



Newsletter



Drinking water, a right for everyone



We are very proud to announce that actor, director and television host **Guy Richer has accepted to become Spokesperson** for *Wings of Hope* and for the cause of access to drinking water in the remote rural communities of Peru.

Loved by the public, the multitasking artist with a warm voice moves easily from lighter to more serious matter. He has also expressed his love of the French language in several magazine articles and through commentaries on the radio.

Another one of his passions is travel, as he loves meeting people and learning about their culture. He has directed and hosted many travel shows on *Canal Évasion* and TVA. As an actor, Guy Richer has had a much diversified career in cinema and famous television series. In the *Trudeau* series, broadcasted on CBC, he played the role of Jean Chrétien in English. He also personified dozens of public personalities on *Rira Bien* on TVA, for which he won a Gémeau* for best

actor in a comedy series. He has also hosted informative programs, service programs, game shows, cultural magazines and galas.

We are extremely grateful for Mr. Richer's commitment and wish to thank him on behalf of our Peruvian friends.

Annick Delestre

**The now defunct French Gemini prize for Canadian television.*

A few words from Guy Richer

"Dear donors,

I have had the great pleasure of visiting Peru and discovering its warm and resilient people. Like you, I've been moved by the difficult living conditions of some 7 million Peruvians who don't have access to drinking water, which is an aberration in the 21st century!

What motivated me to get involved in this cause was seeing these people take their future into their own hands. They don't just sit there with their arms crossed, waiting to receive money. To

see all these men, women and children join their efforts

to bring drinking water to their remote communities is a great example of solidarity and dignity.

Your financial support for their efforts will ensure that lives will be saved, debilitating diseases will be limited, and many young people will be able to hope for a better life to end the infernal circle of poverty.

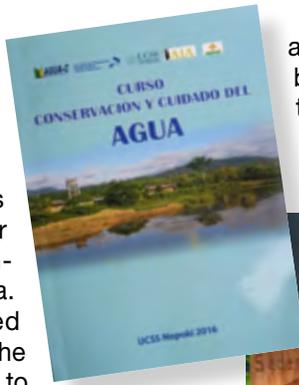
Your gesture brings hope because **water is life**".



To tell you more about the cause of drinking water he feels so strongly about, Guy Richer created a fantastic video with his son Antoine which we are encouraging you to watch our web site at ailesdelesperance.org

A new course on water preservation

The 390 students of the *Nopoki University Center* in Atalaya were divided into three groups for an entirely new course on water preservation in Amazonia. The course was given by two Peruvian water specialists, Andrés Alencastre and Fanel Guevara. A Nopoki teacher called Darinka Pacaya took on the role of course coordinator to ensure the proper development and implementation of the new course. As a prelude to the course, each of the nine ethnic groups attending had to explain what water means to their own culture. Darinka compiled all the information in each language and in Spanish in a notebook that was then distributed to each participant. In the future, most of these students will become teachers in the indigenous schools of the Amazon rainforest.



We are extremely happy about this new course because it will have a **long term impact** on the lives of *nativos* (natives) in the region. Several members

of the drinking water committees in the villages surrounding Atalaya also attended the class. These communities have expressed deep concern over the increasing contamination of the Amazon waters.



Darinka Pacaya, Coordinator.



Students interacted throughout the course and all of them received the 120-page course booklet.

Libro Azul del Perú

Last October 21st, Peru's *Libro Azul* (Blue Book) was launched in Lima. This *Blue Book* is the result of a large public consultation under the auspices of the *International Secretariat for Water* and of the *Ministry of Vivienda, Construcción y Saneamiento* of Peru. Several bodies of the Peruvian government, as well as

representatives from non-profit organizations (NGOs) and civil society, participated in the process for a more efficient and sustainable water management in Peru.



Estefa Quispe from Cuchoquesera has proudly participated in the launch of Libro Azul.



Vladimir Arana of the International Secretariat for Water

Wings of Hope and its Peruvian partner *Alas de Esperanza Perú* are stakeholders in this project and happy to have made it possible.

The *Libro Azul del Perú* Committee monitors and implements the recommendations contained in this new tool to improve water management. It is expected that the Ministry of Education of Peru will use *Libro Azul* in schools and universities.

45 years already

On Sunday, November 20, 2016, *Wings of Hope (Québec) Inc.* held its **45th Annual General Assembly** at **MOCHICA's**, Martin Oré's Peruvian restaurant on Saint-Denis Street.

After the AGM, in which active members of the corporation took part, representatives of partner organizations joined us for a delicious brunch of fine Peruvian cuisine. We were particularly pleased that **Mr. Jean-Guy Couture**, one of the six founding members, honoured us with his presence. He was moved and overwhelmed by the vitality of the organization he had helped to set up in 1971.



Jean-Guy Couture, founding member, and André Franche

Inauguration in Yanashi

On February 11, 2017, I boarded a speed boat in Iquitos to go to Yanashi with the Director of *Water Mission* in Peru, Juan Simon. As soon as we got off the boat, we were warmly welcomed by the villagers who number around 1,600. The drinking water system was being inaugurated and officially handed over to the community by *Water Mission*, the organization *Wings of Hope* had contracted out to execute the project.



One 20 liter container with tap

In order to ensure greater viability for the project, it had to be redefined. The one we had initially completed in 2003 suffered a lot of damage because of exceptional floods over the past few years. In this new project, the water pump and the filtration system are powered by solar energy. The water is distributed to the homes by the operator using 20 liter containers equipped with



The whole system is activated by solar energy

a tap. The users pay half a sol (\$0.22 Can) upon reception. The drinking water committee received thorough training and is now responsible for the proper functioning of the drinking water system.

André Franche

In memory de Mariposa

When in 1998 Marie-Paule Sarrazin went to Peru as a volunteer, she immediately felt a bond with the Peruvian people and that bond never waned. The patients at the *Hogar San Pedro* had nicknamed her *Mariposa*, which means butterfly. In 2000, Marie-Paule became a member of *Wings of Hope*, a position she kept until she passed away in February 2016.

Wanting to prolong her collaboration with the organization, she had taken care of including a donation in her will. Her daughters Marie-Andrée and Brigitte diligently gave the donation to *Wings of Hope*. In her honour, the drinking water



project of the three indigenous communities of the Unini River will be inaugurated on July 16 in memory of *Mariposa*.

The memory of this amazing woman who always remained young at heart and in spirit is still alive in our organization and the sound of her contagious laughter continues to ring in our ears.

André Franche



Unini : the project is nearly complete



The Reservoir of the Village of José Olaya

The completion of the drinking water project for the three communities of the Unini River is coming to an end. The workers are just finishing the construction of the 3rd tank and washbasins. Work is scheduled to be completed in April 2017, but the incessant rain may slow down the process. The piping is now firmly suspended over the Machintoni River to reach José-Olaya, the third village.

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