



President's Report for April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

Welcome

Thank you for coming tonight. I just wanted to say how grateful I am for your ongoing commitment to supporting the health and education of children and young people in Nepal, northern India, and Tibet.

TRAS exists because there are people here in Vancouver, and elsewhere in Canada, who want to help people in the Himalayas. Our approach is grassroots-based: instead of sending people overseas to do the work, we work with local non-profits based in the region, who know the most important needs on the ground.

Activities

Fortunately, Covid appears to have receded as an issue. After the second wave of Covid in India and Nepal in spring 2021, there was a third wave peaking in January this year. With the third wave, the school closures were relatively brief.

Daphne Hales, our Projects Director, will be presenting a projects report

The sponsorship program began in May 1964, with 13 sponsors. As of August 2022, TRAS sponsors have helped over 700 children. Approximately 90% of these children completed Grade 12, and many went on to higher studies. Currently, we are sponsoring 123 children, and have 18 children waiting for sponsors. If you'd like to sponsor a child's education, please contact Joanne.

Lynn Beck, director responsible for the TRAS Scholarship Fund, will present a report on the fund.

Organization

2022 is the 60th anniversary of TRAS. We were hoping to have some events to celebrate, but with another wave of Covid in the spring, we decided to put them off until next year.

Cheryl Sullivan, who served as TRAS President from 2013 to 2016, and who created our current website in 2010, has been hard at work designing and building a new website for us. Thanks Cheryl! In particular, the current website was designed when most people used the Internet on their computers, while today, a lot of people are using their phones. The new website is designed to be readable on your phone, and there's a new front page which makes it easier for people to quickly learn what TRAS does. All of the other pages from the current website are also there. We're going to turn on the new website shortly, so if you run into any issues, please let us know.

I'd like to thank a number of people who keep TRAS running:

- Joanne MacLeod, our hard-working Office Manager.
- Our volunteer Board of Directors.
- Our volunteers.
- Our donors - the work that TRAS supports in the Himalayas happens only because of your generosity!

Best regards,
Russil Wvong