

Annual Report 2008

Celebrating our achievements in 2008:

- Nature Child Reunion initiative strengthens significantly in BC and beyond with support from many organizations and individuals and extensive media coverage
- Rainwater storage tanks are constructed with partner organization Ereto Maasai Youth thanks to funding from individual donors and a grant from UNDP Tanzania
- Volunteers support the Kesho Trust's Africa initiatives
- New advisory Committee members are named
- New partnerships in Africa are developing
- Ecotourism assessment conducted in Zambia with West Lunga Trust

President's Message

In this our 5th year we are encouraged by the increasing interest in our initiatives. We are particularly encouraged by the energy and enthusiasm of the Nature Child Reunion conversation and the great strides being taken in our water project in Tanzania with our Maasai partners. The vision of communities thriving alongside protected areas that are conserving cultures and educating the public about the web-of-life is compelling and drives our work.

We have taken a number of important steps forward this year and this report highlights

some of these. We have produced a number of regular newsletters over the year and maintained our website as the interest continues to grow.

Our goal in the upcoming year is to solidify the child-nature connection in British Columbia, and to begin the process of moving that conversation across Canada. In Africa, we are keen to build on the work with our key partners Ereto Maasai Youth and the West Lunga Trust but we are also keen to build new partnerships that have great potential for expanding our work.

We thank everyone who supports us and believes in our vision.

Bob Peart



Our Guiding Principles

Our Vision

A world where protected areas are thriving and achieving the objectives they were established to achieve alongside communities that are healthy and strong and living in harmony with their environment.

Mandate

- To protect and preserve the natural environment in protected areas.
- To strengthen communities and build the capacity of community based organizations through development and education programs that sustain and benefit from environmental conservation.

To achieve this mandate we:

- Promote and facilitate positive community development activity compatible with conservation and which allows communities to benefit more fully and directly from their neighbouring important conservation lands.
- Develop partnerships with local community organizations who share our values and goals.
- Help such organizations formulate appropriate development and education strategies and learn the skills necessary to implement them.
- Adhere to the values of community based environmental conservation.
- Help to build stronger and mutually beneficial relationships

between protected areas and local communities.

Guiding Principles

The Kesho Trust will facilitate and support community led activities that foster positive relationships between conservation and local communities. These community led activities are expected to be direct conservation measures or processes, sustainable community livelihood initiatives or environmental education and awareness programs or practices. Regardless of the form and type of community activity, the Kesho Trust will always seek to affirm that any activity it lends support to will contribute to conservation.

Highlights of 2008



Photo: Kelly Mari

Nature Child Reunion — Building the Foundation

In the past 20-30 years, without most of us realizing what was happening, lifestyle changes have accumulated with powerful, pervasive and sometimes detrimental effects on children. Children are becoming less and less connected to the natural world with 80% of them being raised in urban settings and 90% of their time being spent indoors. The implication of this reality for their physical, mental and social health is immense.

A focus throughout 2008 was to strengthen our internal capacity to provide the necessary leadership for building strong

outside support from the provincial government, key organizations and individuals involved with health, environment and education related programming for our Nature Child Reunion initiative. The positive feedback and encouragement was more than could be expected. A strong network now exists of people who believe in the cause and are champions within their own organizations and with their professional colleagues.

To make a difference in British Columbia, we need to determine how to better facilitate opportunities for children and

families to enjoy nature and to cultivate a care for community while nourishing a reconnection to the outdoors. To achieve this goal it was decided that The Kesho Trust should lead a conversation about forming a provincial Alliance on Children and Nature, and to chair a committee to host BC's 2nd Regional Children, Families and Nature Forum in March 2009. Each of these initiatives is now well underway - the Forum planning is complete and the Alliance will be formally announced in association with the March Forum.

**“We need nearby
nature
everywhere,
especially in the
most urban
neighbourhoods.”**

Nature Child Reunion — Spreading the Word

To be successful it is essential to 'spread the word'. To this end we have been active speaking throughout British Columbia. In addition we were invited to speak about our strategic approach to nature child reunion programming in neighbouring Alberta and Alaska.

Our effort and strong support for Richard Louv's US-based

Children and Nature Network resulted in Bob Peart being appointed as Senior Associate to the C&NN Board.

There have been numerous media interviews across Canada. We have also provided the Canadian leadership to a strategic conversation about taking the cause nature and children across the country and forming

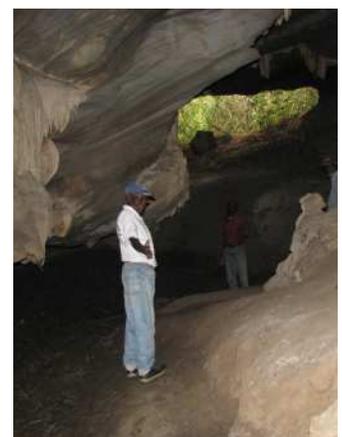
a national association, that parallels the effort of the Children and Nature Network.



West Lunga Trust—Ecotourism Assessment

Our partner the West Lunga Trust has been working with local communities to rebuild a conservation ethic in the West Lunga National Park and surrounding Game Management Areas as part of a community development and economic improvement effort. Part of their plans for the area have included the development of ecotourism which would improve economic opportunities and bring more international profile to the area.

This year the Kesho Trust has been able to assist with this effort through the work of a Canadian volunteer. In October, Brent Liddle, traveled to Zambia to conduct an assessment of the area's ecotourism potential. Brent's assessment will provide helpful direction for the West Lunga Trust on how to begin such development in cooperation with the community. The Kesho Trust will continue to support this work in 2009.



Highlights of 2008

Canada — Ghana — Tanzania Research Consortium

In late 2007, the Kesho Trust was invited to participate in a research consortium involving a three country study of the relationship between protected areas and local communities. The lead researchers in the consortium are Dr. Grant Murray and Dr. Rick Rollins from Vancouver Island University.

The International Community — University Research Alliance program was the targeted funding program. In early 2008, our consortium was selected to

develop a full proposal on the basis of our initial concept paper.

Workshops were held in all three participating countries. Davis Lumala of the Kesho Trust in Tanzania attended the workshop in Moshi, Tanzania in May. The group also visited a research site in Saadani National Park where partnership with Saadani Park Lodge will support the research program. Subsequently, Bruce Downie, Director of the Kesho Trust attended the Canadian work-

shop in July in Tofino.

The workshops developed the research focus, identified the research outcomes and explored the roles of all the partners. Through these workshops the participants explored their common interests and the opportunities for collaboration.

In October, our proposal was finally submitted with a decision for funding anticipated in early 2009.



Ereto Maasai Youth — Rainwater Harvesting and Storage

Our community meeting in Kibirashi attracted one hundred local Maasai, interested in the status of the proposed water project. Emmanuel Ole Kileli, Chair of EMAYO and Bruce Downie, Director of the Kesho Trust led the meeting and heard stories of need and people's enthusiasm for EMAYO's efforts to develop the project and the positive impact it would bring to the community.

Lorraine Wapling, a Kesho Trust Advisory Committee member, also attended the meeting and discussed disability issues.

In March, UNDP staff visited Kibirashi in response to our joint funding proposal. Funding was approved in August.

The Kesho Trust led a planning workshop in July in Dar es Salaam to assist EMAYO staff in clarifying their roles and re-

sponsibilities and to develop a work plan. Project activity began in September with a study tour to a similar project in Kenya supported by Rotary International from where EMAYO staff were provide technical support and training.

Construction of water tanks in Kibirashi began in November and will continue in 2009.

“When local sources are unavailable during the dry season, the women and children walk 16 km to get water.”

New Partnerships in Tanzania

Two new partnerships have developed in 2008. Saadani Lodge is committed to ecological sustainability and to community empowerment and have created the Sana Trust to provide a focus for their work. They are keen to partner with the Kesho Trust and plans are being developed to achieve our common aims in 2009.

Similarly discussions have begun with the International Centre for Sustainable Cities

[ICSC]. Based in Vancouver, this organization has developed a network of cities around the globe that are seeking ways to use resources more efficiently and address issues such as climate change in an effort to improve planning capability and capacity with a focus on global change. The Kesho Trust has worked together with ICSC to develop an action research proposal for climate change challenges in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. In addition, the two

organizations have proposed a partnership in the second phase of ICSC's capacity building work in Dar es Salaam which focuses on sustainable community development.

Such new partnerships are exciting developments for the Kesho Trust as we develop relationships with like minded organizations and share our energies and expertise towards common goals.





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Financial Report

The Kesho Trust was incorporated as a society in 2005 in British Columbia, Canada and was registered as an International NGO in Tanzania in 2006.

In Canada our major emphasis currently is the development of the Nature Child Reunion initiative. The support of our major donors and partner organizations have been particularly crucial in the initial stages of program development.

In Africa, the Mulago Foundation through the Rainer Arnhold Fellowship Program was instrumental in our early program development along with contributions from individual donors. In 2008, the strong interest from individual donors has been supported by funds from UNDP Tanzania which are being managed by our partner organization, Ereto Maasai Youth.

A summary of our 2008 statement of accounts is provided here. Our Financial Statements are prepared by Ounsted and Co. of Victoria, BC.

Summary of Financial Statements Fiscal year 2007 / 2008		
Consolidated Balance Sheet		
	2008	2007
Assets		
Current assets	\$11,707	\$5,481
Investments [trust fund]	\$3,959	\$3,819
<u>Accounts receivable</u>	<u>\$566</u>	<u>\$660</u>
Total assets	\$16,232	\$9,960
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	\$800	\$800
<u>Long term debts</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total liabilities	\$800	\$800
Consolidated Statement of Operations		
	2008	2007
Revenue		
Donations	\$13,319	\$18,917
Grants	\$29,440	\$64,882
<u>Other income</u>	<u>\$6</u>	<u>\$207</u>
Total revenue	\$42,765	\$84,006
Expenses		
Program delivery	\$34,025	\$74,597
<u>Administration</u>	<u>\$2,468</u>	<u>\$4,948</u>
Total operating expenses	\$36,493	\$79,545
Excess of revenues over expenditures for the year	\$6,272	\$4,461

Many Thanks to Our Donors and Supporters

The Kesho Trust appreciates the growing interest and financial support that we have received from individuals and organizations during the past year. The contributions have been varied, including individual financial donations, commitments of time and the financial contributions from organizations and foundations.

Our trust fund is slowly building with the goal of eventually being able to support the work of the Kesho Trust and its partner organizations.

Our thanks go to:

Individual donors:

Veronica Bak
Marni Bramadat
Jack Christie
Bruce Downie
Margaret Downie
Paul Downie & Andrea Philp
Jane Henderson
William Kyle
Brent Liddle & Wenda Lythgoe
Bob Peart
Suzanne Simard
Monique Simard
Audrey Woodward

Kesho Trust Volunteers:

Brent Liddle
Jennifer Trapnell
Mark Miller
Lorraine Wapling



Organizational supporters on specific projects:

McConnell Foundation
Mountain Equipment Coop
Royal Roads University
University of Victoria
Govt. of British Columbia
Capital Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
Children & Nature Network