

Jubilee FUND

Mission Statement

The Jubilee Fund endeavours to advocate social justice through awareness-raising about a moral economy and through ethical financing in the form of loans and equity for community economic development.

Goals

1. To increase the community's awareness of the Fund and the need for a moral economy.
2. To increase the organization's financial strength to support future projects.
3. To finance community development initiatives not served by traditional banking institutions.

Board Members

Gabriel Dufault, President
Consultant Dufault Consulting

Janelle Siemens, Vice President
Mennonite Central Committee (Mb)

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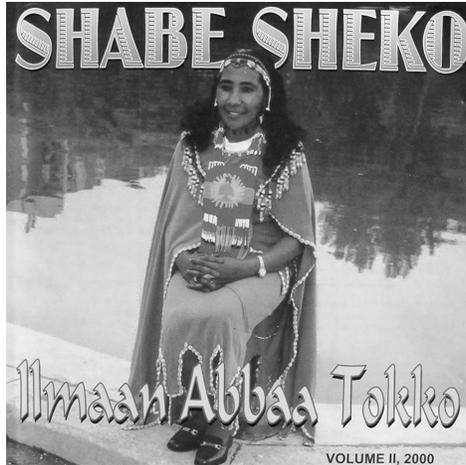
Jubilee Fund Newsletter
Vol. 1, 2006

Investing In Community Dreams

Shabe Sheko

Shabe Sheko was born in 1961 and raised in the Bale region of central Ethiopia. She is a member of the Oromo ethnic group that, despite being a significant portion of the population of Ethiopia, has long been persecuted by the post-colonial governments of that country. She loves music, especially Oromo music and has been singing since the age of thirteen. As a successful folk singer in Oromo Ethiopia, she herself has suffered significantly when her music addressed issues of injustice and human rights.

In February 1996 Shabe was detained and imprisoned in Ethiopia, enduring two years in detention centres without ever being charged. On her release, and faced with further threats from authorities, she and her eldest son Sultan, fled Ethiopia to relative safety in Kenya. They then lived as refugees in a United Nations protected-custody safe refugee camp in Nairobi for two years.



Shabe and Sultan came to Winnipeg in 2000, sponsored as refugees by the Government of Canada and the United Church in Meadowood. While Shabe was in prison and subsequently while in the refugee process in Kenya, her five other children ranging in age from ten to eighteen years were in hiding in Ethiopia. Her husband had been imprisoned at the same time as Shabe, but his whereabouts remained unknown. Once in Canada, she was able to locate her children and eventually speak to them by telephone. With the knowledge that she was now safe in Canada, they in turn were able to flee Ethiopia, spending nearly a year in Nairobi before joining her here in Winnipeg.



Shabe now lives modestly but comfortably in a housing authority townhouse in St Vital, supporting herself by working days in a restaurant and evenings as an office cleaner. The now-adult children are also self-sufficient, and are all now relocated to Brooks Alberta working in packing houses there. Her youngest child, son Mohammed, still lives with her in Winnipeg, attending grade 11 at Dakota Collegiate. Jubilee Fund representatives were pleased to attend a Citizenship Court ceremony on February 14th to see Shabe, Mohammed and older daughter Sena become citizens of Canada.

Even while struggling to re-establish herself in a new life, a new language, a new culture, a new climate and uncertain finances, Shabe felt more poetry and

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People who want to

A Message from the President **GABRIEL DUFAULT**



Gabriel Dufault

Gabriel Dufault would like to see the Jubilee Fund raise more funds so it can do more for those in need. "I think we have to become more aggressive with raising funds," Dufault, the Fund's president until 2007, asserts.

"Look at the art auction we held. It raised \$9,400. This is remarkable for a first-time effort. This helps compensate for money we don't get from governments. If we do more to close the gap with self-funding efforts, we'll have more money to get involved with other projects."

Dufault, 64, says he'd like to see the Jubilee Fund go further beyond its faith base to seek contributions from those outside the faith community. "We can be an alternative source of funding, and we can be more aggressive with our fund-raising. You don't have to be part of a church group. In a way, it's tough to raise money as a faith-based group. But we're going to have to go outside to raise more money." Dufault said one area the Fund should explore is ways to get people to remember the Jubilee Fund in their wills.

One particular area of concern for the Fund has been providing housing to immigrants. Dufault points out that one of the biggest sources of immigration to Winnipeg in recent years has been the movement of aboriginal people to the city.

"There are more first-nations people living in the city than living on all 63 First Nations (formerly called reserves) combined," he notes. "And, combined with the Métis residents, that's more than 100,000 people living in Winnipeg. "This can open some doors for us. But we have to do more outreach work with them."

For now, however, he's definitely optimistic and proud of the fact the Fund has gotten into more strategic planning because "we need to see where we'll be in the next four or five years." As well, "I feel that, as a funder of last-resort, we've been able to make a real difference with some businesses and other projects. We're different from a lot of foundations that help just organizations. We help individuals as well."

Dufault brings a wealth of experience to his job as Fund president. In addition to many years of experience in the credit union field, he currently is President of the Union Nationale Métisse, Past President of the Folk Arts Council of Manitoba and a board member of the St. Boniface Museum.

He's also a member of a group seeking to build a statue to honour explorer Pierre La Verendrye, on the Trans-Canada Highway near Lorette - the geographic centre of Canada from east to west.

Dufault also runs his own snow removal and landscaping business.

"I'm not semi-retired, so I have to juggle my work and my volunteer work a lot."

—Glen MacKenzie

Special Thanks to Our Investors

Anonymous Fund (2)
Katherine & Herman Ahrens
Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land
Elizabeth Anne Barr
In Memory of Manya & Pinya Baumel
Maria & Edward Benjamin
Elizabeth & Jerry Buckland
Centre for Christian Studies
Jessie Chudzik
Anne & Robert Duncan
In Memory of John Ell
Madeleine Enns
Beatrice & Andrew Goussaert
Grey Nuns of Manitoba (The)
L'Institute De Notre Dame de Missions
Immanuel United Church
Carl L. James
Geraldine & Eugene Kostyra
Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Mb)
Jakob Letkemann
Mary Lobb
Terri & Garry A. Loewen
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Mennonite Central Committee (Mb)
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Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions
Lynda Trono & Alan Doerkson
United Church of Canada Agassiz Presbytery
United Church of Canada Mb & NW On
Sandra Wiebe & David John Dyck

Special Thanks to Our Donors - 2005

Anonymous (4)
Rita Borthwick
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Christ Lutheran Church
Jessie Chudzik
Brian Crow
Leanne Douglas
Gabriel Dufault
Anne & Robert Duncan
Karen Duncan
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Filles de la Croix
Phyllis & Douglas Flint
Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship Church
Grey Nuns of Manitoba
Larry Kehler
Eugene Kostyra
Mennonite Central Committee (MB)
Missionary Oblate Sisters of St. Boniface
Nigel R. Mohammed
Oblates of Mary Immaculate (MB)
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Strini Reddy
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg
John Schwandt
Janelle Siemens
Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions
Sisters of the Saviour
Douglas Smith
Gladys & Terence Terichow
Mary & Gordon Toombs
Eleanor Ulasz
Imogene S. Williams
Tannis & David Young

Government and Foundation Support (2005)

Government of Manitoba, Urban Development Initiatives
The United Way of Winnipeg
The Winnipeg Foundation

"I have come to realize more and more that the greatest disease and the greatest suffering is to be unwanted, unloved, uncared for, to be shunned by everybody, to be just nobody (to no one)"

Mother Teresa

make a difference

SISTARS Community Economic Development Co-op

SISTARS Community Economic Development Co-op Inc. (Sisters Initiating Steps Towards a Renewed Society) was formed in October 2004 and incorporated in April 2005 by sixteen women who wanted to make a change for themselves and others in the Point Douglas neighbourhood. Their first project was to conduct a community survey about the issues area women faced. The women sat down together to write the survey and then went door-to-door to personally interview the residents. In their survey of 225 families, most women in the area indicated they had no one to take care of their children outside of school hours. The committee felt a day care located in their neighbourhood where they could take their children would be their first priority.

Armed with the results of the survey they approached the provincial government with a five point plan to assist Point Douglas women and their families have a brighter future. It was acknowledged, in addition to having a daycare, the women needed more education and training to help them get off social assistance and obtain better paying jobs.

The Church of the Open Door on 137 Euclid Avenue was the only location in the area to say "yes" to having the daycare operate on their premises. With perseverance and government assistance, a two year licence was obtained for the daycare with spaces for 40 children ranging in age from twelve weeks to twelve years (176 children were on the wait list). In addition, they were able to obtain funding to provide two years of education and two years of career training for the women to become certified childcare workers. It is envisioned that many of these women will work for the SISTERS Daycare once they are certified.

Another challenge the local residents faced was decent affordable housing. A non-profit housing co-operative was formed to purchase and rent local housing to the residents that are part of their program. If the

tenants after completing the program are employed and able to carry a mortgage, the house will then be sold to them. The Jubilee Fund recently approved a loan to SISTARS to purchase a house that has become part of a newly formed non-profit housing co-op. The house purchased by SISTARS will eventually be sold to one of their members who is currently working on her childcare certificate. Once she has completed the course, she will be employed full time at the day care and will be able to purchase the home for her family.

In speaking with Linda Bradley, who is the co-chair (Olive Wreggitt is the other co-chair); she indicated they currently have 40 active volunteer members who meet on a regular basis. The members are involved with speaking at meetings and conferences, lobbying government and writing proposals. They presently are moving forward with plans to build a SISTER'S Daycare and Senior's Drop-In Centre at the historic Barber House property (which was destroyed by fire several years ago). They plan to repair the outside so that it retains its historic significance. When Bradley was asked what drives the group she answered, "We have dream sessions. We want to make the projects as close to the dreams of our residents."



Jubilee Fund Art and Antique Auction

The Jubilee Fund held their first Art and Antique Auction on November 24th, 2005. It was a great success raising more than \$9,400. These dollars will allow the Fund to continue its work in promoting self-reliance, dignity, self-respect and a better quality of life for healthier communities.

There were approximately 160 persons in attendance. A total of eleven antique pieces (including a 100 year organ), seven soapstone carvings and 66 pieces of art were auctioned. In addition, there was a silent auction table and a draw basket table, both which proved to be great hits with those in attendance. Everyone left the action very pleased with their purchases.

Special thanks goes to our Major Sponsor Assiniboine Credit Union who gave us excellent support and publicity; the Silver Sponsor was the Oblate Sisters of St. Boniface who donated their auditorium and made a major financial contribution. Bill Knight of Bill Knight Flooring donated his services as our auctioneer; Concourse Art Gallery provided several paintings and professional advise; and Sister Cécile Perrin who donated sixteen paintings from her private collection. In total, donations were

received from 54 artists, businesses and private citizens.

For a full listing of all donors, please go to our website at www.jubileefund.ca.

Two door prize draws were held. Arnold Ross donated his original water colour "Frosty Morning" that was won by Denise Habek and Concourse Gallery donated an original silk screen painting by Ray Baptiste "Herron" that was won by Sister Jean Ell.

The Second Annual Art Auction will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2006 at the Missionary Oblate Sisters of St. Boniface, 601 Aulneau Street. If you have any art, collectibles and/or antiques that you wish to donate, or wish further information please call Rita at 589-5001



Shabe Sheko (continued)

music wanting to come out of her. When she had enough songs assembled to fill a new CD, she then had to face the business costs of studio recording and reproduction before realizing the revenue from sales of the CD. John Schwandt, a United Church member involved in refugee support and incidentally a Jubilee Fund board member, suggested she approach the Fund and its partner the Assiniboine Credit Union for a loan to assist her with production costs. The CDs will be sold most largely in the Oromo Diaspora, at a major Ethiopian gathering in July in Minneapolis, in the significant Horn of Africa population in Toronto and elsewhere across Canada and even around the world. Her marketing plans include performances this spring at Meadowood United, the West End Cultural Centre and possibly the Winnipeg Folk Festival this summer.

We have booked Shabe to perform at the Jubilee Fund Annual Meeting on March 22, 2006. According to her business plan her new music will be in place and members will be able to buy newly-pressed CDs at that time.

www.jubileefund.ca

Yes, I want to Invest in People – Invest in Our Community

I would like to purchase a Jubilee Investment Certificate. Please find enclosed my cheque for:

\$500.00 _____ \$1,000.00 _____ \$1,500.00 _____ Other \$ _____

I would like to support the work done by the Jubilee Fund Inc. Please find enclosed my donation for:

\$25.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ \$250.00 _____ Other \$ _____

I would like to become a monthly donor to The Jubilee Fund Inc. Please call me to arrange monthly automatic withdrawal.

I am interested in becoming a Member.

I would like to volunteer _____ as a business mentor _____ as a committee member

I would like more information. Please telephone me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

All donations are tax deductible and a tax receipt will be issued.

Charitable tax # 6758 5481 RR0001

**“Goodness is the only investment
that never fails”**

Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

The Jubilee Fund Inc.

Ste. 210 - 207 Fort Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1E2
Telephone: 204 - 589-5001 or 975-2650 Fax: 204 - 977-0123
Email: rita@jubileefund.ca or jubileefund@shaw.ca

If we have sent this newsletter to the wrong person, or you are no longer interested in receiving it, please call Rita Borthwick at 589-5001 or email: rita@jubileefund.ca

www.jubileefund.ca

Jubilee Fund Loan Guarantee Recipients

Social Projects

Alternative Financial Services
Career Pathing Centre (NECRC)
Cornish Child Care Centre
King's Park Childcare Centre Inc.
Panda Bear Daycare Co-op

Business Projects

Community Financial Services
Centre
GD – 02 Worker Co-op
GGR Mould Remediation Services
Mondragon Worker Cooperative Ltd.
Murdo Scribe Centre (NECRC)
New Earth Bakery
Northern Star Worker Co-op
Organic Planet (sole proprietorship)
Organic Planet Worker Co-op
Shabe Sheko
Your Place Hair Design

Housing Projects

Heart Housing Inc.
North End Housing Project: 4 houses
SISTARS Community Economic
Development Co-op
Spence Neighbourhood Association:
2 infill housing homes
Student Apartments in Spence
Neighbourhood (Young Street)
Student/Single Parent Apartments in
West Broadway (Furby Street)

Membership

Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land
Archdiocese of St. Boniface
Christ Lutheran Church
Grey Nuns of Manitoba (The)
KAIROS, Cambrian-Agassiz Region
Mennonite Central Committee (Mb)
Missionary Oblate Sisters of St. Boniface
Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Mb)
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg
St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus & Mary
Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions
Sisters of the Saviour
United Church of Canada-Agassiz
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