

**Coordinating Committee
for the Sponsorship of Vietnamese Refugees in the Philippines**

NEWS UPDATE & QUOTES

June 30, 2007

Fund Raising (all figures in CDA\$, unless otherwise specified)

Bill Siksay, M.P. (Burnaby – Douglas)	1,000.00
Donor in Ottawa	1,000.00
Donor in Ottawa	1,000.00
Tu An Pagoda (Ottawa)	3,000.00

Sponsorship

Group of friends in Ottawa	1 family
Dieu Khong Buddhist Temple, Ottawa	1 family
Vietnamese Alliance Church, Canada	number to be specified
Dr. Phong Bui (Ottawa)	1 family
Vietnamese Association, Toronto	10 families

Quotes

Thank you for your email of June 15 offering VAT an opportunity to participate in the humanitarian project to sponsor the last refugees from the Philippines to Canada. After consultation with members of the Board of Directors and receiving approval from the President Christine Yen Xuan Nguyen for implementation, I am contacting you on VAT's behalf.

Presently VAT is prepared to find sponsors for 10 families as you suggested. We believe this is an attainable goal for the Toronto community. Under this plan, VAT will approach major organizations, starting with religious institutions they are considered most capable and suitable for this task. VAT will ask them to consider undertaking financial and social responsibilities for sponsoring one or more families. On its part, VAT would receive the families when they arrive at the airport, assist them to prepare all necessary ID and health documents, arrange English classes for adults, school for their children, and all other settlement counseling. VAT will also assist them to find employment through its existing contact network.

To help us in making an effective initial exploratory contact with these organizations, would you send us names and some details on the 10 families which you suggest. Details such as ages of parents and children, their skills if any, and any other personal traits or history would give the potential sponsors a visualization of their involvement and as such facilitate their commitment. The moment we receive this information from you, we will

start contacting potential sponsors. Those who are interested will be invited to a general meeting to discuss details of this joint effort.

Thank you again for inviting us to be a part of this humanitarian work.

Nguyen Le Manh
Project Manager
Vietnamese Association, Toronto

Thank you for giving me a chance to return what I got from Canada and my sponsors 15 years ago. Without their kindness, I would be riding a "xich lo" around Saigon for a living now.

Thank you for reminding me how lucky I am to live here and to have a great bunch of friends.

I am looking forward to seeing them.

Phong Bui (Ottawa)

Offer to help

Yes- I would like to continue to help in any way I can.
(Richard Mahoney, member, Liberal Party of Canada)