



Jambo Karibu

In this second edition of our newsletter, it is a pleasure for me to share some thoughts about our project. We have accomplished a great deal since we started the Mwanza Mining Project about two years ago. Through a combination of training in Canada and Tanzania and industry involvement, the impact of the Mining Project is becoming apparent. New courses have been introduced at the Mwanza Regional Vocational Training Centre (MRVC), and staff are receiving training, which will serve to strengthen the mining and trades programs. Exchanges continue between Cambrian College and MRVC.

I am equally pleased to announce that the Enterprise Centre at MRVC will become functional in January 2009, which will serve the small-scale sector. Mr. Mrefu and Mrs. Ngowi were at the College from October 10 to October 28 to learn about Cambrian's Enterprise Centre, to work on a business plan for The Enterprise Unit at MRVC, and to learn about industry-institute interaction.

In June, Professor Jim Spencer's workshops on business development were well-received by the artisans and small operators in Geita. In October, the sessions on good governance that were delivered by Sonia Del Missier in Mwanza and in Dar-es-Salaam to both VETA and MRVC staff indicate that technical education in Tanzania needs to undergo reforms at all levels.

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The Program Advisory Committee (PAC) continues to provide valuable support and direction, and I am grateful to our industry partners in Tanzania. The Joint Project Management (JPC) and PAC will meet in January 2009, to review Project activities. As part of our internationalization strategy, I am delighted that two of our students, Ashley Young and Emily Schinko, will complete a six-week placement at MRVC starting January 5, 2009. I am sure it will be a positive and rewarding experience for them both.

Our appreciation to everyone associated with the Mining Project. A special thanks to Susan Isaac at ACCC, and VETA for its commitment.

Karibu!

Ibrahim Alladin
Project Coordinator

Sonia Del Missier delivers workshops on good governance in Tanzania

Sonia Del Missier, Vice President Academic at Cambrian College returned to Tanzania in October. On her second visit to Mwanza, she was accompanied by her husband, Jesse Winters. During the week spent there, she delivered two sessions on good governance. The first group she addressed was staff from the Mwanza VTC and Veta Lake Zone Region. The same presentation was



given later in the week to staff at VETA national office as well as VETA regional directors. Both sessions were well attended and participants were eager to learn more about how Cambrian College practices good governance.

While in Tanzania, Sonia also had the opportunity to visit Geita and meet with some of the small scale miners there. She witnessed first hand some of the very basic methods being used to prospect, extract and process the minerals. During her meeting with the miners, they expressed their deepest appreciation for the sessions that Professor Jim Spencer had delivered earlier in the year. Ms. Del Missier also visited Bulyanhulu Mine (Barrick's gold mine in Geita) and toured the mine's

training facilities with Barrick staff. It was an opportunity to learn more about the different types of in-service training conducted by Barrick to its miners as well as to discuss ways in which Barrick could lend support to the Mwanza Mining Project.

While in Tanzania, Sonia and her husband found the time to visit Serengeti National Park and observe the migration of the wildebeest and zebra.

"It was great to be back in Tanzania, and I am pleased that the project is making some progress," said Ms. Del Missier. "There is still much to be done in our goal to help increase capacity at MRVTC, so that it can better serve the needs of the mining industry."

Emily and Ashley off to Mwanza

Two students from Cambrian's three-year Business Administration program are off to Mwanza to start their placement on January 5, 2009. Ashley Young and Emily Schinko will spend six weeks at the Mwanza Regional Vocational Training Centre in Mwanza. We look forward to their stories when they return. Good luck Emily and Ashley.



Linking education with industry

In October, Enock Kibendela, the Mwanza Mining Project Coordinator, spent two weeks in Canada to gain a better understanding of how Canadian community colleges work with industry. One of the components of the Mining Project is to develop closer relations between the Mwanza Regional Vocational Training Centre (MRVC) and the business community in Tanzania. During his visit to Canada, Kibendela spent time at The Enterprise Centre at Cambrian College in Sudbury. He also attended training sessions that were delivered by the College and met representatives from several local businesses. He was very impressed how colleges work with industry and the support Cambrian College receives from local companies. The information that he has gathered about these types of education/business relationships will become the model that he would like to see in Tanzania. The Vocational

Education Training Authority (VETA) in Tanzania is leading the way to get the private sector more involved in the delivery of technical education in the country. During his visit to Canada last year, Mr. Moshi, the Director General of VETA stated: "Technical and vocational education in Tanzania requires reforms so that a partnership could evolve between the training centres and the business community. The Canadian system works very well, and through the Program Advisory Committees, industry is well connected with education."



Training for the small scale sector

During the month of June 2008, I was approached by Cambrian International to participate in a work project in Tanzania. Cambrian College and Vocational Education and Training Authority of Tanzania (VETA) are partners in identifying short training courses for the small scale mining sector. I was asked to deliver training workshops in small business development and to develop a training plan for the small scale mining sector.

My wife Christine and I flew into the capital Dar Es Salaam and then proceeded to fly to the coast of Lake Victoria in northern Tanzania to the town of Mwanza. There I spent a few days working with the Regional Office and acclimatizing myself to this beautiful country. I proceeded by ferry and jeep for



another four hours to the heartland of Tanzania and a community called Geita. It was here that I worked with a group of approximately twenty small-scale gold miners on their business skills and worked towards the development of formal Business Plans.

My experiences with the people of Tanzania were wonderful. The partners at VETA were professional and excited about the opportunities and information that we could provide. The participants in the workshops learned valuable tools in Business Plan development that will add to their skill set as entrepreneurial men and women.

My wife, who is a nurse, was able to volunteer at an orphanage in Geita. Her experiences and the kindness she received from the children and workers at the orphanage were wonderful and joyful.

We extended our time in Tanzania after our work period by experiencing the Serengeti and the island of Zanzibar.

The people of Tanzania are energetic, hard working, open to new ideas and very friendly.

I hope to continue our work with VETA and I look forward to our Tanzanian partners visiting Cambrian College so that we can offer them the kind of hospitality that I received on my travels to their beautiful country.

Jim Spencer

Training in Canada for enterprise development in Tanzania

Mr. Mrefu from Mwanza Regional Vocational Training Centre (MRVC) and Mrs. Ngowi from VETA Headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam spent two weeks at the Enterprise Centre at Cambrian College in Sudbury. MRVC is gearing up to launch its own Enterprise Centre in Mwanza with a sub-office in Geita in January 2009. Mr. Mrefu will assume the role of Coordinator of the Mwanza Enterprise Centre, while Mrs. Ngowi will work with training centres across Tanzania to develop business linkages with industry. During their visit, our two visitors saw Niagara Falls, experienced city life in Toronto, enjoyed the northern Ontario scenery and visited Manitoulin Island.

What did they think of our vast land? Mrs. Ngowi remarked: "Canada is like a dream and I still cannot believe that I made it. What I learnt is very valuable and I will push for changes." As for Mr. Mrefu, he said: "I cannot thank Cambrian College enough for the hospitality and warmth given to us. I will always remember this unique experience."





Katavi National Park

Isolated, untrammelled and seldom visited, Katavi is a true wilderness, providing the few intrepid souls who make it there with a thrilling taste of Africa as it must have been a century ago.

Tanzania's third largest national park, it lies in the remote southwest of the country, within a truncated arm of the Rift Valley that terminates in the shallow, brooding expanse of Lake Rukwa.

The bulk of Katavi supports a hypnotically featureless cover of tangled brachystegia woodland, home to substantial but elusive populations of the localised eland, sable and roan antelopes. But the main focus for game viewing within the park is the Katuma River and associated floodplains such as the seasonal Lakes Katavi and Chada. During the rainy season, these lush, marshy lakes are a haven for myriad waterbirds, and they also support Tanzania's densest concentrations of hippo and crocodile.

It is during the dry season, when the floodwaters retreat, that Katavi truly comes into its own. The Katuma, reduced to a shallow, muddy trickle, forms the only source of drinking water for miles around, and the flanking floodplains support game concentrations that defy belief. An estimated 4,000 elephants might converge on the area, together with several herds of 1,000-plus buffalo, while an abundance of giraffe, zebra, impala and reedbuck provide easy pickings for the numerous lion prides and spotted hyena clans whose territories converge on the floodplains.

Katavi's most singular wildlife spectacle is provided by its hippos. Towards the end of the dry season, up to 200 individuals might flop together in any riverine pool of sufficient depth. And as more hippos gather in one place, so does male rivalry heat up – bloody territorial fights are an everyday occurrence, with the vanquished male forced to lurk hapless on the open plains until it gathers sufficient confidence to mount another challenge.

About Katavi National Park

Size: 4,471 sq km (1,727 sq miles).

Location; Southwest Tanzania, east of Lake Tanganyika.

The headquarters at Sitalike lie 40km (25 miles) south of Mpanda town.

Getting there

Charter flights from Dar or Arusha.

A tough but spectacular day's drive from Mbeya (550 km/340 miles), or in the dry season only from Kigoma (390 km/240 miles).

It is possible to reach Mpanda by rail from Dar via Tabora, then to catch public transport to Sitalike, where game drives can be arranged. If travelling overland, allow plenty of time to get there and back.

What to do

Walking, driving and camping safaris. Near Lake Katavi, visit the tamarind tree inhabited by the spirit of the legendary hunter Katabi (for whom the park is named) – offerings are still left here by locals seeking the spirit's blessing.

When to go

The dry season (May-October). Roads within the park are often flooded during the rainy season but may be passable from mid-December to February.

Accommodation

One seasonal luxury tented camp overlooking Lake Chada. A resthouse at Sitalike and campsites inside the park. Basic but clean hotels at Mpanda.



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