

# EYE CONTACT SEVA CANADA NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022



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## RESTORING SIGHT IS A BEAUTIFUL THING TO DO



NANCY MADDAMS. SEVA CANADA DONOR

"This is really beautiful, a program that reaches out to others unconditionally and offers support to people in poor countries that don't have the services we take for granted," remembers Nancy Maddams when she first learned about Seva Canada.

Nancy is a former teacher and yoga instructor, She is a mother of two and lives in Ottawa with her husband. Her interest in eastern philosophy, meditation, and yoga led her to Seva Co-Founder, Ram Dass's teachings and Seva. Nancy was drawn to Seva because we provide eye care to people living in remote and isolated

areas of low-income countries which has such an immediate impact on people's lives.

Nancy had a life-changing experience with her own eyesight, "The idea of blindness and lack of sight and how it impacts one's life, wasn't something I truly understood until I developed early onset cataracts. I was a busy mother of teenagers at the time and all of a sudden, my vision became cloudy. One day I walked outside and I couldn't see the steps, I realized something was wrong," recalls Nancy. Thankfully, she soon had sightrestoring surgery in one of her eyes. "When I received my first cataract surgery, it was like someone peeled wax paper off the world. It brought home to me how your world shrinks when you can't see. The more my vision became cloudy, the narrower my life became. This experience really made me

Nancy donates monthly, fundraises in her community, and gives the gift of sight along with tribute cards as holiday gifts for her loved ones each year. "It's fun to choose from these beautiful offerings that will impact people's lives so powerfully. I always enjoy matching the catalogue gifts of sight to the people receiving the cards." She also admires the photos

appreciate Seva's work."

and powerful stories of Seva's work. Nancy's favourite story is about a nine-year-old boy in Nepal who led his grandfather for two days through the mountains to reach an eye camp. After receiving sight-restoring cataract surgery, the grandfather was able to see his grandson for the first time.

When asked why she has supported Seva Canada for so many years Nancy replied: "I feel a sense of warmth and connection in Seva. It's personal and it really brings out a feeling of joy and gratitude to be able to donate. When I think of myself and where I'd be now without cataract surgery, the difference in one's life when you can't see is devastating. It's just such a beautiful thing to give and restore someone's sight."



A GRANDFATHER AND GRANDSON AT LUMBINI EYE HOSPITAL, NEPAL

# SEVA CANADA'S 40 YEARS OF 1ST'S





### Dear Seva Canada Supporters,

In this, our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we want to celebrate you - our donors, volunteers and cheerleaders, our program partners and international staff, and every person who has donated, bought a t-shirt, calendar or cards, come to a concert, lent a hand, or worked with our partners in-country.

In 40 years of giving and supporting, what impact have you made? Here are just some of the innovative eye care firsts you've made possible:

- First eye care organization to modify, perform and teach cataract surgery that requires no sutures; revolutionizing eye care in low-income countries.
- First eye care organization to question and research if eye care was gender equitable (it's not, the findings showed that 2/3<sup>rds</sup> of the world's blind were women and girls) and to create gender-equal eye care programs.
- First eye care organization to fund financially selfsustaining eye care facilities in some of the world's poorest regions – while still providing free services for those too poor to pay.

- First eye care organization to provide operational research training to international partners so they could evaluate and improve their own program effectiveness.
- First organization to utilize established community groups to identify those in their communities in need of eye care and connecting them with the available services.

Thank you for every impact you have created, every dollar you've given, every time you've spoken about Seva Canada to your friends, family and neighbours, and for believing that every person, no matter where they live, has the right to sight.

And, in case there is any doubt about whether the people we serve continue to need your support ... there are still 43 million people worldwide who are blind and that number is expected to increase to 61 million by 2050 due to an aging and increasing population.

Thank you for 40 years of support!

With gratitude,



Penny Lyons, Executive Director

# DEVELOPMENT WITH DIGNITY

## SEVA CANADA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Seva Canada's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on November 5, 2021. It was a hybrid affair of in-person and Zoom due to the ongoing pandemic. Regardless of how you joined, we were happy to see all of your smiling faces!

At the start of the meeting, the previous year's AGM minutes were approved followed by the auditor's report by Angela Sartori of RHN Chartered Professional Accountants. The report was approved and RHN was appointed as our auditor for the upcoming fiscal year. The audited financial statements, along with our 2020-2021 annual report, are available online at https://www.seva.ca/publications/annual-reports

We welcomed Kanya Adam, an instructor at Simon Fraser University in the Department of Political Science, and Dr. David Fine, a comprehensive ophthalmologist and surgeon, to our Board.

We said a warm thank you and goodbye to retiring board members Laura Spencer, Harish Krishnan and David Roberts.

Penny Lyons, Seva Canada's Executive Director, introduced the AGM theme of 'development with dignity'. "Seva Canada's continued aim is to support development that recognizes and respects our partners, and the people we serve, as true partners in the design, implementation, and evaluation of projects that impact their lives and communities."

Penny then introduced the night's special guest, Thulsiraj Ravilla, (Thulsi) Executive Director of the Lions Aravind Institute of Community Ophthalmology – the organization that has taught us all how to provide eye care with dignity. Due to COVID, the conversation between Thulsi and Penny was pre-recorded and shared with attendees.

At the end of the discussion, Penny asked Thulsi a surprise question, "During our 40-year relationship, has Seva Canada treated Aravind with dignity?" to which he answered:

"I think that's one thing which really stands out with Seva... it is almost like a family relationship. When Aravind started the model that we had was that we'll have this mother ship in Maduri, and then we have multiple small



THULSIRAJ RAVILLA AND PENNY LYONS

hospitals ... with two years on the ground with the small hospitals we realized that that's the part to do for sure. We decided to abandon a hospital project for which Seva Canada had given money and go to a larger town to build a bigger hospital and use Seva Canada's money for that. So when the decision was conveyed to the Seva board, the immediate reaction was one of anger which I think is quite understandable. Once we explained the rationale behind it, there was a tremendous amount of welcoming and support of the revised decision. So that to me, I mean not very many organizations would really do this if that notion of respect and dignity was not there... Development, you are chartering uncharted grounds or you're working uncharted grounds. So when the proposal comes it is an aspiration and a plan. **So answer is yes!**"

Seva Canada recognizes that giving leadership roles, providing autonomy in decision making and equity in achievement of development – lies at the heart of all our international programs. But it is our donors trust in, and commitment to, our work that makes it all possible.

Our deepest thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's AGM and to the volunteers – Christine Smith and Lisa Demers – for making the event such a success!

Missed the AGM? Watch the conversation between Penny and Thulsi at https://www.seva.ca/video/development-dignity

## 40 YEAR TIMELINE

In 1980, the World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed the global eradication of smallpox, a disease that caused blindness and death to millions. The end of smallpox marked Seva's beginning.

Founded by some of the people who worked on the eradication of smallpox, Seva was established to empower the spirit of service and alleviate human suffering. This is Seva Canada's story.

### Seva Foundation is Formed

### 1st Grateful Dead Concert for Seva

After working with the WHO to end smallpox in India, Dr. Larry Brilliant and his wife Girija Brilliant, a public health specialist, publish Death of a Killer Disease. Their article urges readers to support international health programs for people living in poverty.

People are inspired and soon \$20,000 in donations arrive - the first \$5,000 coming from not-yetfamous computer inventor, Steve Jobs. With this, Seva Foundation is born and Dr. V participates in the first board meeting as a founding member.

Seva's work begins in India with Dr. V and the Aravind Eye Hospital.

### 1st Nationwide Blindness Study in Nepal

Seva conducts the world's first nationwide, populationbased study of the causes and distribution of blindness in Nepal. The study shows that two-thirds of blindness is due to cataract, not trachoma, contrary to contemporary belief.

Leo Boon "Cycles for Sight" from Vancouver to San Francisco to Miami (4500 miles) and asks people along the way to donate a penny a mile to Seva.

### Seva Canada is Established

Alan Morinis and Bev Spring establish Seva Canada and secure funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA now Global Affairs Canada).

### Seva Begins Working in the **Tibetan Areas of China**

Seva initiates the Ophthalmic Assistant training program as part of the Lumbini Eye Care Program in Nepal.

### A Plan to Expand is Endorsed

Seva endorses a plan to take their high-volume, highquality, sustainable eye care approach into new regions of the world.

### Lumbini Eye Hospital Established

Seva establishes a 76-bed eye hospital in Lumbini, Nepal.

**Aravind Eye Hospital Opened** 

Dr. Venkataswamy (known as "Dr.

V") establishes an alternate health

care model to provide low-cost,

high-quality, self-sustaining eye

care in India. He opens Aravind Eye Hospital by turning his

former home in Madurai into

an 11-bed hospital.

### **Manual Sutureless Cataract Surgery Taught**

Dr. Marty Spencer teaches manual sutureless cataract surgery at Aravind Eye Hospital in India. This surgical technique soon becomes taught around the world.

### Seva Conducts RAAB in Madagascar

Seva co-funds Madagascar's 1st National Pediatric Eye Care Planning Meeting resulting in a series of outreach programs and training initiatives. It also funds a Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) survey in Atsinanana, the capital, to estimate the prevalence of blindness in

with established microfinance groups to increase the utilization of eye care services by women and children.

people over 50 years of age.

In Tanzania, Seva begins working

Seva also begins community outreach programs in the San Marcos region of Guatemala.

### Seva Canada is introduced into B.C. Legislature

MLA Eric Foster introduces Seva Canada into the British Columbia Legislature.

Seva Canada begins funding Burundi, Zambia and Rwanda.

Seva begins working with established microfinance groups in Nepal and Zambia to increase the utilization of eye care services by women and children.

### Seva Sponsors 1st Eye Care Planning Workshop in Tibet

The workshop results in the creation of a 10-year cataract prevention plan.

### Seva Begins Working in Egypt, Guatemala, Malawi & Madagascar

Seva begins working in Egypt with the Al Noor Magrabi Foundation, Guatemala with Visualiza Eye Care System, Malawi with the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, and Madagascar with the Ministry of Health.

Seva Begins Working in Lumbini Zone, Nepal



### Seva Leads Tibetan Eye **Care Survey**

Seva leads the Tibet eve care survey with the Tibet Health Bureau. Seva's local trainees conduct half of all eye surgeries in the Tibetan Areas of China.

### All Districts in Nepal **Have Primary Eye Care**

Seva Canada inaugurates a Community Eye Centre (CEC) in Bajura, the last district in all of Nepal without access to primary eye care. This is a major milestone in Seva Canada's objective of providing primary eye care to all regions of the country.

Seva Cambodia sees a dramatic increase in the utilization of eye care, especially cataract surgeries, in all of its districts following the hiring and training of four field workers.

Meanwhile, Seva supports Burundi's 1st two pediatric surgical treatment activities, providing hundreds of children with essential eye care. Seva Canada also builds its first CEC in Burundi.

### Seva Canada Sponsors Women **Deliver in Vancouver**

Seva Canada takes part in Women Deliver, the world's largest conference on gender equality and the health, rights, and wellbeing of girls and women, to share its research and strategies to improve the lives of millions in low-income countries. Penny Lyons, Seva Canada Executive Director, is featured on an expert panel and 2 videos are highlighted at the Film Festival.

### Seva Recognized in Nepal

The Nepal government officially recognizes Seva and the Seva Nepal office opens in Kathmandu. The National Eye Health Education program is initiated.

### Seva Joins VISION 2020

Seva joins VISION 2020, a global initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB).

Seva begins working in Cambodia with the Battambang Ophthalmic Care Centre (Seva Canada begins funding in 2009).

In Nepal, Seva and the Lumbini Eye Care Program develop Community Eye Centres in isolated areas outside of the Lumbini Zone, Nepal.

### 1st Intraocular Lens Surgical Eye Camp in Nepal

Dr. Marty Spencer, Seva board member and ophthalmologist, conducts the 1st intraocular lens surgical eye camp in Nepal; revolutionizing eye care in lowincome countries.

### Seva's Research Discovers 2/3rds of the World's Blind are Women & Girls

Seva conducts research in Africa with the founders of KCCO that identifies the gender inequity in the treatment of blindness. Publication of that research results in a worldwide shift in the way data is gathered and used by the eye care community.

Seva and its partners develop a Gender and Eye Care working group to reduce gender inequity.

### Aurolab formed in India

Seva and CIDA help Aravind Eye Hospital in India form Aurolab, a non-profit trust providing modern eye care technology at affordable costs.

Aurolab revolutionizes eye care in low-income countries by reducing the cost of intraocular lenses from \$300 per lens to under \$10.

### Seva Helps Establish KCCO, Tanzania

Seva helps establish the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO) and begins work in Tanzania.

### Seva Cambodia Expands into **Pursat and Kampot**

In Nepal, Seva establishes a new secondary eye hospital in the Dhankuta District and creates a three-year Ophthalmic Assistant program that trains 40 students/ year with the Bharatpur Eye Hospital.

### Seva Canada Receives the Champalimaud Vision Award

Seva Canada, Seva Foundation and KCCO are awarded the prestigious Champalimaud Vision Award (1 million Euro prize) in recognition of the groups' innovative approach to programs in Africa.

Leonard Cohen, award-winning Canadian entertainer, and the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, former Governor General of Canada, become honorary patrons of Seva Canada.

The 1st Motown Meltdown concert benefiting Seva Canada takes place at the Commodore Ballroom in Vancouver.

### Gender Inequity Improves for Women

The Lancet releases the latest data on the prevalence and causes of vision impairment and blindness worldwide. Globally, due to strategies like the ones that Seva and its partners have implemented, the number of women who are blind decreased by 10%. Unfortunately that statistical improvement did not extend to girls who are still half as likely as boys to access eye care services.

### Seva Canada Updates Its Mission Statement

Seva Canada updates its mission statement from 'Seva Canada's mission is to restore sight and prevent blindness in developing countries.' To 'Seva Canada's mission is to restore sight and prevent blindness in low- and middle-income Seva Canada Turns 40! countries.' The change recognizes that 'developing' and 'developed' are no longer appropriate or applicable adjectives for the people and places Seva serves.

Seva Canada is recognized as a top 100 charity by Charity Intelligence Canada for the 4th consecutive year.

Seva Canada turns 40 on April 6th. To date, Seva donors have given the power of sight to over 5 million people through life-changing cataract surgeries and provided millions more with eye care services.



# HOW YOU HAVE HELPED





Your continued passion in support of our eye care programs, amid the pandemic uncertainty, gives hope to poor and marginalized people in low-income countries. Especially women and girls who face additional barriers in accessing the eye care they need and deserve.

Thanks to you, our year-end matching campaign goal was reached! \$100,000 from an anonymous donor was matched and a combined \$232,000 was raised to help girls rise and thrive with the gift of sight. With healthy vision, girls can get an education, employment, and reach their full potential.

### Because of you:

- 1,200 girls will receive prescription glasses free of charge, bringing their world into focus
- 1,020 women will have sight-restoring cataract surgery
- 267 field workers will be trained to find women and girls with eye disease in remote communities and ensure they get to the hospital for care
- 1,033 girls will receive life-changing cataract surgery, including a lens implant, glasses, follow-up care, and transportation to and from the hospital

# SEVA CANADA 40TH ANNIVERSARY WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

### Find the word in the puzzle.

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Dignity	Innovation
Doctor	International
Family	Knowledge
Forty	Need
Glasses	Possibility
Health	Service
Help	Surgery
	Doctor Family Forty Glasses Health

S	G	Н	W	К	Υ	L	Р	S	N	F	Т	٧	U	W
S	J	Т	Ε	U	И	٧	D	Z	S	И	Α	Р	Z	Υ
E	Χ	С	0	Α	U	0	Q	Н	Е	Ε	0	Т	Т	I
N	F	Α	М	I	L	Υ	W	M	В	S	С	R	W	N
D	Υ	R	Α	Z	Q	Т	Р	L	S	С	0	С	U	Т
N	Т	Α	L	I	Q	0	Н	I	Е	F	G	D	Α	Е
I	I	Т	С	Е	L	R	В	D	٧	D	S	К	I	R
L	И	Α	D	Е	0	I	С	Α	Е	U	G	Α	S	N
В	G	С	٧	Т	L	J	Н	R	D	Е	D	Ε	Е	Α
Α	I	Е	С	I	F	Н	К	U	Q	Α	N	Р	R	Т
Р	D	0	Т	0	W	0	F	Н	Α	R	N	Н	٧	I
0	D	Υ	R	Α	S	R	Е	٧	I	И	N	Α	I	0
S	R	Е	I	R	R	Α	В	Н	Е	L	P	Z	С	N
N	0	I	Т	Α	٧	0	N	N	I	S	С	Χ	Е	Α
G	L	Α	S	S	Ε	S	U	R	G	Ε	R	Υ	W	L

## A RESEARCH 1ST FOR SEVA CAMBODIA!



A CAMBODIAN GIRL HAVING AN EYE EXAM



SOPHAN VIN. SEVA CAMBODIA



ROSHAN BISTA, SEVA CAMBODIA

Seva Canada recognizes that, while eye care program capacity has grown rapidly in terms of the number of patients accessing services, monitoring, evaluation and research capacity has lagged behind in most low- and middle-income settings. Also lagging behind are institutional systems to use the research findings to improve the quality of care, equity of service delivery to the entire population, and financial selfsustainability. As a result, Seva Canada has trained our in-country staff and partners to conduct their own original research.

Seva Cambodia staff, Roshan
Bista and Sophon Vin, have taken
leadership roles in improving eye
care services in Cambodia. A first for
both Seva Cambodia and Roshan
and Sophan, they each designed and
conducted studies that evaluated
whether new outreach activities
increased the number of people,
particularly women and girls,
accessing eye care services and at
what program costs.



SOPHAN HOSTING AN EYE HEALTH AWARENESS SESSION

More specifically, Roshan showed that a new model using outreach 'camps' staffed by ophthalmic nurses **doubled the number** of appropriately treated patients compared to the existing field worker program.

Sophon, meanwhile, showed that the Eye Health Awareness Sessions (EHAS) that provide information to community leaders about the causes of blindness and services available resulted in a seven-fold increase in the number of people attending the hospital for cataract surgery.

Congratulations to Seva Cambodia, Roshan, and Sophan, for using their research training to improve eye care in Cambodia!

# SEEING SUCCESS IN SCHOOL



SUBHRATA AND HER MOTHER

"I am shocked she (Subhrata) has an eye problem! No one in the family knew about the problem," said her mother.

12-year-old Subhrata from Eastern Nepal is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at the same school where her mother is a teacher. Subhrata, a hardworking and conscientious student, always made sure to sit in the front of the classroom so could see the lessons on the blackboard. She knew that if she sat further back the words would be too blurry for her to read. What Subhrata didn't realize was that a pair of glasses would solve her vision problems and bring her world into focus.

Subhrata's family, however, was well aware that eye problems could be treated. Five years ago Subhrata's father was diagnosed with glaucoma, a chronic and potentially blinding eye disease that requires ongoing treatment. There are no eye hospitals in their area so Subhrata's father travels to Kathmandu every 6 months for checkups.

That's why the family was so surprised to learn that Subhrata needed glasses. The Seva Youth Outreach Team diagnosed Subhrata with severe nearsightedness during an eye screening at her school. She was given a free pair of life-changing glasses, funded by donors like you. Now she can follow along in class no matter where she sits!

"Now I will send Subhrata for an eye checkup with her father every six months," said her relieved and grateful mother.



# CFLI IS HELPING WOMEN AND GIRLS RISE AND THRIVE IN CAMBODIA

Banteay Meanchey Province,
Cambodia, is home to an estimated
678,033 people; 51% of whom are
women and girls. Small scale farming
and fishing are the main activities of
this rural province, and 43% of the
population live below the poverty
line. There are almost 12,000
people in Banteay Meanchey with
treatable blindness who could see
tomorrow if they had access to care.
Thousands more simply need a pair of

In 2021, Seva Canada received a generous grant from the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) to provide eye care services to poor and marginalized people, particularly women and girls, in Banteay Meanchey Province.

glasses to see the world clearly.

In late fall of 2021, field workers travelled to remote and isolated areas of Banteay Meanchey to screen people for eye disease and arrange transportation to the Mongkol Borei Provincial Hospital Eye Unit for patients in need of surgery.

Thanks to CFLI, 2,100 Cambodians were screened, 330 life-changing cataract surgeries were performed, and 600 prescription glasses were distributed free of charge.

According to the CFLI Team Bangkok/ Thailand, "the office of the Embassy of Canada to Cambodia through CFLI, works in partnership with Seva Canada to support and provide eye care services to marginalized communities, especially women and girls, to overcome obstacles



A PATIENT BEING EXAMINED AT THE EYE UNIT

in accessing resources in Banteay Meanchey Province. When individuals are healthy and empowered to reach their full potential, they not only survive, but thrive, and can transform themselves and their communities. This has been a great opportunity for the CFLI to partner with Seva Canada and provide eye care support to people in Banteay Meanchey."

We'd like to thank the CFLI Team Bangkok/Thailand for helping to provide essential eye care services to marginalized people in need in Banteay Meanchey.



# CREATE A BETTER FUTURE WITH THE GIFT OF SIGHT IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK



Do you want to make a significant impact that will transform people's lives for generations to come? After you've remembered your loved ones, consider a gift in your Will to Seva Canada. Your generosity will give people in low-income countries the precious gift of sight now, and in the future.

For more information, contact Paul at

1-877-460-6622

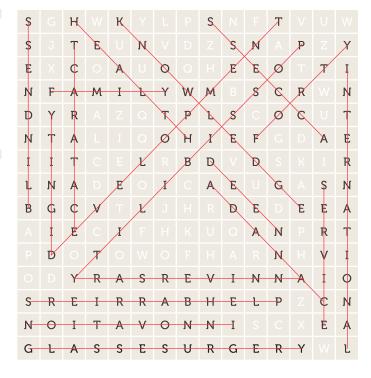
or email fundraising@seva.ca

# SEVA CANADA 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ANSWER KEY

Access
Blindness
Development
Family
Health
International
Possibility
Anniversary

Canada
Dignity
Forty
Help
Knowledge
Service
Barriers
Cataract

Doctor Glasses Innovation Need



# DOUBLE YOUR GIFT AND HELP CREATE A COMMUNITY EYE CENTRE IN CAMBODIA!

For poor and marginalized people in remote areas like Thma Puok, Cambodia, accessing eye care is next to impossible. The most effective and efficient way to reach the unreached in isolated areas is to bring high-quality eye care to their doorstep with a permanent Community Eye Centre (CEC).

A CEC is similar to an optometrist's office in Canada and is staffed by a well-trained Ophthalmic Assistant who can treat 90% of all eye health conditions and provide medicine and glasses. For patients who require further care, such as cataract surgery, the Ophthalmic Assistant arranges transportation to a hospital where surgery is provided for free.

Your gift today will be matched by Synergy Collaborative Health in Cochrane, AB to provide the people of Thma Puok with year-round access to essential eye care services with their own Community Eye Centre.

Donate today to DOUBLE your impact. Hurry! Only the first \$9,000 in donations up to \$1000 each will be matched by Synergy Collaborative Health.



### Choose how your gift will be used:

\$30,000 is needed to establish a Community Eye Centre in Thma Puok, Cambodia. You can put your gift towards:

Total	\$30,000
Outreach	\$5,000
Training	\$5,000
Treatments	\$5,000
Equipment	\$15,000

Every donation helps to bring eye care to the Thma Puok community!

Please mail in the enclosed form or visit seva.ca/SightforCambodia to make your gift today.

Seva Canada will do its best to use your generous gift in the manner that you've chosen. In the event that we're unable to do so, you gift will be used to support similar activities to provide eye care to those in need.

# BECOME A MONTHIY DONOR

RESTORE SIGHT AND PREVENT BLINDNESS. EVERY MONTH.

Join ForSight, Seva Canada's community of monthly donors committed to providing the means, opportunity, and capacity for people in lowincome countries to receive surgery, glasses and medicine that they need to build brighter futures. For more information, visit our website at seva.ca/monthly-giving

or call 1-877-460-6622.

# FOR SIGHT

"It hits my heart because sight is the most important thing in the whole world. By giving sight to people in remote areas - young and old people - you're giving them a job and freeing them to live independent lives."

Current monthly donor

## ABOUT SEVA CANADA

### SEVA'S VISION

Seva Canada's vision is a world in which no one is needlessly blind or visually impaired.

### SEVA'S MISSION

Seva Canada's mission is to restore sight and prevent blindness in lowand middle-income countries.

## SEVA'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We are guided by:

- Our belief in equal access to eye care for all
- Our belief that with adequate resources, all people can meet their own needs
- Our commitment to working with international partners to build local, sustainable eye care programs
- Our respect for cultural, ethnic, spiritual and other forms of diversity
- Our commitment to inform and inspire Canadians to join us in achieving our mission

## HONOURARY PATRONS

The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy

The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson

The Honourable Janet Austin, OBC Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

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