

Associates of MSF Holland in Canada

Update January 24, 1990

The group, Associates of MSF Holland in Canada, has been working for the past year to inform doctors, nurses and others about MSF. There has been significant interest amongst health practitioners to participate and over one hundred individuals have been contributing to the growth of MSF in Canada. In June, Richard Heinzl and Bill Graham were in Europe to forge links with MSF. Some minimal press coverage and fundraising has occurred and Canadians will be leaving shortly to work abroad.

Strategic Plan

The Associates of MSF Holland hope to eventually launch MSF Canada. MSF Canada will satisfy the MSF mission objective and be fully approved by Europe. It will operate in a co-operative fashion and will grow with a spirit that will allow it to become strong both nationally in Canada and internationally in the developed and developing worlds.

Recently, there has been a new recognition of the Associates of MSF Holland amongst the other MSF organizations. There is a tentative agreement that the Canadians proceed and consideration is to be given to naming the organization Associates of MSF Europe.

The Associates of MSF Holland will continue to recruit for MSF Holland to secure the necessary infrastructure and experience to launch a successful new MSF organization. For this reason, full activation probably remains a year away. Also, we are looking forward to the possibility of working more closely with the other MSF organizations.

Our organization is currently based in Toronto. The lay members in Canada are Miles Druckman, M.D., James Orbinski, M.D., Peter Dalglish, James R. Lane, Robert Pattillo, Marilyn McHarg, R.N., Vincent LaCroix, M.D., Bill Graham as Chairperson and Richard Heinzl, M.D. as Executive Director.

Current Activities

1. A press release from Holland will clarify MSF's position in Sudan. The release will be issued by Richard Heinzl and commented on by Peter Dalglish. Jacques and Richard will comment to the media during his visit in March. Press coverage will be co-ordinated by Richard. (Examples of press releases from MSF would be greatly appreciated!)
2. Marilyn McHarg, an R.N. helping to found MSF in Canada, will arrive in Amsterdam on the morning of February 19. She then travels to Nairobi where, for the next five months, she will travel to and work in different health care projects in Africa. She will visit MSF sites in Eastern Africa. In the fall of 1990, she will return to Toronto to help build MSF in Canada.

3. Jacques de Milliano will travel to Boston on February 28. On March 1, the AIDS film "Karate Kids" will be reviewed at a Cambridge showing with Derek Lamb (Director) and Peter Dalglish in attendance. Jacques will be the guest of Richard Heinzl (8A Sacramento St., Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02138-1813; 617-864-7037; fax at Harvard School of Public Health 617-734-8869, attention Dr. R. Heinzl, student). On March 2 at 12:30 - 1:30, Jacques will speak (and possibly show slides) about MSF to Harvard students and faculty. At 4:00 p.m., the "Karate Kids" will be shown and a reception for Jacques and Peter will follow. On March 6, Jacques (and possibly Richard) will be in Ottawa to speak with CIDA officials. On March 7, Jacques will be in Montreal and will thereafter return to Holland.

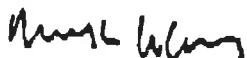
(It would be very helpful if Jacques could bring copies of slides of MSF activities for the Canadians to use during our presentations in Canada - thanks!)

4. Richard Heinzl will travel to Mozambique from March 23 until April 15 (approximately) to observe and work with the various MSF projects. Richard and Jos Nolce will meet extensively about MSF Canada (see #6). Richard will finish his Masters in Public Health degree at Harvard in May of 1990. Thereafter, he will work full time, during the summer months, to continue to found MSF Canada. He will be based initially at 56 The Esplanade, Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario, M5E 1A7. If possible, during the summer he will work abroad again with MSF. Depending on how events unfold, in the fall of 1990 he will continue to build MSF Canada while completing his final academic year. In the spring of 1991, he will commence directing MSF Canada on a permanent full time basis.
5. We look forward to the possibility of Irma Bolster coming to Canada to interview applicants in late June.
6. The Associates of MSF Holland in Canada are delighted about Jos Nolce's interest in and hopeful participation with MSF Canada. We know that his support and experience will be invaluable to us. He will be in Canada in June to meet the Canadian group and prior to that he will meet with Richard in Mozambique. We are very enthusiastic about the possibility of his coming to Canada for a longer term in the fall of 1990 to help create MSF Canada. Welcome Jos!

Many thanks to everyone at MSF Holland for the continued support!

We have a world to work on.

Yours sincerely,



Marilyn McHarg, R.N.



Richard Heinzl, M.D.