



eMiC ~ connected

ENGINEERING MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL CANADA

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Disaster response eMi-style

As footage of rubble and wreckage in Haiti hit the news on January 12th, the world asked itself the question, "How can we help?". The answer was different for different people—some gave, some prayed, some organized, and some went.

For Engineering Ministries International, word of the natural disaster immediately set in motion our Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART). Within days, the first eMi team of engineers was on the ground in Haiti, providing assistance in areas such as water and sanitation issues, internally displaced people (IDP) camp development, and structural assessments. Since the earthquake, eMi has sent seven DART teams into Haiti. Canadian volunteers have been involved on these trips, and one DART team was led out of the eMi Canada office.

Ottawa Civil Engineer John Wilder was on one of the first DART teams into Haiti, and did a little bit of everything. The team started the trip doing some structural assessments of badly damaged buildings. Then they split up, and John assisted organizations setting up IDP camps with the design of aspects such as the camp layout, the location of water, and the arrangement of tents. At the end of the trip, they met up with another eMi DART team, and helped Samaritan's Purse with water and latrine development at IDP camps.

John Wilder, with notepad, discusses land use in front of a makeshift IDP camp



Kamloops Civil Technologist and eMi Canada Board Member Patrick Cochrane was on a water specialist DART team in early February. His roles included testing water, putting together water filtration units, and designing latrines that would be mass produced and trucked to different IDP camps where the assembly could be completed on site. He also spent time conducting needs assessments for water, sanitation, health, shelter, and food at the IDP camps.

In March, Edmonton Environmental Engineer and former intern, Tommy Mah, joined a team that picked up where the previous one left off, assessing the sites where displaced people were now living and evaluating their drinking water sources. The team frequently visited the sites of previously installed water filtration units to assess how they were working and to provide any troubleshooting . . . and they even installed some pipe for a mountain village.

Also in March, eMi Canada Staff Engineer Kevin Wiens led a structural assessment team, including Vancouver Structural Engineer Ben Benjamin, into Port-au-Prince and the surrounding areas. His team assisted ministries with marginally damaged buildings with the hard questions of whether to demolish or whether to attempt to repair the structures. For buildings that could be repaired, the team provided detailed designs and discussed with staff and contractors methods to make the buildings safe again, and how to build safer buildings next time.

Even though Haiti has slipped from the headlines of the media, the work in Haiti is far from done. More eMi DART teams are still in the works, and design teams to help Haiti rebuild have just begun—including the team into Bon Repos in May, led by eMi Canada's Greg Young. Please continue to keep Haiti in your thoughts and in your prayers . . . please, keep helping.

eMiC Upcoming Project Trips

Haiti (Bon Repos) - [Church & School](#) - May 18-27, 2010

Burundi (Bujumbura) - [Seminary & Vocational School](#) - Oct 2009 tentative

Canadian volunteers are welcome to participate in projects led by any of the eMi offices around the world. For information or to volunteer please visit emicanada.org/projects.shtm



Pat & Kara Aylard, with Brenden, Cooper, Leah, & Jordan (left to right)

New Staff

eMi Canada is excited to welcome its first internationally-based staff. Pat & Kara Aylard, along with their four children, will be moving to the eMi East Africa office in Uganda at the beginning of May.

Pat is a Civil Engineering Technologist from Kelowna, BC. After volunteering for his first eMi project trip in 2008, a farm project in Uganda providing food and funding for orphans, Pat saw eMi making a difference in the lives of Ugandans and the ministry the team was working for.

Feeling that God was calling him to offer his talents to the developing world, Pat began to consider joining the staff of Engineering Ministries International. Last spring, Pat & Kara joined a second eMi project trip to Uganda, designing a youth training centre & camp and confirming their call to eMi and to Uganda. Since being formally accepted as staff, Pat & Kara have been developing their ministry team, hosting fundraisers, participating in cultural training, and looking after the myriad of details involved in an international move.

Please pray for them as they transition from life in North America to life in Africa. Pat will be co-leading his first eMi project trip to Tanzania at the end of May.

If you are interested in exploring staff opportunities with eMi, we invite you to check out <http://emicanada.org/joinstaff.shtm>. The eMi Canada office would love to add one or two more project leaders to their team, as well as some in-house technical staff.

Volunteer Opportunities

The eMi Canada board provides oversight and long term vision for the organization. They meet 3x a year in Calgary to review policies, finances, trends, and future growth.

Contact us at 403.202.3642 or info@emicanada.org regarding this and other volunteer opportunities.

Patrick Cochrane provides filtered water at an IDP camp in Haiti

