

HOW CAN YOU HELP US TO REACH THE NAMIBIA 2008 GOAL?

Although Namibia 2008 will receive funding for project material from Scouts Canada, participants will each be required to contribute a minimum of \$3500 towards the cost of the project. To this end we have scheduled several fund-raising events, but we are looking to widen the scope of such efforts.

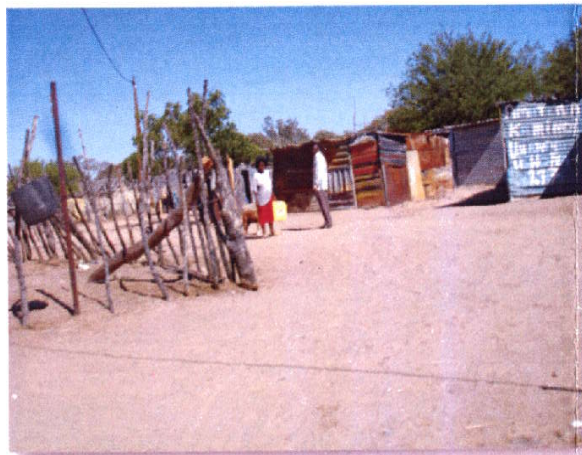
We are therefore making an appeal to foundations, businesses and individuals to assist us in this development initiative. All contributions are fully tax deductible and will be acknowledged in all relevant publicity associated with this project.

Donations towards this vital sanitation scheme should be clearly identified as being in support of Namibia 2008 and sent to:

Namibia 2008

Alison Bentley
106 Selkirk
Hudson. JOP 1H0

Cheques made payable to
Scouts Canada - Namibia Project



WHEN WE RETURN

Upon our return, participants will be ready and willing to visit all Scout sections, businesses and foundations that have given us support. In addition we will provide a detailed project report to anyone requesting it.

If you would like to help us or require any further information on the project, please contact:

Alison Bentley

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Email: alison.bentley@sympatico.ca

Amanda Doran

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WHAT IS NAMIBIA 2008?

NAMIBIA FACTFILE

In July and August of 2008 some 30 young people and leaders, mostly from the greater Montreal area, will take part in an International Development Project in Namibia. Scouts in our area have a history of working in the international field and Venturers, as well as Rovers have participated in development projects in Ghana, Zimbabwe and El Salvador as well as volunteering at the World Jamboree in Thailand.



buildings and learning environment at the same time, and if possible to assist the larger and better run schools with improved facilities.

In Africa Scouts have for many years provided communities with VIP or Ventilation Improved Pit latrines. It is this design of latrine that the team

It had been five years since the last project so in the fall of last year one of the trip leaders, Alison Bentley, initiated contact with the Canadian International Commissioner who recommended Namibia as a safe country with a well developed infrastructure. A meeting was held last August and the International Commissioner came to address the group and explain how to go about setting up such a project. There was lots of material on Namibia which was eagerly pored over by the young people present. Following the meeting it was decided to look out for a suitable project that would make a significant contribution to the quality of life in the community involved.

A few months passed, then the news came of a project which would fit the bill. In the immediate area around Okahandja, a town about 30 miles north of the capital Windhoek, there are some 18 pre-schools, many of which have two or three classes.

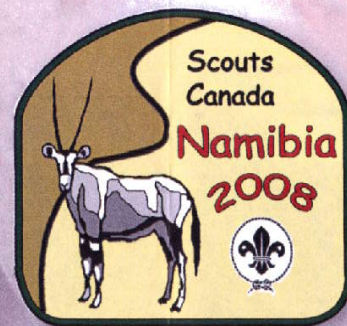
The Namibian government does not provide financial assistance to pre-schools at present so many of these schools are shacks which have been privately built and offer the bare essentials. Four of these schools have no latrines at all and eleven of them have one which is in the home or church where the school is built. A teacher trainer working with the teachers in the area has asked us to provide those schools that have nothing with a latrine, maybe improving the



will probably be using as it has a dual purpose of improving sanitation and providing disease vector control. Mesh screens over the vent pipes prevent flies and other disease carriers from exiting the pit. Plans have already been downloaded from the internet and preliminary estimates of the materials needed are underway.

As in previous international projects, our Venturers and Rovers will be working in cooperation with Scouts from the host country. Our contribution is to provide the funding and some of the labour to assist the Namibian Scouts Association in their support of this particular development initiative.

The benefit to the host country is only one aspect of such a project. Our Scouts will find that the personal growth and cultural enrichment involved will make their sojourn in Africa an experience that will remain with them for a lifetime



- The Portuguese were the first Europeans to discover "Namibia". Diego Cao arrived in 1486 and Bartholomew Diaz landed in the country in 1488.
- Germany annexed Namibia, then known as South West Africa, towards the end of the nineteenth century.
- Uprisings, between 1892 and 1905, left many dead and many homeless. It is thought that eighty percent of the Herero people were killed.
- During the First World War SWA came under the control of South Africa. This control was maintained for many years. In 1968 South West Africa was renamed "Namibia" by the United Nations but did not gain independence until 1990.
- Namibia is a member of the Commonwealth.
- The highest peak in Namibia is the Konigstein (2,606m) in the Brandberg mountain range.
- The Namib Desert is said to be the world's oldest desert.
- The sand dunes in the Namib Desert are among the highest sand dunes in the world.
- Namibia's largest conservation area is the Namib-Naukluft Park, also the 4th largest conservation area in the world.
- Namibia has the world's largest number of cheetahs.

