



Newsletter

The day we had been waiting for..

June 23rd, the day we had been waiting for, finally arrived. My husband Jean-Jacques, our 15-year-old grand son Axel and I were leaving for Peru. We were on the same flight as Mr. André Franche and Mr. Pierre Cadoret, the official photographer on this mission. We landed after midnight in Lima where our daughter Mariska had arrived a few hours before us, and we were reunited with her at the Bolivar Hotel.

In the morning, Mr. Franche served as our guide as we strolled the downtown streets. Late in the afternoon, we boarded an inland flight for Ayacucho where we caught up with our nieces Lyne and Hélène who had left Quebec two weeks earlier to go backpacking around Peru. We all met in Ayacucho to participate in the inauguration of the **Manzanayoc drinking water project**, which my husband and I had decided to support financially a year earlier. Lyne and Hélène don't know it yet, but they are the designated "patrons" of the project.

The next morning, we hit the road to Manzanayoc! Around a bend, three beautiful vicuñas stopped to greet us as we passed by. After four hours on the road, we arrived at the village where we were expected. The villagers greeted us with **arches decorated with flowers and banners**. We visited the project before unveiling the commemorative plaque, after which Axel opened the traditional



Lyne and Hélène Richard unveiling the commemorative plaque



Marcelline and Jean-Jacques Béliveau surrounded by local countrywomen in the Lambraspuquio Manzanayoc area.

bottle of sparkling wine. Following the ceremony, we were invited to share a typical Peruvian meal.

The community, which is nestled in the heart of the Andes, is particularly disadvantaged because it is very far from major centers and without adequate roads to promote trade.



Thanks to clean running water, this Manzanayoc family has a more promising future.

In his speech, Mr. Franche encouraged the population to pressure the regional governments for better roads, an important factor for improving the quality of life. Currently, school children are "exiled" in a neighbouring village on weekdays, where they go to school.

With a little help, the Manzanayoc school could reopen eventually. With that expectation in mind, *Wings of Hope* recently built toilets adjoining the old abandoned school.

On the following days, we visited Ayacucho and the surrounding region with our nieces before they returned to Quebec. We then went to Cuzco and its Sacred Valley before joining Mr. Franche and Pierre again in Lima to go all together to Barranca on the Pacific coast where we visited more rural communities waiting for help from *Wings of Hope* as well as past projects that are now completed.

Working side by side with Mr. Franche, an indefatigable man, we witnessed his undeniable qualities as an organizer and an administrator. Having seen with our own eyes the destitution of populations who are still waiting for clean water, after having witnessed their goodwill in wanting to improve their lot, we will certainly continue to bring our support in all humility.

Thank you to Mr. Franche and *Wings of Hope* for being the link between the Peruvians and us.

Marcelline Béliveau

Connection restored in Santo Domingo

Thanks to donations from *Roncalli international Foundation* and Mrs. Lyne Francoeur, we were able to bring our support to the Santo Domingo community and restore their drinking water system.

Last March and April, avalanches of water and mud called *huaicos* tore apart pipes on a two kilometer stretch of the water main, thereby interrupting the service.

After the reconstruction of the duct, women were relieved to have running water in their homes again. In the meantime, the community took the decision to **relocate the village** on a sandy terrain at the foot of the mountain to insure its safety from future floods.

The families that were more deeply affected by the *huaicos* already live in temporary shelters in the new location.

An extension was added to the water main to bring drinking water to the entrance of the new village, called **Santo Domingo Alto**, and a reservoir was built to provide water supply.

Thank you so much for supporting them through your donations.



The entire community took part in the reconstruction of the water main.



Water arriving in the new village.

Thank you, Mr Dubois



Paul-Émile Dubois during his first mass in Drummondville in 1952

Father Paul-Émile Dubois first came to Peru with me in 1978 and saw how the lack of access to clean water trapped thousands of Peruvian families in extreme poverty. From then on, he had made access to drinking water his **cause of choice**.

But beginning in the year 2000, he favored using **charity life annuity** as a means to support our cause. He subscribed a dozen annuity contracts with *Wings of Hope* and, through his gesture, Mr. Dubois contributed to several projects and allowed many Peruvian families to have access to drinking water. In addition, it provided him with a **fixed income for life, income tax free**, while freeing him from all the hassles of managing his investments.

As a sign of gratitude, my wife and I were present at his funeral on September 8, in Nicolet.



Thanks to Mr. Dubois' generosity, Gabriela and hundreds of other women now have access to drinking water.

André Franche

A TRIBUTE TO CLAUDE GAGNON

A friend of the jungle communities

At the beginning of the 1990's, Claude managed to save *Wings of Hope* and gave it a fresh start. Today, the organization sails smoothly.

During his many trips, Claude had countless conversations with natives and local leaders. Hundreds of hours of listening enabled him to better understand their aspirations, their needs, their problems, their hopes and their attachment to their culture and their region.

As President of *Wings of Hope*, he was able to provide the required support for improving education, health, agriculture and livestock farming in areas that are difficult to access. He also contributed to the first drinking water project in Tangoshiari. Since then, *Wings of Hope* has mainly focused its actions on this kind of projects. As a result, the well-being and health of these communities has greatly improved.

Claude deeply loved this endearing nation with whom he developed a



Claude Gagnon with two students in Tangoshiari, Amazonia

long-lasting relationship. Through the various projects he led, he demonstrated his leadership qualities and earned the natives' respect.

Claude can be proud of the work he accomplished. **He leaves a lasting memory.**

Gilles Provost

Member of the Wings of Hope Corporation

2016-2017 Annual Report

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, our income totaled \$1,220,935.

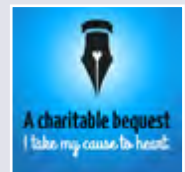
In addition to donations from individuals and organizations, this amount includes deposits of \$372,126 in endowment funds, including \$306,188 received on September 16, 2016, and the capital needed to create life annuities (\$50,300). Also included is the interest earned from endowment funds and life annuity funds (\$284,744).

With regards to expenses,

- \$550,512 were transferred to Peru to support projects.
- 9,28 % of our income was used for fundraising and administration.

Once again, we thank you sincerely for your continued support.

P.S. A more detailed financial report is available in French on our website at www.alesdelesperance.org under L'Organisme.



The Unini river Asheninkas rejoice



Padre Rosendo blessing the water. A cement sink like this one was built for each of the 130 families.

Last July 16, three members of the *Peru Fund* group and myself were very happy to participate in the celebration of the official arrival of clean water in every home of three Unini River communities.

These three communities had joined forces to prepare for a **great celebration of water**. Pride was palpable among the natives, the fruit of the **enormous task** that they had accomplished. Indeed, the length of the gravity induced water main exceeds 10 km from the site of capture, which was built in a remote and not easily accessible location. This project, built by and for the communities of Cascada Unini, Diamante Azul and José Olaya, is a true example of **sustainable community water management**. We thank you for your support.



Ashéninkas played music all day long

