

MAY 2025

GENERATIONS

A new generation of leaders is emerging from the investment of mentoring and creating opportunities for service that is a common thread in most EMAS Canada teams.

Over 75 years ago, there were three people in Toronto with a vision to support three others who had ventured out on medical missions, two to Africa and one to South America.

The pioneers have since died; EMAS Canada lives on. As the 1948 graduates of University of Toronto Medical School invited others to join them, sharing their passion for missions, more and more volunteers from the Christian medical community took part in medical missions, forming many teams.

One team committed a portion of its budget to students and asked working volunteers to donate to this fund, so they would always have the means to support the upcoming generation of medical workers.

Past generations of team leaders encouraged and recruited doctors-intraining and medical students to "come and see" missions. Some students and trainees were sent on elective courses to sample medical missions in places like Uganda. These recruits became leaders, as in the cases of the D R Congo program, the Ecuador and Cambodia surgical teams to mention a few.

We didn't invent this model for growth and sustainability. It is a time-tested pattern that led to the establishment of Christianity in the first century, recorded in Acts 16-20 and further referenced in Paul's epistles.

Our newer leaders and board members are progenies, both spiritual and biological, of our present and past leaders.

These are exciting times, with strategic planning in progress, we anticipate the next generation of leaders that will advance the gospel without losing sight of God's faithfulness since the day He called EMAS Canada into existence from humble beginnings.

Dr. Peter Agwa Executive Director. Please donate to **THE GENERAL FUND** from which the board can freely fund teams and projects that are active and in need of additional resources. It will also allow the board to consider new projects. Donate today online: www.emascanada.org



Key scriptures: Acts 16:1-5, 18:1-28, Philippians 2:19-30, Isaiah 51:1-2

Photo courtesy Ecuador Team: Operation Esperanza, Dr. Nelson Greidanus (left) and Dr. Rob Greidanus (right) stand with a surgical candidate before surgery.



IMPACTING THOSE IN NEED IN A CHRIST-LIKE MANNER

God works in all things, not just isolated incidents, for our good. In His providence, God orchestrated every event in our 18-day missionary journey in December, 2024 to accomplish both temporal and eternal benefits. We are thankful to God for His faithfulness.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

On the short-term medical mission in Myanmar, we witnessed God opening a window of opportunity in southern Shan State to share His love with neighbouring villages, internally displaced people affected by civil war and victims of typhoon Yagi. Many of them sought refuge in places where they could safely survive.

We brought them the Good News of Jesus Christ through impactful gospel songs and three gifts of love:

Basic medical care, including preventatives and multi-vitamins Dental care, including filling and extraction service

Glasses for reading and precision tasks, such as gold-finding (mining)

Our team consisted of James and Linda, two members from Yangon and 11 from southern Mon State. Together, 15 of us joined Marshall and Angel at Bethel Community Centre in South Shan State, where their ministry is based.

We visited 13 churches and villages and engaged with over 1,000 patients and a total of 2,372 appointments.

Shwe Min Phone village is home to 5,000 Palaung tribe members, many of whom work in the gold mining industry. Their village, located in the valley surrounded by three mountains, was devastated when Tyhoon Yagi struck in September 2024.

The flooding was unlike anything they had experienced before, washing away many homes. We witnessed houses, temples and trucks still buried under the mud, while the people lived in makeshift tents in dire conditions.

The journey to Shwe Min Phone was a rough two-hour trek to reach the village. Due to the overwhelming number of patients, we extended our clinic to a second day. Testimony of our solitary dentist: Foreseeing the great need for dental service in Shwe Min Phone, our dentist along with James and Linda and our driver, ventured out in search of necessary supplies. As the town had limited resources, she called a private clinic to inquire if they had surplus stock for purchase.

A chain of divine events unfolded from the first clinic visit. The dentist they contacted turned out to be a volunteer humanitarian worker who understood our urgent need. Through his connections, we secured enough supplies from two additional clinics and one hospital.

Praise be to God, these providers, moved by compassion, generously donated their surplus at no charge.

Our dentist was overwhelmed with gratitude, praising God for His wisdom and provision.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership in prayer and financial support, which empowers us to continue God's work.

Photo Myanmar team below: Team photo (left) Offering Dental care (right)





by James and Linda Ling

THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH EMAS CANADA

GIVE GENEROUSLY

Donate online: www.emascanada.org/donate

To donate by e-Transfer use: <u>donations@emascanada.org</u>

Keep checking our website, as more details are released at: www.emascanada.org

HOPE IN ACTION

Ecuador - Operation Esperanza once again performed life-changing surgeries for those who would otherwise not be able to afford it. These surgeries essentially bring profound change to those who rely on mobility to support themselves and their families. During their last trip in 2025, they provided the following:

40 Total hip replacements, 60 Physiotherapy assessments and treatments, 44 joint injections, Mentorship and teaching to 18 medical students and 5 local physicians.

The Gambade Medical Clinic celebrated their 2-year anniversary of serving the community of **Gambade** in **Haiti.** The Clinic is instrumental in providing healthcare for the community and addressing the needs of malnourished children. Our program includes youth ministry, a collaboration with Young Life.

The EMAS Canada Vietnam team, also known as "*Medical Aid for Vietnam*" celebrates their 30th Anniversary this year. The team has been serving patients in need since 1995 beginning with a group



Photo: Gambade Medical Clinic, Haiti Celebrates 2 year Anniversary.

of seventeen members for the first mission trip. The team has grown since then and with your support and prayers, have been able to help around an estimated 240,000 patients over the years.

As part of the 30th anniversary celebrations, Vietnam team is hosting a celebratory banquet in June 2025. For more information, contact the EMAS Canada Office.

The **Tanzania** team completed a 10day medical mission at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Moshi. The team of two Plastic Surgeons, an Anesthesiologist, and three nurses (including ICU instructor and OR nurse) performed surgeries on patients with congenital and other deformities resulting from trauma and accidents.

The **Cambodia** Surgical team provided teaching and medical care, as well as eye care.

EMAS **Zimbabwe:** A small, but mighty team served in Karanda supporting Dr. Thistle. The Gutu Team will host the **Ride for Gutu Mission Hospital** and the EMAS Myanmar Team will host the **Walk/ Ride for Myanmar** in September. Find more details on page 4 or find more information on our events page on our website.

Thank you for your support, donations and prayers for these teams.

Photo: Vietnam Team in action .



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Our website has a new look thanks to Vibrant Content, our web developers. We invite you to take a look at: www.emascanada.org



EMAS Canada is going through a strategic planning process to help us better serve our mission and partners in the years ahead. In May 2025, EMAS will be hosting a threeday summit designed to reflect on EMAS' success and challenges and to hear from God about the organization's future. Over the course of the summit, leaders will participate in full-day sessions to identify priorities for the next few years and put these into actionable steps that will strengthen our programs and partnerships moving forward.

The Ride for Gutu Mission Hospital is scheduled for September 6, 2025. This year, the ride will be held in Halton region over one day and offers two routes: 50 km and 100 km. The 2025 goal is \$60,000.00 to improve emergency surgical obstetric and anesthesia capacity through staff training and equipment upgrades.

Registration is open on the ride website: ride.emascanada.org

The Ride/Walk for Myanmar is on Saturday, September 27, 2025 at Milne Dam Conservation Park. This event supports a critical humanitarian response to Myanmar's healthcare crisis-where poverty, limited medical access, conflict, and natural disasters have left millions in need. The goal this year is to raise \$10,000.

Registration is open on the EMAS event page on our website and closes September 13.

If you would like to volunteer to serve with EMAS Canada there are several opportunities available, including serving on the EMAS Canada Board. To volunteer, please connect with Peter Agwa: peter@emascanada.org

PLEASE NOTE:

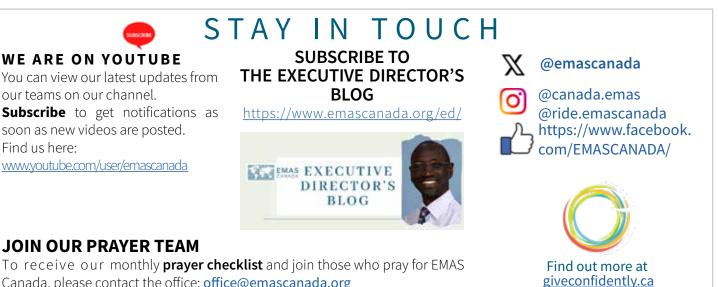
For all things donation, receipting and finance related, Sandy Rumford, our bookkeeper, can be reached at:

sandy@emascanada.org

For everything else contact Chi at: office@emascanada.org or call (905)630-4650.



Thank you for your support and prayers!



JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM

To receive our monthly prayer checklist and join those who pray for EMAS Canada, please contact the office: office@emascanada.org



EMASSARY is the official newsletter of EMAS Canada. Learn more or download previous issues at www.emascanada.org

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