



Karen Leung working with a fellow therapist to help a young girl.

April 2019 eNews

April 25, 2019

Greetings!

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to all who were able to attend our 29th Anniversary on April 7 for making the celebration a success. Your support and loyalty to A Better World has seen communities and lives transformed for 29 years. None of our work would be possible without you.

Soon the celebrations will continue as we travel to Afghanistan at the end of this week to commemorate the completion of the 100 Classrooms Project. After wrapping things up in Afghanistan, I will be continuing on to Kenya and Rwanda where A Better World has partnered with Burman University to conduct research which we hope will determine the impact of our work on the communities there.

I am also happy to announce that two new members have been appointed to our Board of Directors, both of whom you can read about below. As we welcome our new Board members, Dr. Kelvin Hill has decided to step down from his seat to focus on his leadership of the A Better World Dental Program. Thank you, Dr. Hill, for your many years of service and leadership on the Board.

Sincerely,

Eric Rajah
Co-Founder and Executive Director

Inspiring New Developments

Board Appoints New Members



Gord Bontje is a Founding Partner of Laebon Homes in Red Deer, Alberta, who has been a major supporter of A Better World since 1999. He has sponsored A Better World projects across the world including the [Sekenani](#) and [Gilgil Primary Schools](#) and, since 2006, has traveled to project sites across Eastern Africa. Gord has a passion for education and development and his generosity has seen countless lives improved. We are excited and proud to welcome a dedicated humanitarian to our Board of Directors.



Julie Lapointe (right) has been inspiring support for A Better World projects since 2006 while she was still in high school. As a student, she collected the funds to build classrooms and toilets for the [Kiprengwe Primary School](#) in Kenya and since then, she has been a dedicated supporter and volunteer of A Better World. Julie is now a teacher at Ponoka Secondary Campus where she has instilled her energy and passion for improving lives in her students with whom she continues to support projects. We are honored to have a place for Julie's initiative and passion on our Board of Directors.

To learn more about Gord, Julie, or our Board of Directors, follow the link [here](#).



Celebratory Trip To Afghanistan

On April 25, Eric will be travelling to Afghanistan with [Dr. Azalea Lehndorff](#) and on-the-ground project manager Javid Noori to pass on the oversight of the 100 Classrooms Project to the Government of Afghanistan's Minister of Education. Official opening celebrations will be held afterward in the community. Thank you to all of our supporters and partners who have seen this immense project completed. We are especially grateful to [Dr. Lehndorff](#) for her extraordinary vision as well as to Javid Noori for his dedication to the project. Thank you for your continued support of A Better World and projects like the 100 Classrooms. You can learn more about this project [here](#).



ABW Names 2018 Citizen of the Year

On April 7, A Better World hosted its 29th Anniversary Celebration. The event was attended by over 200 supporters and friends and highlighted the recent completion of the 100 Classrooms Project through a powerful testimony given by keynote speaker Gail Misek. At the end of the event, A Better World was honored to present its Citizen of the Year award to Julie Lapointe who has also accepted a place on the Board of Directors. We are especially grateful to Gail Misek and all of the presenters for their passion and participation. For further reading and photos from the event, click [here](#).

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