



2015 REPORT

**HANDICAP  
INTERNATIONAL  
CANADIAN  
CHAPTER**

**HANDICAP  
INTERNATIONAL**



# HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL CANADA

**PHOTO:**  
HANDICAP  
INTERNATIONAL'S  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AT THE MONTREAL  
HEADQUARTERS  
ON JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2016



It is never easy to comment a year that has been over for quite a while, but, nevertheless, it is an opportunity to look back on continuous events where - especially in our sector of international aid - news keeps rolling in and, unfortunately, humanitarian crises are multiplying and worsening.

Since 2014, Handicap International Canada has worked relentlessly on restructuring measures to adapt the organization to national and international challenges facing us. We have been also preparing to implement the 2016-2025 strategy for our global organization, the Handicap International Federation, which is active in approximately sixty countries, in development or crisis contexts.

Poverty, conflict, climate change, refugee crises, inequality, discrimination, rejection of differences and introversion around the world are situations that the most fragile populations encounter head-on; and they're only getting worse.

Here in Canada, generosity is real and precious; it is essential for carrying out our mission in the field. But with so many causes to support and so many battles to lead, it is sometimes difficult to engage individuals, companies and foundations to match the extent of the needs of those living in the world's least fortunate countries. Among them, disabled and vulnerable people face even more challenges to be included in their communities' development.

In the hopes of responding to this situation with increasing success, we imagined what Handicap International would be—what it would need to be—in the next ten years. 2015 allowed us to refine our strategy so we could align ourselves to put inclusion of disabled people and the most vulnerable ones at the core of our efforts.

Fortunately, 2015 also allowed us to confirm and initiate a certain number of partnerships with key players such as Global Affairs Canada, *le Programme Québécois de Développement International*, UNIFOR, an increasing number of foundations and companies and, of course, generous individual donors. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to each of these partners who care deeply about the situation of disabled and vulnerable people.

This support was essential in helping us respond to major crises in 2015, such as the Ebola virus epidemic, the earthquake in Nepal and, unfortunately, the amplification of the Syrian Crisis and its impact on civilians through repeated bombings of innocent people and substantial migration.

This topic is especially important to our Ambassador, actor Anthony Lemke, who is making every effort to defend and promote the work of Handicap International wherever possible by supporting a team of continuously dedicated employees and volunteers. ▴

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**Jean-Pierre Robin, Psych. Ed.**  
*President of the Board of Trustees until  
February 2016*



**Marie-José Surpris**  
*President of the Board of Trustees  
starting March 2016*



**Jérôme Bobin**  
*Executive Director*

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA'S RENEWED TRUST

**In 2015, Handicap International Canada received continued support from Global Affairs Canada for implementing its projects to help the most vulnerable people.**

Responding to the **Syrian Crisis** by supporting numerous people taking refuge in neighboring countries and people displaced within their own war-torn countries was a major focus of the Canadian government's support. The bloody conflict in Syria is forcing millions to flee. Armed conflict has already left hundreds of thousands dead and the death toll keeps rising.

Handicap International has been working in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Iraq for several years beside the most vulnerable people in camps and districts sheltering refugees. It is the most complex emergency operation the association has ever undertaken and requires the majority of its manpower. Nearly 400 professionals, physiotherapists, social workers, logisticians, coordinators and more



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have been sent abroad or recruited locally to carry out missions with refugees and displaced people.

Every day, Handicap International takes in charge recently wounded victims of bullets and explosions. The association helps amputees and individuals experiencing physical trauma that can turn into permanent disability. Over 400,000 people have already received help from Handicap

International since the organization launched operations in 2012, thanks to the support of its various sponsors, including Canada.

Beyond this unprecedented crisis, the organization has also been able to count on the support of Global Affairs Canada for providing aid in the Philippines, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Yemen or even Colombia.

**Colombia** is one of the countries most affected by anti-personnel mines. Canadian support dating back to 2012 has allowed the organization to provide aid to survivors of these weapons, their families and their communities in 10 of the country's provinces.

Through orthopedic and rehabilitation services as well as psychological and socio-economic support, hundreds of Colombians ravaged by the cruelty of these explosives have been able to get their lives back on track and build a future which seems more hopeful, with peace agreements recently signed between the Colombian government and the FARC. ▀



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# UNIFOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO MENTAL HEALTH

**Started in 2015 and scheduled to last 3 years, a multi-national project implemented by Handicap International Canada with support from UNIFOR focuses on social and civic participation of people living with mental illness.**

**Togo, Lebanon, Madagascar and South Sudan** were the countries selected for this initiative, which aims to promote innovative intervention models for mental health and psychosocial support in order to improve governance for health, social and corrections sector policies.

In addition, reinforcing the strengths of cross-sector services of correctional facilities and psychiatric hospitals should lead to improved access to care and coverage of basic needs for people living with mental illness.

The program also supports civil society organizations to guarantee protection of rights for people living with mental illness.

Finally, as the project continues,



creating consistent intervention models and promoting innovative capitalization will help build international advocacy for the participation of people living with mental illness. ▲

# QUEBEC MOBILIZED FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

***Le Programme Québécois de Développement International* has been supporting Handicap International for several years. In 2015, Haiti, Mali and Lebanon benefitted from this support.**

Particularly in **Mali**, the project aims to integrate disabled people into the active population and the workforce in the Bamako region. The goal is to promote and implement disabled people's fundamental right to employment access.



This program offers disabled people professional individual training in developing business sectors. Inclusion is achieved through integration into existing companies or assistance in creating

a micro-enterprise managed by the program beneficiaries themselves. The beneficiaries receive support throughout the project to ensure successful integration.

Mali is the second-largest West African country (behind Niger) and also one of the poorest countries in the world. In recent years, it has experienced drought, political crises and armed conflict, which has led to enormous displacement of the population and has weakened all of the country's institutions. Handicap International specifically focuses on supporting disabled and vulnerable people. ▲



# SOME GENEROUS FOUNDATIONS



We would like to wholeheartedly thank the foundations that supported our missions in 2015:

- **The Frank J. Flaman Foundation** for its contribution to our inclusive education program in Indonesia, which helps over 1,500 disabled children (including 580 young girls) return to school.

- **Les Sœurs de la Sainte Famille de Bordeaux** for their loyal support.

- **The Isabelle Pelletier Fondation** for helping children with sensory disabilities in Burkina Faso.

- **The World Confederation for Physical Therapy**

(WCPT) and their members for helping the victims of the Nepal earthquake.

- The Foundation for Giving, the Fondation Edward Assh, the Rotary Club of Montreal-Westward, *les Filles Réparatrices du Divin-Cœur*, *les Œuvres caritatives des filles de Jésus* and the Béatrice Enid Patterson Fund for their continued support. ▶

# OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS



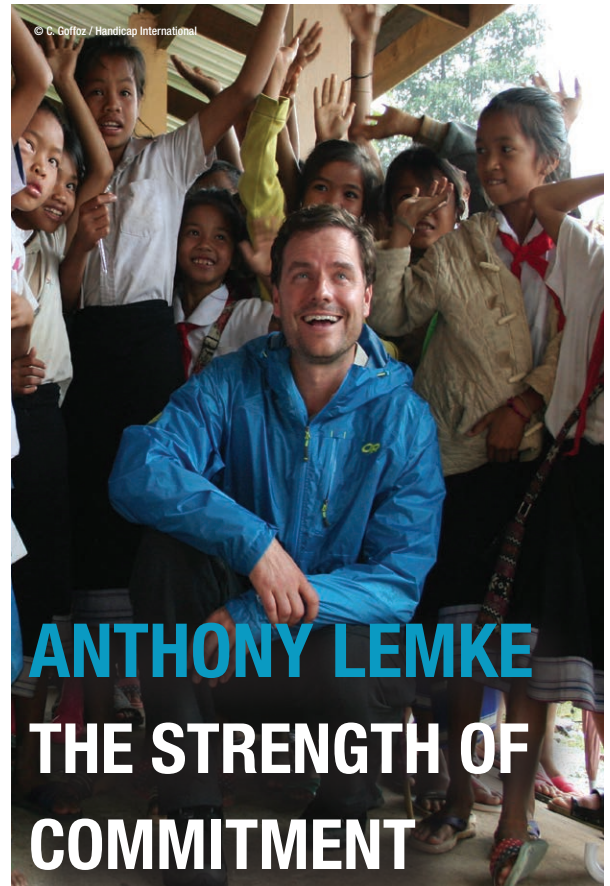
The success of our two major benefit events, the tennis tournament in June 2015 and the auction in December 2015, would have been impossible without the support of our corporate partners:

- **Major partners:** Gala Media, Desjardins, *Les Consultants en Réadaptation du Québec* and Services & Solutions TWM.

- **Donations of services and prizes:**

Davies (DWPV), Prodigy Pictures (Dark Matter), Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation, Blue Jays, Aimia, Saint-Jude, Montreal

Impact, *Château Paradis*, Nespresso, Physio Extra, Bouillon Bilk, Les Grands Ballets, the Saint Sulpice, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Hush Puppies, Dominique Blain, *Le Renoir*, Delta Hotel Montreal, OSM, Point G, Sheraton Montreal Airport, *La Tohu*, Carla de Livry, Art of Influence and John Frieda. ▶



**Official ambassador in Canada for Handicap International actor Anthony Lemke takes on the responsibility of helping to raise Canadians' awareness of HI's efforts and goals around the world; he visits regions affected by the devastating use of explosive weapons where HI intervenes, and he assists in lobbying for reducing the impact of armed conflicts on innocent civilians.**

"As with many first generation Canadians, I recall the horrifying stories of those in my family who were forced to flee their war-torn homelands. But they were the lucky ones who made it to safety. Many didn't. Upon discovering the incredible work that Handicap International was doing, I knew I had to get involved," commented Lemke. "The impact that HI's humanitarian response is having on individuals who have been injured, maimed, or displaced in devastated regions such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen or Republic of South Sudan is humbling. I'm completely honored and committed to doing what I can to help raise awareness of this extremely important cause."

# NEPAL: THE EMERGENCY ISN'T OVER WHEN THE PATIENT LEAVES THE OPERATING ROOM

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal, taking over 8,700 lives and wounding more than 22,000 people. Handicap International has been present in the country for a long time and was able to immediately intervene to help the most vulnerable people.

In late April 2015, Nepal was hit by a major earthquake that affected more than 8 million Nepalese people. 8-year-old Khembro lost her leg. Three days after the catastrophe, Khembro was airlifted to Katmandou with an infected leg. Her left leg was amputated. She then underwent rehabilitation sessions with Handicap International at the Bir Hospital Trauma Center and then

the National Disabled Fund, the association's rehabilitation centre partner.

After more than 6 months of rehabilitation sessions with Handicap International, she received a prosthesis and is now able to walk again.

Without this rehabilitative care, Khembro would have been in despair, living a life of exclusion. Handicap International donors made a world of difference. These donations help provide artificial legs, wheelchairs, rehabilitation sessions and hope to victims like Khembro whose lives have been turned upside down. "We never would have thought that



*Khembro would walk again. It's incredible. Without the support of Handicap International, we never would have been able to provide her this treatment. Our little girl has changed so much. She's less shy and is more comfortable speaking," a relative said. "But we are still worried about her future," he added. "Will she be able to return to farm life one day, taking care of cattle and working in the fields? And what will her life be like when she gets married?"* ▲

## RESOURCES IN 2015

|  | Dollars          |
|--|------------------|
| Institutional funding                          | 8,322,111        |
| Private donations                              | 201,536          |
| Handicap International Federation contribution | 434,947          |
| Rebilling, membership fees & interests         | 6,396            |
| <b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>                         | <b>8,964,990</b> |

## USES IN 2015

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| International program support      | 8,503,494        |
| Operational costs                  | 449,183          |
| Fundraising costs                  | 8,725            |
| Communications and marketing costs | 3,588            |
| <b>TOTAL USES</b>                  | <b>8,964,990</b> |

In 2015, nearly 95% of spending was related to carrying out our international projects. 5% was allocated to the organization's operations in Canada, and less than 1% was allocated to private fundraising and communications operations.

Figures verified by the Montreal **EY** office.  
Complete financial details are available by request submitted to Handicap International Canada. In the event of errors or omissions in this document, only the verified financial statements apply.

**2015 Board of Trustees (January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 - December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015)**  
PRESIDENT: Jean-Pierre Robin - VICE-PRESIDENT: Luc Forget - SECRETARY: Colin Newhouse - TREASURER: Guy Dufour. TRUSTEES: Marie-José Surpris, François Boscher, Pierre Léonard, Marie-Josée Filteau (starting June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015), Natalia Nuñez (until June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015), Marie-Claude Gévry (until June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015).

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