

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION OF CANADA

FEBRUARY 2009

The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation

Meeting of the Board of Directors

October 28, 2008
Sears Canada Inc. Boardroom
222 Jarvis Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2B8

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The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander
P.C., C.C., K.S.T.J., O.ONT. C.D., B.A., LL.B., Q.C.

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R. Kolbuc

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R. G. Westlake
C. A. Whicher
Dr. R. Zimmerman

Volunteer Of The Year Award 2008

The Board of Directors are pleased to announce that **Anne-Marie Leclair** is the recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2008. Annie has given freely of her time and efforts not only to The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation but also to Special Olympics Nepal and The King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation.
Congratulations Annie.

We have moved.

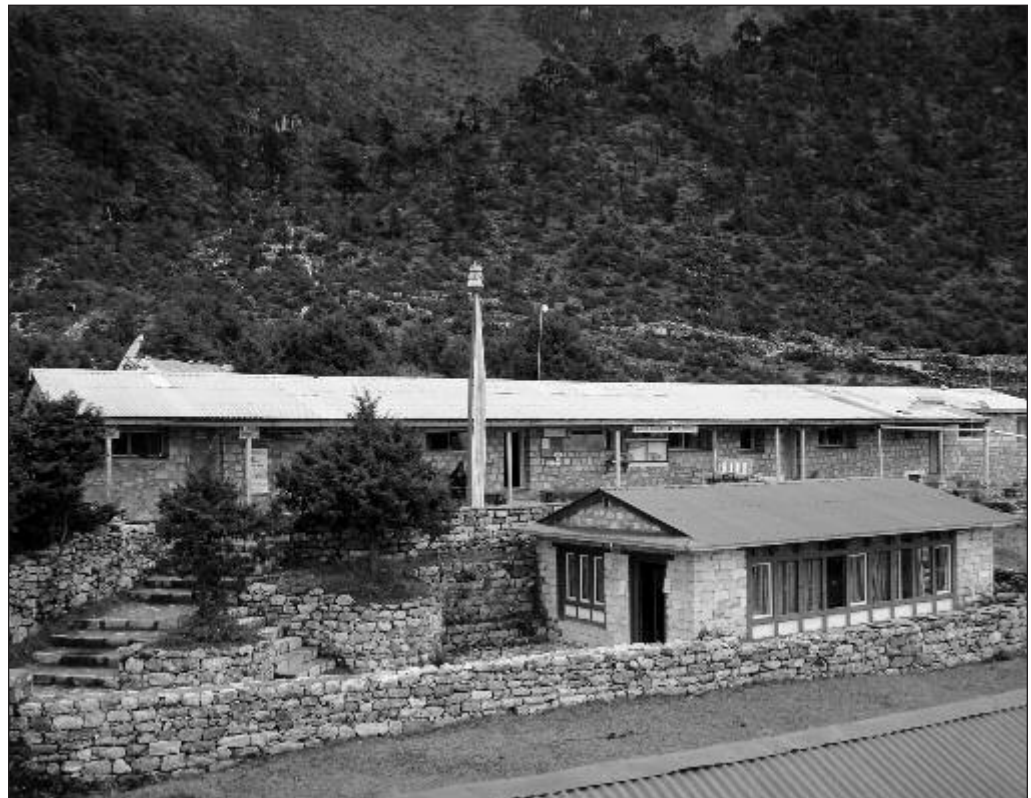
**The Sir Edmund Hillary
Foundation**

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The Kunde Hospital 2009 with recent addition

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

February 2009



Karen O'Connor
President

Last year started off in a profoundly sad way with the passing on Jan 11th of Sir Edmund Hillary. It was to become a very busy year for me and my father, as there were many important memorial events to attend, starting with **The State Funeral in New Zealand**. We then organized our **Tribute in Toronto** the following month and this was followed by attending **The Queens Tribute at St Georges Chapel Windsor Castle** for the surrendering of The Order Of The Garter.

As I listened to many people from so many different walks of life speak on how Sir Edmund influenced their lives, I was deeply moved and

proud to play a small part in continuing to help him reach his dreams.

I hope so many of you who are friends of the Foundation feel the same way.

The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation has and is achieving so much of what Sir Ed had originally intended which was to help the Sherpa people move into the 21st-century and enable themselves to achieve great things. I think we see this in so many of the Sherpas who work with and for the Foundation as well as others who are doing some amazing work in the Nepal region.

This year at the Calgary dinner and again at our Toronto fundraiser we were able to recognize the achievements of such individuals. There is a new generation of Sherpa who is now able to give back to the Sherpa community.

New challenges are facing the communities and with that creative ideas are surfacing. One area brought to our attention was the growing

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restlessness of the youth in Kunde. As a Foundation we realize how important this generation is to the stability of the community. Global warming and environmental awareness is another very real 21st century problem we all are facing. It was reassuring to see how these issues are being looked at and several innovative programs were discussed at the last board meeting and we are waiting for proposals from the Sherpa committee.

When I visited Kunde in May last year, over and over again I heard the Sherpa people express worry about continuity now that Sir Edmund had died. Would the people of Canada still be interested in helping them? Did we realize how central the Foundation's support was to the advancement of the Sherpa.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I can say that the Sherpa people do not have to worry. This special jewel in the crown has a place in many of our hearts and with the continued efforts from the Sherpa's themselves, as well as this Foundation, we will never forget Sir Edmund's vision of returning to the mountain to help the Sherpa people, because this vision, has become ours as well.

Namaste

Karen

I would like to thank all of you who attended our successful Calgary and Toronto dinners and helped contribute to our programs especially in this tough economic climate.

This was a poem that Sir Edmund wrote and it was read at all his services.

I have had the world lie beneath my clumsy boots and saw the red sun slip over the horizon, after the dark Antarctic winter.

I have been given, more than my share of excitement, beauty, laughter and friendship.

Each of us has to discover his own path - Of that I am sure. Some paths will be spectacular and others peaceful and quiet. Who is to say which is the most important?

For me the most rewarding moments have not been the great moments — for what can surpass a tear on your departure, joy on your return, or a trusting hand in yours?"

Sir Edmund Hillary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT October 28,2008



Mr. O'Connor reported that the Foundation's day to day operation continued to be steady during the first quarter of our fiscal year. The sudden passing of Sir Edmund left many wondering as to the path we will take in Nepal. Our President, (at our July meeting) stated and continues to promise "We will continue to fulfill Sir Edmund's request of us" to help the Sherpas of the Solu-Khumbu in the areas of, Health Care, Education and the Environment". He also covered the following topics, 1) the Kunde

Hospital Budgets, 2) the-Mingma Norbu Scholarships, 3) the future of the Sagarmatha Forestry Project and 4) future fundraising initiatives in Quebec and British Columbia. Other topics covered briefly by the

Executive Director were the World Financial Situation and the need for continued support from our constituency

We look ahead with guarded enthusiasm as to our current programs and the apparent stability of the Government in Kathmandu.

W. (Zeke) O'Connor
Founder & Executive Director

*"You may never know what results come from your action!
But if you do nothing, there will be no result"*

Mahatma Gandhi

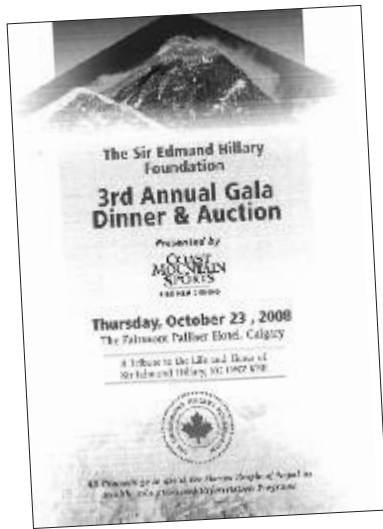
**Donation in Memory of Sir Edmund can be made at
www.thesiredmundhillaryfoundation.ca**

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**The Sir Edmund Hillary
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THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION



Dinner Chairman Byron Smith (right) with honoured guest and dinner VIP's



Karen O'Connor, President of S.E.H.F. presenting The Foundation's "Achievement Award" to Steven Dawa Sherpa for his environmental work in Nepal.



Directors Peter Hillary, (second from left) and Byron Smith with special guests.



Bob Sartor, CEO of the Forsani Group and Lead Sponsor of the Dinner, addresses the Audience.



Founder, Zeke O'Connor with Mingma Sherpa, Mount Everest Summitter and his wife observing presentation of Awards.

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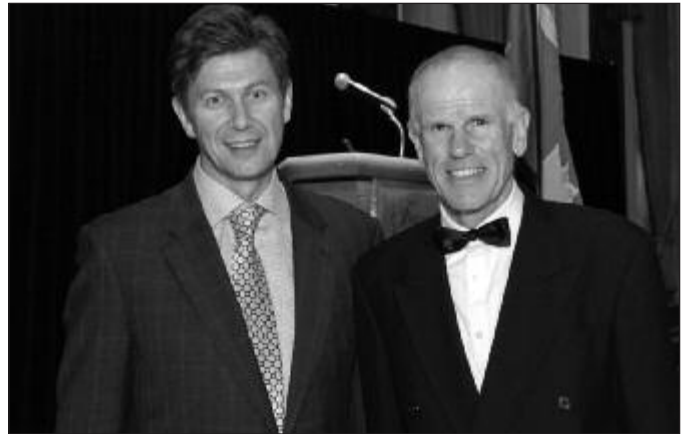
Peter Hillary displays "Kukri Knife" awarded to Sir Edmund by Ghurka Regimint in Nepal



Dinner guests listen to a brief salute to Sir Edmund given by Sir Edmund's grandson.



Dinner Chairman Ashley Whicher and his wife Daphne, join His Honour Lincoln Alexander during a pause for a live auction.



Lead Sponsor Sears Canada Inc. President & CEO, Dene Rogers, (left) and Peter Hillary prior to Peter's memorial speech for Sir Edmund.



Kempenfelt Graphics Group Senior Partner, Barry Peacock (right), shown with Executives of their Company.



"Changing of the Board's Medical Officers " (Dr. Joan Ford centre and her replacement Dr. Bob Zimmerman, with Director Byron Smith entering the dinner.

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION

Kunde Hospital – Update 2009

For more than 32 years, The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation (SEHF) has funded and monitored the operation of the Kunde Hospital and appointed eight teams of doctors and each year has visited the Hospital. Reports have been submitted to CIDA on an annual basis. Since 1987-88 the SEHF have worked closely with medical clinics and its health workers with the objectives of passing on increased responsibility in certain health areas to them.

Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa is now in his fifth year as the **Senior Medical Officer and Chief of Medicine at Kunde Hospital**. Dr. Temba worked as a paramedic for 19 years at the Kunde Hospital before going to medical school to obtain his medical degree at the University of Fiji. He will continue to have the backup of one volunteer doctor, probably a Nepali doctor. Sherpa medical students continue studying at the Kathmandu University on Mingma Norbu Sherpa Medical Scholarships sponsored by SEHF and will be assisting from time to time, at the Kunde Hospital. We have also continued to sponsor other local young medical students at Kathmandu University on SEHF sponsored Mingma Norbu Sherpa Medical Scholarships

The Kunde Hospital is equipped to handle basic medical care including some minor operations such as caesarian section or appendicitis – all complicated cases are sent to Kathmandu. The Plan of the SEHF for the next ten years or more is to continue funding and monitoring the Hospital as well as other major projects with the Himalayan Trust Nepal as we have done since 1976.



Dr. Kami Temba (centre) shown with his daughter and son who graduated from Kathmandu University. Dr. Tshering Wangdi received his Medical Degree and Mingma Yangi received her Bachelors Degree in Environmental Science.

SAGARMATHA FORESTRY REPORT

Since 1989, New Zealand foresters, **Nick Ledgard**, employed by SCION (formerly Forest Research), and **Gordon Baker**, have assisted the forestry activities of the Himalayan Trust and The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation of Canada in the Sagarmatha National Park (SNP) area of Nepal.

Objectives of Sagarmatha Forestry Project

The long-term objective of the SNP Forestry Project remains the same: "To promote management of the forests and shrub lands of the SNP area, and to provide stable soils, desirable habitats for local fauna and flora, and sustainable production of forest products essential for the survival of the local people."

In 2007/2008 the emphasis was to:

- Maintain the project's core activities
- Continue planning and implementing the Project's 'hand-over' procedure which will be completed in 2010. Two major components of this process are the writing of a high altitude forestry handbook/manual, and the presentation of a small 'technical transfer' workshop in Namche and a seminar in Kathmandu.



Nick Ledgard (Top right), with nursery staff at Sagarmatha National Park.

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION

Remembering Sir Edmund Hillary July 20, 1919 - January 11, 2008

Reflection

It was one year ago on January 11, 2008 that Sir Edmund Hillary died. Sir Edmund was admired as a World Famous Mountaineer, Explorer, Diplomat, Humanitarian and Environmentalist, yet to many of us who knew him well, it was his friendship and dedication to the Sherpa people of the Solu Khumbu region of Nepal, that we admired most.

Sir Ed led a good and full life, not only helping his own causes but others too. He was deeply involved with UNICEF and was their representative to the "Children of the Himalayans". He was Honorary President of the Explorers Club, (New York).

He rose from being a humble New Zealand Beekeeper to a Knight of the Order of the Garter, a High Commissioner for his country and a well respected, knowledgeable human being in many other areas including world environment. His decorations and citations include;

Order of New Zealand

Knight of British Empire

Founders Medal of the Royal Geographical Society

Hubbard Medal of the National Geographical Society

Polar Medal

Commander Merite et Sportif

Star of Nepal (1st Class)

It is with deep grief that we, his close friends, reflect on his passing with one of thankful thought: that is of having had him as a close confidant and friend for 35 years.

