



Vancouver Public Library

NEWS RELEASE

Canadians dig deep to donate supplies to the third annual outreach program promoting health and literacy in rural Zimbabwe

Vancouver, BC, CANADA September 18, 2006 – Life will get a little bit better for the residents of rural Zimbabwe this year when a truckload of books, clothing and hospital supplies arrives from Vancouver, Canada.

Local independent business Insight Creative Communications and Pandora's Collective, in collaboration with Rotary International, teamed up for its third annual book and hospital supplies drive, and surpassed the number of donations collected over the two previous years.

The Vancouver Public Library collected an estimated 33,000 books that the more than 20 volunteers from the Vancouver Literary Community packed, and which John Bandstra, of Bandstra Transportation Services, shipped to the Mennonite Central Committee storage facilities in Abbotsford.

Connie Linder, founder and principal of Insight Creative Communications, and Doug Ante, of Rotary International, believe health and education are vital to both the stability of rural Zimbabwe's communities and to the personal development of each individual inhabitant.

"Everyone can make a difference through the connections we have," says Connie, who as a former Rotary International student, made a connection with Doug Ante more than 20 years ago. "Through the efforts of many partners, we aspire to make a valuable contribution to generations of people living in difficult conditions."

Doug's affection for the people and the region began on safari decades ago, and he now owns and operates a business in the area he calls home for part of each year.

Insight Creative Communications is a business strategy and communications consulting firm dedicated to supporting and enhancing the performance of organizations around the world that are committed to the integration of social, environmental and economic outcomes.

Rotary International is a global organization comprised of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and promote goodwill and peace throughout the world. Currently, more than one million Rotary members are working to address various community and international needs in more than 200 countries.

Pandora's Collective Outreach Society is a Vancouver-based non-profit society established to promote literacy and self-expression for writers of all ages in Greater Vancouver.

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