



## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN FROM CHINA CHARITABLE FUND

*Ensuring brighter futures for children  
in China's orphanages*

**Community Update**

**Spring 2006**

### **Smile China: 2005 Report**

Smile China, founded by Mississauga plastic surgeon Dr. Joseph Wong, is a registered Canadian charity that organizes annual "missions" to China of North American doctors and nurses with expertise in repairing children's cleft lips and palates. For the second consecutive year, FCCCF has been a major supporter of Smile China's work, contributing \$15,000 to support Smile China's 2005 trip.

In late November 2005, the Smile China team arrived in Shangrao, Jiangxi, to a warm welcome from "the government, hospital, doctors, nurses and a long list of anxiously waiting families who had children requiring surgery." The trip was not without its challenges -- including both an anesthetic machine and Dr. Travis Tollefson's suitcase missing the connecting flight out of Vancouver. Fortunately, the important machine made it to Shangrao three days later while Dr. Tollefson spent four days living in surgical greens before being reunited with his clothes.

Sadly, the team could not operate on every waiting child. Nonetheless, by using four operating tables simultaneously for five straight days they were able to operate on 62 children rather than the anticipated 50. The children ranged in age from 10 weeks to 14 years. For some, the surgery means they will be able to eat and speak normally for the first time in their lives. For others, it means the possibility of an education once denied them. Dr. Wong reports that one 14 year old girl had been unable to regularly attend school because classmates had taunted her and thrown stones at her. She has now applied to attend school and hopes to complete her education.

Prior to Smile China's visit, two doctors at Shangrao City Hospital were performing minor cleft lip and palate repairs. With new techniques learned while observing the Smile China surgeries and with the medical supplies and instruments left behind by the Smile China team, these doctors are now better equipped to deal with the challenges of cleft repair. In addition, more than a hundred other Jiangxi doctors with an interest in facial plastic surgery attended evening lectures presented by Smile China team members. The trip ended in Shanghai with a two-day conference on facial plastic surgery co-hosted by the Chinese doctors and the International Federation of Facial Plastic Surgery Societies.

In 2006, Smile China plans to send a team to Jiangsu province. Your donations to FCCCF will enable us to once again make a major contribution to Smile China's life-changing work.



*Dr. Wong comforting an 18 month old girl with a bilateral cleft palate as she goes into surgery. He comments that she was "the sweetest and most cooperative child I have met in my years of practice".*

## FCCCF Launches New Website

We're pleased to present the newly redesigned FCC Charitable Fund website. The objectives of the redesigned site are to improve ongoing communication with existing supporters, attract new donors by providing methods for donating online, and to promote our organization through current events calendars and other timely information vehicles (e.g. Community Update newsletter, animated slideshows). We invite you to visit the new site at: <http://www.fcccf.ca/> and let us know what you think!

## Helping through the Amity Foundation

Since FCCCF's earliest days, we have worked closely with China's non-profit Amity Foundation. Our most recent donation via Amity in March 2006 was slightly more than \$3,700. Thanks to the generosity of FCCCF's supporters, six-year-old Chang Weinan will have surgery on his throat tumour, four-month-old Feng Qiuhui will receive the intestinal surgery she needs, one-year-old Tong Baozhu will have corrective surgery for two club feet, six-year-old Li Yong will no longer have to live with a tumour on his spine and fourteen-year-old Chen Jianghua will have the hand surgery she has been waiting for.

Two teenagers living at Zhenjiang Social Welfare Institute will benefit for a second time from the generosity of FCCCF donors. A portion of FCCCF's December 2004 Amity donation funded new leg braces for Feng Jiangfu and Li Xue. Our latest donation enables Feng Jiangfu and Li Xue to once again get new leg braces to keep up with their growing limbs.

FCCCF is in ongoing discussions with Amity about various options to continue and expand our support for the children left behind. We expect to continue funding surgery and other medical treatment and are also exploring the possibility of supporting medical and health education projects with a positive impact on the children living in China's many social welfare institutes.

## Mother Daughter Tea to debut in May

Join us for our first mother/daughter tea! On Sunday, May 7, at 11 a.m., the FCCCF will be hosting this new fund-raising event at the Bright Pearl, 346 Spadina Avenue in Toronto. The cost will be \$30 per adult and \$15 per child, and the net proceeds of the event will be used to support our work making life better for the children who remain in the social welfare institute system in China. Tracy Hsu, who teaches the Riverdale Mandarin Playgroup, will teach us a few Mandarin songs

to go along with the wonderful food! This event is strictly limited to 130 participants, so register early. You'll find your registration form in the FCC Toronto newsletter.

## Vic Falkenheim to speak at Massey Dinner

We're very pleased to announce that the keynote speaker at this year's Massey Dinner will be Victor Falkenheim, an internationally recognized scholar in the field of Chinese politics. The dinner will be held on Thursday May 18 at the University of Toronto's Massey College.

Victor Falkenheim holds a joint appointment as Professor in the Departments of East Asian Studies and Political Science at the University of Toronto, specializing in the political economy of contemporary China. Falkenheim has worked for more than a decade on a number of Canadian International Development Agency and World Bank projects in China, as well as serving as a consultant to companies entering the China market. He has conducted extensive field research in Taiwan, Hong Kong and the Peoples Republic of China since 1967. Falkenheim's current research focuses on contemporary Chinese politics, with an emphasis on citizen participation and local government.

The theme of Professor Falkenheim's talk will be "Chinese Society in Crisis: The Coming Decade." Please join us for what's sure to be a stimulating and enjoyable evening.

## Did you know...

- This year's Chinese New Year Raffle was our most successful yet, raising almost \$1400. Thank you!
- FCCCF is run by a volunteer Board of Directors with no paid employees. This keeps costs very low and ensures that funds raised are used to fund projects rather than administrative costs.

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**The Families with Children from China Charitable Fund (FCCCF) is a national volunteer organization founded and run by Canadian parents of children born in China. FCCCF is dedicated to improving the lives of children growing up in Chinese orphanages, primarily through supporting medical interventions.**

For more information or to make a donation please contact us at:  
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FCCCF is a registered charitable organization (charitable registration #88537 2243 RR0001). All donations over \$10 are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

[www.fcccf.ca](http://www.fcccf.ca)

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