

## The Tanzania Leadership Program 2018-2019



### I. INTRODUCTION

#### **Rationale**

The motivation for this program was derived from the personal and professional experiences of its authors in conjunction with the vision prescribed by the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board. The authors believe that Learning, Leadership, and Service within the context of Safe Adventure is a very powerful educational paradigm.

#### **Service Learning**

A unique and distinguishing component of this program is the concept of “service learning”. Service learning can be identified as experiential education when the learner adopts a life role that provides meaningful service to a community in order to learn about oneself and others. The pedagogical value of the service increases when the following are added to the learning: an academic component designed to prepare the learner in terms of content and competencies relevant to the service; an opportunity to reflect upon and think critically about the experience; an element of adventure and challenge; an international and cross-cultural context; and an alignment of individual, placement, and system goals.

#### **The Tanzania Leadership Program**

The Tanzania Leadership Program provides a once in a lifetime experience to partake in service learning, volunteerism, and educational programs in one of the most beautiful places on earth. Participants will travel to Tanzania and connect with the schools, missions, and parishes of the community. Participants will have the opportunity to explore and enhance their leadership through combining meaningful service learning and educational activities. Participants will spend the vast majority of their time volunteering at local schools, teaching, building classrooms, and helping in concrete ways to improve the local community, while having the opportunity to interact intensively with the local people. Moreover, hands on learning about development, world issues, leadership, environmental conservation and biodiversity through interactive seminars will engage individuals to consider the importance and challenges of much

needed development, while ensuring the protection of the world's most wondrous flora and fauna. Students will learn the history of slavery and that of our own First Peoples.

### **Affiliation**

The delivery of this program is in conjunction with Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, EF Tours, Me to WE and WE Charity. Co-founded by Marc and Craig Kielburger, ME to WE and WE Charity has earned world-wide recognition for its dedication in eradicating child labour throughout the world. One of its programs, WE, is devoted to youth leadership and has established program sites around the world.

## **2. PARTICIPANTS**

### **Participants**

Approximately 28 students and 5 adult supervisors will be selected for admission to this program. This number has been governed by the practical exigencies of traveling to these areas of the world. Students will be selected according to the following criteria:

1. Trustworthiness and reliability
2. Respectfulness of other people and cultures
3. Adaptability to new experiences
4. Parental support
5. Fitness

All participants will also be expected to read and complete a SMCDSB Parent/Guardian Informed Consent Form for International Excursions. The limitations of SMCDSB responsibilities with respect to this program are also indicated in a letter from EF Tours to Mr. Brian Beal, Director of Education, SMCDSB. In addition, each participant is required to submit a photocopy of their passport and accurately complete all EF Tours and Me to We Consent forms.

### **Code of Conduct**

Each student will be expected to pledge commitment to a Code of Conduct which will be designed to ensure that respect for each participant, his/her property, and well-being is safeguarded. This code will preclude harassment and abusiveness and will prohibit the use of alcohol and drugs. Above all, the rights and responsibilities of all participants will be clearly defined so that the objectives of this program may be achieved within a healthy and safe environment.

## **3. DESIGN**

The authors propose that this learning program be offered as a two credit bundle with the possibility of using the Interdisciplinary Studies curriculum document. In addition the courses may be designated as HSE4M (Equality and Social Justice), HRT3M (World

Religion) or courses similar in grade and content. An additional credit (possibly co-operative education) will also be earned through the continuous service learning opportunities, presentations, meetings and volunteer hours.

### **In-Class Component**

These classes will take place at St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School during periods 1 and 2 semester II, as well as:

- parent meetings-dates to be announced;
- additional meetings arranged during the experiential component;
- formal examinations will be scheduled for this program in June 2019.

The assignments in this program are designed to provide background to the course themes and to stimulate relevant learning and personal reflection. To this end required readings will be assigned and considerable options with respect to written assignments will be offered.

### **Experiential Component**

This excursion to Tanzania will serve as the Authentic Service Learning component of the program.

There will be a variety of service learning opportunities distributed across a few locations. The primary focus will be to help provide improved access to education, health and sanitation. Formal classes will be conducted whereby teachers and students will be given opportunities to discuss their reactions to the learning experiences, which will offer support for their adjustment to the new environments. Upon returning to Canada, the students will meet to reflect and process their experiences, and will be given several opportunities to formally present their learning to family and friends.

Topics for discussion during classes in Tanzania will be governed by the nature of the activities in which the students will be engaged. Daily journal writing will be an essential component of this time. A composite journal with representation from each participant will be compiled, edited, and published upon completion of the course.

### **Service and Leadership Opportunities**

- **Community development:** Lend your hands to build a school and volunteer at our schools.
- **Cultural education:** Attend workshops, walk through traditional villages, and learn local languages.
- **Leadership training:** Experience intensive and interactive training.
- **Environmental education:** Learn about environmental challenges on a fieldtrip to coastal region.

**Tentative travel dates:** Between Easter and the May Long Weekend

**Itinerary:** TBA

## 4. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

### Transportation

Local transportation will be organized and provided by the Me toWe lorry/bus. International air travel will be provided by a reputable national carrier.

### Accommodation

In Tanzania, the accommodations will be provided through the Me-to-We organization. The adult supervisors will always reside in close proximity to the student residences. Appropriate separation between genders will always be ensured in these residences.

## 5. FINANCES

Participants will be charged a single fee of approximately \$5500.00 which will cover return airfare from Toronto to Tanzania, all travel expenses within the country, meals, accommodations, training materials and donations to the local communities. It also includes all expenses associated with the Study component.

Payments will be made directly to EF Tours on their secure website by regular installments.

### Fundraising

There will be fundraising activities designed to help students offset their trip expenses.

Christmas Wreaths: Wreath forms will be available for students to sell fresh Fraser Fir wreaths. This fundraising event will be individual-each student will receive profits depending on the number of wreaths that he/she sold.

Sponsor Booklet: This is intended to provide an overview of the program and will feature the participants. Students are invited to sell advertising for the booklet and these funds will be directly applied to their trip fee, except for a nominal fee for the printing of the booklets. Please be aware that advertisements that are purchased by companies in support of a student will not be eligible for a refund in the event that the particular participant being supported withdraws from the program.

Gala Fundraiser with Silent Auction (April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019) This amazing black-tie event will feature delicious cuisine, live entertainment, enlightening conversation for family friends and community partners, as well as an exciting Silent Auction! People will not want to miss out on this event so get ready to sell as many tickets as you can!

## **Financial Plan**

Students are expected to take responsibility in planning to meet the financial commitment involved in this program. To assist in this, the participants will be expected to submit a plan to achieve this goal.

## **Other Costs**

The only other costs that are not included in the above price are the following:

- Passport: (this must not expire within 6 months of departure)
- Visa: (Cost to follow)
- Inoculations: (depending upon one's private insurance coverage)
- Spending Money

## **6. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Careful attention to sound health and safety practices will be an important part in the preparation of the program. This will involve mandatory immunizations, learning healthy eating and drinking habits, and understanding effective illness prevention practices. For maximum benefit it is recommended that participants, in general, be in good health and achieve a sufficient level of fitness prior to the trip. Physical and dental check-ups are highly recommended prior to the departure date.

### **Immunization**

- a) The following are ordinarily administered through one's family doctor in the course of normal Ontario health care. All participants are asked to ensure their protection with inoculations against the following diseases which are routine vaccinations.

**Tetanus – Diphtheria-Pertussis**  
**Chickenpox**  
**Polio**  
**Measles-Mumps-Rubella**

**\*There will be other vaccinations required and will be given in consultation with our travel clinic doctor, Tim Stanford. The cost of these inoculations are not covered by OHIP but may be included in private health plans.**

- b) Protection against malaria is by tablet and is taken on a regular basis prior, during, and following the trip. The exact regimen will be prescribed by a travel clinic.

As indicated above, careful preparation prior to departure about safe eating and drinking habits and illness prevention practices will be undertaken. Participants may wish to read "The Travel Doctor" by Dr. Mark Wise (Firefly Books, 2002) as part of this preparation. A close working relationship has been developed with Dr. Tim Stanford and the Huronia Travel Clinic. The Huronia Travel Clinic will conduct a training workshop about preventative health practices for our students prior to departure and will make recommendations about appropriate inoculations. In addition to the workshop, the JOA Tanzania Team will attend an immunization clinic together at The Huronia Travel Clinic (Date TBA-Usually February)