Subject: An update from AFFLIP
Date: 24 June 2017 at 1:38 pm
To: roger.saunders@afflip.com

SB



Dear Roger

AFFLIP is a South Australian-based not-for-profit organisation which provides educational support to 15 public elementary schools, with more than 20,000 students. We have gift deductibility status through the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme. The schools form a school District called the Talomo District which is on the southern edge of Davao City, in Mindanao - one of the poorest parts of the Philippines.

AFFLIP is a wonderful example of South Australians working to improve the lives of people in a country which is one of Australia's closest neighbours. The AFFLIP Board is responsible for raising between \$50,000 and \$60,000 annually to enable its programs to function. There are no paid employees but plenty of willing volunteers. The first half of 2017 has been particularly busy for everyone involved with AFFLIP.

Highlights and activities include:

Fundraising

The fundraising and events team led by Caroline Green with support from Karen Church and Liz Reid were responsible for two very successful fundraising events earlier this year. The Dinner Dance and Film Evening contributed \$20,000 to our 2017-2018 fundraising drive.

Consider a tax-deductible gift to AFFLIP by 30 June and help support our work.

Many members have already taken out scholarship sponsorships and for that we are most

grateful. If other members would like to continue their support for AFFLIP they can do so by making a donation to AFFLIP, the John and Di Harris Memorial Education Fund or sponsor a scholar for \$100.

Scholarships

Each year Roger Saunders and John Erskine encourage you to dig deep and sponsor a student for \$100. Renewal letters were sent out in May but if you missed the email or have not yet renewed, payment can be made into the AFFLIP Bank Account (Bank Name: Macquarie Bank Limited; BSB: 182512 and Account No: 961931862). Please designate that the payment is for a Scholarship. We have had sponsorship amounts deposited to the AFFLIP account for which we have not been able to record depositors; specifically, \$200 on the 19th May and \$100 on the 1st June. If you made deposits on those dates could you please inform John Erskine, AFFLIP Treasurer, by email (john.erskine@afflip.com) or mobile (0418 857 844).

With the start of the new school year in the Philippines, we are looking forward with excitement to receiving the list of new scholars as nominated by the individual schools and approved by the Talomo District Technical Working Group - Elena Moralles (Chair), Donna Solano and Allan Rivera. We expect that most if not all previous grade 4 and grade 5 scholars will continue in this program in their new grade level, and that a new batch of 30 grade 4 scholars will join the program. When we receive the list of scholars for the new school year, we will be assigning sponsors for those children. Continuing sponsors will retain the same student unless of course they have graduated, in which case they will be assigned a new scholar.

We thank those who continue to support this valuable program. Your support is much appreciated by the scholars, their families and schools.



Scholars from Talomo Central Elementary School

Supporters and Sponsors

AFFLIP could not function without the generosity of sponsors, large and small. On behalf of the Board of AFFLIP I would like to express thanks to each of you for your willingness to donate both time and money to support the various AFFLIP activities.

AFN Solutions



AFFLIP is delighted to announce that <u>AFN Solutions</u> will be donating \$10,000 a year for the next 3 years to the AFFLIP flagship programs. In 2017, these funds have been directed to the Schools Learning Network portfolio to bring a further ten educators from five of the elementary schools in Davao and one DepEd official to visit South Australia. The goal is to deepen the educational outcomes from the twinned school arrangement, particularly through Filipino and South Australian teachers planning and teaching a common unit of work, enabling students in these two different cultures to share their learning.



Darren Ruger, Managing Director of AFN Solutions visited Jose Bastida Elementary School earlier this year.

Clare Valley Winemakers



Following on from the successful Gala Ball held in 2016 more than 25 winemakers in the Clare Region have donated their premium wines for the 2017 AFFLIP Dinner Dance. Andrew Pike, President and Tania Matz, Executive Officer made it possible for guests to enjoy an excellent range of Clare Valley wines across the evening.

Philippine Consulate of SA



AFFLIP would like to acknowledge and thank the Hon Consul-General Mr Mark McBriarty for his support of AFFLIP. In 2016, he hosted the inaugural Philippines Consulate Gala Ball at Adelaide Oval and donated \$12,000 to AFFLIP Flagship Programs. In October of this year he will host a Gala at the Hilton Adelaide that will benefit AFFLIP and the Filipino Nurses and Carers Association.

SMEC Corporation



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

In 2016 AFFLIP was successful in winning a \$15,600 grant from the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC) Foundation to provide additional resource support for the vegetable gardens and aquaculture ponds that have been established in the 15 Talomo schools. We look forward to continuing our relationship with SMEC over the coming years.

Retiring Board Member

Michael O'Donoghue announced his intention to step down from the AFFLIP Board after serving for four years. On



behalf of the Board I want to express gratitude for the work he undertook particularly through the Schools Learning Network both here in South Australia and with the Talomo District schools. His guidance, leadership, hard work and commitment to AFFLIP is very much appreciated.



Congratulations to Board Members Miriam Cocking and Alastair Douglas

70th Anniversary of the establishment of Philippines-Australia diplomatic relations

The Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Philippines (AFFLIP) congratulates Mrs Miriam Cocking and Mr Alastair Douglas who were among 20 individuals honoured during celebration of Philippine Australia Friendship Day and National Heritage Month at the Philippine Embassy in Canberra, ACT recently.

Both Miriam and Alastair were cited for their contribution in enhancing bilateral relations between the Philippines and Australia in cultural diplomacy, and for steadfastly promoting Philippine interests in Australia through their chosen advocacy and dedicated involvement with the Filipino Community in Australia.



70th Anniversary of Philippines-Australia diplomatic relations awardees at the Embassy of the Philippines. Awards were presented in the areas of Defence and Security Cooperation, Economic Diplomacy, Cultural Diplomacy and Community Service.

Communications with Members and Friends

The Board is keen to improve its communications with members and friends of AFFLIP. Please don't hesitate to contact the newsletter editor (Karen Church) and the webmaster (Roger Saunders) with your ideas, suggestions and contributions.

Warm regards

Susan Boucher <u>susan.boucher@afflip.com</u> 0411 511545









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