

## Minnedosa Collegiate group earns Marquis Global Citizenship Award

A student group at Minnedosa Collegiate that has been actively volunteering for many local causes and fundraising for projects in the developing world has won the 2014 Marquis Global Citizenship Award.

The C.H.A.N.G.E. (Citizens Helping All Nations Grow Equally) group been active since 2007 and has raised more than \$75,000 for projects, such as constructing a school in Ethiopia and hurricane relief in the Philippines.

Current efforts focus on the Blanco's Children project in Haiti where C.H.A.N.G.E. is sponsoring 35 orphaned children.

On the local front, students volunteer for a variety of community organizations, such as Minnedosa Palliative Care, Christmas Cheer Board, the Minnedosa Lions Club and the Minnedosa Food Cupboard.

Each year, the group engages with parents and the local community through a benefit that serves as both a fundraising and educational event.

"It is very unusual for a student group to be so active in their local community while at the same time deeply engaged in international development projects," said Al Friesen, president of The Marquis Project. "These initiatives exemplify what the Marquis Global Citizenship Award is all about."

The annual award recognizes a person or a group for an outstanding voluntary contribution to promoting an understanding of development issues, or for contributing in an outstanding way to global citizenship by their involvement in international issues.

"Being involved with

C.H.A.N.G.E. really opens your eyes to things that are going on in the rest of the world," student volunteer Josh Woychyshyn said. "It is a good thing helping other people in our community and all around the world."

The Marquis Global Citizenship Award will be presented to the C.H.A.N.G.E. group at a special school assembly at Minnedosa Collegiate at 11:50 a.m. on Tuesday.

» Submitted

