



International Mennonite Health Association *Checkup*

IMHA *Checkup*

Edition #12
December 2010

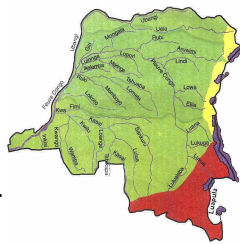
Annual Board Meeting Reflections

With help from several board members

At the recent MMHA annual board meetings held in Winnipeg and via internet connection, in Abbotsford, BC and Fresno, CA, a new direction is being charted to move the association further in its mandate to serve God.

Keynote speaker, Tim Lind, MCC Congo co-representative, gave a thought-provoking talk on the Congo. He discussed some of the historical and political backdrop that made the Democratic Republic of Congo what it is today—a country with tremendous natural resource wealth with a population struggling to survive.

He used a unique word picture to describe what has been happening, showing that the map of Congo is remarkably similar to a cornucopia or horn of



plenty. This horn empties into the ocean via the Congo River representing the emptying of resources by the various individuals, companies and governments. In spite of many examples of exploitation the people of Congo remain optimistic, Lind observed, acknowledging their country's wealth in material and people.

He concluded with a short overview of MCC's involvement in Congo and its commitment to revitalizing Mennonite health structures, peace making and emergency relief and building peace and understanding within the Mennonite churches and the broader Congolese population.

In addition to the new projects with existing partners there were discussions about additional international partners (see inside for more details). New members were brought on and the mission statement was updated to reflect the name change and broadening ministries. The board decided to continue publishing hard copies of this

(see page 2)

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Corner (cont)</i>	2
<i>New Projects 1</i>	2
<i>Board Meeting (cont)</i>	2
<i>Executive & Board</i>	2
<i>Who Am I?</i>	3
<i>New Projects 2</i>	3
<i>New Partner - MCC</i>	4
<i>Global Cuisine</i>	4
<i>Financial Projections</i>	4
<i>IMHA Projects</i>	5
<i>Photo Vignettes</i>	6
<i>Member Updates</i>	6
<i>Corporate Connections</i>	6
<i>Mission Statement</i>	6

F.Y.I.

MMHA becomes IMHA:

In keeping with its mandate, Mennonite Mission Health Association is now International Mennonite Health Association. Our mission statement has also been updated

President's Corner

By Ferd Pauls



I had been particularly anxious about our board meeting in the end of October. How many members would not be able to attend? Would we be able to address the issue of changing the composition of the board to better reflect our international perspective? Could we relate to the next generation of our constituency that needed to become an integral part of our association?

I started to feel much more confident when I met four American participants at the airport and spent some time updating David Wiebe, our vice-president and then meeting with the Executive before the actual board sessions began. I was completely at ease after David opened our first meeting and Rev

Challenge to all IMHA members in nursing practice: Fully subscribe the new nursing studies scholarship for India by June 2011.

Neil Block spoke words of encouragement to what we as an organization were doing. We recognized, with the presence of some members of his family, the contribution Peter Kroeker had made, as a former board member. Our newest partner MCC was represented by Tim Lind in a helpful presentation as well as comments during our sessions.

This brought us to the watershed when Murray Nickel did a power point outlining some of his ideas as to what our Preferred future in the next five years might be, This led us to reflect our changes in a new name;

International Mennonite Health Association. We talked about the original group that met almost 10 years ago in Denver (three of whom were present) and how they decided on the original name Mennonite Mission Health Association. We changed the mission statement to reflect our discussion. We also dealt with Governance, Finances and Communication in our future

(see page 2)



Glen Miller
Editor

President's Corner

(cont)

projections.

As a confirmation to the changes projected, the use of the audio visual

communication Skype®, allowed us to have participation from Fresno and Abbotsford. This resulted in our changing our board meeting to twice a year, April and October, lasting 3-4 hours and permitting the board to par-

ticipate without extensive travel.

The result of the time we spent together made me feel very comfortable that God was in control and that IMHA had discerned His preferred future

New Projects - Bon Berger, Congo

Murray Nickel

The Bon Berger clinic seems busier each time I visit. The patient acuity is not unlike that in my own emergency department, minus the diagnostic equipment and specialist support. Despite the challenges of a poor population, Delphin and Pierre continue to have inspiring visions for the future.

To this end, I asked them the question, "Where do you see your-

selves in 3 years and how can we help you get there?" Their response, "We want to be fully financial viable, maintaining quality care and managing an effective and holistic community health program." Financially viable?

One of their exciting ideas set in motion this year is a neighborhood micro-credit program, in which the clinic holds an endowment fund that pays a monthly interest to the clinic. And what about holistic health? The

water-latrine project is a great example, providing a tool for the 3 local Men-



Photo by Phil Szerec

nonite churches to get involved in the community.

If you want to know more about Bon Berger clinic's 3-year plan, contact me, Murray Nickel at murray_nickel@yahoo.ca

Board Meeting

(cont)

newsletter (if you would like to or prefer to be on the electronic copy version, let the office know).

Here are a few comments from board members:

—I had the feeling that we are going to move ahead. We will gladly accept more challenges, and will effectively deal with them in India, Congo, or any other developing country.

Helmut Huebert, Winnipeg
—I came to Winnipeg thinking that this might be the last meeting of MMHA as an organization but came away with renewed interest in seeing it succeed. I think it can serve an important function as a conduit, or as Murray [Nickel] put it, a bridge for people and organizations here to assist those in the countries where we see a need, particularly in the area of education. I don't see that we have been very successful as a money raising organization especially in view of the enormous needs for infrastructure

in these places.

David Wiebe, Nebraska
—I was impressed as to how much can be accomplished with little money.

Frank Duerksen, Winnipeg
—The Skype® method is great to save time and money. It is good for the business end. A little less good if everyone doesn't have the agenda and other papers with them. It is not good for networking, renewing relationships, etc. Though the meetings could have been shorter, they were

well led and the agenda was clear. Media access was good.

Murray Nickel, Abbotsford



Murray commenting via Skype®

Executive and Board

- Ferd Pauls (chair) — Manitoba
- David Wiebe (vice-chair) — Nebraska
- Glyn Allan (treasurer) — Manitoba
- Glen Miller (communication) — Manitoba
- Bob Buhr (member-at-large) — Virginia
- Murray Nickel (member-at-large) — BC
- Doug Cressman — Manitoba
- Frank Duerksen — Manitoba
- Helmut Huebert — Manitoba
- Grace Klassen — Manitoba

- Tom Klein — Kansas
- John Martens — Indiana
- Merril Pauls — Manitoba
- Doug Snyder — Ontario
- Henry Tessman — Manitoba
- Partner Representatives:
- MBMSI
- MMHH
- MCC
- Emeritus Members:
- Peter Block — Saskatchewan
- Jake Friesen — California



Who Am I? (New Board members)

Grace Klassen

I celebrated 40 years as a nurse in 2010. This includes 2 years study at MBBC, 3 years at the University of Manitoba and 2 years graduate studies at the University of Calgary. Work life includes a focus on child and family health in both acute care and community health settings. My career also includes a 2-year Christian Service assignment with MBMS in Snow Lake, Manitoba and 8 years with MBMSI in Congo. I spent one year in Belgium learning French and studying tropical medicine. In Congo my work was teaching nursing or directing a nurses training school in Kajiji.



Presently, I live in Winnipeg, Manitoba and for the past 10 years I have been working in various capacities for the Regional Health Authority Central Manitoba, which includes a large portion of Southern Manitoba. For the past 2 years I have been the Manager, Public Health. This takes me to familiar places such as Carman, Altona, Winkler and Morden.

I have been a member of Crossroads M.B. Church for more than 15 years. Our ministry is in English, though the church is located in St. Boniface, a French-speaking section of Winnipeg. I have participated in various avenues of service and ministry, including singer and pianist, decorat-

ing, church council and Small group coordinator. Currently, I chair the governance committee, co-lead a Small group and mentor a Grade 12 student who is part of the Ministry Quest leadership development program. Relating to newcomers to Canada gives me great pleasure as does the work of our church's Refugee and Immigration Committee.



Merril Pauls

I completed my pre-medical studies and medical school at the University of Manitoba, graduating in 1991. After three years of emergency practice I returned to the University of Manitoba for further residency training in family and emergency medicine, obtaining my CCFP(EM) degree in 1997. I then moved with my wife, Karen, to Toronto, completing a Masters of Health Sciences through the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto. While at the U of T, I also completed an academic fellowship through the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

From 1999-2004 I was a staff emergency physician at the QE II Health Sciences Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia and an assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Dalhousie University. I was appointed

the ethics education coordinator for Dalhousie Medical School in 2001, and held a cross-appointment with the Department of Bioethics. In July 2004, Merrill returned to Winnipeg, Manitoba where I am currently an associate professor in the department of Emergency Medicine and an emergency physician at the Health Sciences Centre. From September 2005 until August 2007 I was the Ethics Medical Advisor for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, and in July 2007 I was named the Director of Medical Ethics and Humanities for the University of Manitoba faculty of medicine.

Our son, Alex, was born in July of 2004.

My interests and expertise lie in those areas that relate to emergency medicine, bioethics, professionalism, and the humanities. I received grants to study ethics education in emergency medicine residency programs. I have published in the areas of ethics education and advance directives, as well as a number of pieces of short fiction. I am one of the co-developers of a national educational initiative for emergency physicians (sponsored by the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians and the Canadian Medical Protective Association) which focuses on cognitive, medico-legal, and ethical decision-making in the clinical setting. I was part of the CanMEDS Phase IV Professional Working Group as well as a member of the Bioethics Education Project of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. I currently sit on the Committee on Ethics of the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

New Projects - Medicine Credit, Molochansk, Ukraine

With reports from Helmut Huebert and Art Friesen

The Mennonite Centre www.mennoitecentre.ca in Molochansk is working out of a newly renovated girls' secondary school. The director and staff are looking for ways to help the economically depressed region formerly known as Molotschna. Presently some older people go there for healthy meals. Dema Bratchenko, Centre manager comments, "Thank you...many of you

[who have donated] are those who once were also helped."

Vision is also a significant problem for many of the elderly and the Mennonite Centre has helped with eye appointments and glasses.

A number of villages have emergency medical fund committees through which people have received aid for medications and procedures with support from the Centre.

"There are many more projects and the needs are enormous", writes IMHA member,

Art Friesen, an Abbotsford, BC cardiologist. Current international partners include Friends of Mennonite Centre and Mennonite Central Committee.

IMHA, with its experience in Medicine Credit, may be most effective in assisting with medications and medical supplies.



New Partner - Mennonite Central Committee

Ferd Pauls

We are pleased to announce that as of December 2010, MCC Africa and IMHA have recognized the relationship between the two organizations especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 2008 IMHA partnered with MCC in providing the budget for medications for two health zones. Now there is a move to expand the involvement in more Menno health zones up to a total of seven.

We see this as a step forward in continuing to develop a role in health care in developing countries.



John Martens chatting with MCC Congo co-rep, Tim Lind

Global Cuisine

Send your favourite recipes to the editor millerger@shaw.ca

Arroz con Pollo (Panamanian Rice and Chicken)

Ingredients

- 3 Tbs olive oil
- 1½ lb chicken breasts
- 1 chopped bell pepper
- 1 chopped onion
- 3-4 minced cloves garlic
- 3 diced fresh tomatoes
- 8 oz tomato sauce
- ⅛ tsp saffron or
- ¾ tsp turmeric
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 2 cup uncooked rice
- 4 cup chicken broth
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- ½ cup sliced olives
- 2 Tbs capers
- 3 Tbs chopped cilantro

Method

1. In a large, deep skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add chicken and sauté 7-10 minutes, or until lightly browned. Turn regularly to cook evenly.
2. Add peppers, onion, and garlic. Sauté 3-4 minutes longer, or until onions and peppers are soft but not brown. Add tomatoes, tomato sauce, saffron, bay leaf, salt, and pepper, and stir well. Cook 2-3 minutes, stirring often.
3. Add rice and broth or water to pot. Mix well and bring to a boil. Reduce heat until mixture is sim-

mering, cover and cook 10 minutes. Stir in peas, olives, capers, and cilantro and cook 10 more minutes or until rice is tender and chicken is done. Remove chicken and tear into chunks before returning it to pot. Serve hot, with extra olives, capers, and cilantro, if desired.

This dish, one of Panama's most popular traditional entrées, is served

on nearly all special occasions, from Christmas to family birthday celebrations.

Add seafood for extra flavour and festiveness.



2010 – 2011 Financial Projections

2010 – 2011 Financial Projections	
India	
Peter Kroeker Memorial Bursaries (10)	\$2,000
Mahbubnagar Nurse Aide Bursaries (30)	\$6,000
Dr Rick Hamm Memorial Scholarship	\$2,500
Medical Student Scholarships (2)	\$5,000
Shamshabad Bible College Nurse Educator	\$2,400
Nursing Studies Scholarship	\$2,000
Congo	
Medicine Credit Program (3 Health Zones)	\$75,000
Post-graduate Internship (2 candidates)	\$5,000
AMMC	\$5,000
Bon Berger Medical Centre Support	\$20,000
Zimbabwe	
Mtshabezi Medicine Credit Program	\$10,000
Paraguay	
Alto Refugio	\$5,000
Ukraine	
Molochansk Mennonite Centre Medicine Credit Program	\$2,000
MMHH	\$4,000
Administration	\$6,000
Total	\$151,900



IMHA Projects

Board Donation Policy: When a project need has been met, the remaining restricted contribution will be used where needed most.

India



Program Description

◆ Mahbubnagar Junior College Nurse-Aide Program (see photo) is a 2-year course. With the newly created **Peter Kroeker Memorial Bursary**, this program covers the tuition for a total of 40 stu-

dents per year. \$200 pays for one student. **(Total \$8,000)**

Additional Students

- ◆ Shamshabad MB Bible College Nurse Educator teaches useful Public Health principles and techniques to Bible College spouses and students. Funding helps with the nurse's salary **(Total \$2,400)**
- ◆ Medical Student Scholarships provide support for two candi-

dates for \$2,500 each **(Total \$5,000)**

- ◆ The Dr Rick Hamm Memorial Scholarship provides support for an outstanding candidate for medical studies in memory of IMHA's inaugural president. **(Total \$2,500)**
- ◆ Nursing Studies Scholarship provides funding for an excellent candidate in the field of nursing. **(Total \$2,000) New Project**

Congo (DRC)



Program Description

◆ IMHA is partnering in co-managing health zones using the Medicine Credit Program as a model. **(Total \$75,000) Additional Health Zone**

◆ The Residency Training Program allows sponsorship of two interns for \$2,500 each

(\$5,000)

- ◆ The Congo Mennonite Medical Association meets yearly for professional support and education. IMHA assists with funding for transportation cost. **(Total \$5,000)**
- ◆ Bon Berger Medical Centre (see photo) was established by



Congolese Drs Pierre and Delphin to help meet the needs of an impoverished area of Kinshasa. Funds will assist

in this holistic ministry to the over 100,000 people in this district. **(Total \$20,000) New Project**

Zimbabwe



Program Description

Mtshabezi Hospital (see photo) is located in Matabeleland South in Zimbabwe owned and operated by the Brethren in Christ Church. This is a 110 bed facil-

ity with a very large outpatient department. There are a number of small clinics within a radius of 50 km which are serviced by medical personnel from the hospital.

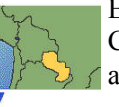
◆ Mtshabezi Medicine Credit



Program similar to the Congo project assists the medical staff of Mtshabezi Mission Hos-

pital **(Total \$10,000)**

Paraguay



Program Description

Alto Refugio (High Refuge) Ministry www.altorefugio.org is a non-governmental organization in Asuncion, Paraguay staffed

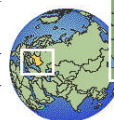
by volunteers who give their time to work with people living with AIDS. They are supported by the Evangelical Mennonite Conference in Paraguay and Canada.

◆ Alto Refugio AIDS



Hospice ministers to people living with HIV/AIDS. IMHA assists with materials and medications. **(Total \$5,000)**

Ukraine



Program Description

The Mennonite Centre www.mennoitecentre.ca in Molochansk (see photo) is working out of a newly renovated girls' secondary school. The director and

staff are looking for ways to help the economically depressed region formerly known as Molotschna.

◆ Molochansk Medicine Credit Program assists

with medication and medical supplies. **(Total \$2,000) New Project**





Photo Vignette Board Meeting

Photos by Ferd Pauls and Glen Miller



Peter Kroeker's family with Ferd acknowledge the creation of the memorial bursaries for India in his name



Discussion taking place during sessions and break times



Members unable to attend in Winnipeg joined by Internet connection



Keynote speaker Tim Lind




An enjoyable time shared over a delicious meal



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IMHA Checkup is the Newsletter of the International Mennonite Health Association


Publisher - Ferd Pauls IMHA President
Editor - Glen Miller Communications
Contributing Writers - Board Members


We're on the Web at:
<http://www.mennonitemha.org>

Member Updates

Please send information to the editor millerge@shaw.ca

Members News

 Congratulations to Kaitlin Miller, daughter of Newsletter Editor **Glen Miller**, who married Christopher Ball in Winnipeg, Manitoba on 10/10/10.

IMHA gratefully acknowledges the participation of its corporate partners and special donations.

Do you know of a business, foundation or estate interested in partnering with

Corporate Connections

IMHA in Health Care Development? Let our office know.

International Mennonite Health Association serves

IMHA Mission Statement
God by providing resources and services to Mennonite and Brethren in Christ health programs in developing countries.



Please pass this newsletter on to a colleague. It helps with administrative costs and reduces paper usage.