

SPRING

2011

# THE Rice Raiser Campaign 2011

In February, the sixth Rice Raiser Campaign was kicked off at Save-On-Foods in Abbotsford. Volunteers included teachers and students from Abbotsford Christian Middle School and Chief Dan George Middle School and many others. Save-On Foods customers were invited to purchase and donate bags of rice for the local food bank and thanks to Save-On-Foods's donation of the rice, their money was sent to help feed people globally.



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## Students learned, local people received food, and funds were sent to help people globally.

The Rice Raiser Campaign is an educational youth mobilized community event. It's focus is to raise awareness about hunger and provide our youth a way to respond. As students are exposed to the truths and realities about hunger in our world, they become passionate about helping and through a variety of creative ways, they collect both food and money. The food stays local and the money goes global. Evaluations capture the thoughts and impact that the Rice Raiser Campaign is having and we've included a few comments in this newsletter.

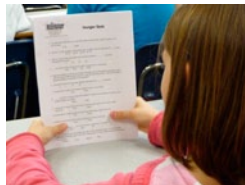
*"This is the first year in which I have had the opportunity to really learn about world hunger and poverty. This has been an experience I will never forget.*

*Having speakers who had actually been to these countries, came in and talking about their unique experiences was very interesting.*

*I feel like now, I really understand and can appreciate the ordeals that people all over the world face every day. I also understand how important it is to participate in charities that are helping this cause.*

*I think it's hugely important because becoming aware of these problems is the first step in solving them." Middle school – Catherine*

*"I learned that through the Rice Raiser Campaign we are stopping the hunger cycle for many people. It made me realize how much wealth we have and we should share it.*



*I feel that it's important to learn about hunger because if you are educated, you can be more involved in the future and it could help you make better life choices. I also believe that we can stop hunger, if we just take the time to do it!"*



Abbotsford Christian Middle School, Mrs Bot's grade 6 students.

Students help kick off the Rice Raiser Campaign

Act Locally—Act Globally

*To date, 33 schools have participated in this year's Rice Raiser Campaign from Vancouver Island to Manitoba!*

*Student were impacted - their awareness about hunger was increased and people were provided food both locally and globally in four different developing countries!*



# The 2011 Rice Raiser Campaign



## CONGRATULATIONS



Middle School  
Rice Bowl  
Trophy

To  
Abbotsford  
Christian Middle  
School  
and  
Duncan  
Christian  
Secondary School -  
Top food 'n funds  
raisers



Secondary  
School Rice Bowl  
Trophy



## 2011 Participating Schools

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Abbotsford Christian Middle          | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Abbotsford Collegiate                | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Abbotsford Traditional Middle        | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Abbotsford. Traditional Secondary    | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Eugene Reimer Middle                 | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Columbia Bible College               | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Cornerstone Christian                | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Chief Dan George Middle              | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Jackson Elementary                   | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Abbotsford Middle                    | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Abbotsford School of Integrated Arts | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Rick Hansen Secondary                | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Ten Broeck Elementary                | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Robert Bateman Secondary             | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Yale Secondary                       | Abbotsford, BC     |
| Moscrop Secondary                    | Burnaby, BC        |
| Our Lady of Mercy Elementary         | Burnaby, BC        |
| Unity Christian Elementary           | Chilliwack, BC     |
| Chilliwack Secondary                 | Chilliwack, BC     |
| GW Graham Secondary                  | Chilliwack, BC     |
| Duncan Christian                     | Duncan, BC         |
| Kelowna Secondary                    | Kelowna, BC        |
| Hope Lutheran School                 | Port Coquitlam, BC |
| Southridge Secondary                 | Surrey, BC         |
| Colebrook Elementary                 | Surrey, BC         |
| King George United                   | Vancouver, BC      |
| Spectrum Community Secondary         | Victoria, BC       |
| Carpathia School                     | Winnipeg, Manitoba |
| Grosvenor Elementary                 | Winnipeg, Manitoba |
| St. John's High School               | Winnipeg, Manitoba |
| Voyageur Elementary School           | Winnipeg, Manitoba |
| Collingwood School                   | West Vancouver, BC |
| Northview Community Church           | Abbotsford, BC     |

## Ever wonder what it takes to be a Hero?

This year's Rice Raiser theme is **Heroes!** We want our youth to be aware that in sharing some of their money that they typically spend on candy, drinks, clothes and other things, they can really make a difference to people who struggle for survival on \$2 or less a day.

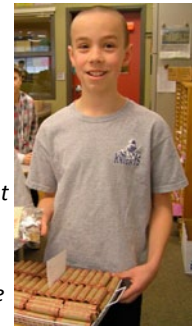
Even if our youth don't have a lot of spare change, they'll learn that collectively they can make money much more easily here in Canada than many others who live in developing countries will ever be able to do.

It is our hope that our youth will have a greater appreciation for what they have, for where they live and that they will develop good practices to care for the poor and hungry of this world all of their lives.

### One of our Hero Stories :

*"Hi my name is Gideon Brandsma. I'm a grade six student from Abbotsford Christian Middle School. This spring the Rice Raiser came to our school. My peers and I watched a video slideshow about the countries we would be supporting in the next two weeks. I was excited to help and wondered what I could do that would be most effective, so I put on my High-Tech Thinking Cap® and started brainstorming. After thinking for a couple days I decided (with permission from my parents) that I wanted to shave my head. I sent out a mass email to lots of people and I promised that if I raised \$250 I would shave my head. Over the next two weeks I collected money and shocked myself by raising over \$500.*

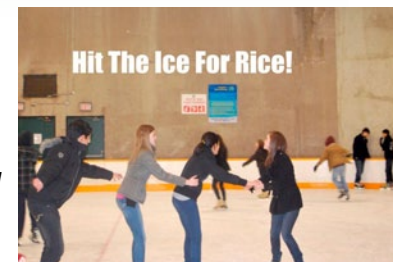
*All of my thanks goes to the Rice Raiser and the people who supported me. Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity to help others in need."*



Abbotsford School of Integrated Arts decorated canvas bags to auction off. Pictured here on display at the Reach Art Gallery. They also collected rice and food in their Rice Raiser Campaign.



Chief Dan George Middle School counts over 1700 kilograms of rice !!!



King George Secondary School students enjoyed skating as an activity to collect food and funds for the hungry.

Register your school for the next Rice Raiser Campaign at [www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

# A Walk for the Rice Reason

## HAVE A RICE DAY - New Initiatives

### HAVE A RICE DAY DATES

October 16 -	World Food Day
November 20 -	World Child's Day
December 12 -	Human Rights Day
March 22 -	World Water Day
April 7 -	World Health Day
May 15 -	World Family Day
August 19 -	Humanitarian Day

RICE RAISER PROJECT -  
"A GOOD EXAMPLE OF  
WORKING TOGETHER TO  
TRANSFORM LIVES "



Ever wonder if the money you give to projects have a lasting impact on the people? Well it most certainly does - probably more than we'll ever know. This past April we received a great reminder of that from our Global Partners, Hungry For Life: Back in 2009 we were working on a project in the community of Boro, Kenya with HFL to raise funds for goats and chickens so that widows caring for orphans could become more food secure. The animals gave great hope and provided the families with food and potential for earning money. The project was very successful in helping these people.

In a letter acknowledging the good work of our Global Partner, HFL, His Excellency, Simon Nabukwesi, High Commissioner for Kenya to Canada, used this Rice Raiser Campaign project as his example of ways we can collectively transform people's lives.

The seven annual occasions to HAVE A RICE DAY are effectively helping people to consider the needs of the hungry and respond in creative and fun ways.

*"It's really amazing how substituting a simple bowl of rice for your meal can help you realize just how fortunate we are. I know I can eat before and I can eat afterwards, but it's sitting down to that one cup portion of rice without all the extras that makes me consider how difficult life is for many millions of people who strive to live on similar meager portions and nutrition."*

Lorri Sawatsky - HAVE A RICE DAY /  
Hunger Response Int. Founder

### MEMORIES OF RICE AT WEDDING INSPIRES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Ross and Barb Hunter on celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary!



Inspired by their memories of rice tossed at them as they were married, the couple thought how appropriate it would be to have rice featured in celebrating their 50th anniversary. This time however, they requested donations of rice to help feed the hungry in their community in lieu of gifts. Cash donations were also received to help feed people globally in the 2011 Rice Raiser Campaign Global Projects. Thank you to the Hunters and to all who gave.

The value of the rice and cash combined equaled **\$1,226.50!!**

What an inspiration and testimony of love!! And...its another 'Hero' story as the Hunters used their momentous and very special day to help others!

### Who is participating in HAVE A RICE DAYS?

Lots of people are! Teachers are taking it to their classrooms using it as an effective way to allow students a 'taste' of hunger and helping them understand that it isn't just a shortage of food to eat that makes people hungry, but it's not having sufficient nutrients so that one's health is affected.

Business people are participating during their lunch hours and talking about the disparity that exists as they discuss the information they learn about hunger.

Young and older people are learning about the tremendous issues of fresh clean water on World Water Day and they are appreciating the need for vast amounts of it to grow food and keep bodies healthy.

Many people do not have access to clean water and suffer illness and disease...and many areas are now drought prone and can no longer grow crops, causing hunger.

Moms are serving up rice - just rice for dinner as they participate in a 'Meal Exchange' with a family from a developing country on the International Day of the Family in May.

And, since we initiated our first annual Walk for the Rice Reason this past April for World Health Day, people are enjoying doing something physical in support and recognition of the need for sufficient nutritious food for everyone!



New HAVE A RICE DAY Initiatives

The next HAVE A RICE DAY is

August 19 - **World Humanitarian Day** - Do something for humanity's sake...check out our website: [www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

Supporters and Sponsors

THANK YOU!!  
**save on foods**

A big shout out to our great supporters, Abbotsford Save-On-Foods who have generously donated rice, sponsored t-shirts, canvas bags and provided great gifts for our events!!



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Helping us share the great news!



Special thanks to Kiwanis: the different Kiwanis Key Clubs at schools and to the Abbotsford Kiwanis Club who cooked and served rice for our Walk For the Rice Reason in April.



The First Annual Walk for the Rice Reason

# Upcoming Events

**July 23rd 2011**

**Abbotsford International Rugby Sevens Tournament**

Come out to the third Abbotsford Rugby Sevens Tournament and visit our booth.

Great game - great summer fun!

[www.abbotsfordsevens.com](http://www.abbotsfordsevens.com)

Let us know if you would like to volunteer! 604-850-5891 or [lorri@hungerresponse.org](mailto:lorri@hungerresponse.org)

**August 19th 2011**

**HAVE A RICE DAY on World Humanitarian Day**

Access the humanitarian inside you and use this day to donate to organizations like Hunger Response International to help their work of helping those in need. This way we'll be working together !!

**October 1st 2011**

**HRI Global Heartbeat Annual Fundraising Dinner**

Our major fundraising event for Hunger Response Int.'s operational expenses that enable us to do the great work that we do.

**October 16, 2011**

**HAVE A RICE DAY on World Food Day**

Join us in responsive action to acknowledge the fact that millions of people are dying from lack of food! [www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

## Global Heartbeat Fundraising Dinner

*An evening you won't want to miss!* Get your ticket now!!

Global Heartbeat 2011 is an evening filled with cultural vibe. We are delighted to have the Drum Café join us and together we will **Listen** for the beat of life!!

Global Heartbeat Dinner is Hunger Response Int.'s primary way to raise much needed financial support for operational expenses. Tickets are on sale now and you can purchase them online:

[www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

There are wonderful opportunities for sponsorship if you would like to showcase your business. Contact us to talk about the right fit for your company. Take advantage of our special early bird offer for purchasing a table and save money before Sept.15. Details are on our website:

[www.hungerresponses.org](http://www.hungerresponses.org)



**Hunger Response International's 4th Annual Fundraising Dinner and Auction**

**Saturday, October 1 @ 5:30 pm**

Cascade Community Church, 35190 DeLair Rd., Abbotsford, BC

Listen... a sound so small as a heartbeat.

It is the first sound a child hears. It is their mother's heart. It is life.

Their own heart joins the rhythms of life and grows strong as they have access to sufficient nutritional food and their bodies develop.

A drum beat announces momentous moments, it's the celebration of dance and it communicates messages of importance.



Buy your tickets now! Don't miss out!

**Hunger Response International**  
[www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

**LISTEN** - an interactive evening you won't want to miss!

Featuring

**Market Place opens 5:30 pm - canapés served**

**Filled with amazing deals!**

**The Drum Café: 6:15 pm**

An interactive global drumming experience

**International Dinner: 7:00 pm - African, Asian, Mexican**

Prepared by Cascade Culinary Arts School

**Comedian - Clifford Prang (formerly - Panic Squad)**  
Host and Auctioneer

**Tickets \$75 (\$25 tax receiptable)**

Table of 8 - \$560 (before Sept. 15, 2011)

**RSVP by September 5, 2011**

Tickets available online through PayPal: [www.hungerresponse.org](http://www.hungerresponse.org)

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Watch for our Fall Newsletter to read the results of how together we helped people locally and globally through our 2011 four global projects : Cambodia, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Mexico