

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION OF CANADA

SEPTEMBER 2008

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

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R. G. Westlake, Vice-President
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B. Smith
R. R. Vezér
L. Visosky
P. W. Webster
R. G. Westlake
C. A. Whicher
Dr. R. Zimmerman

Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 7, 2008
Sears Canada Inc. Boardroom
222 Jarvis Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2B8

Main discussion of the Meeting centered on:

- Report by the President
- Report by the Executive Director
- Mingma Norbu Scholarships
- Report by the Medical Committee
- Financial Report
- Other Business

Gala Dinners & Auctions

Calgary Dinner
Thursday, October 23, 2008
The Fairmont Palliser Hotel, Calgary
Contact: Byron Smith 403.585.6266
Email: byron@byronsmith.ca

Toronto Dinner

Wednesday, October 29, 2008
The Fairmont Royal York Hotel
Contact: Zeke O'Connor 416.941.3315
Alice Nagami 416.941.3475
Email: zoconno@sears.ca
nagami@sears.ca

The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation

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President - Karen O'Connor, shown with Dr. Kami Temba, Dr. Mingmar Tsering and CFO Mingma Temba, with Hospital and Forestry Staff.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT July 2008

My report gave a brief description of my trip to Nepal and stated that the purpose of the trip was to visit on-going projects in **Solu Khumbu** and to meet the key people working for the Foundation. The Board was informed that the **Forestry Headquarters** as well as the **Kunde Hospital** and the **Khumjung Village School** were visited. I also met up with Ms **Nima McElhinney, Director**, in **Kathmandu** that resulted in the final approval of the **Women's Literacy Program**.

Updates were provided on the following:

Sagarmatha Forest Project – I received an extensive tour of the Project and an outline of the other two nurseries in **Tashinga and Portse**. Concern was raised about handing over control of the **Reforestation** initiatives to the **Buffer Zone leadership committee of Sherpas**.

Kunde Hospital - I was impressed with how competently the **Hospital** was run. The **Hospital** has a "wish list" of items needed. The **Hospital**

staff has also requested uniforms, and the suggestion was to request a corporate sponsor. **Dr. Kami** suggested converting the waiting building into either accommodation for visiting medical staff or to a dental clinic, thus offering full medical service to the region. The **Board** liked the idea of a dental clinic but wanted input from **Ang Rita** and **Dr. Kami** on the topic. A request was made to hire the female nurse, **Nima**, on a full-time basis and felt that the current budget could accommodate that request.

Ms **Lynda Visosky, Director**, and her trekking party while in **Nepal** raised half of the cost to assist with the purchase of an **oxygenator** for the **Kunde Hospital**, and the **Board** agreed to fund the additional amount.

The **Foundation** is in the process of creating a brochure, underway by **Robert Kolbuc, Director**, to have at the **Kunde Hospital** to allow trekkers to understand that the **Hospital** is funded by the **Canadian** operation.

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Khumjung School – I visited the Khumjung School to check out the education offered compared to the school in Kathmandu. Besides the curriculum, **English** was the main subject that the Sherpas wanted their children to learn to keep up with the **Nepalese** children. I also found out that they did not teach Grades 11 and 12 and the children had to go to the City to continue their education. The **Sherpas** are concerned about the well-being of their children. On my return to **Kathmandu**, I spoke to the **Sherpa Committee** to put together an alternate plan and also spoke to the **Foreign Secretary** on the subject and received a response from him to say that he would look at it in a positive manner. The issue of whether or not the Foundation was interested in supporting the school financially was raised. **Ang Rita** was requested to report on the possibility of opening a **satellite school**.

Marketing/Fund Raising – **Byron Smith, Director**, reported that he has commenced work on black tie dinner and auction in Calgary on Thursday, October 23 at the

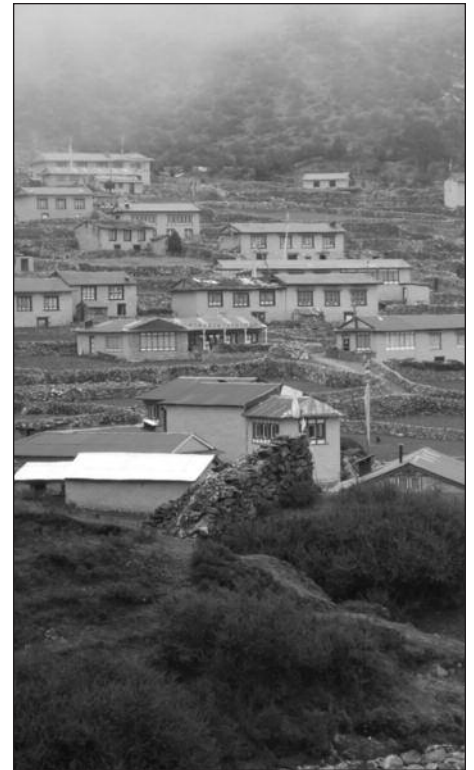
Fairmont Palliser Hotel in Calgary. **Ashley Whicher, Director**, reported that the black tie dinner and auction in Toronto will be held on Wednesday, October 29 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel and all systems are go!

Herb Paterson, Director, suggested a new fund raising event in Victoria with guests of honour, **Peter Hillary** and the former Premier of B.C., **Hon. Mike Harcourt**, theme being **"Courage"**. The **Board** encouraged **Mr. Paterson** to lead this event.

Green Committee – The establishing of a Green Committee has proven to be very timely, and I spoke to the **Sherpa Committee** to look into the matter and have recommendations ready by **October**.

In conclusion, my trip to Nepal was a great success and provided me with valuable insight into programs of the past, present and future.

Karen O'Connor



Village of Kunde – view from the Trek.



Saskatoon Fundraiser, Tami Ellis, and her team visit the Kunde Hospital.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT July 2008



The Executive Director, Mr. W. F. (Zeke) O'Connor, thanked Sears Canada for funding the President's airfare to Auckland to attend Sir Edmund's funeral.

Mr. O'Connor provided updates on the first half of the fiscal year July 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. He stated that the **Foundation** grew strong in most areas, both in **Canada** and in **Nepal**. Fundraising in **Toronto** and **Calgary** along with **Saskatoon** produced more than half of the year's revenue. He provided updates on the **Mingma Norbu Medical Scholarship** students and the **Kunde Hospital**.

He then provided an update on the second half of the fiscal year January 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008. He said this was a time of mourning on the loss of **Sir Edmund Hillary** who passed away on **January 11, 2008**.

The balance of the second half of the year was dominated by memorials:

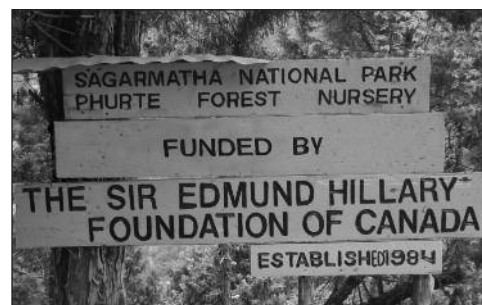
- **Sherpa Memorial, Toronto, held on January 13, 2008**
- **State Funeral, Auckland, New Zealand, on January 22, 2008**
- **Sir Edmund's Memorial Service held by The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation on February 22, 2008**
- **Windsor Castle Service in England held by Queen Elizabeth on April 2, 2008**

Mr. O'Connor gave a detailed description of the above memorial services.

He also informed the **Board** of his trip to **Nepal** which included the **President** and a few **Board** members.

FUTURE PROJECTS PROPOSED

1. **SEHF** willingness to stay involved in an overseeing capacity of the **Sagarmatha National Park nursery reforestation program**
2. An alternative plan for **education** in the **Solu Khumbu**
3. **Dentist** office at **Kunde Hospital**
4. New **waiting room** attached to the **Hospital**
5. Possibly creating an incentive **garbage collection program**
6. **Mentoring program** to involve community service of foreign students



The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation would like to acknowledge one of our Directors, Byron Smith, who in May 2008, received The Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Medal from the Nepalese Mountaineering Association for those who have summited Mount Everest. Byron has also completed his Seven Summit Quest.

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May 2008

*Directors of the Foundation & Friends monitoring projects in the Khumbu area of Nepal, Kunde Hospital and Sagarmatha National Park.
Directors: Peter Hillary, Karen O'Connor, Lynda Visosky, Byron Smith and Nima McElhinney*

