



# Elephant Thoughts

May 2006

## Membership Update

Things are really getting exciting around Elephant Thoughts!

Plans for our summer Canadian Aboriginal Youth Science Initiative (CAYSI) are well underway thanks to Lisa Butcher, Jessica Grieg, Jim Rhodes and Mandy Bridson! We have many repeat customers and several new ones too, including a couple of fly-in communities! We have “hired” a great crew of qualified and enthusiastic volunteer teachers to travel across Canada this summer. Welcome aboard!

Our Toronto office, run by Kristen and Chris Caughill, is doing well, with several summer camps planned and After-School Programs ready to “hit the streets” in September! Kristen and Chris will be looking for staff for these programs, so if you have anyone good to refer, please send along a message to [kristen@elephantthoughts.com](mailto:kristen@elephantthoughts.com).

This month we are also kicking-off our First Annual “Canadian Aboriginal Children’s Festival” at Blue Mountain. During the week of June 19th—23rd children from several Ontario bands will be joining local school children in a celebration of Aboriginal culture and learning. This will culminate in a wonderful weekend at the mountain (June 24th & 25th), featuring Aboriginal art, culture, music and science. We are looking for volunteers to help out, so if you have some time, please contact our office manager, Anne Doran at, [anne@elephantthoughts.com](mailto:anne@elephantthoughts.com). Or just drop by and see some of the exciting stuff we are doing! We hope to expand this festival to become a yearly, and larger event!

Amongst all this excitement, we have also made connections through our amazing volunteer/fundraiser, John Millar, with a couple in Nicaragua willing to help us open an Elephant Thoughts school down there! So we now have our expansion into Central America to look forward to, as well as, our first school in Bunkalung (near Mirik, India)! We are currently working on funding to build the school in Mirik, so if anyone can help out, let us know, and we’ll send you some pictures and information!

So, as you can see, we have lots to be proud of! A special thanks to those mentioned in this letter, for all their volunteer efforts on behalf of E.T. initiatives. Thanks also to Jeremy Rhodes and Lisa Farano for their immeasurable and tireless efforts!



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