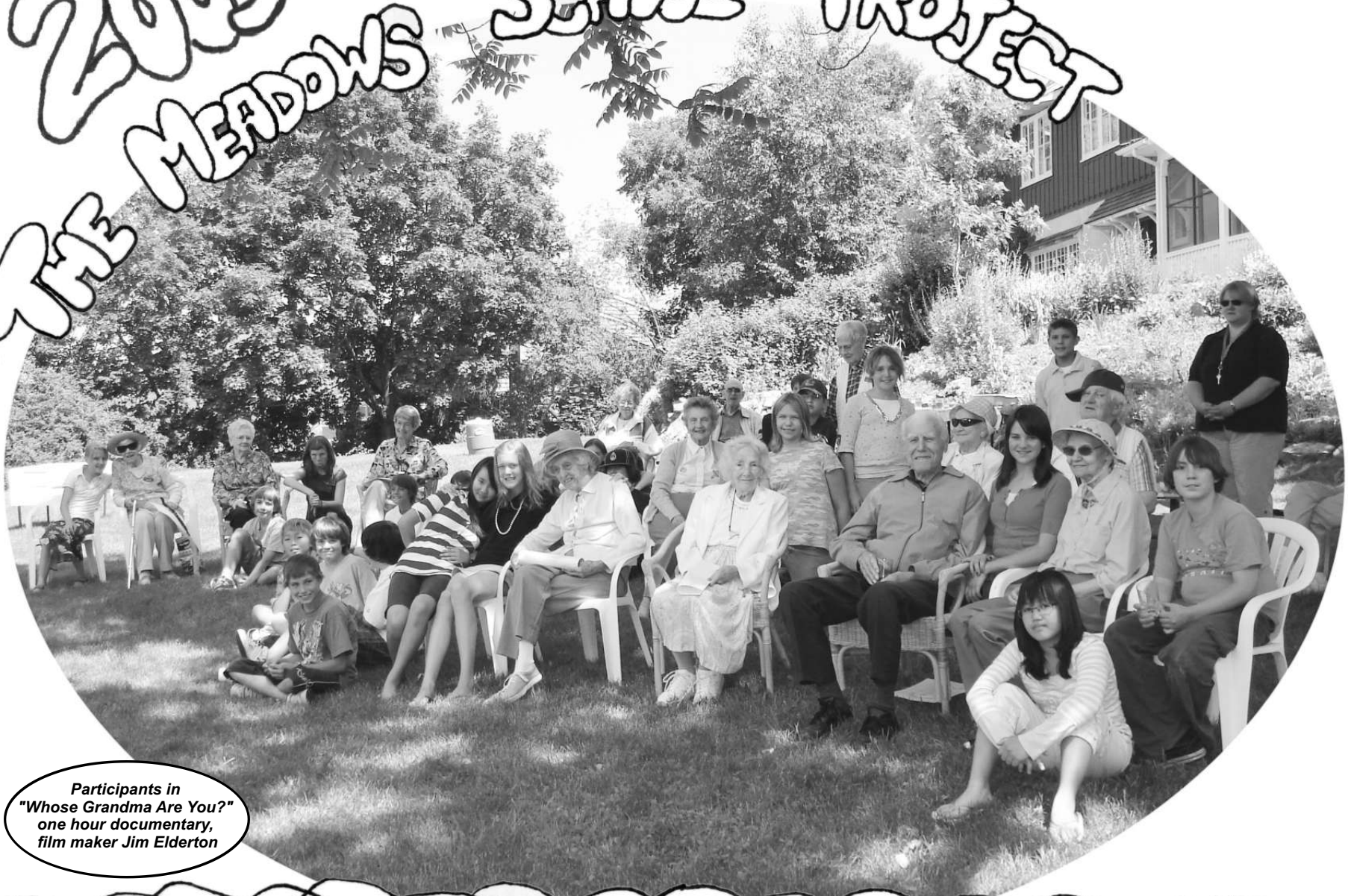


2009

THE MEADOWS

SCHOOL

PROJECT



Participants in  
"Whose Grandma Are You?"  
one hour documentary,  
film maker Jim Elderton



The Meadows School Project™, recognized as an example of Best Promising Practice by the BC Ministry of Health in 2008, has completed its seventh year in British Columbia, Canada. The full immersion project is an unique and dramatic example of the educational and social richness intergenerational learning engenders. A class of intermediate aged students from School District #22 move into a makeshift classroom at the Coldstream Meadows Retirement Community, where they immerse in two full months of blended activities with the elder residents, study Ministry mandated curriculum, and volunteer their services. Learning takes on a dimension that is characterized by connectedness, authenticity, and meaning. Although this project was initiated by educator Sharon MacKenzie as an attempt to break down stereotyping between generations, its methodology of purposeful socialization brings youth and elder together in profound and empathetic relationships. Elders are stimulated to become actively involved walking and talking with the children, an appreciation of the work ethic is built as students volunteer at the centre, positive experiences of the care-giving professions are introduced to youth, empathy pours forth as life stories are shared, and there is an emergence of good humour that permeates each day of togetherness. Both youth and elders are drawn out of isolation through the consistency and proximity of one another, a sanctum of timely reflection in a busy world where often these two groups are marginalized. The seniors' residence is a magical jewel box. Each day when the lid is opened, faded treasures are polished and tenderly held by young hands discovering qualities of human relationships, dusted with the magic of time passing.

DECEMBER 2008

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# JANUARY 2009

FEBRUARY 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



JANUARY 2009

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# FEBRUARY 2009

MARCH 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 St. Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



FEBRUARY 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

# MARCH 2009

APRIL 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				





MARCH 2009

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

# APRIL 2009

MAY 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 <small>Good Friday</small>	11
12 <small>Easter Sunday</small>	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



APRIL 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# MAY 2009

JUNE 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Victoria Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



MAY 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# JUNE 2009

JULY 2009

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



JUNE 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

# JULY 2009

AUGUST 2009

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <small>Canada Day</small>	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	





JULY 2009

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# AUGUST 2009

SEPTEMBER 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 B.C. Day	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



AUGUST 2009

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# SEPTEMBER 2009

OCTOBER 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labour Day	8	9	10	11	12
13 Grandparents' Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



SEPTEMBER 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# OCTOBER 2009

NOVEMBER 2009

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Hallowe'en



OCTOBER 2009

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# NOVEMBER 2009

DECEMBER 2009

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					





NOVEMBER 2009

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

# DECEMBER 2009

JANUARY 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day
27	28	29	30	31	Continue for more information about Intergenerational Learning  	

This programme has such a strong ethical base, and so much compassion. I wish it was happening everywhere. Something this good should be imbedded in the school system. I have known other inter-generational programmes (a choir, for instance), but this is the best. - *The late June Callwood, Order of Canada recipient, journalist and social activist*

The Meadows Project is really a good idea. The seniors like it, and we like it. It makes me feel good and proud inside because we're helping the seniors and giving them a chance to do activities that they did when they were children. Going there gives us a chance to know what it is like to get older.  
- *Student*

With so many of our seniors feeling withdrawn and missing many of their friends, families and once routine activities, this programme is nothing but positive and beneficial for everyone involved. Our seniors have the opportunity to pass along memories about many things that many otherwise be soon forgotten.  
- *Residence staff member*

I have spoken to several of the parents of the children on visiting days and I have yet to hear a single thing against all of the activities. They entertain us, and we enjoy chats. In return, they learn how seniors lived so many years ago. A lot of us never knew our grandparents so are finding a whole new world to explore with our proxy grandchildren, as they are too.  
- *Marie Firth, 94 years old*

They don't just do activities; they also help in the residence, which is a great work experience to see what the staff has to do.  
- *Residence staff member*

The lives of both seniors and students are greatly enriched as a result of this amazing learning experience. The programme has helped to fill an important need in the community.  
- *Bill Turanski, Past Chairman of The Board, SD #22, Vernon*

Having young people in the community, and their parents visit ... makes them familiar with what we do. As in all businesses, community awareness is an integral part of our success. Meadows School has proven to be very successful in making the learning process for the students interesting and fun, as well as introducing our residents to young people of the community.  
- *Owner, Coldstream Meadows Retirement Community  
info@coldstreammeadows.com*

The difference that I notice in the seniors while the students are here is amazing! The energy from the children lifts their spirits.  
- *Residence staff member*

I am very proud to be asked to be with the children and share their problems and to be able to help them any way I can. I love them, and they do respond in that way. At 89 years of age, it has done good for me walking, and shooting pool with the group.  
*Resident Participant*

I have nothing but praise for the entire program, and always look forward to the days that the "kids" are coming to visit. I definitely have a better understanding of youngsters and I am sure, from their actions, that they have a better understanding of all seniors, both here at the Meadows and out in the public.  
- *Claire Fraser  
91 year old project participant for 7 years.*

It was like a wake-up call for me. It made me realize that I have taken my two great-grandparents here in Vernon for granted. I only see them once or twice a year. I need to spend more time with my family. This experience was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I loved it.  
- *Student*

"Gardie loved children and a real highlight of being at Coldstream Meadows was the kids from the terrific Meadow School Project. He enjoyed the children's visits and their stories immensely and the children enjoyed all the wonderful stories he told about 'the old days'."  
- *from the Obituary, senior resident, passed on at 98 years old*

I watched the confidence of these children soar. The seniors were delighted and eager to share their history and time with these kids. I speak with pride about this project to many people, and receive nothing but positive admiration from them. I have been unhappy with the fact that we do not pay tribute to the value our seniors have for us and our future. The experience touched each of us, including me.  
- *Parent of student*

I think every school in Canada should do this project. It helps with your social skills and you learn a lot of things, too. This programme is fun. The only problem is when the project is done, people don't want to leave the seniors' home.  
- *Student*

I am so happy to have witnessed this program; indeed, a model for the rest of Canada. This has charged the seniors' lives with more energy and openness, and charged the students' lives with more compassion. Wow!  
- *Shelagh Rogers, CBC Radio Host ~ Documented project in 2004 & 2007 "Sounds Like Canada"*

Congratulations on achieving such success with your innovative approach to teaching tolerance and understanding while bridging the generation gap.  
- *Iona Campagnola, past Lieutenant-Governor of BC*

I encourage you to continue your efforts to break down the solitudes and bring generations of Canadians together. These are real, concrete and lasting contributions.  
- *Governor General of Canada Her Excellency Michaëlle Jean*

## THE MESSAGE OF THE MEADOWS SCHOOL PROJECT™ INTERGENERATIONAL INITIATIVE

The phrase 'intergenerational initiative' refers to the crossing over of relationships between adults and children, elders and teens, youth and aged. It is characterized by one generation having purposeful and intentional interaction with another. The ultimate health of our society is dependent on the sustainability of these generative inter-lockings of past with present with future.

As a result of the acknowledgement and support of the BC Ministries of Health and Education, Coldstream Meadows Retirement Community, donors, and philanthropist Mogens Smed, (DIRTT Environmental Solutions, and Spider Agile Technologies), the Meadows School Project (TM) Intergenerational Initiative model is full of hope moving into 2009. Its mandate is to stir interest and build commitment towards bringing children, youth, and elders together in relationships that fundamentally affect attitudes, and build sustainable understandings and empathy within our society.

As a result of the success of our model, these steps are in process in 2009 to promote further Intergenerational Learning:

**-Formation of the i2i Intergenerational Society ([www.intergenerational.ca](http://www.intergenerational.ca))**

This not-for-profit society, 'Invitation to Intergenerational Immersion, helping elders and youth see Eye to Eye', strives to promote and support sustainable intergenerational activities between schools, communities, and health care facilities.

**-Writing and publishing of a toolkit** documenting for health care workers, community, and educators all working levels of intergenerational connecting (available 2009 on i2i website location)

**-Launching of the "Meadows School Intergenerational Literacy Project"**

Elders, children, and youth across Canada are combining their writing and illustrating talents in small storybooks. The first 10 book box set (available for sale through i2i site) will be completed February 2009, joining a senior author and children illustrators in creation of each book. The goal is to connect generations (one as illustrator, one as author) through a nationwide series available to all school and public libraries. These little books will not only exemplify intergenerational connections of Canadians, but will reflect our vast linguistic and cultural base as well, with author/illustrator networking across the nation.

**-Facilitating intergenerational workshops and presentations** for educators, community, health care, or college and university classes with Sharon MacKenzie, educator, founder of Meadows School Project, and Executive Director i2i Intergenerational Society () and her team

**-Commencing intergenerational immersion projects** in five provinces, with introductory work in three others, UK, and USA

**-Writing and making available intergenerational lessons** based on government mandated curriculum expectations

**-Creating awareness** about the richness and power of intergenerational initiatives

**-Formally connecting other interested societies, groups, and individuals** in a concerted effort to create more intergenerational relationships

In 2009, may we build on our successes of 2008, and may our 2010 Calendar reflect the ongoing nature of these dreams and initiatives.

In 2009, may each of you discover wonderful and fulfilling connections between the past, present, and future.

Thank you for your support.

2008 ~ January: Meadows School Project acknowledged by BC Ministry of Health as example of Best Promising Practice;  
June: Featured in one day Ministry Symposium, Vancouver, BC;  
November: Work nominated for Canada Council of the Arts Molson Prize (Social Sciences and Humanities), and BC Premier's Excellence Award.

One hour documentary about the Meadows School Project 2007.  
Filmmaker Jim Elderton: [jim@jimelderton.com](mailto:jim@jimelderton.com)  
DVD for sale  
10 minute health care and 20 minute education versions available on-line at [www.intergenerational.ca](http://www.intergenerational.ca)

ALLOWS FOR INTER-GENERATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS AS FAMILIES SCATTER ALL OVER THE WORLD.

🍏 RESIDENCE STAFF MEMBER

THIS PROGRAMME HAS BECOME A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE.

🍏 FORMER BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR SD #22

REAL, CONCRETE, LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS.

🍏 MICHAELLE JEAN, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

A STRONG ETHICAL BASE, AND SO MUCH COMPASSION.

🍏 THE LATE JUNE CALLWOOD, JOURNALIST AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO TEACHING TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING.

🍏 OFFICE OF FORMER LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, IONA CAMPAGNOLA

INDEED, A MODEL FOR THE REST OF CANADA.

🍏 SHELAGH ROGERS, CBC RADIO HOST

CHILDREN ASKING QUESTIONS THAT STIMULATE MY BRAIN AS I PASS ON MEMORIES LONG FORGOTTEN, BUT WHICH NOW COME BACK TO ME.

🍏 SENIOR RESIDENT

I THOUGHT IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE.

IT IS LOVE!

🍏 STUDENT

KEEPING GENERATIONS CONNECTED AND ENGAGED WITH ONE ANOTHER, MAKES SOCIETY THAT MUCH STRONGER.

🍏 H. ADAM, PRINCIPAL OF MEADOWS SCHOOL PROJECT

A HUGE SUCCESS. IT NURTURES A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENT AND SENIOR ALIKE.

🍏 RELATIVE OF A SENIOR

THINK WHAT LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING OF PEOPLE COMES FROM THIS. THIS IS WHAT OUR WORLD NEEDS.

🍏 TEACHING COLLEAGUE

AT THE MALL, MY DAUGHTER MAKES A POINT OF SMILING AT SENIORS, LETTING THEM KNOW SHE'S A GOOD KID, AND ADMIRES WHO THEY ARE.

🍏 PARENT

