



September Newsletter 2011

In August I made my 12th trip to Gansu, China. I would like to share a couple of stories of the students and their and our success with you.

EGRC has sponsored a total of 166 students in August; this includes 35 new students who are about to start university education in September.

41 girls graduated in 2011; 11 went on to do Masters degrees, while the rest of them have either found employment or are in the process of finding work.

Since 2009, 112 students have graduated under the sponsorship of EGRC.

7 graduates have donated money back; together they sponsored 3 new students. It is truly rewarding to see the domino effect. I am sure in the future there will be more students supported by the graduates.



A group of sponsored girls.

Our First Corporate Partnership

As of this summer 2011, EGRC sponsorship program has now expanded to Qinghai Province. Eldorado Gold Corporation and EGRC - first time in partnership - have sponsored 5 young women from Huangzhong County, Qinghai Province. I traveled to Qinghai and personally interviewed the students. Later the funds were transferred to each of the student's personal bank accounts.

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Eldorado Gold's Local Operating Manager John Zhang and the girls.

Bixia Wang is the first EGRC sponsored student to come to Canada to do a Masters degree. She will be studying Material Chemistry at SFU starting this September with a scholarship, TA and RA offered by the school. She arrived in Vancouver on the 23rd of August and is amazed at how beautiful the city is, and how friendly people are.

"I need someone to tell me that this is not a dream--- I am now in Vancouver, Canada, meeting lots of friendly people. Only six days ago, I was in my rural home village working in the field with my parents.

I began to like this place from the first moment I landed after my first airplane trip. The quiet airport, good service and pleasant people are all impressive to me. At the same time, I experienced a lot of first things in my life, first time to see the ocean, go sailing, eat western foods. I love all of it!!

The people here are so friendly, and happy! It seems like they really enjoy their lives. People have been so generous, and I am lucky that I have landed in a beautiful city, with so many caring people to help me."

Xiaoling Ma When Xiaoling Ma's mother went to university in South China in the 1980's, she had a nervous break down and did not finish school. She experienced discrimination because she was from a rural village of Gansu Province. 20 years later Xiaoling Ma was accepted by Lanzhou University of Commerce. Her mother's mental condition became worse as she was afraid that her daughter would go through the same experience. I assured Xiaoling and her mother that her daughter would not repeat this nightmare.

Under the sponsorship of EGRC Xiaoling graduated this year. She was the only one accepted by The Bank of China among 400 applicants in that region!

Xiaoling came to see me in August and told me how grateful she is for the care and financial aid she received in her four years of study. She donated a portion of her first month's salary to EGRC and hopes that more young women in need will benefit from her contribution.



Meeting girls in Yuzhong County.



**Bixia Wang
A GraduateStudent**



**Xiaoling Ma
A GraduateStudent**

Our Team

Liu Yu, EGRC's new representative, and Wang Ting, the president of EGRC Students Association worked very hard for the entire month of August.

They did all the new students home visiting, making arrangements of my travel, scheduling the meetings, preparing the contracts and documents. Believe it or not, in one week to ten - day time to meet over 200 students (some graduates too) on individual basis is a huge task; together we did it!

Three of us went to Badian Karan Desert – the fourth largest desert in the world in Inner Mongolia. It was a 7 hour drive from Gansu to the desert. Some of the highlights of the trip were:

- We stayed overnight in the desert with a Mogolian family.
- We watched the sunrise in the desert . It was amazing!
- We also visited a Buddhist Monastery which was built in 1750 in the middle of the desert.
- We rode in a Toyota Landcruiser – the king of the desert; and it felt like riding on a constant mini rollercoaster.

Another fantastic experience!



New girls we sponsored in Longxi this year.



Our Team: Liu Yu, Wang Ting and Tien.





New girls we sponsored in Yuzhong this year.



Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser

**Chloë Angus Design
Fall Holiday 2011 Fashion Show**

We are pleased to announce that on **September 22, 2011** **Chloë Angus Design** will be holding a Fall Holiday 2011 Fashion Show, in partnership with the British Columbia Society for Educating Girls in Rural China (EGRC). www.egrc.ca

The show will take place on Granville Island at Performance Works 1218 Cartwright Street Vancouver, BC.

Doors open at 7:00pm for shopping, drinks and mingling (**all bar & shopping proceeds will go towards the charity**)

Show will commence at 7:45pm with shopping, drinks and mingling continuing until 9:30pm.

Tickets on Sale Friday September 2, 2011
Tickets \$50 & VIP Front Row tickets \$100

For tickets and more information please call us at 604-224-2456 or visit us at 4273 Dunbar Street, Vancouver
Visa, MasterCard, Cheque or Cash

Thank you to www.chloeangus.com!

Elektra Women's Choir Concert

Changing Lives

A spectacular concert by one of Canada's premiere choirs to benefit Educating Girls of Rural China.

with special guests **Cloud Bell Duet Geling Jiang & Yun Song**



This concert is part of St. Mary's Kerrisdale's One Hundred Years of Grace centennial celebrations.

Elektra is proud to present a fundraising concert for the life-changing work of the BC Society for Education Girls of Rural China (EGRC). In addition to the warmth and variety of Elektra's beloved choral repertoire, the instrumental duo Cloud Bell Duet will perform a spotlight set of traditional Chinese music on the erhu, ruan, sanxian, and zheng.

Sunday October 2, 2011 • 3 pm

St. Mary's Kerrisdale Anglican Church, 2490 W 37th Ave,
Vancouver

All tickets \$25 Call 1.800.838.3006

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