



St. Clair CDSB  
Ms. Deb Crawford  
420 Creek Street  
Wallaceburg ON N8A 4C4

January 2020

Dear Deb,

On January 12, 2010, a devastating earthquake hit Port-au-Prince – the most densely populated region of Haiti. In less than one minute, almost half of the homes in the national capital area were reduced to dust. For hundreds of thousands of ordinary people, life was suddenly hanging by a thread as water systems crumbled, homes became rubble, and tarpaulin became the only protection between a family and the outside world.

As the immensity of the disaster became clear, Development and Peace and the Bishops of Canada launched an emergency appeal to the Catholic community to respond to the grave situation in Haiti. Across the country, Catholic students and educators moved swiftly from compassion into action. Moved by the immensity of need, Catholic schools raised \$1.23 million dollars for Development and Peace's Haiti relief effort in the weeks following the disaster.

#### **SCCDSB's generosity really stood out**

St. Clair Catholic District School Board was *one of the **Top 10 most generous boards in Ontario*** and raised ***over forty-four thousand dollars*** for Haitians families affected by the massive earthquake. Looking back a decade on, we want your community to know their impact and how grateful we are for their gift.

With the funds we received from SCCDSB and Catholic communities like yours, we were able to:

- *Deliver emergency food aid* to 1.2 million people;
- *Provide health services and counselling* to 100 thousand Haitians;
- *Rebuild five schools* serving over 2,100 students, including the *Foyer Maurice Sixto*;
- *Retrain almost 87 thousand workers* to begin or resume jobs in agriculture, entrepreneurship and the environment; and much more.

### Here's something for you

We invite you now to flip through a special report we are mailing to our most loyal supporters. Feel free to display this booklet in your lobby area, so that staff, students and visitors can see the impact that our collective efforts made, as we moved from emergency relief to long-term reconstruction efforts. We will also email you with a PDF copy in case you'd like to share the report on your Board's webpage and in digital communications with your staff and wider community.

### A heartfelt thank you

Your financial support and solidarity are deeply meaningful to us and our Global South partners, who often face great adversity in their work for dignity and justice. Without the good people in communities like yours, we wouldn't be able to achieve any part of our mandate – from supporting vulnerable communities in their struggles for positive social change, and mobilizing to respond to natural and man-made disasters, to educating and mobilizing Canadians to tackle the root causes of global poverty and inequality.

As we look to a new decade, we thank you for your continued support and partnership with Development and Peace. Faith, hope and Christian action are what bring us together and keep our partnership vibrant and strong. So, here's to God's spirit, alive and active in our communities – and here's to us!

### Just imagine what we could do next!



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