



OCTOBER (2018 #05)

### **Education Rocks!**

As described later in this newsletter, on November 17<sup>th</sup> Rayjon will be holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Family Curling Event at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club. Last year's event was a great success involving 65 curlers (both novices and experienced players), and it raised over \$17,000.

But what does tossing rocks along an ice surface have to do with education? And the answer is simple: that money that was received from participants, and the pledges they received from generous donors, and the host of other sponsors who supported the event was directed to supporting rural education. Similarly, this year the money will assist the elementary/secondary school in Pinson, Haiti, and the adult literacy program.



The importance of education cannot be overstated because education and eliminating poverty go hand in hand. October 17<sup>th</sup> was the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Last year when the United Nations committed to the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, they recognized that “eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.” UNESCO goes on to state that, “We believe that ensuring quality education for all is not only central to the achievement of all of the Global Goals but in particular the goal to end extreme poverty.”

Two recent UNESCO reports provide important evidence that illustrates this link between the impact of education on individual's earnings and economic growth. Among their conclusions are these two illuminating findings:

- 171 million people in the world could be lifted out of extreme poverty if all children left school with basic reading skills. That's equivalent to a 12% drop in the world total.
- Education increases earnings by roughly 10% per each additional year of schooling.

The significance of these particular stats is made more relevant perhaps to Rayjon supporters when one considers the effort that our organization puts into adult literacy programming and into the expansion of rural school programs offered to progressively higher and higher grades. In last year's October newsletter it was reported that a Grade 7 program had been added and that parents were "anxious for their children to have the opportunity to attend grade 8 and 9, which we hope to add over the next two years." Well, in 2017 we did in fact add Grade 8 at the school in Pinson, and Grade 9 just started this past September!

To the right is a picture of the new section of the school taken shortly after the classroom walls were constructed. We are so excited and we also want to thank our partners at *Hope for Haiti* for all the work and generous support that they contributed towards this.



### **Fall Fair Report**

The Fall Fair committee, led by convenor Dianne McKillican, want to thank everyone who supported our September 15<sup>th</sup> Fall Fair in any way: by donating goods or baking, by volunteering, by attending, or by spreading the word about the event.

The day was marked by fabulous weather and we welcomed a huge number of attendees and raised an amazing \$13,700! The committee is all delighted but they realize that a successful story like this could not have happened without all the community support.



The Our Lady of Mercy Parish hall proved once again to be a wonderful space in which to work and the support of their parish community only helped our cause in support of Rayjon's project work.

### **Fantastic Fabric Sale**

On Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Rayjon held a one-day sale of a huge amount of beautiful donated fabric, sewing bags and sewing supplies. It was a unique opportunity that allowed the many sewers, crafters & quilters who attended to get a jump start on their fall and winter projects. It was so *darned* good they shopped the tables clean and profits were in excess of \$2000, all of which goes to support Rayjon's projects in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Special accolades go out to Kay McDonough & Suzanne Michaud who organized the day and to everyone who helped or shopped. Thank you all *sew* much!



## **Golfing Event**

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> Rayjon held a Golf Scramble event at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course in Mooretown. It was a great, fun day and it raised over \$2,500 to support adult literacy in Haiti. Much appreciation goes out to all the players, sponsors and volunteers and special thanks to organizers Gisele Bonin-Savage and Father Dan Vere.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

You are cordially invited to attend the AGM on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Sacred Heart Parish Meeting Room, 1465 Lecaron Ave, Sarnia. This year's meeting will be far from boring! We will be sharing exciting news from Haiti and the DR, personal stories of transformation and inspiration, and listening to a message from Andre Jean-Pierre, Haiti Field Director.

All are welcome! This is an opportunity for us to share with our supporters progress of the last year, seek the input and engagement of the public, and elect/confirm Board members for 2018-2019.

Whether you have been a Rayjon supporter for many years, or you are interested in learning more about Rayjon, please come connect with us!

Light refreshments will be provided.



## **Giving Tuesday**

#GivingTuesday

(the Tuesday following the US Thanksgiving) kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. This November 27th, join the movement and give - whether it's some of your time, a donation, gift or the power of your voice in your local community.

### **PastaFest**

Bring your appetite with you on Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup> and dine out at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Rayjon PastaFest. Once again it will be held at the Dante Club, 1330 London Rd. from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

Tickets are \$15; Children (4 – 12) \$10. Contact Marlo at 226-886-0476 to reserve your tickets. Eat in or take out. There will also be a Silent Auction, Gift Baskets, a Bake Table, Haitian Vanilla, Rayjon Coffee, and Atizani arts and crafts.



#GIVINGTUESDAY

November 27, 2018



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family Curling Event**

When: Saturday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 7:30 pm at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club, 500 Errol Rd. West, Sarnia. The format will be very similar to last year – this is a fun, intergenerational event for family and friends with no experience necessary.

The cost is \$25/person (which includes food and prizes), and \$10 for those age 16 or under.



The afternoon will include: on-ice orientation; practice time; team play and friendly competition. Each team will play 8 ends (about 2-1/2 hours of curling total)

The goal is to raise funds for rural education in Haut de St. Marc, Haiti (elementary/secondary & adult literacy) and participants are expected to seek pledges (tax-receiptable) prior to the event.

Please respond generously if you are approached to make a pledge!

For more information contact John Barnfield, 519-337-0338.

### **Thank You!**

To our many donors, we must say again a tremendous thank you. With your donation you make a lasting change to the lives of people in Haiti and the Dominican Republic

### **To Donate Online:**

[\*\*DONATE NOW\*\*](#)

One time or monthly options

Tax receipt and Record of your online donations immediately available

### **Mail Cheques To:**

Rayjon Share Care, PO Box **2482**, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 7T1.

*Copyright © 2016 Rayjon Share Care, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you are a Rayjon Supporter.

#### **Our mailing address is:**

Rayjon Share Care  
P.O. Box 2482  
Sarnia, On N7T 7T1  
Canada