

LEWIS PERINBAM AWARD PAST RECIPIENTS

Ms. Sylvia Cholodnuik (2006) was honoured for her sustained, multifaceted contributions to improving the lives of people in Tshelanyemba, Zimbabwe. They also applauded her ongoing efforts to sensitize her home city, Saskatoon, to the needs of this African community.

Mr. Fintan Kilbride (2005) founded Students Crossing Borders, an experiential education program of volunteer community service in Jamaica for secondary students. Fintan Kilbride's extraordinary experience and knowledge, as a teacher and missionary on three continents for 55 years, as writer for local papers and organizations, as fundraiser and consultant for community development efforts, in addition to his dedication to act against injustice and poverty, is an inspiration for many.

Dr. George Stuart Atkins (2004) founded the world's first non-governmental organization dedicated to farm radio broadcasting, Developing Countries Farm Radio Network (DCFRN), capable of reaching people isolated by illiteracy, distance, conflict and poverty. Through the radio, DCFRN has shared relevant agricultural information with literally millions of developing country farmers. Today, DCFRN has 500 broadcast partners, up from 36 in 1979. The Network's total audience size is 800 million listeners in 75 countries, of whom 80% are in Africa.

Mr. Burris Devanney (2003) initiated the establishment of the Nova Scotia - Gambia Association, a non-profit development assistance organization which for the past fifteen years has been bringing Gambians and Canadians together in partnership programs, mainly in the educational sector. His association partnered with Saint Mary's University in Halifax and the government of The Gambia to offer university courses to Gambian students. Mr. Devanney was the driving force behind many projects focusing on basic needs of youth - education and health.

Ms. Kathy Knowles (2002) has established over 100 libraries in Accra, Ghana's capital city, and in rural areas of the country. Beginning with a garden storytelling circle, in over 10 years Kathy's efforts expanded to include three large libraries in Accra and a network around the country, training for librarians and literacy training for adults, and most recently, the publishing of a series of Ghanaian children's books, in English and five local languages. She also established the Osu Children's Library Fund, shipping donated books from Canada to supply her libraries.

Mr. Bernie Gilmore (2001), a health professional working at the London Health Sciences Centre, answered the call for emergency assistance to Ethiopia in 1984. He went first as a member of the Kinsmen African Medical Relief Team, which worked in central Ethiopia establishing Camp Bete and saving thousands of lives. He went home to found Future Forests, an organization committed to planting trees in Ethiopia. Today, through the efforts of Bernie Gilmore and the volunteer board he chaired, Bete Valley has been transformed from a parched, barren landscape to a lush land where more than 400,000 trees have been planted.

Dr. Elizabeth Rowles Scott (1999) founder of the African Canadian Continuing Education Society (ACCES) has made an outstanding contribution to community development and the education of youth in Kenya. With her leadership and vision, ACCES has grown from a society which provided international aid to a group committed to international development, helping needy people to help themselves.

Robinson Koipillai (1998) has been the driving force behind programs that have had a tremendous impact on the lives of thousands of people, mostly women and children. As founding president of the Alberta Council For Global Co-operation, the Society of Friends of Nepal, and the Society for Development in the Third World, Mr. Koipillai has demonstrated outstanding commitment to global justice and development of the world's poorest societies.

Dr. Martin Spencer (1997) has been responsible for restoring eyesight to thousands of blind people in the developing world. An ophthalmologist, he has been actively involved in SEVA, a non-governmental organization involved in community health care, in India, Nepal and Tibet. His work has transformed the model of eye care delivery in developing countries from relief and dependence to development and self-sufficiency.

Colin McNairn (1996) Honorary Life Counsel of CODE which works with partners in the developing world to battle illiteracy. Mr. McNairn has dedicated more than 30 years to helping the organization successfully expand its educational programs. He was the driving force behind CODE Inc. which was set up to raise funds for CODE, serve its procurement and shipping needs, and provide materials for democratic elections worldwide.

The Hon. Jacques Hébert, O.C. (1995) founder of one of Canada's most successful international youth young Canadians who work with similar aged youth from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and in Central and Eastern Europe. It has inspired the creation of similar organizations over the past few years in countries such as Sweden and Holland.

Martin Connell (1994) founder of the Calmeadow Foundation which provides loans, at commercial rates, to micro-enterprises which have no other access to credit. The phenomenal success of Calmeadow abroad prompted Mr. Connell to implement the program in Canadian Aboriginal and other communities.

Mme Louise Alary (1993) founder of the Crudem Foundation, which was set up initially to assist in the areas of health, training and education in Haiti and is now operating in 11 other countries.

John Ganley (1992) for his dedication to fostering grassroots development in Jamaica, particularly as founder and continued volunteer leader of Jamaican Self-Help, a non-profit, non-governmental agency that raises awareness and funds to support socio-economic development in the shantytowns around Kingston, Jamaica. His work has involved many student and adult volunteers from the Kawartha region of Ontario.

Dr. Violette Alarie-Gendron (1990) for her leadership in rural development, support for cooperative organizations and the integration of women in development. Dr. Alarie-Gendron was a founding member of l'Institute Nord-Sud which utilizes the skills and resources of many people in Québec.

Dr. Arthur Jenkyns (1989) for his dedicated leadership in the field of blindness prevention and sight restoration. Dr. Jenkyns was one of the founders and driving forces behind the formation of Operation Eyesight International, an organization that sets up and funds many programs in developing countries.

Dr. Norma E. Walmsley (1987) for her lifelong commitment to the international voluntary sector and particularly for her work with women. She was instrumental in the founding of "MATCH", a bilateral organization committed to involving women in international development. Dr. Walmsley has also undertaken significant work in international development through Brandon College and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

Professor John Cairns (1986) for his work in international education in the development of functional literacy. Much of his grassroots development work over 30 years has been done in collaboration with many United Nations agencies.