



Annual report 2017

Established to support the humanitarian efforts of the Hospital of Hope, Pilate, Department North, Haiti
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An augmented visit to Pilate



Mr. Robert Charron, president of the board, went to Pilate in January 2014. This year, he returned in February, this time joined by Father Dieusait Charles o.m.i. and Ms Lucie Dumont, director of the Missionary Pontifical Charity in the diocese of Joliette, Province of Quebec. While Father Charles (who gave, in 2015, a lecture on the history of Haiti to the participants at the Rally of Hope) visited his family in his country of birth, Mr. Charron and Ms Dumont went to Pilate to collect the most recent news and take photos of Hospital of Hope. All this up to date information allowed them to deliver an excellent report describing the developments at Hospital of Hope.

A seventh rally in southern France

Édé Ayiti, a charity of Saint-Martin-de-Seignanx, just North of the Basque country in France, cooperates with *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti* in helping to sustain Hospital of Hope. It held, on October 1st, its seventh pedestrian rally. It registered 130 participants, (including 23 kids) which waked 8 kilometres of trails in the vicinity of a path leading to Compostelle. The activity brought in 1,715 euros that will be added to the 2017 surgical mission budget and to the project of repainting the hospital's buildings. Besides being necessary, the works on this painting project are also meant to celebrate the hospital's 50th anniversary.

Rally of Hope themed Twenty years of sustained hope

Byas Foundation underlined its 20 years of support during the 4th Rally of Hope held under the theme of this title. And moreover, the unexpected presence of Sister Louisa Bélanger, director of Hospital of Hope, could only add to the intensity of the gathering. To summarize, more than 50 came to the botanical park À-Fleur-d'Eau in Rouyn-Noranda on Saturday, September 16th. Some came to compete at the Rally, others came to get recent news on the developments at Hospital of Hope. All could get the most recent and complete information while attending the speech given by Ms Lucie Dumont and Mr. Robert Charron. They illustrated with a Power Point the hospital's achievements sponsored by Byas Foundation.



As hurricane Irma had just gone through the North of the West Indies, namely that of Haiti, Sister Louisa Bélanger therefore could describe its consequences in Pilate. Thus, we learned that the hurricane Irma did destroy the fruit bearing trees and all the banana trees in Pilate.

Fund raising postal campaign

First the planned projects...



Hospital of Hope's prime goal is to save lives. It is therefore consistent that it reacted quickly at the irruption of the cholera epidemic by isolating one of its pavilions to convert it into a Cholera Treatment Centre. A head nurse must manage this service

on an annual basis. Since the epidemic is not yet eradicated, Byas Foundation financed her salary this year again.

Secondly, well-planned international collaboration increases the Foundation's efficiency in a more precise collaborative structure. And this year, the Foundation increased its collaboration with *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti* in its annual surgical mission that operates over 100 surgeries a year in Pilate (see Retrospect 2017). Those surgeries imply a cost to Hospital of Hope with dressings and bandages, disinfectants, fuel for the generator etc. So Byas Foundation contributed \$6,000 for this surgical mission, counting 50 surgeries at \$120 each. The French charity, for its part, gives the hospital 80 euros (approx. CA \$120) each for all other surgeries performed during that mission.

The Foundation's third project was part of a wide plan to renovate the hospital's buildings, a necessity coinciding with its 50th anniversary. The Foundation paid to replace with metal sheets the hospital's ceilings' worn out wooden panels (see Retrospect 2017).

Then the postal campaign

Thanks to the constant implication of Mr. Alain Charron, its treasurer, the 2017 campaign totalled \$17,320.

Retrospect 2017

An ophthalmologic mission

An ophthalmologist with two technicians came from the United-States to Hospital of Hope in January, to hold a three days mission. Almost all of the 20 patients treated were afflicted from long ago with cataracts that therefore required a very elaborate intervention. We hope that this first successful mission will be repeated in the coming years.

The surgical mission



The French association *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti*, together with the initiative of Dr. Michel Dombritz, surgeon, Dr Pierrette Caussade, anesthetist, and Ms Danielle Ourthiague, post-surgery nurse, held a surgical mission at Hospital of Hope from March 5 for 15 days. The mission accomplished 119 successful surgeries, mainly for hernias, hysterectomies, thyroids, haemorrhoids and a few serious cases. Such a mission costs 10,000 euros (CA \$15,000) on average, including travel fare for the post-surgery nurse. The surgeon and the anaesthetist pay their own airplane fares. Therefore the costs are mostly for medical supplies, evaluated at CA \$10,400. This year, the Byas Foundation supported the mission with \$3,000 for medical supplies and fuel for the electrical generator, and another \$3,000 to cover the costs of 25 surgeries (at \$120 each). Each patient is asked a US \$20 contribution.

Financial result\$

The Byas Foundation's revenues in 2017 totalled \$23,550. Since the Foundation's administration is entirely benevolent, its expenditures remained under 4% of its revenues, totalling \$793, mainly for stationary and postal stamps.

Throughout the year, the Foundation sent \$20,000 to finance the projects mentioned here above. Then \$2,000 was deposited in the emergency fund.

Hospital of Hope 50th anniversary

In 1966, Father Pollux Byas started building the hospital in Pilate. Then on January 8th 1968 the Haitian Ministry of Health and Population (MHP) recognised Hospital of Hope. The land and the buildings belong to the Parish Sainte Rose-de-Lima of Pilate. The hospital is accredited to deliver the MHP's programs of public health care. For this anniversary, the hospital's administration wanted to do more than just mention it. It planned to renovate and modernize its buildings.



The plan Renovate the ceilings

The ceilings of the hospital's pavilions sheltering patients (maternity hall, paediatric care, sanatorium, men's care, ER) were made of suspended wooden panels. After half a century, the termites dug in the panels and dust was falling on the patients. Byas Foundation paid to replace the wooden panels with galvanized tin panels. The cost amounted to CA \$6,525.



Modernize the electrical system

The Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB) is commissioned by the World Health Organisation to guide a network of Hospitals in Haiti, of which Hospital of Hope, delivering the World Program Against HIV. CMMB gave Hospital of Hope 80 solar panels that were installed on the hospital's main building (sheltering the residence, the pharmacy and the operating room) and on the sanatorium building. The result is a better

performing electrical system in those buildings and a substantial saving on fuel while better protecting the environment.

A new coat of paint on the buildings

To underline this 50th anniversary, the French charity *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti* paid the whole project of repainting all the hospital's buildings outside and inside. All the outside was repainted before the end of the year, on time for the anniversary celebration scheduled on January 7th 2018. The inside of the buildings will be painted in the first months of 2018. The estimated cost of total repainting is 4,000 euros (CA \$6,000).

To eradicate cholera

Monthly data of cholera patients at Hospital of Hope in the last three years (see chart) shows the seasonal variation in the spread of the disease. It varies with the heavy winter rains. But the numbers also remind us of the disastrous political tensions in Pilate during the national election campaign from November 2015 to May 2016.

Monthly admitted cases with cholera at Hospital of Hope - 2015 à 2017

		jan.	feb.	mar.	april	may	june	july	aug.	sept.	oct.	nov.	dec.	total
Cases	2015	16	25	51	4	4	0	1	0	0	2	38	108	249
	2016	188	68	76	71	50	2	4	11	15	12	17	47	561
	2017	21	13	0	2	3	7	0	0	0	0	21	3	70
Died	2015	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	5
	2016	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	10
	2017	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3

Since 2012, the French charity *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti* finance ground work to supply potable water to the population of Pilate. At the same time, a team of hygiene trainers guided by Hospital of Hope have totally covered the whole territory of Pilate (approx 100 km²) to teach basic public hygiene rules and behaviour that made a difference. The following chart detailing annual cholera cases at Hospital of Hope from 2011 to 2017 shows the combined efficiency of better hygiene and access to potable water. The few cholera cases to be hospitalised now in Pilate come from the remote hills of that territory and most cases are related to typhoid fever. When basic public hygiene becomes common practice in the population of those remote hills, cholera in Pilate will be defeated.

Yearly total of patients with cholera admitted at Hospital of Hope - 2011 à 2017

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cases	1 840	683	453	363	249	561	70
Died	20	5	3	5	5	10	3