



A Solution in Sight

Seva Canada Society

Annual Report

July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005



Mission Statement

Through compassion in action, Seva Canada seeks to create a better world by volunteer and professional programs designed to alleviate human suffering – particularly through preventable blindness.

Our Current Focus

Our current focus is to establish and expand Seva's sustainable eye care programs with partners in developing countries.
We strive to inform Canadians of our work and to inspire them to join us, thereby increasing our overall impact on global blindness.

Core Values

We are guided by:

- Respect for cultural, ethnic, spiritual and other forms of diversity.
- Commitment to working with partners in a compassionate way to achieve appropriate goals.
- Belief that with adequate resources, all people can meet their own needs.

A Message from the Chair and Executive Director

Every day in countries all over the world, people live under difficult, life-threatening conditions caused by disease and poverty. Seva Canada Society strives to alleviate suffering caused by unnecessary loss of vision through projects that prevent blindness and restore sight.

Over the next decade the need for effective blindness prevention and treatment programs will become an ever more urgent problem throughout the world. The number of people in need is growing far more rapidly than the eye care services to serve them.

Seva Canada has a unique, global role to play as an innovator, as a leader in developing new strategies to promote effective outreach to the rural poor, and as a disseminator of effective models and strategies to the wider international network of eye care organizations. Therefore, this year, as a board we took action and invested in our future. It's been an exciting and challenging year:

- Dr. Ken Bassett and Executive Director, Maggie Westhaver, represented Seva at the 7th International Assembly of IABP in Dubai. At the Assembly, Dr. Martin Spencer, a long-time board member, was formally awarded for his contributions to international ophthalmology.
- Brian Harris dedicated several months in Asia gathering images for what promises to be yet another inspiring multi-media show, *Beauty and Transformation*. The Canadian show tour will be launched in Vancouver at the Ridge Theatre on November 23, 24 & 25. You will receive more details shortly.
- Leslie Thompson became our first Director of Development. With Leslie guiding us we have begun to work more closely with you, our honoured supporters.

The greatest measure of our success is what we do on the programmatic level. We are pleased to report an increase in our direct support to overseas programmes by 28⁰% this year!

None of what we do would be possible without your loyal support, commitment and dedication. We thank you.

Sincerely,

Michel Maurer
Chair

Maggie Westhaver
Executive Director

Program Highlights

In Nepal your donations were used to support:

- the community eye care program in Chitwan District in southern central Nepal.
 - 40 female community health workers from 16 villages conducted 92 diagnostic screening and treatment camps, seeing over 15,000 patients
 - 127 schools were visited and over 20,000 students examined
- the King Mahendra Memorial Eye Hospital, in Bhariahawa (Chitwan).
 - 1,404 free cataract surgical operations
 - staff training in cataract outcome assessment
- the community eye care program in Tansen, Palpa District.
 - training of village outreach health care workers
 - 10 outreach screening camps
- the National Eye Health Education Programme.
 - visiting health posts/sub-health posts
 - training traditional healers and drug retailers
 - providing eye health education materials

In India your donations were used to support:

- a “Vision Centre” in Cumbum in Theni District, Tamil Nadu State.
 - serves 50,000 people
 - provides minor treatment, glasses, internet referral to ophthalmologists
- teacher training program in Theni District
 - reaches all school age children
 - provides public education and eye health education
- a study of diabetes & diabetic retinopathy in Theni District
 - population-based prevalence study
 - building and testing validity of referral system for diagnosis and treatment

In Tibetan Regions of China your donations were used to support:

- a cataract surgical training program.
 - local eye doctors working in rural and remote regions
 - Prefectural Hospitals in the Tibetan Autonomous Region
 - Yushu Prefecture in Qinghai
 - Dartsedo Prefecture in Sichuan Province
- a glaucoma training program.
 - local eye doctors working in the Tibetan Autonomous Region.
- 2,072 cataract surgical operations.
 - including surgeries in eye hospitals and eye camps
- a quality improvement program.
 - standardization of clinical record keeping
 - training in monitoring, evaluation and outcome assessment

In Tanzania, your donations were used to support:

- community outreach activities throughout the Kilimanjaro District (1.4 million people) and Arumeru District (500,000 people) of the Arusha Region.
 - 88 sites
 - 16,613 people examined and treated
 - 830 referred for sight restoring cataract operations
- a population-based survey of cataract in Hai District to monitor both people who have had and who have not had cataract surgery
- a follow up program to trace and interview people after 6 months
- a community ophthalmology training program for administrators and eye care coordinators
- a childhood blindness program
 - identifying families of children needing cataract surgery
 - providing comprehensive pre and post operative care
 - this year, 165 operations for congenital or developmental cataract were performed on children (up from 99 surgeries in 2003 and 60 surgeries in 2001)

With Gratitude to our Wonderful Volunteers

Volunteers Overseas

Ken Bassett
Karen Cardiff
Catherine Howett
JoAn Maurer
Michel Maurer

John Pratt Johnson
Marty Spencer
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Volunteers in Canada

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Maraiba Christu
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Amrita Dhanji
Gary Dunn
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Linda Young
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**Volunteer, Amrita Dhanji
greeted guests at a Seva event in May**

Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

Listed here are the many kind individuals, businesses and organizations who gave their financial support to Seva during the past fiscal year, July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

Please let us know of any errors or omissions by calling 604-713-6622.

Estate Gifts

A number of our supporters have named Seva Canada Society as beneficiary in their wills. We thank these people for believing in the continuation of our work. For information on how to make an estate gift, please call Leslie Thompson at 1-877-460-6622.

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Working at home to inspire others

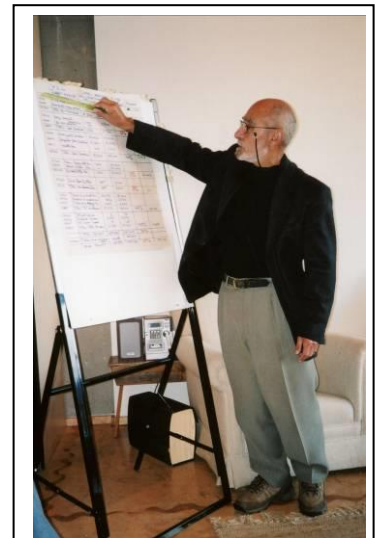


Anna Evans, Heather Barker
& Betty Kellow at a home party
in North Vancouver in December

The most direct method of inspiring others to support Seva's mission is to organize events in people's homes. The host invites their friends, colleagues and family to a party. An inspiring presentation is made and a gentle request for financial support is delivered. Seva supplies donation forms, envelopes, the presentation itself and door prizes. The host provides refreshments and a welcoming home. We have found home parties to be the most effective way we have of making new friends and attracting long-term donors. If you would consider hosting such an event, please contact Leslie Thompson at (604) 713-6622.

The 2004 Annual General Meeting

Seva's Annual General Meeting was held on the afternoon of October 30 at the studio of wool mistress, Katherine Poole on West 6th Avenue in Vancouver. All members were invited to attend and a healthy turnout ensued. The business at hand included presentation and acceptance of the financial statements, election of board members, review of programmes by country, and the appointment of the auditor. Tony Kozlowski and Girija Brilliant were visiting from our American cousins, the Seva Foundation in California and they spoke about their projects and how Seva Canada and Seva USA work together to achieve enhanced results.



Treasurer,
David Hardouin
explains it all at the AGM

Introducing The Lewis & Ruth Sherman School for Primary Eye Care Management in Tansen, Palpa, Nepal

Despite the political turmoil in Nepal this year, the work of Seva's sight programs continued unimpeded. In October, before the borders actually closed, Seva board member Susan Erdmann traveled to the hill station of Tansen to visit Lacoul Eye Hospital which is run by Seva. Thanks to a multi-year pledge from the Ruth & Lewis Sherman Foundation of Burlington, Ontario, a new school for primary eye care management was opened and Susan participated in the ceremonies. The event attracted eye specialists from around the country and dignitaries from throughout the province of Palpa. When Susan spoke she applauded the generosity of the Shermans for making this school possible and praised all of the people of Tansen and the donors in Canada who, through their commitment and effort, made and continue to make projects like the Sherman school a reality.



Photographer Brian Harris Travels to India

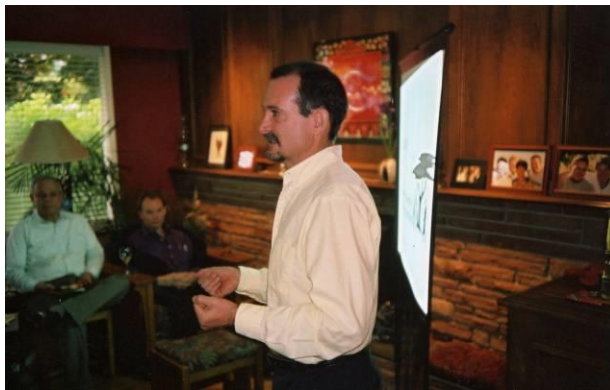
Seva photographer and multi-media artist, Brian Harris and his partner, Paula Ford, traveled to India to gather new material for an upcoming show called Beauty & Transformation. They were in India from February to June and returned home with exciting new images and stories. The new show will open in Vancouver in November 2005 and tour across Canada, to raise awareness and inspire Canadians to get involved with Seva.



Visionaries from the Field

Seva was delighted that Dr. Paul Courtright, founder and co-director of Seva's Africa partner, the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology based in Moshi, Tanzania visited Vancouver in May of this year. Paul made a number of lively and provocative presentations to our donors and the university medical community. We learned first hand how Paul and his team are modifying the lessons learned over 25 years working in Asia to fit the unique African situation. Paul's centre is quickly becoming the hub for training, research and sight program development, for the entire eastern Africa region.

In an effort to learn more about what makes a doctor like Paul Courtright do what he does – dedicating years of his life and that of his family to making the world a dramatically better place in which to live – we interviewed him about the course of his life and reasons why he loves his work so much. You can read this interview by visiting our web site at www.seva.ca



Dr. Paul Courtright
from Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology
makes a presentation to supporters in Vancouver

Honouring One of Our Own

In September, Dr. Martin Spencer, of Lantzville, won the Regional Achievement Award for innovation in eye care from the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness at its 7th General Assembly in Dubai. As he was not there in person to receive it, Seva presented him with his award at The Port Theatre in Nanaimo, British Columbia in January. He was recognized for his contribution towards providing low cost, high quality cataract surgery to blind people through his work with Seva.

Dr. Martin Spencer, a respected Vancouver Island ophthalmologist, has been an active board member of Seva Canada for over twenty years. He has voluntarily operated upon thousands of cataract patients and taught doctors in Seva supported countries.

Dr. Spencer pioneered a modern technique that could be used in rough situations such as a rural

eye camp setting. Dr. Spencer's advice to Seva helped to create a spectacular manufacturing unit in India called Aurolab, which today produces nearly one million intraocular lenses per year for cataract patients, as well as surgical sutures and other sight saving products at affordable prices. His steady determination and supportive nature have made him a favorite among Seva volunteers who serve in countries around the world.

Maggie Westhaver, Executive Director of Seva Canada was in Dubai for the award ceremony and expressed her excitement and pride. "I'm sure that all of Dr. Spencer's friends and patients and Seva's donors nationwide will join Seva in congratulating Dr. Martin Spencer for his achievement. Seva wholeheartedly thanks you, Marty, for being part of our family and for bringing the gift of sight to so many of the world's less fortunate."

Pictured below, at left, are the delegates of the 7th assembly of the IAPB in Dubai. Back home at the Port Theatre in Nanaimo is Master of Ceremonies, Joy Leach and her husband, Dr. Mike Legge, Seva volunteer and Marty's daughter, Nicole Spencer, Dr. Marty Spencer and his partner, Kathryn Maurer.





Board of Directors

front row from left

David Hardouin

Penny Lyons

MooH Hood

Marty Spencer, MD

back row from left

Ian McLennan

Michel Maurer

Neil Smith, Phd.

Ken Bassett, M.D.

John Pratt-Johnson, M.D.

Peter Nash, M.D.

missing from photo

Isaac Sobol, M.D.

Girija Brilliant, Phd.

Susan Erdmann

Honorary Patrons

The Honourable Iona V. Campagnolo PC, OM, OBC

Patrick Reid OC

The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy PC, OM, Phd.

2004/2005 Staff

Maggie Westhaver, Executive Director

Brian Harris, Beauty & Transformation Photographer

Renate Jackes, Accounts Manager

Hilary Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

Mara Shnay, Products Manager

Leslie Thompson, Development Director

Seva Canada Society

Statement of Income and Expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2005

Income

Donations, Merchandise, and Events	\$347,079
Program Grants and Contracts (CIDA)	162,667
Project Grants and Contracts	34,569
Investment and Other Income	5,986
Donated medical services (*in kind)	100,291
Donated volunteer services (*in kind)	15,600

Total Revenue **\$ 666,192**

Expenditures

International Programs

India eye care program (CIDA)	43,816
Nepal eye care program (CIDA)	43,816
Tibet eye care program (CIDA)	43,816
Tanzania eye care program (CIDA)	43,816
Other sight programs (non CIDA supported)	100,759
Program travel	25,849
Donated medical services (*in kind)	100,291

Domestic Programs

Public education	37,570
Program administration	39,863
Donated volunteer services (*in kind)	15,600
Development	111,475

General Administration 79,194

Total Expenditures **\$ 685,865**

Excess of revenue over expenditures **\$ (19,673)**



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for further information about Seva
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