



VAJRA VIDYA FOUNDATION CANADA



WELCOME to our Dear Friends and Supporters, Donors and Sponsors!

This issue of the Vajra Vidya Foundation Newsletter contains updates of the SMD students attending university and high school in Canada.

Also inside are notes from Namu Buddha Monastery, Menla Medical Clinic, Thrangu Tara Abbey, and SMD Boarding School in Kathmandu.

ENJOY!

RINPOCHE IN CANADA

Canadians and visitors were fortunate to be able to get many teachings and empowerments by Thrangu Rinpoche this year. First, in June Rinpoche came for the 900 year celebration of HH Karmapa, North American Kagyu Monlam at Thrangu Monastery in Richmond, BC. He stayed in July to teach "Nagarjuna's Fundamental Wisdom of Middle Way". After visiting Crestone and Boulder, Colorado, he went to Halifax and Gampo Abbey in Nova Scotia teaching "Vivid Awareness: The Mind Instructions of Khenpo Gangshar" and then returned to Richmond to give Three Year Retreat Empowerments. THANK YOU, RINPOCHE, FOR YOUR KIND TEACHINGS.

REMINDER!!!

SMD School fees paid before December 31, 2011, will be eligible for a tax receipt. Get your cheques in on time to beat the rush.

Sponsorship Fees 2011/2012

Shree Mangal Dvip (SMD) Boarding School

year goes from May to May.

Boarding Student	\$820
Day Student	\$370
School Monk	\$620
Monk	\$240
Shedra monk	\$600
Nun	\$240
School Nun	\$480

You can always co-sponsor with a friend or a group if you can't manage a whole student.

THANK YOU

to everyone who helped with

Namu Buddha Well Project

providing clean and abundant water for
the monastery

Himalayan Teachers Project

training 5 student teachers to return to
their villages to work

Education Funds for SMD students

studying in Canada

and

Medical Supplies for Nepal

Your generosity makes a huge
difference!!!



Laptops on their way to SMD!!

Much thanks to **Marian Leighton** of [Samsara Journeys](#) for taking donated laptops to Shree Mangal Dvip Boarding School. These computers were donated by **Dr. Sandford** of [Braintrain](#), loaded with learning software for the kids. This will greatly improve learning at SMD.

September 18 Earthquake Update: It lasted about one minute and frightened everyone. Thankfully no one at SMD, Thrangu Tashi Choling, Tara Abbey or Namu Buddha were injured and all buildings seem to be fine. Chaynga (SMD Director's office assistant) said, "As soon as it happen[ed], everyone gathered in the soccer field including our school principal Lama Sangye Tsering, Managers, health workers, hostel teachers, seniors, support staffs, volunteers, and all the students. Little kids were very scared but i think our joint efforts from principal, hostel teachers, seniors and senior students made them feel safe." So lucky!! Good job, everyone, for keeping your heads and for all the emergency practices throughout the year.

STUDENTS in CANADA

Vajra Vidya Foundation is pleased to follow and support **9** students from SMD studying in Canada.

Phur Tenzin Sherpa and **Pasang Sherpa** are studying Engineering at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC.

Yangchen Drolkar Lama was at West Island College for high school and is now at Trent University in Peterborough, ON.

Nangsal Lhamo Lama and **Tashi Dolma Lama** are at Quest University in Squamish, BC.

Tashi Wangmo Sherpa finished studies at Appleby School and is at King's University College at the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

Tashi Dolma Lama is studying high school at Appleby School in Oakville, Ontario.

Karma Dolma Gurung and **Sherab Dolma Sherpa** graduated from ICSZ in Switzerland and are beginning studies at St. Mary's University in Halifax, NS



QUEST UNIVERSITY

NANGSAL LHAMO AND HER SISTER **TASHI DOLMA LAMA** ARE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS IN SQUAMISH, BC.

NANGSAL SPENT A YEAR AT **THINK GLOBAL SCHOOL** MENTORING STUDENTS AS THEY STUDIED IN SWEDEN, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA BEFORE DECIDING TO GO TO QUEST U. TO FOCUS ON **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**.

TASHI GRADUATED FROM **BISHOP STRACHAN SCHOOL** IN TORONTO AND HOPES TO GO TO **MEDICAL SCHOOL** TO BECOME A PHYSICIAN.

YOU CAN HELP by going to CanadaHelps and donating to Vajra Vidya Foundation or to the girls' Giving Pages. **MEG FEDERICO** and **LISA MCCRACKEN** have **GIVING PAGES** set up for Karma Dolma and Tashi Wangmo. They still need help to cover their high costs of education in Canada. The universities help some with tuition but more is needed for books, medical costs and other expenses. **THANK YOU!** www.canadahelps.org



A New Water Source for Thrangu Tashi Yangtse Monastery



Lama Yonten at the Namu Buddha Well before drilling.

In the spring of 2011, a call went out to friends and students of Thrangu Rinpoche around the world. Namu Buddha Monastery desperately needed water. With hundreds of monks and many support staff and guests, the water was dangerously low. **You heard the call!!**

Within a few weeks of the appeal for funds, enough was raised to begin drilling in May. Just a few days later, a clean, abundant water source was struck, not too far down. Now, thanks to our Canadian sponsors and other donors, adequate water will be supplied to the monastery, which is two hours away from Kathmandu.

Check out the great photos on the Facebook page "[A New Water Source for Thrangu Tashi Yangtse Monastery](#)" (you do not need to be a member of Facebook or share any information with FB to view the photos.)

Acupuncture needles and medical supplies going to Nepal !! Matthew Gindin and Victoria Rohac are taking supplies to Namu Buddha when they go to volunteer in October. THANKS to them and to all of you who sent more than **\$1200** to purchase supplies.

fundraise for Nepal

**YOU CAN CREATE AN EVENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY TOO!!
PICK A PROJECT, ORGANIZE A FUNDRAISER, AND HELP
RINPOCHE HELP KIDS!!**

*For some ideas, go to our
[Wish List Page](#)*

Himalayan Teachers Project

In most remote Himalayan areas, children receive no education; in fact, the literacy rate is a mere 2%. Education has been profoundly affected by the civil war that ended in 2006. Schools were abandoned and suffered damage to roofs and floors, and books, desks and chairs were looted. Salaries for teachers in outlying areas went unpaid. Corruption in Nepal, including government schools, is extreme. In many cases, teachers do not show up for school, but are still paid. The supervisors compound the issue by confirming that the teacher is at the school when in fact he is not.

A GROUP FROM LONDON, ONTARIO WANTS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION.

5 SMD students have been chosen to be trained as teachers to return to their villages and help children without access to education.

**Phur Yudon Tashi Chodon
Mikmar Bhuti Tsewang Sangmo
Pasang Lhamo**

READ MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT spearheaded by Eileen Parker, Barry Johnson and Mary Lou Greenwood in London, Ontario.

[HIMALAYAN TEACHERS PROJECT](#)

READ MORE ABOUT THE STUDENTS WORK:

[READING ANGELS REPORT](#)



TARA ABBEY



The sewer pipes for Thrangu Tara Abbey and the neighbourhood are finally being installed. This has been a long awaited public works project to improve sanitation in Sitapaila, Nepal, just outside of Kathmandu. Tara Abbey needs funds for this sewage project. The Abbey had to pay \$6100.

Sewage at the Nunnery has been a huge problem and now it is being fixed.

Donations are urgently requested. PLEASE HELP!



Tara Abbey Garden - VVF Canada's **Maitravana Project** has supplied funds for a full-time gardener and the garden is providing fresh, nutritious, organic vegetables for the nuns. It's providing VITAMINS and MINERALS and FIBRE !!!

YOUR SUPPORT CREATES CHANGE!



To Unsubscribe from the NEWSLETTER or to receive it by email, please send an email to info@vajravidyacanada.org

Make a secure donation through

Canada Helps



Contact us by regular mail

**PO Box 46898 STN.D.
Vancouver, BC.
Canada V6J 5M4**

by email:

info@vajravidyacanada.org

Vajra Vidya Foundation

is a Canadian registered charity which functions as the fundraising organization for Namo Buddha Foundation, a registered Canadian charitable organization founded by Thrangu Rinpoche to undertake charitable projects such as providing food, clothing and simple medical care and education to the poor children of the Himalayan region and support of the abbey, monasteries, schools, free clinics, retreat centres and monastic colleges in Nepal, India and Tibet.

Public Foundation #888437621 RR 0001

VVF is totally operated by volunteers and has no paid staff. 97% of all funds received go directly to the projects overseas and to the children YOU support. **PLEASE** give to **GENERAL** funds to ensure that we can keep helping. **GENERAL** funds cover the newsletter, postage, website, and accounting to stay registered in Canada.

vajravidyacanada.org