised activities for 60 children in the after-school hours, and is a literacy based programme that gives children access to a familiar and safe place to participate in activities that will support and encourage them to take control of their lives in positive ways.

The programme provides tutoring for academic support in basic curriculum areas and helps students to identify their personal interests, talents and attributes, which are all crucial components of asset development in children. The programme helps children to develop social skills, teamwork and good sportsmanship, and to learn conflict resolution.

In the last four years, the Soong Ching Ling Children's Foundation of Canada was instrumental in helping the Hastings Community School raise over \$80,000 towards the Kids First Programme from other organizations and individuals.

For the 2008 - 2009 school year, the Foundation intends to continue its efforts to help secure the same level of contribution from these third parties to support the Kids First programme at the Hastings Community School.

In addition, the Foundation plans to raise another \$20,000 to fund a similar programme at the Tillicum and Mac-Donald schools, which belong to the Hastings-Tillicum hub of six schools.

With limited funding, however, the programmes in these two schools will only be initially offered on a three day per week basis, while continuing fundraising efforts will be made to try to expand these to a five day per week basis.

Early Childhood Education Symposium Richmond, 2007

The Bi-annual Early Childhood Education Symposium is a collaboration between Soong Ching Ling Children's Foundation of Canada and the Shanghai Soong Ching Ling Foundation. SCLCFC hosted the fifth symposium in Richmond Canada from October 22 to 23, 2007. The two-day symposium was themed "The Whole Child".

Five Early Childhood Educators (ECE) from Shanghai delivered papers on early childhood development and education to an audience of over thirty participants that included Canadian ECEs, ECE training faculty, parents and other professionals. In addition, there was a contingent of seven eminent Canadian presenters amongst whom was Dr. Clyde Hertzman, from the University of British Columbia's Human Early Learning Partnership and previous recipient of the SCLCFC's "For the Children Award". Overall, the two-day international cross-cultural exchange of knowledge was very successful with a series of inspiring research and educational presentations delivered by Canadian and Chinese Early Childhood Education specialists. The next symposium will be held in Shanghai in the fall of 2009.



Mrs. Eileen Lin with symposium participants
from Shanghai

Scholarship Programmes in China

The Paul and Eileen Lin Scholarship Fund was established in 2001 by the late Professor Paul Lin and Mrs. Eileen Lin with an initial amount of \$400,000 from their donation and fundraising efforts.

In China, the government provides free education to children up to Grade 9, and children from poorer regions quite often are unable to attend senior high school even though they may have excellent academic achievements.

By 2005, 120 students in four schools in Ning Xia, An Hui, Hebei and Inner Mongolia were placed on this scholarship programme, with each student receiving 1,000 RMB per year (approximately Can\$160). Annual disbursements amount to \$19,000, and only interest income from the Trust fund is used for this scholarship programme.

In 2005, from the first hand experience in administering the Paul and Eileen Lin Scholarship Programme, the SCLCFC Foundation recognized that there was a big need for such scholarship assistance in China, and a decision was made to expand the scholarship programme.



Scholarship Award recipients at Nan Xi Senior High School in Anhui

Fundraising

An annual fundraising drive since 2005 has been conducted and approximately \$15,000 is raised and disbursed each year to help an additional 100 students in another three high schools.

The objectives of the scholarship programmes are not just to help these students achieve a better life through higher education, but to really promote the concept of giving and caring for the under-privileged. It is hoped that some of these students will practice these same values and become caring citizens of the society.

The Foundation actively and closely supervises these scholarship programmes, and Board members and volunteers visit these schools from time to time to ensure the objectives of the scholarship programmes are met.



Dollars at work "for the Children"...

Soong Ching Ling Children's Foundation of Canada 2008-2009 Budget

Receipts

Paul and Eileen Lin Trust interest income	\$ 18,000
Short-term scholarship fund donation pledges	15,000
Proceeds from fundraising dinner	<u>45,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 78,000</u>

Disbursements

Scholarship program	\$ 34,000
Hastings-Tillicum Schools programs	25,000
Stars and Rain programs	25,000
Audit and Administration	<u>6,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 90,000</u>

Additional donations from fundraising \$ 12,000

Note: The above budget does not include funds expected to be raised through the Foundation's efforts and are directly contributed to the Hastings Community School.

**Our Corporate Sponsors
for the
October 3 Fund Raising Dinner**



Minister Linda Reid MLA joins BC Lee, Tony Lau and SCLCF Board members
to thank the representatives of the generous Corporate Sponsors
ING and Gore Mutual



In Memoriam

Dr. George Ng,
a long-time Director and
Advisory Board member,
of the SCLCF Canada,
died July 13, 2008.

The Foundation extends
its sincere condolences to
Dr. Ng's family.

Dr. Ng will always be remembered for his total
commitment to whatever he undertook. Dr. Ng
gave selflessly to the many organizations in
which he became involved. In 1992, he received
the Canada Volunteer Award Certificate of
Merit.

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