

Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund Makes a Difference



by Lena Wong

The Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund was established in January 1950, replacing an earlier fund set up during World War II to help Scouts in Britain and other countries affected by the war. Historically, the Fund has had two main purposes:

- Assist Scouting in other countries with a demonstrated need, whether or not disaster is involved.
- Assist Canadian Scout groups suffering loss of equipment through disaster.

Over the years, the former purpose has grown in significance with Scouts Canada's increasing involvement in support of World Scouting community development. The latter has diminished considerably, as most Canadian groups insure their equipment. Scouts Canada does consider applications from Canadian groups that, because of financial hardship, do not have insurance, but only after they have exhausted all other avenues of replacement funding.

Brotherhood Fund revenues come from a variety of sources, such as the annual Scoutreets program, as well as local Scout councils, Scout groups, Scouters' clubs, service clubs, training courses and individual donors. For many years (1968 to 1989) the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was a major contributor to the Community Development program. Funding from CIDA was discontinued after 1989, primarily due to government cutbacks, decentralization and difficulty meeting reporting deadlines.

In 1993, Assistant Provincial Commissioners (International) were appointed to promote International Scouting at the local level. In 1994, Scouts Canada issued Participation Guidelines for International Community Development Projects to encourage both provincial and local groups to undertake direct responsibility for supporting overseas projects. The Brotherhood Fund took part in this venture. Visit our web site : www.scouts.ca, click on "Scouts International" at the menu bar, then click on "Planning your Community Development Project" at the pop-up menu.

**Over the years,
the Brotherhood Fund
has supported more
than \$5 million worth
of projects around
the world.**

At the national level, Brotherhood Fund support is focused primarily on projects in developing countries, which contribute to establishing permanent infrastructure with a long-term goal of self-sufficiency.

Over the years, the Brotherhood Fund has supported more than \$5 million worth of projects around the world. (CIDA contributed just under \$1.7 million during its involvement with Scouts Canada.)

The International Relations Committee (chaired by the International Commissioner) administers the Fund. For more information about the International Relations Committee and the Brotherhood Fund, explore the fact sheets found under "Scouts International" on our web site.

Now let's look at some projects the Fund supported in 2002/2003.

Africa Region

Scouting in Africa is very much a community-based activity, and Scouts at all levels are deeply involved in projects aimed at education in areas such as general health and welfare, peace, HIV/AIDS and nutrition, as well as assistance to homeless and orphaned youth. For these programs to work, strong leadership skills need to be developed and maintained. The Brotherhood Fund has traditionally assisted in this area, as well as in direct community development projects.

World Scout Bureau (Community Development Workshop)

This workshop was held at the Mphophoma Conference Centre in Manzini, Swaziland. Participants from countries in Africa's southern regions learned how to write project proposals, and received training in project management.

Kenya (Baden-Powell Memorial Project)

The Nyeri Local Association, in conjunction with the World Scout Bureau (Africa Region), is undertaking the Baden-Powell Memorial Project. The purpose is to rehabilitate the Baden-Powell Cemetery and Park in Nyeri, Kenya. The International Relations Committee agreed to fund the completion of a clock tower, designed by Baden-Powell.

Kenya (Street Scouts)

New Brunswick Scouting raised \$9,000 (mostly at CJ'01) to continue helping this long-term project that has been providing Scouting, nutrition, housing and education to street children since 1995. Scouts in New Brunswick have been major Canadian fund-raisers for this project since its inception.

World Scout Bureau (Goma Request)

In January 2001, the town of Goma

A group from Burnaby, BC travelled to the Mayan village of San Marcos to help local Scouts build a combination community centre and hurricane shelter.



in the Democratic Republic of Congo was almost destroyed by a volcanic eruption. The Brotherhood Fund made a contribution towards rebuilding the local Scout Centre, which was completely destroyed by fire.

Africa Region (Tent Shipment)

Canadian Tire Corporation donated 2,482 tents on the condition that they were shipped out of Canada. The World Scout Bureau's Africa Region Office was happy to accept the donation for distribution to Scout groups throughout the region. The International Relations Committee agreed to cover the cost of shipment through a grant from the Brotherhood Fund.

Kenya (Cacharage Project)

This project provides funds to local Scouts to build water tanks for four elderly couples caring for orphaned grandchildren. The tanks are needed to store rain water, and will enable these people to participate in a community cattle-raising project. The overall undertaking will improve the local economy and the living conditions for all inhabitants. This grant is fully sponsored by private donors through the Brotherhood Fund.

Asia Pacific Region

The World Scout Bureau's Asia Pacific Region is heavily engaged in developing Scouting in countries where there has not been a strong presence in the past. To that end, there is a need for developing leaders at the national and community levels to ensure that good programs can be designed and delivered to local youths.

World Scout Bureau (Workshop on Strategic Planning)

This workshop was held in Bhutan, and included participants from several regional associations. In addition to the grant, Scouts Canada funded Scouts Canada Executive Doug Campbell (Alberta) to participate as a trainer.

World Scout Bureau (Workshop on Strategic Planning)

A workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur for key leaders of Persekutuan Pengakap, Malaysia (the Scout Association of Malaysia). The aim was to draft a long-term strategic plan for the Movement and involve leaders in the planning process. On this occasion the Brotherhood Fund supported a member of the International Relations Committee (Jane Graham from Ontario), to lend her considerable training skills to the workshop.

Interamerican Region

Many member associations of the Interamerican Region are located in countries struggling with extreme poverty. This makes it difficult for Scouting programs to flourish without financial help from wealthier associations.

World Scout Bureau (Book Development Seminar)

This seminar launched the new *Handbook for Leaders of the Scout Section* among the Scout Associations of the Caribbean English-speaking countries. The publication has been well received, and will go a long way towards developing good programs for youths in the affected countries.

Belize (Community Centre)

A group from Burnaby, BC travelled to the Mayan village of San Marcos to help local Scouts build a combination community centre and hurricane shelter. The Brotherhood Fund grant provided for materials and labour; Burnaby Scouts and leaders raised money for their own travel

The memories are fading and

IT'S ALL

you can do to keep the image of your troop gathered around the campfire

IN YOUR

mind's eye. We can help. Have your stories published in the magazine. They might inspire others to venture outdoors, plan an exciting theme night or provide helpful tips. But until we see it in print, it's all in your

HEAD.

Send your stories and photos to:

Canadian Leader Magazine
1345 Baseline Road,
Suite 100

Ottawa ON K2C 0A7

Or e-mail: leader@scouts.ca

and accommodation costs. Canadian youths described this as an unforgettable experience; they saw the level of poverty local people lived in, and they got used to living under primitive conditions for the three weeks the project lasted.

Eurasia Region

The Eurasia Region looks after a small number of countries emerging from many years of Soviet domination. Occasionally, they need a bit of help. Georgia, a former Soviet Republic, requested funds to cover shipping costs when the Canadian Contingent to the World Jamboree donated its tents to needy Scout Associations, including the Georgian Organization of the Scout Movement. A grant of U.S.\$200 enabled them to ship the tents; as well it covered shipment of a computer donated by another contingent.

European Region

While Scouts Canada very rarely receives grant proposals from European countries, some do appear occasionally – mostly from countries with emerging Scout associations (i.e. East Europe). One grant propos-

al came from the Czech Republic relating to flood damage to Scouting property. This grant assisted them in carrying out necessary repairs and renovations.



Assisting local Scouts in Belize, youths and leaders from BC described their trip as an unforgettable experience.

*World Scout Bureau
(Operation Sattahip)*

Traditionally the Brotherhood Fund has helped World Jamboree organizers to enable Scouts from poor countries to attend World Jamborees. This support first began at the 15th World Scout Jamboree held in Kananaskis Country, Alberta, in 1983. A grant of \$5000 helped Scouts from

needy countries to attend the 20th World Scout Jamboree in Thailand.

In-Canada Help

In 2002, the Brotherhood Fund provided a grant of \$5,000 to a group in New Brunswick that lost equipment and clothing in a fire at a Scout Camp. Luckily, no one was injured during the incident.

Sometimes the Brotherhood Fund gets requests from leaders whose Cubs or Scouts want to do something meaningful for Scouts in poor countries. (Usually, this does not mean a fund-raising activity.) Though well meaning, these groups do not address problems encountered in Third World countries. Most needy Scout Associations require money to fund special projects that relate directly to their operations. In October, the International Scouting column will explore how leaders can make fund-raising more meaningful for our youth members, and valuable for needy Scouts around the world. \

-- Lena Wong works in International Relations at the National Office in Ottawa.

the **leader**



**BACK
ISSUES**

Available back to
January 1993.

\$2 each, pre-paid cheque
or money order.

Canadian Leader Magazine
1345 Baseline Road,
Suite 100
Ottawa ON K2C 0A7

**ACT TODAY!
THEY GO FAST!**

(Some issues may not be available.)



*The Belize contingent
took full advantage of
their stay in the country,
from camping to
sight-seeing before
the trip home.*

