



# Schools Helping Schools

[www.helplesotho.ca](http://www.helplesotho.ca)

## Spotlight School—Deep Cove Elementary School

Issue 1  
April, 2008

Deep Cove School is an elementary school in the heart of Deep Cove in North Saanich, British Columbia.

Deep Cove School is twinned with Motati Primary School located in the town of Leribe, Lesotho.

Motati Primary School is an Evangelical school with grades one through seven. There are 15 teachers and 500 students. Due to lack of teachers and space, the classes are large in size and often have more than one grade in a classroom. Lunch is provided for each student every day.



Teachers take on many responsibilities in the school. On top of their classes, teachers are in charge of an aspect of daily school life to be sure that everything runs smoothly.

Motati Primary School has a committee composed of teach-

ers, parents and the principle. The school has a lot of support from the community, which is key for the school to maintain a working school.

There are challenges that face Motati School. The school structure is in bad condition. The roofs of the three buildings were blown off two years ago and have yet to be replaced. With the lack of rooftops, on rainy days, the children must either crouch on the sidewalls or be sent home. Many of the windows are broken and have been removed. There is a huge need for reconstruction, which has been promised by the Ministry of Education, but has yet to do so.



Deep Cove School's main fundraising activity has been selling crafts at their yearly Christmas Craft fair. The school is said to be bursting at the seams with people. An entire classroom was dedicated for crafts being sold for Help Lesotho. A local corner

store donated a box of Stephen Lewis' book 'Race Against Time.' It has been a great success.

With the funds that were raised at their Christmas Craft Fair, Deep Cove School was able to donate \$2,000, which went to purchasing new school uniforms for the students at Motati Primary. Children also raised an extra \$640 on their own by forgoing birthday gifts and collecting money instead as well as selling paintings and Popsicles.

The Church across the street from Deep Cove held BBQ that raised over \$600. In this school year, they are planning on another Christmas Craft Fair as well as a talent show to raise additional funds.

The connection with Motati School is quite new for Deep Cove; however, they have received a package of booklets from Motati students with booklets made by the students.

The booklets were carefully fabricated with great care and pride and students were very impressed with the desire to share their culture with them. Deep Cove students also prepared booklets and sent them to Lesotho last June.

Being twinned with Motati Primary School has brought the school together, united with the desire to make difference together. It has given the school an opportunity to focus on something that they can do, as opposed to feeling discouraged by all the things that they cannot change. Their new Besotho friends have given them an example of courage, determination and a willingness to learn and overcome obstacles.

*"It has given the school an opportunity to focus on something that they can do,"*



## Twinned Schools Across Canada

Bishop Hamilton School (East & West)  
twinned with Mahlekefane Primary School

Deep Cove School  
twinned with Motati Primary

Elmwood School  
twinned with St. Charles High School

Riverview Alternative Elementary School  
twinned with Bokoro Primary

Turnbull School  
twinned with Sefapanong Primary School

Corpus Christi Catholic School  
twinned with Katlehong Primary School

Edmision Heights Public School  
twinned with Pontmain Primary School

Ridgemont High School  
twinned with Bokoro High School

Rockcliffe Park Public School  
twinned with Guardian Angel Primary School

Viking School  
twinned with Molapo High School



**Mokoena School**



## Editor's message

Hello Everyone,

It was indicated in issue 2 that issue 1 would come out shortly. Well here it is! It is short and sweet due to not wanting to repeat content from issue 2 and not being ready for other content.

As you can see it spot lights Deep Cove School, an article written by Amanda Kemp.

When Carolyn Kennedy distributed issue 2 she acknowledged Amanda's efforts in contacting you and pulling together the original content for issue 1. I wish to thank Amanda for getting things started with the Schools Helping Schools newsletter. Due to her school commitments I took over for issue 2. We hope to combine efforts though for issue 3.

By the way the intent is to produce and distribute a newsletter three times per year.

The goal for producing and distributing issue 3 would be June (hopefully before school is done). During April and May I would like to receive updates (and pictures) from the Ottawa-based schools (and Deep Cove too of course). I will politely hound you (remind you!) via email contact. If and when possible, myself or Amanda would like to attend your events, participate, and take pictures.

Amanda or I would love to visit schools outside Ottawa, but this is unfortunately not possible. However, we would like to do articles on all the remaining schools for the June issue. We will be in touch soon, if we have not already.

## Feedback

Please feel free to send me your feedback.

Do you like the "hands" mast-head or the mast-head used in issue 2? Does the content help you to consider now (or file away) ideas used from other schools? What other types of content would be helpful to you?

We would welcome "first-hand" stories from students on how twinning their school has affected them personally. Involving your students with students from Lesotho is an amazing journey of learning for students on both sides of the globe.

## Involving Other Schools

If you know of teachers or administrators at other schools who would like to get involved in HelpLesotho's Schools Helping Programs, in a small or big way, Carolyn Kennedy would be happy to get in contact with them and send along an information package.

Winter is now done even though the snow still has to melt. Aw, the tulips will be in bloom very soon. Come on Spring!!

Cheers,

Doug  
(dougthicke@gmail.com)



P.S. Maybe I can convince Amanda to include here picture in issue 3.