



ALTITUDE PROJECT

Community Support Foundation

Dear Friends, and Friends of Friends,

It's been a while since our last communication so it's definitely time to provide an update of our activities for 2018 in the Upper Dolpo region of Nepal.

First, a reminder - Altitude Project is now a registered charity in Canada and will provide tax receipts for all donations!

What's included in this Update?

- Short report about each school
- New toilet block project at Komash
- Solar lights
- AGM and 2018 year-end financial results
- YouTube Video of our epic 29 day trek through the Dolpo in Oct 2017
- Dorje Dolma – author of Yak Girl – coming to Nelson, BC
- Upcoming trip to Nepal in Nov/ Dec 2018
- New instructions for making donations to Altitude Project

Although our main fundraising period is November to March each year, we are grateful to receive donations at any time.



Our goal for 2019 is ambitious at \$40,000. For 2018, we raised slightly more than our goal of \$30,000 thanks to many kind and generous donors. For 2019, we hope to support the schools at Komas and Saldang at levels similar to 2018 but Karang will require more support, as they are losing their interim support. We also hope to provide several of their graduating students with scholarships to continue their education beyond grade 5. Pema Gojor Gurung, the school coordinator for Karang, has been working tirelessly to find funding for a hostel in Kathmandu and to qualify his students for discounted school fees at the Tibetan exile school where Altitude Project currently supports Tenzin Norbu.



School Reports:

- Saldang – 82 students attending this year. Leaking school roofs are still a problem and we need to raise funds for repairs. And of extreme importance is to develop a good plan as to how to install a more permanent fix to the problem. Heavy rainfall was once unknown in this high altitude desert but damaging rainfall is becoming more frequent and the traditional roof construction in the Dolpo is no longer adequate for the school. A full complement of teachers is in place and all is well on that side of things.
- Komas – 25 students are attending this year. The toilet block that Altitude Project funded is now constructed and in use! Komas is the smallest village in the region with a population of 200 people.
- Karang – 62 students attending this year; school infrastructure is in good condition; full complement of teachers in place and things are going well.
- Ku – 30 students attending. We will learn more about this school in December. We provided a small one-time grant of \$1,500 for the 2018 school year.
- **Approximately 200 students in school this year thanks to all kind sponsors!**



Toilet Block at Komaz:

- The [toilet block project](#) at the school was completed early in the season by local villagers. This project was desperately needed and we are pleased that it was done so early! Cost was \$1,500.



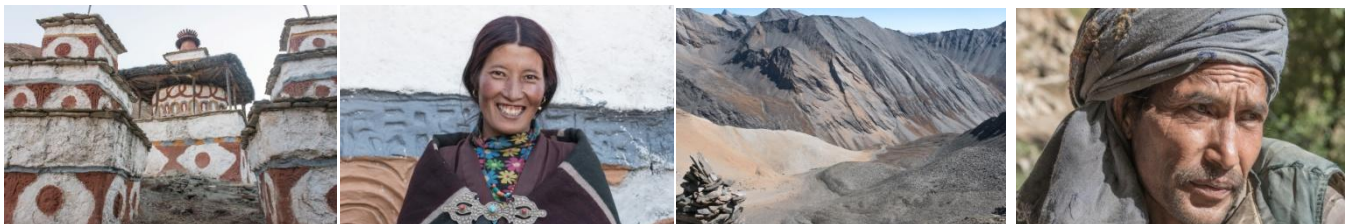
Solar Lights:

- 125 [solar lights](#) by LuminAID were provided to villagers
- A checklist of recipients has been kept along with a photo of each person receiving their light (we won't see photos until Dec)
- These lights are extremely popular and very useful – we hope to provide more lights in 2019
- LuminAID provides lights at a healthy discount for charities and we are grateful for their support



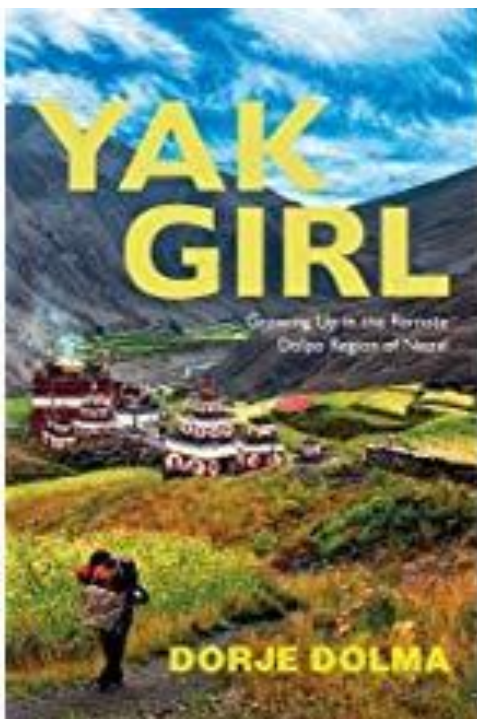
2018 AGM and Financial Results – results are posted on the [reports page](#) of our website

YouTube video / slideshow of our epic 29 day trek last October – now on the [website](#)



Yak Girl – Dorje Dolma coming to Nelson! – [read more](#) about her book on our website

- When – Thursday, January 31, 2019
- Where – Nelson Library, sponsored by Altitude Project!
- Dorje was born in Karang, one of the villages where we support a school. Her book describes her young life in the village, herding the family's animals in the mountains at age 5 while fighting off wolves and snow leopards! The event date is a long way off and we will send reminders but you may want to put it in your calendar now – it's a rare opportunity to meet someone from this remote part of Nepal.
- David R. Gluns will have a photography show on display at the same time – portraits of villagers and students at Saldang. Many of you know of Dave's incredible work and talent.



Upcoming Travels to Nepal:

- I will be in Nepal from Nov 27 until Dec 17, 2018
- A short trek (10-12 days) in the Annapurna region will be followed by a week in Kathmandu
- During the week in Kathmandu, I will meet with school coordinators to prepare the 2019 budgets and to ensure requirements for the charity are well understood.
- And we will be traveling to the Upper Dolpo in the fall of 2019 – Saldang School will be having its 20th anniversary!

We are now on [facebook](#) - please like / follow us to see the latest updates and photos.

If you can give a little – it will help a lot!

Here are the ways to donate to [Altitude Project](#) – **PLEASE NOTE CHANGES!**

- ❖ Interbank transfer from your bank to this account number at CIBC in Nelson BC, Canada – 00270/010/1065610
- ❖ e-transfers can be sent to donations@altitudeproject.ca – for security question please use “What is this for” with the answer SaldangSchool (no spaces)
- ❖ A cheque payable to Altitude Project can be mailed to Altitude Project c/o David Swain, 4228 Crescent Bay Road, Nelson BC, Canada, V1L 6N1
- ❖ On the [donate page](#) of the [Altitude Project website](#)
- ❖ **Please be sure to include your name and address when making a donation. We need both to issue tax receipt – it is a CRA requirement!**

Tashi delek, Namaste, Sincere Thanks

On behalf of Altitude Project



David Swain

If you no longer wish to receive email from Altitude Project, please advise us by return email – thanks

