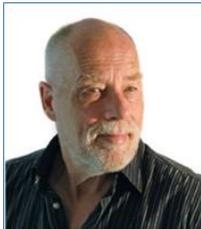


Halton Hills businesses team with local non-profits to provide aid

By Eric Doubt, MCInst.M
Communication Associates
eric@commassoc.ca



As an example of synergistic partnerships between business and philanthropy, Eric Doubt, MCInst.M of Communication Associates (a Halton Hills marketing and communications firm) and Canadian Institute of marketing council member, has teamed with local non-profits:

- a local business, SayIT First Inc., to support First Nation communities
- a local NGO, Welcome Home Children's Centre supporting orphans in Haiti
- a local non-profit, Chance to Play fostering youth soccer worldwide

Eric Doubt, president and Creative Director of Communication Associates said, "networking for strategic opportunities can create quick and simple ways to get needed services and materials to those who can benefit the most."

A retailer, who wishes to remain anonymous, offered to donate a large supply of end-of-line clothing for all ages to Doubt, who then contacted Georgetown residents Camille and Sam Otum, founders of an orphanage in Cabaret, Haiti. They brought their Welcome Home Children's Centre volunteers to the Haitian town for public distribution of summer clothes.

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Volunteers at Eel Ground First Nation (N.B.), sort a large supply of end-of-line clothing for all ages that was donated to Eric Doubt, MCIInst.M., Communication Associates, who transferred it to Mike Parkhill, sayITFirst, a native language revitalization project.

Additional winter stock was offered to another Georgetown resident, Mike Parkhill, founder of the native language revitalization project, SayITFirst Inc., who delivered boxes of warm gear to First Nation leaders in New Brunswick for distribution to community groups and families.

Georgetown's Anita Bergsma, founder of A Chance to Play, which empowers children worldwide through soccer playing, contacted Doubt to offer donated soccer equipment and uniforms to Haiti.

Doubt, who worked and volunteered in Haiti since 2006, connected with Pazapa, a Canadian-founded school for children with special needs in Jacmel, Haiti. He will be delivering the sports gift early in 2015.

Bergsma also received a supply of donated protective medical wear, which Doubt is transferring to Parkhill for distribution to First Nation clinics in New Brunswick and Ontario this month.

Many individuals involved in business are looking for ways to help— and many non-profits are searching for sources of support for their beneficiaries. Through volunteering, networking and involvement in community, natural partnerships can develop by simply communicating one's availability and resources personally, across social networks and through the media. Keeping children and families clothed, warm,

healthy and active at home and abroad was a result of this awareness and the synergy explored by local business and philanthropy working together.

When shopping locally, remember that giving locally goes a long way — as far as Eel Ground First Nation (N.B.), Africa, and Haiti. Can you imagine more possibilities?

Contacts

Anita Bergsma, A Chance to Play
chancetoplay@outlook.com
416-270-9127
www.chancetoplay.ca

Mike Parkhill, SayITFirst, Inc.
mikepark@sayitfirst.ca
905-867-8929
www.sayitfirst.ca

Camille Otum, Welcome Home Children's Centre
camille.otum@welcomechildren.org
416 – 648-0040
www.welcomechildren.org

Eric Doubt, Communication Associates
eric@commassoc.ca
905-510-0401
www.commassoc.ca