

# THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION

## OF CANADA

JANUARY 2012. MEMORIAL ISSUE

### The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation

#### Patron

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

#### Founder and Executive Director

W. F. (Zeke) O'Connor

#### Associate Executive Director

R. Kolbuc

#### Officers

K. O'Connor, President  
B. Smith, Vice-President Marketing  
R. D. Walker, Q.C., Secretary  
Dr. K. T. Sherpa, Senior Medical Officer

#### Directors

R. Braiden  
P. Crawley  
F. Gomez  
P. Hillary  
P. Hull  
C. McConnell  
N. McElhinney  
K. O'Connor  
H. Paterson  
C. R. Sharpe  
Dr. K. T. Sherpa  
P. S. Sherpa  
B. Smith  
R. D. Walker  
Dr. R. Zimmerman

#### Honorary Life Board Member

Dr. J. Ford  
P.W. Webster

#### Associate Directors

B. Anderson  
B. Baxter  
M. Benton  
L. Hurley  
E. Lorrigan

#### The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation

290 Yonge Street, Suite 700, Toronto  
Ontario, Canada M5B 2C3  
Tel: (416)941-3315  
Fax: (416)941-4460  
www.thesiredmundhillaryfoundation.ca  
email: zoconno@sears.ca

Registered Ontario, Canadian  
Charitable No. 119150837 RR0001



REMEMBERING OUR FRIEND  
AND CO-FOUNDER

**SIR EDMUND  
HILLARY**, KG, ONZ, KBE  
JULY 20, 1919 - JANUARY 11, 2008

It was four years 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**
- **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 thankful thought: having had him as a close confident and friend for 35 years.

**I ask all who read this article, to join us in honouring Sir Edmund who did so much for his fellow man. Sir Ed, we salute you and restate our promise to keep helping the Sherpa people in Nepal. We made this promise to you those 35 years ago, when you asked us to help you, help the Sherpas.**

**On behalf of the Board of Directors and all Canadians**

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

Karen O'Connor  
President

The Sir Edmund Hillary  
Foundation

## SIR EDMUND HILLARY, JULY 20, 1919 - JANUARY 11, 2008



Photograph by George Lowe/Royal Geographical Society

“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 HAD 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 TO 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**

---

Thank you for your Continued Support