

SchoolBOX

MAKING EDUCATION POSSIBLE




Spring 2011 e-Newsletter

Cycle4Change



Tom handing out an educational package at the Jezreel School in Managua, Nicaragua

The SchoolBOX [Cycle4Change](#), presented by [Sleep Country Canada](#), is a gruelling 8000 km journey across Canada. Ilan Levy will spend a full 79 days on the road completing this journey. It will start on June 9, 2011 in Port Hardy, British Columbia and finish on August 26, 2011 in St. John's, Newfoundland. SchoolBOX Cycle4Change aims to raise awareness and funds for our

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SchoolBOX on Facebook!

Did you know that for every new like on the SchoolBOX Facebook site, \$2 gets donated towards 'Making Education Possible'?

If you are not a fan, please join today by clicking the link above. If you are already a fan, consider publicizing this information via email, or through your Facebook wall.

organization. The goal is to raise \$40,000 - \$5 / km – in order to purchase 8000 educational packages and build a small school.

The SchoolBOX Cycle4Change website is going live today (April 15, 2011) and will include all of the information pertaining to this campaign. Please click on www.cycle4change.com to donate and to leave a message of encouragement for Ilan.

Some statistics of the ride include:

- Total Distance: 8020km/5013miles
- Daily Average: 125km/78miles
- Longest Day: 181km/113miles
- Total Days: 79
- Riding Days: 64
- Rest Days: 12
- Ferry Days: 3
- Provinces Visited: 10

Shirley Case School: Ground Broken

It is an easy way to raise funds and awareness for SchoolBOX.



New Projects Section

The SchoolBOX website now has a new projects section. We have information pertaining to all 2011 build projects. Take a look!

<http://www.schoolbox.ca/projects2011.htm>



Birthday Party Surprise

February 23, 2011 was a very special day for SchoolBOX, a volunteer group and a young boy in the village of Bella Vista, Nicaragua.

Team Princess learned that a young boy named Engel was celebrating his birthday.



The community in Monte Olivo working hard at removing stumps on the site of the future Shirley Case School.

Ground has been broken for the Shirley Case School. Shirley's school is being built in the rural community of Monte Olivo in Northwestern Nicaragua. The school will provide a facility for 118 children from preschool to Grade 6. It will include a sports area, three classrooms and a multi-purpose room. Shirley Case was a Canadian aid worker who was tragically killed in Afghanistan in 2008.

In February 2010, Jessica Chaikowsky rallied Shirley's friends and family across Canada to build a school in Shirley's honour. Hundreds of people have joined with Jessica to make Shirley's school possible. Many of the key organizers will be joining SchoolBOX in Nicaragua to help build the school in April and May. Shirley's Mom, Deb, will be among the first volunteers when she arrives in mid-April

For more information , see the projects section on our website: www.schoolbox.ca/projects2011.htm

The next day, Team Princess showed up at the school with balloons, a cake, and presents (crayons and chalk) for all of the children. Engel was so excited and could not stop smiling. All of the children had an amazing day.

The Princess Group were not only responsible for **Making Education Possible** in Bella Vista, but also for creating memories that will last a lifetime for Engel.

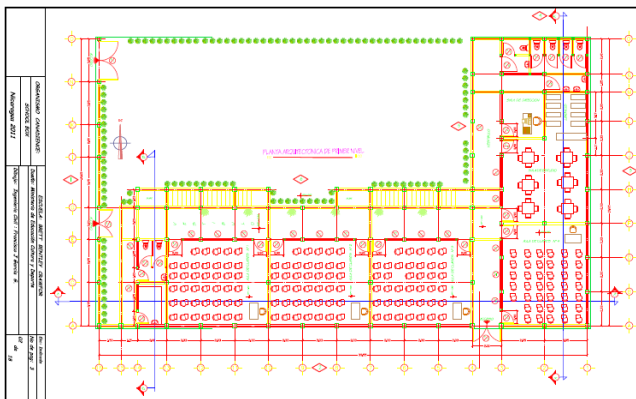


Donate to Brett's School

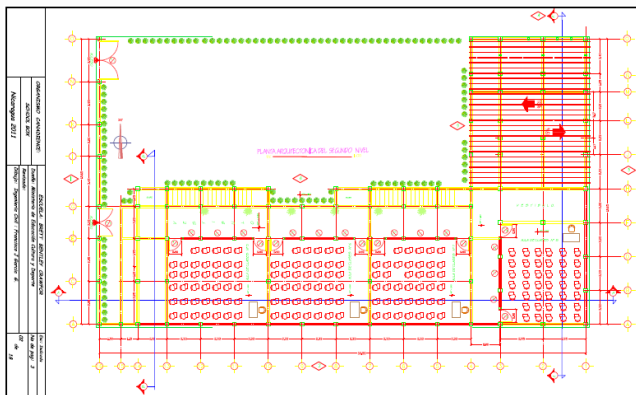
Donate directly to the Brett School in Nicaragua by clicking [here](#). Your money will go directly towards the construction costs of this school. Together we can Make Education Possible and honour Brett's memory.



Brett's School - The Dream Continues...



First floor blue prints of the Brett School. (click for enlargement)



Second floor blue prints of the Brett School. (click for enlargement)

For three years, SchoolBOX has been on a quest to build a school in La Primavera, a huge slum in

Beans 4 Dreams Coffee

A quick reminder to all that [Equator Coffee Roasters](#) is offering Beans 4 Dreams coffee. Every bag of fair trade organic 'Beans 4 Dreams' coffee you purchase provides \$5 to buy a package of educational supplies for one child in Central America (including notebooks, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, and ruler). This gives one child the chance to study! [Click here for more information.](#)



the city of Managua, Nicaragua. It has been a journey of determination and faith. Every step of the way, we have encountered unexpected and challenging obstacles.



However, hundreds of children in the La Primavera community desperately need a primary school. Despite unbelievable and seemingly unmovable obstacles, SchoolBOX has finally been given the land to build Brett's school. (To be named after Brett Bentley Crawford. A close friend of SchoolBOX President Tom Affleck. Brett tragically lost her life in a car accident at the age of 19)



As the most ambitious construction project that SchoolBOX has undertaken, the school will be two stories and contain 8 classrooms and a library. Above are the basic drawings for Brett's school. Once the drawings and engineering documents have been approved by the Managua Municipal Government and the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education, we will finally be able to begin construction.



Tom and the entire SchoolBOX team would like to thank the C.H.A.N.C.E. Foundation, the Brett Bentley Crawford Foundation and the other incredible contributors to Brett's School for their patience in waiting for construction to begin.



Supplies 4 Success

2011 Kickoff



Ryan Howie handing out an education package to a young girl at the Jezreel School.

‘The most impactful moment of my volunteer experience in Nicaragua was giving out the packages of school supplies.’ —Ryan Howie, SchoolBOX March 2011 Volunteer, Viaje Nicaragua Group.

On March 18, the Youth Group from the Huntley Anglican Church in Carp, ON. kicked off [SchoolBOX's 2011 Supplies 4 Success](#) program. Working together with SchoolBOX staff, the Viaje Nicaragua Group handed out more than 100 educational packages to students in the Jezreel School in Managua.

For many students these simple educational supplies (including notebooks, pencils, eraser, pencil sharpener and ruler) make it possible for them to stay in school. According to a baseline



Thank You

The children of Nicaragua and SchoolBOX thank you for your help and support. If you know of anyone who would be interested in reading this, please forward them this newsletter by email. You can use the convenient links at the top or bottom of this newsletter.

study conducted by SchoolBOX, 98% of parents in our partner communities state that they need help with purchasing educational supplies. For many of these households, obtaining food is a daily struggle and school supplies are a luxury they cannot afford.

In 2011, SchoolBOX aims to distribute 12,000+ packages of educational supplies to partner students and teachers in Nicaragua. That represents an increase of 20% over 2010. Thank you to Ryan and the entire Viaje Nicaragua Group for launching the 2011 Supplies 4 Success program.

SchoolBOX's Youngest Princess



Alexandra Kay posing for the camera. Her enthusiasm was contagious.

By forwarding this e-newsletter, you are helping to spread the word about SchoolBOX.

In February, eight Canadian women joined SchoolBOX in Nicaragua to help build the Bella Vista school. They were nicknamed 'Team Princess' by our Engineer. These amazing women spent a week mixing cement, tying rebar, and digging foundations. But for the youngest Princess, 8-year-old Alexandra Kay, the excitement began years before arriving in Nicaragua.

Alexandra's older brother, George, helped to build a school with SchoolBOX in 2009. Alexandra was determined that she was also going to play a part in **Making Education Possible**. Alexandra's Mom, SchoolBOX Canadian Operations Manager Michelle Kay, promised her that when she was old enough she could go as well.

Alexandra was ecstatic when she learned that 2011 was 'Her Year' to travel to Nicaragua. She raised funds with her Brownies group, her Church, her figure skating club and her family. Alexandra raised an amazing \$623.96. She proved without a doubt that the Kay family really are SchoolBOX Super Stars.