



Equatorial South Sudanese Community Association of Canada (ESSCA-Canada)

Edmonton 2016, July 30 – 31, 2016
Sands Inn and Suites, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Conference Report

Theme: “*Equatoria is My Identity*”

The conference was held at Sands Inns & Suites in Edmonton, Alberta, July 30 – 31, 2016. The conference started on Saturday morning at 9AM and ended on Sunday about midnight after a social event. There were approximately **286** Participants from Canada, USA, Australia, and South Sudan. In attendance for a couple of hours on Day 1, was Bishop Jane Alexander, Diocese of Edmonton.

The keynote speaker was Bishop Anthony Poggo of the Anglican Diocese of Kajo-Keji, Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan whose key message focused on being ambassadors of peace. On the 2nd day, Bishop Anthony Poggo preached on Nehemiah and conveyed greetings from South Sudan.

There were presenters from the community, government of Alberta, Sun Life Financial, and REACH Edmonton Crime Prevention Program. Various ethnic groups displayed traditional dances. The youth welcomed the traditional dances based on the number of people recording the presentation.

There were a few key points that were stressed throughout the conference:

1. Equatoria Hadid – Together We Stand: Together we Stand – Equatoria Hadid,
2. We are “Done the Talk – Time to Walk the Talk”,
3. Mobilization of alliance of interest for the common good of all in South Sudan,
4. Equatorial unity is paramount; regardless of ethnicity.

On the last day, there were no clear resolutions **except**

1. General Assembly agreed ESSCA-Canada to organize conferences annually,
2. ESSCA-Canada has to be a single membership association not a city membership
3. Next conference to be held in Saskatoon, SK from August 5 – 6, 2017

Here is the summary of the conference report:

WELCOME MESSAGES

Mr. Joseph K. Luri, chairperson of the organizing committee, officially opened the conference. Mr. Luri led the conference attendees in observing a minute of silence in honour of those who lost their lives during July 2016 conflict in Juba, South Sudan.

The Master and Mistress of ceremony were introduced as Mr. Sam Acire and Miss Julie Amana respectively. The event was then started with a prayer.

The chairperson, GRECAE

The chairperson of Greater Equatoria Community Association in Edmonton, Mr. James Pitia, welcomed everyone and acknowledged those in attendance. He recognized the inclusion of the youth and women in this year's conference activities, and encouraged this to continue in the future.

SPEECHES and REMARKS

Chairman Coordinating Committee (Joseph Luri)

Mr. Luri appreciated the efforts of those who made the event possible, particularly the organizing committee: comprising of sub-community leaders and volunteers. He also acknowledged the support of ESSCA-Canada. Mr. Luri emphasized to focus on how we can work together and move forward with those things that require less effort as a community. In his words, "it is always at life's most difficult challenges that we find out who we are."

Chairman, Board of Director's, William Oching

The chair of the ESSCA-Canada Board of Directors introduced the Board members. He also recognized the presence of Bishop Anthony Poggo of the Anglican Diocese of Kajo-Keji and all those in attendance. He thanked those from the city of Edmonton for planning and hosting the event.

The chair acknowledged the challenges faced by the ESSCA-Canada, as well as the successes achieved – including registration of the organization, which means that it can now operate legally across Canada. He requested more engagement from the cities, and empowerment of members.

The chair commented that ESSCA would not hesitate to rally behind those who encounter suffering back home, and emphasized that Equatorians remain connected to their roots. He noted that our children and youth in the diaspora are encountering immense challenges, while insecurity is a major issue at home. ESSCA has the duty to help, and give generously.

President's Remarks, Joseph Modi

The president of ESSCA-Canada, introduced the members of the executive committee.

We need to work for a unified Equatoria. Equatorian leadership in diaspora is more connected and functional than the entire Equatorian leadership in South Sudan. Leadership in USA, Canada, UK and Australia have advocated for release of detainees and human rights injustice. We are interested in hearing from the Equatorian youth to see how ESSCA-Canada can work together with them. ESSCA-Canada is interested on empowerment of Equatorian women.

It is a collective effort for all of us in Canada to make sure that our children grow up to be respectable. We should discuss their future and make sure they are focused on their goals.

Equatoria can only thrive when we forget our differences and work together. We should laugh together, sing together, eat together and walk together. While our leaders are under threat, Equatorians are egocentric. We need to advocate for peace and stand up against the bully. Today is a time for unity more than ever, ESSCA-Canada needs your support; unite against the bully.

Secretary General, Ercoph Bongomin

Mr. Ercoph Bongomin introduced the theme of the conference: '*Equatoria is My Identity.*' He acknowledged the birth of the organization in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 2015. In his words, "if you feed the baby well, the baby can continue." Registration and membership is therefore important, and Edmontonian's efforts are required.

Mr. Bongomin noted that centralization of management of the organization's finances, and splitting of signing authority across the country, enables it to maintain accountability. He added that this system makes it difficult to access the funds.

President, ESSCA-USA, Kwaje Lasu

He noted that the motto '*Equatoria Hadiid*' is getting stronger as we work together. Today we gather here in Edmonton to strengthen the bond and identity.

He reminded the audience that we have been bullied since the 1980s; noting that our people are suffering and looking for our guidance and leadership. He said, "the time is now, the time is here ... Enough is enough ... We must reclaim our rightful place in South Sudan as sons and daughters of Equatoria ... We need to defend and protect our loved ones and their property."

Being Equatorian means; unity regardless of our myriad tribes. Our people need our guidance and support. Our mothers, daughters and sisters raped and our youth killed. South Sudan is not a Nuer or Dinka ONLY. We need one another and stand together. We need to 'Walk the Talk' and protect our people. He concluded by saying, "Speak soft but carry a big stick" Theodore Roosevelt.

Keynote speaker, Bishop Anthony Poggo, Anglican Diocese of Kajo-Keji on '*Ambassadors of peace ... and Reconciliation.*'

The Bishop emphasized that, "I come here not as an Anglican bishop, but bishop of the church." He noted that it is important for us to be together. Glad to be here and hear what ESSCA-Canada does.

The Bishop recalled the events in Juba, South Sudan. He noted that those events shattered and disorganized the hopes of the people. People are discouraged, especially on seeing how our own city went into war and experienced indiscriminate killings. SPLM IG and SPLM IO brought us into this mess.

We all need to be ambassadors of peace. As a child of God one should be involved in peace and reconciliation. The church cannot take sides and hide behind their tribes; that is what is expected of church leaders. If we work for peace, our country will be different, despite the presence of peace spoilers. Peace Building should happen at all levels – not only among [political] leaders. In fact, many church leaders were involved in the making of peace agreements, even though they did not make the headlines.

The presence of cultures that promote revenge, and more killings, is a problem. But where the gospel has impacted those cultures, the response towards a call for revenge is different. He quoted Mahatma Gandhi, that “an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.” We need to ask ourselves what we are doing to contribute towards peace; are we working towards peace building or disintegration. The church plays an important role, and has access to everyone, including those in the villages. South Sudanese should practice reconciliation, hope, unity, harmony and peace

We should never talk about our differences or tribes. It is important that Equatorians read and familiarize themselves with the August 2015 South Sudan Peace Agreement. The current war in Juba raised questions on the status of the Peace Agreement. People becoming IDPs in their own country and taken care of by churches. Access to foreign currency is limited.

Bishop Jane Alexander’s Remarks

The Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton gave her remarks, and said that they pray for peace in South Sudan. Encouraged South Sudanese in Edmonton to join and participate in the “EndPoverty” project of City of Edmonton by Mayor Don Iveson <http://www.endpovertyedmonton.ca/> where reconciliation initiatives are taking place with the Aboriginal communities.

Chairman, ESSCAC, Marcelo Wani

The leader of the Equatorian community in the city of Calgary gave his remarks. He recognized how wonderful the event was. In his words, “the more Equatorians come together, the harder it is to break us.” He commented that Equatorians in Calgary were encouraged to contribute and make this a success. He urged the community to be part of the team, encouraging each other and contributing; adding that, “we have to speak the truth,” about what is happening back home.

Chairman, GEAM, Daniel Swaka

He requested the community to come together and discuss issues that affect us. He said we need to stand with our leaders and support ESSCA-Canada and other leaders. Leaders be identified in all the provinces of Canada. In his words, “this is our baby, and all of us. It takes Equatorians in Canada to raise ESSCA-Canada.” He said when a brother raises an issue; we should not jump to a conclusion immediately. We should stand up for each other. He urged members to learn from one another in the hosting of such conference.

ESSCAS, Senos Timon

The president of ESSCA-Saskatoon, Inc, said, “We love to talk, we love to criticize each other, however, we need to take action to realize the fruits of this meeting.”

Equatoria Community Toronto, Thomas Taban

He urged attendees to pay attention to the theme of the conference, saying, “Yesterday the war was in the other part of the country, now it is in Equatoria.” Let us stick together.

Governor Joseph B. Bakasoro’s Speech

I am grateful for Equatorians to gather and discuss their affairs and move the country forward. He referred to Equatorians in the diaspora as South Sudanese ambassadors. It is time for us to think critically as Equatorians. Without knowing where we are, we will not be able to know where to go.

Equatorians who voted for referendum are dying, arbitrary arrested, and no freedom of press. South Sudan is now a divide-and-rule nation. We should stop betraying one another by bribes and stop killing each other. How can government destroy property with artillery? We should talk to international community to hear us. Alliance makes minority majority. Too many states without services is useless. I think we have lost a vision but should not lose hope. We should come up with resolutions to help our people at home. We need to form a “government of the people, by the people and for the people” Abraham Lincoln.

Our identity is our love for each other. Ethnicity should be a strength that unites us. Let identity be a sign of unity in diversity. Let us all join hands in unity.

Governor Bakasoro took some questions from the attendants. He noted that for most of the questions asked, the answers are with us.

Governor Bakasoro concluded by urging us to find out, which country and which people can help us to find the bows and arrows necessary to defend ourselves.

PRESENTATIONS

‘Life and Critical Illness Insurance.’ By Dean Erickson, Edmonton

He noted the decrease in the number of people with life insurance, and the reliance on the community to put together funds for funerals. He noted that one of the reasons for that is lack of knowledge.

He cited the advantages of insurance; pointing that with some life insurance policies, one has the option to cash out the premiums paid if they are not used. Further, insurance enables the continuation of the family upon loss of the person. One should therefore have insurance, and aim to have \$400,000 worth of coverage.

There are tools available to enable one choose the right policy, such as the website www.terms4sale.com, which enables one to determine the differences in policies and how much they cost. One should conduct a needs analysis before making a decision. He noted that although some credit cards have something wrapped around insurance for accidental loss of life, this is not your ideal insurance.

‘Canada land of Opportunity: Entrepreneurs Versus Employee Mindset.’ By EVL field chair, Fort McMurray

He encouraged people to work towards control over their time, noting that the average Canadian is hardly getting ahead; and the solution for most is to work more hours. The alternative is to start your own business. He recommended the book, *Rich Dad, Poor Dad*.

There are advantages to being self-employed; in fact, the Canadian tax code is designed to benefit businesses. Your money can work for you 24/7, without getting tired.

***'Child Welfare and Investigation Process, Impact on the Family and Effect on Immigrant Families.'* By Ms. Ronnie Gardener, Government of Alberta**

She noted that Canada is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and that they are not taking the children away from their families. The convention and its principles are the underlying forces for the Alberta legislation. This means, children are protected from harm and abuse, and are allowed to participate in matters regarding their development.

Intervention is undertaken in a way that is least disruptive; as family is the basic unit. A child will be removed only when less disruptive mechanisms are exhausted. Community leaders should know that the community and extended family would be considered. The child is to be situated in an environment that conforms to their culture, religion etc. As such, multicultural health brokers are involved; seeking to understand the situation better. These brokers are at the table when intervention is undertaken. During intake, support is provided for the family. If the matter is criminal in nature, the child will be spoken to before the involvement of the police.

In Alberta, a system called 'Signs of Safety' is used. It determines the strengths and supports of the family. It recognizes that the family is the expert, and has ensured that they have reached where they are right now. She noted that child intervention among the South Sudanese community has been limited. Therefore, the community is doing a good job of looking after their own.

Emergency apprehensions only occur when children are in extreme danger. In this case, contact will be made with the community leaders to determine when the child can be returned to the care of the community. She highlighted that the use of an object to strike a child is against the law, but that generally, police involvement is done in an educative manner. She urged parents to make sure that children are taught to distinguish between beating and smacking, in order to prevent inaccurate reporting by children.

'Women Empowerment' by Ms. Jane Ananias and Ms. Susanna Dumo

The federal budget 2016 increased the number of permanent residents to migrate to Canada. How we could take advantage of this opportunity to bring people from back home. How we should support internally displaced persons or refugees from South Sudan under the current circumstances in that country? Most importantly, what is our plan for a legacy in Canada, now that we have settled here? The pair pointed to utilization of social capital, as relationships are an important part of our society.

On the issue of empowering women, it should be a collective community effort; as empowerment of women does not happen in a void. In our culture, women are taught to be responsible from an early age, and that it is a process of change. We move from point A to point B everyday, and when we reach point B we set up another goal. The process of change should begin with the individual, who should then seek the

necessary support. We should think about both the inner and outer circles of support. You don't have to struggle alone to implement change in your life.

The REACH Edmonton Crime Prevention Program (Day 2)

The program puts money into early childhood development and addresses the root causes of crime. The organization challenges the status quo on the root causes of crime, which include; discrimination, racism, poverty, and parental neglect.

The main issue is that of young people getting into trouble. As parents and community leaders we want the best for our children. However, sometime parents have a desire to push children towards things that they don't want, e.g. forcing them to become doctors or lawyers.

Young people get into trouble for various reasons, among them; change in values, lack of respect, and peer pressure.

Research indicates that the trauma we carry from our ancestors' lives with us. Unless you acknowledge the problem, you will continue to encounter blind spots.

The program hires cultural navigators to find out what is happening with families. For instance, men meet together to chat about issues affecting them, with other men who are experienced in those issues.

As parents we are the experts on our children. But we must acknowledge that others can also help them. We should recognize when things are not working. The book, '*All Kinds of Minds*,' encourages us to discover the activities that we like.

There is also a "Community and Youth Engagement Program", that engages the youth to run the program, with support from adults. It helps youth and police to know each other's cultures. Discrimination and racism are surrounded with fear. But equity, diversity and human rights are part of the police.

We should engage and spend time with our families and youth. Stay the course and focus, whatever your goal is. We will solve our complex issues through discussion and making mistakes.

'The Importance of Women in Our Society, by Ms. Margaret Yanga, Winnipeg, MB (Day 2)

Mrs. Yanga noted that we have smart people even though they didn't have formal education. Many of these people have overcome the language competency and passed written driving tests and drove to the conference.

Mrs. Yanga spoke on the importance of community. What we do in the community makes us more beautiful. She noted that in the past, women were involved in agricultural activity from childhood. They would follow the adults in the fields; sowing seeds. At some point, her mom even went to the extent of cutting the grass needed for thatching grass huts. Her mom also insisted that she goes to school, and that the world would not run out of men.

Mrs. Yanga reminisced that back in Egypt, families were dependent on women to work. This is because most jobs available were for women. In the course of this, she learned valuable housekeeping skills. She further emphasized that, "We were created because it is not good for a man to live alone." On raising families, she noted, "A woman understands what the child doesn't say." Mrs. Yanga also emphasized that women are vital in economic development. In her words, "what men cannot do for South Sudan, women will do."

'How to Make the Youth of the 21st Century Successful', by Edmonton Youth (Day 2)

They noted that those who have ties to the community are more likely to give back. Further, events that get the youth going are key to enabling them develop cultural ties. The youth requested the creation of a 'people independent infrastructure', in terms of the organizations or institutions that exist for the community. This will ensure that they continue regardless of the individuals in charge.

ESSCA-Canada Presentation

Financial Report - Mr. Bako Dabi

Presented the financial report, which will be available to registered members. A panel, of ESSCA-Canada leadership, updated the conference and took questions from participants.

The president conducted a quick poll by show of hands to determine those among the attendants who:

- Knew about ESSCA
- Don't know about ESSCA
- Are registered members of ESSCA

Mr. Modi gave a synopsis on the founding of ESSCA - Canada in the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 2015. He noted that their first mandate was to complete organization's constitution, and to register it. The organization is federally registered, and has a bank account. The President gave an update on Equatorian organizations in different cities in Canada.

Mr. Modi indicated that he would do his best to go around the country to ensure there is unity among Equatorians. He highlighted that in Vancouver, there are many wonderful community churches lead by Equatorians, which could be used to mobilize Equatorians. He also commented that we need to be patient with each other.

The panel took questions and comments from the attendants. The following outstanding concerns were raised:

- A concern about the registration of community members at both the city and national level, and the possibility of having one registration and splitting the fees between the city and national organizations
- A concern regarding the current process of forming the ESSCA executive through appointments rather than an electoral process

GROUP DISCUSSIONS REPORT

Breakout sessions were conducted to allow the attendants to raise their concerns and make notes of issues raised. Attendants were to write down:

- Questions and concerns for later discussion/consideration
- Questions and comments on the ESSCA constitution; what they want to come out of the constitution
- What they wanted to gain out of the presentations, e.g. life insurance

Questions to discuss:

1. ESSCA Canada constitution: what needs to change and why?
2. What do you want to see result out of this conference?

The responses/suggestions have been grouped for easier understanding and follow-up.

Executive Committee

- Should be Gender-balanced,
- Should be elected during the Annual General Assembly, and
- Term of office should be 2 years.

Board of Directors

- Should be elected during the Annual General Assembly.

Membership

- How many times do we pay membership fees - Once or every year?

Relationship with other Equatorian Communities

- There should be a clear defined role between municipal/provincial/federal Equatorian-community-based organizations
- There should be close collaboration with the provincial and city associations
- All Equatorians be involved in ESSCA-Canada

All Equatorians

- Everybody must read the constitution
- Encourage Equatorians to meet regularly to brainstorm Equatoria affairs

Strategic Plan

- Should develop 5 Year Strategic Business Plan to identify short and long terms goals
- Evidence-based work-approach; well researched frameworks
- More programs/projects are needed
- ESSCA-Canada's business/action plan should be clearly delineated: timelines, opportunities, challenges (measurable goals, objectives ... etc)
- Where is the Action plan for ESSCA-Canada? It needs to be evaluated by Members
- Encourage Equatorians across the country to support the community
- Create activities that involve the youth and Support their education
- Encourage youth to excel in extracurricular activities in addition to academics.
- Integrate a wider range of Equatorians in Canadian society
- Improve website

Advocacy

- ESSCA-Canada needs to lobby the government of Canada on behalf of Equatorians
- ESSCA-Canada should be active at the international level
- How can ESSCA help people in South Sudan?
- The money collected for emergency funds should be given to Red Cross to help the displaced Equatorians

Constitution

- Article 16 - term of the office should be 2 years
- There must be a framework or mechanism to amend the constitution
- Review and approval of the amendments in the constitution should be accomplished on the first day of the conference
- Electronic copies of the constitution should be emailed to registered members prior to the conference
- There is a need for an article in the constitution on how to mobilize financial/in-kind support for orphans and internally displaced people in Ekuatoria
- Article 17 Coordinate social services, Add vi (6) organize programs specifically towards youth development/involvement.
- Cancel all the Ekuatoria chapters (community organizations) all over Canada and open (ESSCA) branches across Canada
- Constitution must be discuss with our sub communities in various cities in Canada within a fixed time frame (Report to board of Directors)
- Article in the constitution to collect donations and school materials, medical supplies to help the orphans back home
- Language must be simple considering literacy levels of ESSCA members.

Conference presentations

- The time allocated should be appropriate; do not waste time on irrelevant issues
- Encourage use of English and Juba-Arabic during ESSCA-Canada conferences
- More presentation on Ekuatoria issues and by Equatorians, so youth can learn their origin; stay away from local-context-based presentations
- In the next conference priority should be given to Equatorian issues and ESSCA-Canada
- Priority should be given to issues that affect the well-being of the community
- More awareness about social services, life insurance and youth
- Celebration of Ekuatoria day
- Involve Equatorian elders; starting with ESSCA-Canada conference in 2017
- Identification of Equatorians by tribes during conferences
- Ekuatoria identity
- Stop unnecessary presentations e.g life insurance
- Topics of the conference must be determined by members in the conference or through emails before the conference

Conference hosting

- Clear guidelines are needed when it comes to organizing conference: responsibility of the board, executive members and the host city.
- Organizing of the conference should not organized or managed by ESSCA executives
- The hosting city should have more autonomy

Showcase Equatoria

- Next conference – video clips of Equatoria to enlighten youth

Mobilization

- Mobilize Equatorians (at the tribal/group level)
- Conduct rallies to bring awareness

Conference Venue and catering

- Amount of food, quality, service, and conference venue are below expectations
- Participants should not line up for food at once
- Rent a hall instead of hotel to save money
- Venue was not appropriate
- The hosts of the next conference should hire our women to cater
- \$15,000 is too much for conference expenses

CONFERENCE EVALUATION

The coordinating committee and executive met to evaluate the conference. The group discussed and came with the following:

Pros

1. Community and Sub-community leaders in Edmonton, led by Mr. Kichere and Mr. Obaloker, displayed tremendous loyalty and determination by mobilizing resources and charting a strategy;
2. Community members in Edmonton responded, albeit last minute, with zeal;
3. Weekly conference meetings were scheduled/mandatory prior to the conference, which assisted to meet deadlines, share updates, and evaluate up to the approaching date.
4. The volunteers really made the event successful, and those who did administrative work and staffed the doors deserve to be thanked, perhaps by holding a small celebration for them.
5. Our youngsters are eager to be involved in the community and, as they put it, they require people independent infrastructure/organizations (record keeping is therefore crucial);
6. Roles assigned; transportation, security, dance groups, note takers, speech deliverers, MCs, and receptionists.
7. Winnipeg's conference evaluation report was been accessible to Edmonton's organizing committee and it will be available to Saskatchewan.
8. Strategic planning details were distributed to members, which included mission, vision, budget, venue, hoteling, equipment (DJ, PowerPoint, etc.), and others.
9. The bishop was on time and prepared for his sessions.

Cons

1. Despite the great number of community leaders across Canada, only a few maintained open-communication and were reachable. Participation from all community leaders is highly encouraged.

2. Lack of follow-up on assigned duties from leaders contributed to minor problems. All responsibilities should be monitored to ensure completion.
3. Punctuality from the set-up crew and DJ are crucial. Planning for a secondary DJ in cases of delays.
4. Receptionist role should be rotated to ensure breaks and participation in the conference.
5. Transportation: Those assigned are to be compensated for their mileage/gas to ensure tasks are accomplished.
6. Traditional dancers are to register in advance and not during the conference. Dance leaders and MCs to monitor time allocated to different groups.
7. Number of attendees is crucial in case of emergencies. This became a challenge when managing the overcrowded facility.
8. Conference fee: Although it was agreed that those paying after the deadline and at the door would pay additional fees, this never happened.
9. Time given wasn't enough for some important topics / prioritizing time for important subjects is essential.

Areas for Improvement

1. The venue was below standard, because the committee did not have time to find possible alternatives, e.g. renting a community hall instead of a banquet hall in a hotel.
2. Hall concern - Over capacity lead to a difficult environment to control.
3. Some participants complained about the food catered. The community would have had the opportunity to prepare food at homes.
4. It seems that no clear resolutions came out of this conference; in part because urgent and demanding items (certainly the war in Equatoria region) was not given proper attention. A lot of time was devoted to things that anyone could obtain by visiting their community centre, bank, counsellor etc.
5. The revised constitution was not discussed or passed as planned. A clear foundational document should be the backbone of the organization and be reviewed from time to time through a vote or other suitable means.
6. Youth should be able to attend the traditional dances prior to time of open bar.

Recommendations

1. Coordinating committee should be strict with deadlines.
2. If possible never allow participants to pay conference fees at the door.
3. Involve our ladies in the planning and determine if it is possible for them to cater the conference.
4. Emphasize on strict time keeping each day in morning at and for all the sessions.
5. Continue to encourage youth to participate in the conferences.
6. Encourage more traditional dances displays.

ESSCA-Canada Statement of Operations
As at December 31, 2016

Amount in Canadian Dollars

<u>Revenue</u>	
Membership Fees	\$ 1,461.85
Contribution for 2016 Conference	26,240.00
Other Contributions	4,082.03
Total Revenue	\$ 31,783.88
<u>Expenses</u>	
Registration of ESSCA-Canada as Not-for-Profit Organization	\$ 304.20
Bank Charges	469.33
Conference Expenses Paid by Cheques	19,094.62
Conference payment by cash	750.00
Keynote Speaker Air ticket from to South Sudan	3,014.68
Gift to Keynote speaker (iPhone 6)	1,127.65
ESSCA President Travel to Ottawa	450.62
Humanitarian Relief Assistance to Equatorians	568.16
Total Expenses	\$ 25,779.26
Net Revenue Over Expenditures	\$ 6,004.62

Appreciation and Special Thanks

ESSCA-Canada Executive appreciates all the participants for making this conference a success financially. The coordination committees in Edmonton, Calgary, and Red Deer, for rallying the participants and making this conference a success. The hosts Edmonton in helping throughout the organization of the conference and attending the conference in record numbers.

Special thanks to Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson of diocese of Calgary for the contribution of \$2,000 towards the cost of traveling of Bishop Anthony Poggo, Bishop Jane Alexander of Edmonton for paying the accommodation of Bishop Anthony Poggo at Matrix Hotel, Edmonton Downtown. The Kuku community in Edmonton for a contribution towards the cost of traveling of Bishop and other members who contributed towards the cost of the ticket.

All presenters who put in countless hours in preparing presentations. The various ethnic groups for putting together spectacular traditional dances; the youth really enjoyed this. And all those who took time off their busy schedule to attend this conference.

Jane Ananias and Emmanuel Mabe for taking notes during the conference. Ercoph Bongomin and Mervat Guma for the financial report. Mike Lemi and Sam Obaloker for transcribing the group discussions on Day 2. The entire executive committee for putting in countless hours to make the conference a success. The board of directors for your guidance during the preparations leading to the conference.

Thank you all!

Joseph Modi
President, ESSCA-Canada