

FOUNDATION Board of Directors

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Henry J. Koornneef	<i>Executive Director</i>

The planned giving program is a visionary step that benefits our schools and its supporters. As partners in giving, your gift is invested. The income earned from the investments is given back to the Christian Schools.

If you would like to hear more about the Foundation, we would be happy to make a presentation to your interest group. Don't hesitate to give us a call!

Thank you to the many people who have arranged a planned gift. Your legacy in stewardship is a continued blessing to a Christ-centred education.

For more information on how you can leave a legacy to your school, please contact the Foundation's Executive Director or speak with your professional advisor(s).

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Our New Logo

Executive Director's Report

By Henry J. Koornneef

Well actually, it's our first official logo. For the past 4 years our full name (Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools) has doubled as our logo. However, I am pleased to present two versions of our new logo created by Sandra VanGeest (SDCH graduate - class of '92). In most instances you will see the logo version showing the full legal name of the Foundation (below right). The version that includes only the acronym (below left) was developed primarily for use on lapel pins that will be available in the very near future.



Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools

A logo shouldn't just be eye-catching, it should also be meaningful. The following explanation was provided to accompany our new logo: "Partharon type structure is often used as a symbol of finance. The columns of the Partharon symbolize strength. In Greek architecture there are 3 styles of column, Doric, Ionic and Corinthian. Ionic and Corinthian columns tend to be fancier, the capitols being decorated with leaves (Corinthian) and scrolls (Ionic). The Doric column, the most basic column, is the most sturdy and its top (capitol) is plain. The Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools is not about being "fancy". It is a foundation built to help strengthen the future of Christian education for the generations to come. Christ is the strength, the focus and foundation that we as Christians choose to define our every day living and that is the "added value" we hope to pass on to our children through Christian education."

VandenDool Jewellers in St. Catharines has offered to order and donate a quantity of the promotional pins. They will, in turn, be made available at no cost to Friends of the Foundation who would be willing to wear them and by doing so, hopefully create opportunities for sharing in the vision of 'striving to keep Christian education affordable'. Please call or email me if you would like to receive one of these lapel pins.



Several new donations have been received in recent months. These donation amounts will be recorded in the October issue of this newsletter at which time the complete Endowment Fund Report will again be included. The next issue will also note the more than \$7,000 that will have been gifted to our member schools at their annual membership meetings this spring.

Presenting Nancy Vandenberg, Smithville District Christian High School Board Chair, with a cheque at the SDCH Spring Membership meeting on April 26, 2004.



Foundation
for Niagara
Christian Schools

LINK
Legacy

Spring 2004

"Walk the Talk"

Association for
Christian Education
of St. Catharines
(Beacon Christian
Schools)

- but don't forget to "talk the walk"

By Gerry Ebbers

They put a dollar each week in a jar for the church and another dollar in a jar for the Christian school. They fulfilled their commitments to the church and school before they bought a bigger house or a newer car or took a vacation. They worked together to build the churches and schools we now take for granted. They experienced God's blessing and it sunk deep into their souls giving them a foundation on which to live.

Dunnville
Christian School

Who are "they"? They are the first generation, our parents and grandparents, who built our Christian schools. Most of us know them personally. They "walked the talk" as the expression goes. They didn't just believe that God was with them and then do nothing. They trusted, they worked, and God blessed.

Niagara Association
for Christian Education
(Covenant/John Knox
Campuses)

Smithville District
Christian High School

Their faith was strong and deep, and so important to them that to talk about it seemed to trivialize it. It could so easily be mistaken for pride. So they didn't "talk the walk." Something as profound as their partnership with God was difficult to express in words, especially when their first language English was not and their church experience did not provide opportunities for sharing their faith openly.

Wellandport
Christian School

*"to enable our
children to grow,
in the love of our
Lord Jesus Christ,
in the knowledge
of the Father's
world and in the
love of others"*

**They trusted,
they worked,
and God
blessed.**

Henry J. Koornneef
Executive Director

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Unfortunately, we, their children and grandchildren, are poorer spiritually for it. We saw the "walk," but without the "talk" we didn't really understand it. But it is not too late! Ask your parents and grandparents and other seniors in your church and school community to tell you about their commitment to stewardship, to putting God first, to experiencing the blessing of giving, and you will hear amazing stories of faith. Compare their situation to yours and do a reality check: are you living as stewardly as they did? Are you experiencing the incredible blessing that God has promised to those who put Him first? All earthly things will pass; only what is done for Christ will last. Does that truth determine how you live? How you give?

The above is a recap of the speech Gerry gave at last November's promotional dinner held at Covenant Christian School in Smithville.

“Because You Asked...”

By John Kikkert, Board Chairman

Research from Christian Stewardship Services shows that only 15% of people have charitable bequests in their wills...but 42% would if they were asked. For the past four and a half years, the Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools has been actively promoting planned giving on behalf of our member schools. A good portion of our work has focused on educating Christian school supporters about the many options available to them. I trust that most supporters now have a fairly good understanding of the various planned giving tools available to them. When our supporters make good use of these tools, it enables the Foundation to “strive to keep Christian education affordable”.

Our focus is now changing to a more proactive approach to seeking planned giving commitments for the benefit of our member schools. We plan on making contact with a greater number of supporters in the next year and we trust that you will allow us to share our enthusiasm with you. Consider this your personal invitation to participate. The schools genuinely need you to consider leaving a bequest in your will, to consider purchasing a Charitable Gift Annuity with the Foundation named as beneficiary, to put some capital to work through a Revocable Deposit Agreement, to consider naming the Foundation as beneficiary of registered funds or appreciated securities, to name a few.

Together our actions can and will have a tremendous impact on Christian education now... and for the next generation. Praise God!



Three words that speak volumes!

In the picture to the left are Kevin Tiersma (left) and D.J. Wassenaar (right), who volunteered to change the message on the SDCH sign each week for the current school year.

The Foundation at work!

Jim DeKlerk (on right), Board Chairman at Dunnville Christian School, receiving a Foundation disbursement cheque from Henry Koornneef at the DCS Spring Membership meeting on April 19, 2004



Planned Giving

Small but strategic decision for advancing the Kingdom

By Albert J. Bakker J.D. Q.C.

The historic right to decide what happens to your possessions on your death is a special privilege that is often ignored or minimized. “I don’t care what happens when I die”, “I will leave that for my children to sort out”, “I won’t be there to worry about it”, “I don’t have very much.”

Often, the only way we as advisors can get people to think about all the things that they can do, and the responsibility they have, with their estate is to frighten them with the consequences of not deciding. Decisions made about one’s estate after death are broadly referred to as Planned Giving, and can entail a wide range of options - wills, life insurance, RRSP & RRIF beneficiary designation and gift annuities are just some of the vehicles that people can consider.

As Christians involved in financial planning, we try to have our clients imagine what their estate could do in expanding the role of Christ in the lives of others. A simple decision, such as leaving a bequest for your local school with the Foundation, could have a major impact on the programs at your local school or be a source of strong encouragement to the leadership of the school.

Albert J. Bakker J.D. Q.C. practices law in St. Catharines

“Question & Answer” Series

I would like to thank our member schools for including the “Did You Know...” series of articles in their respective newsletters for the past two school years. I hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I’ve enjoyed writing them.

By September I hope to launch a “Question & Answer” series and would appreciate some input from our readers. I believe there are still many more good questions to be answered - about planned giving or about the Foundation in general. Call or email me today. HJK

Advance Notice - Benefit Concert

The Mountainview Music Performance Committee is planning a benefit concert for the



Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools



on Saturday, October 23, 2004 at the Grimsby CRC

The Niagara Chapel Singers, an 80 voice mixed choir with Joyce Rempel as Conductor will be performing - accompaniment by Andre Knevel.

All net proceeds will be gifted to our member schools to supplement their tuition assistance program.

Show your support and plan to attend - tickets will be available through our member schools and the Foundation office in the fall. Sponsor inquiries are also welcome - 100% of sponsor proceeds will be included in event net proceeds.

REPLY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

I would like to learn more about making a planned gift for my local Christian school(s).

I would like to learn more about the series of funds developed by the Foundation (e.g.. Tuition assistance, Capital, Technology, Alumni, Donor Advised and/or Named Funds).

I would like to make an endowed gift now:

for a specific school(s)

for the Foundation’s Endowment Fund: to benefit all the member schools.

PLEASE COMPLETE FORM BELOW:

I (We) hereby give to the Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools under specific instruction that this gift of

\$ _____

or any property substituted therefore, be held by the Foundation for a period of (10 years or more).

Signature _____

Name of Donor _____

Date _____

Please make cheques payable to the Foundation for Niagara Christian Schools.