



BILL PRANKARD EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

May 2015

THE ARCTIC HOPE PROJECT:

Striking a Major Blow to the Enemy's Hold on Canada's Arctic Youth

The month of April 2015 will long be remembered as a turning point in the lives of young people in Cape Dorset, NU, where BPEA conducted its first *Arctic Hope Project*.

For years my heart ached from witnessing decades of hopelessness and despair. The horrific effects of past traumas have emotionally crippled promising young people, causing some to even resort to suicide. As I sought the Lord, He dropped a plan into my heart that culminated in the formation of the *Arctic Hope Project*, which focuses on healing their deep inner hurts and giving them hope for the future.

The dream became reality this past April, with the completion of Phase One of this long-term plan in Cape Dorset, NU, led and facilitated by Steven Carleton, the Director of *AHP*. He and his wife, Becky, have worked tirelessly and poured their hearts into the preparation of this vital program. Cape Dorset was the most logical place to introduce the program, as it has an extensive and horrible history of abuse. The *Arctic Hope Project* is designed to minister in-depth to the youth, to see this trend stopped and replaced with hope, vision and purpose.

The ten-day program began by connecting at a heart level with the participants – young people chosen with the input of local leaders, including the school principal, social workers and mental health nurse. Dr. Grant and Kathy Mullen, Spirit-filled experts in mental and emotional healing, led the first classes, teaching vital Biblical truths to help

them open their hearts to release the pain and shame they have carried, and to receive God's healing love.



The community joins us for our weekend conference

As the days progressed, Steven and his mother, Reepa Evic-Carleton, shared about the power of forgiveness. Steven had overcome the trauma of sexual abuse as a teenager so he could identify with the young people of Cape Dorset, and is a shining example of God's healing power. Reepa is a Cultural Counselor to the Inuit, and as a dedicated believer, is able to relate as one of them, while providing powerful spiritual insight. She opened one class with a lighting of the Qulliq, a traditional Inuit oil lamp, making spiritual applications as she shared and led them in prayer in their Inuktitut language. The entire atmosphere of the class changed during this session, bringing a sense of peace and stillness, as the Holy Spirit accomplished something amazingly personal and powerful in their hearts. Kathryn Mullen then closed the day with more teaching and ministry.

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Additional team members arrived with Bill at the end of the week, in preparation for a Community-wide Conference geared toward youth. Worship leaders Braden Scharfenberg and Ty Wigemyr ushered in a powerful presence of the Lord as they sang and played, and Travis Holownia, a dynamic young evangelist who leads the Resurgence youth movement in Edmonton, preached a transformative message on the Power of the Cross. The hunger of hearts in the place was evidenced by the response as several came forward to commit their lives to Christ. Throughout the weekend, Bill and the other team members shared their hearts and ministered in the power of the Spirit, and deeply touched the hearts of the community's youth. Braden was particularly struck by their response when he shared his deeply personal story. This is what Braden said about that experience:

"I felt to preach on the danger of unforgiveness and shared my own story. The room completely opened up and they started to let go of their own heavy weights and burdens. I am so blown away by the power of a testimony and how God is capable of dealing with our issues. There were quite a few testimonies but my favourite was one young man who said when he came in he was feeling suicidal but after releasing forgiveness he said he felt really good. People were set free last night from suicide, shame, and most importantly unforgiveness. Healing is a process and it's really beginning in Cape Dorset."



Braden shares his deeply personal story

In one of the sessions, Travis Holownia brought a word about each of them being part of God's dream, and as they're able to come to a place of wholeness and healing

they then not only become an active part His dream, but can also be instrumental in each others' dreams. They took extra time at the end to pray and prophesy over every single person, and then Travis brought them all together into a circle where they began to pray and intercede for Cape Dorset.



Steven plays the native drum and dances during worship

One of the students who attended faithfully was an Inuk young lady who had been in the presentation that Steven gave at the high school in December, 2014, and heard about God's ability to heal broken places of our heart and emotions. She shared that she had entertained suicidal thoughts prior to the Arctic Hope Project. After being ministered to each day to receive emotional and spiritual healing, and then being filled with hope and vision during the leadership training sessions, she wrote Steven a letter. She stated that she no longer has a desire to commit suicide, and wants to pray with people to overcome the same kind of struggles as she faced.

In addition to the youth who have been powerfully impacted by the sessions, each team member has expressed how the *Arctic Hope Project* personally affected them. Dr. Grant Mullen commented, ***"What a privilege to be a part of such an unprecedented, life-changing and community shaping project."*** Travis Holownia said, ***"Honoured to be a part of Arctic Hope this last weekend in Cape Dorset! Holy Spirit moved and many people met Jesus for the first time. Thank you for your prayers, words, and partnership! Honoured to serve Bill Prankard and his team in ending suicide in Canada's North!"*** And Reepa commented, ***"What a good God we have! How He loves all of mankind. Thank you for being obedient."***



After the Conference, Steven and Tagak Curley hosted two days of Youth and Elder roundtables. Tagak is one of the most admired and respected elders in the entire north, so it was a particular honour to have his involvement in the *Arctic Hope Project*. Steven witnessed the reaction of the youth when they realized he was there and said, ***“As the young people were coming into the church to find their seats, their mouths all dropped when they saw Tagak sitting in the front row. And these weren't 20 year olds, we're talking some as young as 13. As soon as they saw him ALL of them, one by one, walked up to him, shook his hand and paid their respects. The culture of honour that follows this man is truly remarkable. He's incredibly soft spoken, but when he speaks, you feel as though you're sitting in the presence of a king. And all of these young people responded as such.”*** The words of wisdom he spoke and the deposit of hope he sowed into their lives is immeasurable.

This phase was one of the most important and fruitful portions of the *Arctic Hope Project*. Up to twelve youth and five elders participated in these sessions. According to the locals, until these sessions, there had never been a time or venue when these two generations sat down to dialogue together. It resulted in a mutual respect for one another, and plans to continue to work together to create a Youth & Elder Committee to prepare the up-coming generation to become effective community leaders. Reflecting on the initiative after the meetings were completed, Tagak said, ***“I must say I am blessed and still excited to see and be a part of the Arctic Hope project. This is a life changing plan of God; it will not only touch local youth and set them free but it will move beyond local as we stay tuned with the move of God.”***

Throughout the ten-day *Arctic Hope* sessions, Inuit youth were captivated with the spirit of hope, and discovered that their lives are full of potential. They now recognize that it is the enemy's plan to kill, steal and destroy them, but as they encountered God in a life-changing way, they have experienced hope and healing for the deep emotional wounds they've carried for so long. Steven and Becky Carleton gave themselves tirelessly to organize and lead this initiative, and are seeing powerful fruit for their labours of love. As they reflected on the results of the

Cape Dorset Arctic Hope Project, Becky commented, ***“God is using AHP to change the fabric of this community in such a beautiful way, but we couldn't do it without the willingness of both the youth and the elders, so together, it continues to truly be a team effort! We want to thank you (our partners) again SO much for your prayers! This has been such a huge learning curve for both Steven and I, but even in the challenges God has been so faithful.”***



Tagak Curley is a highly respected elder

This is just the beginning! Steven and Becky will oversee the follow-up portions of the Arctic Hope Project in Cape Dorset. Steven will return in the summer to ensure that the young people who were so powerfully transformed continue to stay “plugged in” to the Lord, and that the community leaders do their part to embrace the youth in working toward Cape Dorset's future. We have committed to pour into these youth over the next five years, and believe this long term investment of time, finances, Biblical values and prayers will result in a harvest of spiritually and emotionally healed young community leaders, filled with hope and resilience. A strong foundation of faith has been established in their hearts, and they know who they are in Christ. These young lives that were some of Canada's most victimized and abused, have become examples of God's healing and transformative nature. They have the potential of turning around the present statistics of hopelessness, despair and suicide in Nunavut, and helping to make it a place of wholeness and abundant life!



As I reflect on the enormous impact the Arctic Hope Project has already made, I thank God for every partner who has prayed faithfully and so generously sowed into these precious lives. We had initially approached the Nunavut government and other agencies to embrace and fund this project, but while they wholeheartedly endorse all that we are doing, they were unable to provide funding due to its integrally Christian content. This was actually a blessing in disguise, as partners rose up and sponsored the entire AHP, and in so doing, gave us total freedom to allow

the Holy Spirit's power to become the key ingredient in its success.

We can't quit now! The follow-up phases of the Arctic Hope Project are as vital as the sessions just completed. That's why we need you to keep praying, keep giving and keep believing with us to see Canada's north healed and transformed. Please invest in these precious lives and help us see Jesus have dominion from sea to sea and at the ENDS OF THE EARTH!



**Repulse Bay, NU
WORKERS NEEDED**

For the past two years we've been working at providing a new church and ministry facility in Repulse Bay, NU. Thanks to the generosity of our partners, all the materials and furnishings are paid for and shipped. Contractor Jeff Fransky has agreed to oversee the construction and will begin in early June, and he needs experienced construction workers to volunteer one or two weeks of their time to assist him. This is a Mission Project in which you can give your labours to bless the north!

- **Construction experience required**
- **Raise your own airfare**
- **Accommodation will be provided in Inuit homes**
- **Experience life "on the tundra" and bless Canada's Inuit!**

Contact info@bpea.com or call 1-888-344-6333 for details

Kingdom Now Conference
June 10-13, 2015
Lighthouse Pentecostal Church
49 Boulder Blvd. Stony Plain, AB

Canada Arise Conference
June 17-20, 2015
Oasis Fellowship
10126 101 Ave, Grande Prairie, AB

Mount Zion Camp
July 3 -5, 2015
2641 Weslemkoon Lake Rd.
Gilmour, ON

Lloyminster Gospel Fellowship
June 13-14, 2015
4620 47 Ave, Lloydminster, SK

Dominion Conference
June 29-July 1, 2015
Southside Victory Church
6402-1A St. SW Calgary, AB

Dudley, England
August 13-16
Revival Fires

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