



# *Nepali Cultural Society of Manitoba*

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Date: January 16, 2016

## **NCSM REPORT - NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND MANITOBA (NEARFM)**

The main objective of this report is to keep all members of NCSM and NSA; many more donors, volunteers and officials of this campaign; and interested individuals informed about the NEARFM fund raising campaign and its transfer to the organization as recommended by NEARFM committee towards the relief/reconstruction work for the Nepal Earthquake victims.

### **NEARFM Committee:**

In response to a devastating earthquake of 7.8 magnitudes that hit Nepal on April 25, 2015, a meeting held at 58 Colebrook Dr. on April 26, 2015 formed a committee under Nepali Cultural Society of Manitoba (NCSM). The meeting was attended by about 50 community members and media reporters from CBC and CTV.

An 18 member Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund Manitoba (NEARFM) committee was formed to effectively complete the task of fund raising campaign in accordance with the mandate provided by NCSM on April 26, 2015 (refer to **Appendix A** for the list of NEARFM team and the mandate). NEARFM initiative was the result of a true volunteer spirit among members of NCSM and our Nepali Students Association of the University of Manitoba (NSA).

The goal of the committee was set to raise CAN\$ 10,000.00 towards the earthquake relief fund. It was also decided that no Tax receipt will be issued as NCSM is not a registered charity. During the meeting, 29 families and individuals pledged to donate towards the relief fund.

### **Fund Raising Campaign:**

A bank account was opened at the TD Canada Trust Branch #6980 in Winnipeg on April 29, 2015 with three (3) authorized signing officers from NEARFM committee with any two (2) required to make any debit transactions.

The committee members and many more volunteers, from within and outside NCSM and NSA, approached and appealed to various organizations, businesses, communities, neighborhoods, individuals, employers, friends and families to raise the relief fund. In the process, a total of eight (8) receipt books, each containing 50 blank receipts, were issued to 8 individuals from within NEARFM team to keep records of donations received from various organizations and sources. Online donation campaigns were carried out through separate INDIEGOGO accounts each on behalf of NEARFM and NSA towards the common goal.



**Record of Relief Fund:**

Given the nature of collections - coin collections, collections via piggy banks, collections in the mall, collections at the Farmers market, neighborhood collections, etc it was not an easy task to document the source of every donation in the eight receipt books.

As of November 2, 2015, the total fund collected in the NEARFM account was CAN\$ 24,859.53. A detailed breakdown of this fund is provided with respect to (1) receipt books (refer to **Appendix B**); and (2) various organizations/associations and other sources (refer to **Appendix C**). It is noted that about 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the total funds were generous contributions from associations, organizations and online donations and the rest from individuals from within and outside our community.

**Transfer of Relief Fund:**

The NEARFM meeting of June 7, 2015 adopted a procedure to decide to whom to donate the NEARFM fund to carry out relief and/or reconstruction work to the Nepal earthquake victims. Non Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) was voted by majority to be the recipient of the fund. The same meeting also decided to transfer \$21,000 from NEARFM account to NRNA with the remaining fund to be decided at a later time. The last and concluding meeting of NEARFM committee was held on August 16, 2015 in the same venue where we began this fund raising campaign. At the meeting, a NEARFM financial report was handed over to NCSM. The meeting also decided to transfer the remaining fund in the NEARFM account to NRNA. The 18-member NEARFM committee was dissolved in a positive note thanking/appreciating each other and extending appreciation to all volunteers and organizations involved.

**Table 1** below shows the details of the two wired fund transfers to NRNA Emergency Fund Account #0240000001207 in Sanima Bank Ltd., Kathmandu. It provides the transfer date, sender (From), recipient (To), funds in CAN\$, US\$ and Nepalese currency in Rupees (NRs).

**Table 1. Transfer of Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund Manitoba to NRNA**

S No.	NEARFM Fund Transfer			Transferred Amount		
	Date	From	To	CAN\$	US\$	NRs.
1	July 29, 2015	NEARFM/NCSM	NRNA	21,000.00	15,772.04	1,611,983.83
2	November 02, 2015	NEARFM/NCSM	NRNA	3,829.47	2,857.81	298,792.23
<b>TOTAL FUND TRANSFERRED*</b>				<b>24,829.47</b>	<b>18,629.85</b>	<b>1,910,776.06</b>

\*Note: Total Fund raised "CAN\$ 24,859.53" – Total Fees/adjustments "CAN\$ 30.06"=**CAN\$ 24,829.47**

Following the decision to transfer NEARFM funds to NRNA, a number of communications took place between the presidents of NCSM and NRNA to establish an understanding about the use of above funds towards NRNA's NRs 350,000,000 (or US\$ 3.5 million) housing project to build 1,000 homes

for the earthquake victims in the five hardest-hit districts of Nepal, timely updates of the housing project in progress to NCSM and finally how our share of fund (up to about 7 homes) be recognized at the time of handover to the families of earthquake victims when the project completes. The communication with NRNA described above and receipts of the fund transfers are provided in **Appendix D**.

**Acknowledgement:**

On behalf of NCSM, I would like to extend sincere thanks to the entire NEARFM team, NSA family, and many more dedicated volunteers and officials from various organizations for your invaluable time and selfless support in this relief/reconstruction fund raising campaign for the victims of Nepal Earthquake. I take this opportunity to also thank respectful priests/elders and office bearers from various spiritual and government organizations for their prayers and blessings to the departed souls and families in deep distress in the aftermath of the earthquake. I also would like to thank all the local media and/or reporters including CBC, CTV, Global TV and Winnipeg Free Press for their coverage on Nepal Earthquake and letting Manitobans/Canadians know the level of impacts this devastating event caused to Nepal and the local Nepali community in Manitoba/Canada.

Few photographs of the NEARFM activities are provided in **Appendix E**. Thanking you once again for your volunteer spirit and generous support and looking forward to see your continued support in coming days.

*Original Signed by*

Purushottam Raj Singh,  
President, Nepali Cultural Society of Manitoba (NCSM)  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Attachments

Appendix A: NCSM Letter dated April 26, 2015 - NEARFM Committee and its Mandate.

Appendix B: NEARFM Fund – Donation by Receipt Book and Online.

Appendix C: NEARFM Fund – Donation by Organization, Association and Group.

Appendix D: Communication with NRNA and Receipts of NEARFM Fund Transfer.

Appendix E: Photographs