

Vellore Ludhiana Committee of Canada

Ministering God's love through medical training & care at CMC Vellore & CMC Ludhiana since 1913

Committee News

Annual Meeting



from Saskatoon via video conference, was a great encouragement.

April 22 was the date of our Annual Meeting. We were warmly welcomed to a new location, North Bramalea United Church, Brampton, Ontario. The facilities were all we could ask for, and more, with plenty of space, a great kitchen and all the essential "tech" now needed for such occasions. Having all our members present for the business meeting, including two who joined us



Two Very Special Guests

Two very special guests made it a memorable affair. Kate Guenther of our sister organization, the CMC Vellore Foundation USA, flew up from New York to be with us and Dr. Ed Dubland, our special guest speaker, and his wife, Pennie, flew in from Vancouver.



Doug Virgin & Kate Guenther



Ed & Pennie Dubland

Kate reported on projects the CMC Vellore Foundation USA have taken on, focusing on the transformative Jawadi Hills project.

Right from its first introductory steps through to its consultation of the local community leaders, it is a great model for helping poor, rural communities raise their standard of hygiene, housing, water supply, education and overall economy, in short, their quality of life.

Ed grew up in India, attending Woodstock School. After completing his medical studies in Canada, he returned to India on numerous occasions with the goal of bringing community based Palliative Care to North India. He inspired us with his vision for this through an extensive new proposal to establish a Palliative Care Centre at CMC Ludhiana. His plan of action to begin meeting this need, relieving suffering through this form of care especially in the Punjab, was powerfully presented. You can read more about this a little later in the newsletter.

"My work is for a King." Dame Edith Brown, founder of CMC Ludhiana

"Not to be ministered unto but to minister" – Dr. Ida S. Scudder, founder of CMC Vellore

We were happy to welcome a number of guests who joined us for their first time and, as usual, enjoyed meeting all of our guests over light refreshments including delicious Indian snacks and, of course, masala chai!



Who We Are: Moris Mehboob, Member at Large:

Moris is from the Punjab; his family's Christian foundation goes way back to John Hyde's (Praying Hyde) historical missionary work there. Moris graduated with his BSN Nursing Degree from CMC Ludhiana, in 2013, after which he served on a medical ward until 2015. He then came to Canada to further his studies in Advanced Health Care Leadership. He didn't want to leave CMC Ludhiana so he was very pleased to find he could still be involved in serving his Alma Mater by becoming a member of the Vellore Ludhiana Committee of Canada. He says, "being a member of this committee is helping me serve my College ... which I always wanted to do," and, referring to CMCL's motto, makes "me feel like I am still working for my King." We are very happy to have Moris join us and bring his youthful enthusiasm to our support of the great work of the two CMC's!



Ludhiana News

Helen Flanagan Memorial Scholarship in Nursing: Announcing Our 1st Recipient!

Mr. Vishal Masih is the first nursing student to receive this scholarship. He is in his first year of the General Nursing and Midwifery programme. We are very pleased to be supporting him as he comes from a family who lost their father when he was a teenager and have had to rely on only the mother's very modest income. He first wanted to study in the medical stream but this was not financially possible. This scholarship has made nursing a possibility for him, for which he is exceedingly grateful. When Vishal has completed his training, his employment will, no doubt, be of great benefit to his family.

Palliative Care Proposal – An Indo Canadian Initiative

At any point in time, there are 2.8 million cancer patients in India. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in 2016 reported that the total number of new cases is expected to be around 1.45 million.

Punjab - Cancer Capital of India

According to NBC news July 17, 2014 Punjab had the highest rate of cancer in India. Since more than 70 % of these cancer patients present in an advanced stage, palliative care forms a major component in cancer care.

Need For Home Based Palliative Care

Due to cultural issues, hospice based palliative care will not meet the needs of the majority of these patients. Community based services would best benefit the those needing palliative care by overcoming the problems of hospital access, need for care givers and financial constraints. Another major hurdle for adequate patient pain management is the difficulty in procuring opioids. Only a few hospitals possess the license to procure and dispense morphine. A program for home visits would help in overcoming this hurdle.

Objectives:

1. establish palliative home care service for cancer in Ludhiana, Punjab;
2. develop an effective community education module;
3. train medical and nursing professionals to deliver palliative home care services;
4. train volunteers and social workers to deliver holistic care at home.

As a five year proposal, the team includes the services of a consultant oncologist, resident doctor, 2 staff nurses, dietician, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, chaplain, social worker, administrative secretary, driver, volunteers and a psychiatrist, as needed. The team would visit a patient's home with all accessories required for acute symptom control with provision of prescriptions and the dispensing of medications including opioids as, and when indicated. A 24/7 help line will be available for patients to ask the team for advice and, if needed, a home visit.

This is by far the largest project we have considered in many years but one we feel is very much needed. Accordingly, our committee has approved supporting this project with details to be determined. The budget is approximately \$29,000 per year or \$145,000 over the five year plan. We have received firm commitments of \$15,000 for the first year and would invite any of our supporters to join in supporting this initiative as they are able and feel lead to do so.

Vellore News

Our 2017 Vellore Ludhiana Committee of Canada Scholarship Nurses



Ms. Afreetha Abraham
Gladys Hamilton
Nursing Scholarship
2nd Year BScN



Ms. Dhivya
Gladys Hamilton
Nursing Scholarship
Internship



Ms. Prijith Yugana
VLCC Nursing
Scholarship
1st Year



Ms. Simran Stalima
Annama Gupta
Nursing Scholarship
Internship

We are very proud of each one and warmly welcome our new recipients. As you can see, two are in their Internship year and almost ready to go out and serve. Please keep them in your prayers!

Rehabilitation Fund

August 2016 - March 2017

- 49 grants (to patients unable to afford their prescribed assistive devices)
- Ages - 11 years all the way up to 97!
- Provided help with
 - wheel chairs,
 - leg, foot, hand and arm prostheses,
 - braces of many sorts,
 - surgical shoes, orthotics, crutches etc.

The Rehabilitation Centre, opened in 1967 as a result of a generous Canadian donor, not only provides state of the art services to their patients but goes well beyond by helping to find suitable employment or by working with employers to adapt their facilities or job so the patient can continue to be gainfully employed.

Alumni Batch Projects

Traditionally, batches of Vellore alumni adopt "Batch Projects" in celebration of a significant anniversary. The Committee are now happy to announce that alumni in Canada can now donate to these projects through us provided they are to improve facilities for students or patients. Please contact us if you would like to do this.

In Closing

More CMC Alumni

We are extremely happy to see more CMC alumni getting involved with the Committee – a trend we are excited to see continue! Please keep in touch with us - let us know if you would like to get involved in any way!

Current Active Projects

CMC Vellore: Nursing Scholarships: Gladys Hamilton, Anna Gupta & VLCC, Allied Health Sciences Scholarship, Rehabilitation Fund, Emergency Fund, Facilities Improvement Fund (Batch Projects).

CMC Ludhiana: Scholarships: William & Zelma Virgin (Medicine), James Ashwin (Physiology), Helen Flanagan (Nursing), Allied Health Sciences plus the Palliative Care Project & Good Samaritan Fund.

We are running out of space but we wish to thank each of you for your continued interest and support. Each of your donations makes a direct and significant difference in people’s lives! We hope to hear from many of you soon and wish each of you God’s blessing in your life. Have a wonderful Summer!

-----✂-----
DONATION & CONTACT FORM

Please complete and mail to:

Vellore Ludhiana Committee of Canada/CMCHOSPITALS.CA, 722 Coxwell Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4C 3C2
 Tel. 416-921-2301, email: info@cmchospitals.ca, web: www.cmchospitals.ca,
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/www.cmchospitals.ca

Please make cheques payable to: Vellore Ludhiana Committee of Canada or CMCHOSPITALS.CA

Date: _____ Please accept my gift of \$ _____ My preferred use:

As needed CMC Vellore CMC Ludhiana Divided equally Specific Project: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Donations will be used as directed unless a project is fully funded or is no longer active. In this case, funds will be redirected where needed at VLCC’s discretion.