



Season's Greetings

Winter Newsletter 2011

At the beginning of this holiday season I would like to share good news and recent developments of EGRC with you.

The holiday season offers great tradition of reunion of families and loved ones; it is the season to share our joy and good fortunes. It is as well, the season of giving - a time to share our fortunes with the less fortunate.

In 7 years EGRC has given the gift of university educations to 286 young women in impoverished rural regions of China. We rely on generous people such as you to develop and to sustain this project.

On behalf of all the sponsored students and the EGRC board, I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your past contribution(s). As well, I would like to wish you and your family a great holiday season and good health and prosperity in the coming New Year.

Tien Ching
Founder & President

My November trip to Beijing

I was invited by the BC Trade Office to be a part of the Corporate Signing Ceremony with Premier Christy Clarke on November 9th during her visit to China. I had the opportunity to discuss EGRC and our work with the Premier; as well she talked to Mo Yan, one of EGRC's sponsored students who graduated under our sponsorship.

It was at this ceremony that EGRC's first corporate partner, Eldorado Gold Corporation, presented a donation of \$20,000 to the charity. EGRC will be helping Eldorado by establishing university student sponsorship programs in the regions in which the corporation operates.

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EGRC Girls giving back

The following students donated money back to EGRC in 2011.



Tien with Premier Christie Clark, EGRC Student Mo Yan and Eldorado Gold's China Managing Director Richard Li

One of EGRC's fundraising plans is to seek the support of Canadian companies operating in China. Through this kind of sponsorship and partnership, EGRC is able to expand its program beyond Gansu province, thus being able to help more rural girls attain an education. This kind of partnership will simultaneously enhance the public image of Canadian businesses in China. Together we are able to produce outcomes that benefit both Canada and China alike.



A Workshop Offered to the EGRC Girls in Beijing by BoldMoves China

I met Cindy Jensen in Beijing earlier this year. Cindy has been living in Beijing for 11 years with her family and running a consulting company based in China.

Cindy and I discussed the challenges and needs of our girls in finding work after graduation. After she met a group of them in August, she decided to offer a workshop teaching essential skills



Sheng Xuxia graduated in 2010 with a degree of finance. She went back to her home town Longxi and working for the local government co-op bank.



Ma Xiaomei graduated in 2009 and working as a engineer at Wuling Automobile in Guangxi Province, Southwest China.



Zhang Lin graduated in 2010 from Northeast University of Economics. Now she is working for Bank of China in Baiyin City, Gansu Province.

such as communication, professionalism and networking. I know it would help the students greatly in today's competitive job market.

The workshop was held on the 12th of November. Cindy and three other senior presenters led the workshop, 29 girls attended. Some of them had to travel by train for more than 20 hours, but it was all worth it.

By the end of the day even though we were all exhausted, no one wanted to leave including the presenters! They were all impressed by the girls and told me the EGRC girls were the most enthusiastic attendees they have ever had.



Yang Jinming graduated in 2009; she is a software engineer working for a smart phone company in Shanghai.



Cindy Jensen with some of the EGRC girls at the Workshop in November in Beijing



Ma Xiaoling graduated from Lanzhou University of Commerce in 2011 and working for Central Bank of China in Lanzhou, Gansu. She donated part of her first month salary to EGRC.

More support from Beijing

On my earlier trip to Beijing this year, through the introduction of Canadian Ambassador David Mulroney I met some great Canadian business people. CCBC (The Canada China Business Council) was established in 1974 and is the country's Canada-China bilateral trade and investment facilitator, catalyst and advocate. www.ccbc.com

Viva is an international professional and business women's organization based in Beijing and headed by a Canadian woman Emily from Toronto. www.vivabeijing.org

Both CCBC and Viva have collected donations for EGRC at their annual Christmas parties this year; and would like to consider EGRC as their choice of the charity in 2012.



Shao Caili is a 2009 graduate and works for French company Casco Signal Ltd Beijing as an engineer

Support from young Chinese Canada professionals



A group of young professionals from PricewaterhouseCooper are sponsoring one student. Thanks to Jenny Li for making this happen.

Jenny Li
Senior Account Manager at PWC
from Vancouver



Huo Wenjuan is a 3rd year student studying at Ninxia University. She received a scholarship and donated part of her scholarship to EGRC.

Casper Wong did his first Scotiabank Half Marathon in September in Toronto. He raised over \$3000 for EGRC. Thank you Casper!



Casper Wong
Vice President of Business Development
at CommunityLend
from Toronto



Wang Xiaoyan is a second year student studying at Northeast University of Agriculture. She donated back part of her scholarship which she received recently.

Bixia's new life in Vancouver

Bixia Wang is EGRC's first sponsored student who received scholarship and studying in a Masters program at SFU. She is majoring in Material Chemistry.

"In the short three months I have been in Vancouver, apart from lots of "firsts" I experienced abounded of love and care from people I met through EGRC and on the campus.



When I first arrived, my dormitory was not furnished. In only one week I had everything I needed - furniture, cookware, computer, cell phone and even a new futon bed. I made all the other students envy me.

I will never forget the Thanksgiving turkey dinner I had in a Canadian home. There were many warm and friendly people there; a lot of delicious food; it really made me feel welcome and at home.

When the first snow fell and the temperature went down below zero, I received my first Christmas gift – a winter down coat. I have no words to describe the feeling of my gratefulness.



Wang Ting is a third year student studying Geography at Northwest Normal University in Gansu. She currently is the president of EGRC Student Association. She and five other students also donated part of their scholarships back to EGRC.

I am enjoying my life in Vancouver and I enjoy SFU very much. Even a simple bus ride is a pleasure for me. I find myself immersed in the beauty of this city. I love my school - the lab, my residence and our campus. I will not deny that I still have some challenges with my English and academic study, but I will try to be the best I can. And I believe that all of you would be the witnesses of my progress and achievement."



Bixia is enjoying her first Thanksgiving dinner

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Wang Ting wrote to me:

"I am very happy that I received a scholarship of 2500 RMB (\$400) recently; it is the result of my very hard work. I would like to spend it on things and for people who are important to me.

I will give 1000 to my sister; she is in her second year studying nursing.

I will give 500 to my parents - the Chinese New Year is coming; with this extra money they can have good food for the New Year.

I will donate 500 to EGRC to help another girl in greater need.

I will keep 500 to my self and will pay for an English tutor to improve my English.

I hope you will accept my donation. It is not a lot of money; it is our sincere "thank you" to you and to all the people who have supported us."

Wang Ting is not the only one who has spent their scholarships this way.