

**The Marquis  
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# Newsletter

**The Marquis Project  
& Worldly Goods Shop**

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September 2010

## Marquis Project Awards

### International Global Citizenship Award

The Marquis Project is proud to announce the winner of their 2010 Global Citizenship Award (and first international recipient) - Mr. Beny Mwenda. Hailing from Tanzania, Mr. Mwenda is an alumni of Assiniboine Community College who has subsequently returned to Africa and revitalized a growing national organization for agriculture professionals to improve food security and poverty reduction with focused efforts for rural women and youth – the Tanzania Society for Agriculture Education and Extension (TSAEE).

Beny has maintained close ties with numerous agencies in Westman for over a decade that has touched lives not only in Tanzania, but benefitted many throughout Manitoba. He has hosted over 19 Westman youth to participate in development projects in Tanzania, including the creation of a fair trade craft program supporting rural women, while successfully engaging a growing number of agencies throughout Canada, the US and Europe, in effective international development partnerships. Today, he is a college instructor in agriculture, Chairman of TSAEE in the Lake Zone, Vice President of TSAEE

National, as well as the Director for the Developing Energy Enterprise Project for East Africa (Tanzania).

As a Marquis Board Member during his first visit to Manitoba in the 1990's, Beny has strived to create strong, positive and tangible linkages for Manitobans to make constructive differences for the lives of women and youth in poverty in Tanzania. His phenomenal efforts have continued through to this day with projects in HIV/AIDS awareness; improved health with the introduction of orange flesh sweet potatoes; the establishment of untold numbers of agro-forestry plots and improved stoves; rural education and micro-finance management; and climate change adaptation.

More than just an international development partner, Beny Mwenda is a vital friend who continues to welcome all who pass through the doors of the Marquis Project to participate in relationships of global significance. The Marquis Project is proud to have recognized his efforts with the 2010 Global Citizenship Award presented at the Annual General Meeting on June 5, 2010. Congratulations, Beny!

### MISSION STATEMENT

The MARQUIS PROJECT is a community-centered, non-profit organization committed to the strengthening of international development. It has a two-fold purpose:

- to help educate Manitobans, as to the nature of economic, political, and social issues involved at both the local and global levels; and
- to seek to participate actively in sustainable projects and partnerships aimed at improving the quality of life in small, rural communities in developing countries.



### *Marquis Upcoming Events:*

**September 11** - Harvest of Hobbies Off Site Sale. 10AM-3PM @ Carberry

**September 14** - Student Saver Appreciation Day at the Brandon University in the Knowles Douglas Building Mingling Area

**October 2** - Fall Charity Bazaar Off Site Sale at the Shoppers Mall

**October 4** - The Marquis Project will be at the Crocus Plains school for the Brandon Volunteer Recruitment Fair

**October 5** - The Marquis Project will be at the Neelin school for the Brandon Volunteer Recruitment Fair

**October 6** - The Marquis Project will be at the Vincent Massey school for the Brandon Volunteer Recruitment Fair

Email: [events@marquisproject.com](mailto:events@marquisproject.com)  
phone: 727-5675  
for more information

## **Worldly Goods:**

**Now open Mondays!**

**Mon to Fri 10 AM to 5 PM**

**Saturday 10AM to 4 PM**

**NEWSLETTER**

## **A Message From Marquis President Sean Irwin**

Dear Marquis Members and Friends,  
Fall is upon us and the Marquis Project is shifting into high gear for the upcoming school year. We are excited about our upcoming events and programming and are proud to be offering these in the Westman area. As I'm sure you can tell, there have been some changes around the organization over the last couple of months. A new board was elected in early June at the AGM and a new executive was elected shortly after. I am proud to announce our new Executive Director, Karli Brackenreed, who worked with us through the summer as an intern. Her experience and enthusiasm will be a great bonus to the organization. We have also expanded our donations system to include monthly automatic withdrawal from a debit or credit card. Donating monthly is a great way to give to Marquis while not breaking your budget. If any of you would be interested in this option please find the necessary forms included in this newsletter.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported Marquis through the years. It is people like you who donate

their time and money that have made Marquis what it is today. Moving into the future I am very excited. We plan on increasing fundraising and as a result, educational programming and overseas development projects. We will be working with schools and various other partners to build awareness of what less fortunate people experience every day in the developing world. Educating people about development issues today means creating global citizens for tomorrow.

Marquis has been a unique and well known organization for over 30 years. We are proud to work with the people of Brandon and area to help families in developing regions of the world increase their quality of life. Our unique programming and projects raise awareness here at home and contribute to lives abroad. Marquis is a very interactive organization. If there are ways you would like to work with Marquis, or in which Marquis can work with you, please let us know, we would be happy to hear from you.

Yours Truly,  
Sean Irwin

## **A Message From Marquis Past President Craig Ebbers**

Dear Marquis Members and Friends, it was a great honour and pleasure to serve as President of the Marquis Project Board of Directors this past year. I had the opportunity to learn so many new things, and meet new people.

It was an interesting year for the Marquis Project, filled with positive experiences like the 30th Anniversary Social and another visit by members of our partner organization in Tanzania.

We have had great successes with our many programs this past year, with new technology and methods being used, such as GIS in Tanzania.

We also had a great Annual General

Meeting, where new directors were elected to the board, and our good friend Beny Mwedza was awarded the Global Citizenship Award.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Josh Sebastian, who is leaving the position of Executive Director to complete more work in Tanzania, as well as all the board members and volunteers over the past year. I'm very pleased to see Sean Irwin take over as President and Chair of the Board, and Karli Brackenreed as Executive Director. These dynamic and energetic individuals are sure to make the Marquis Project even a greater success in the future.

# Brandon Students Seek a “Market For Change” at YETII 2010

On May 6th, 2010 over 120 Brandon youth came together to learn about pressing issues around climate change and world poverty at The Marquis Project’s annual Youth Educating Themselves on International Issues (YETII) Conference. Throughout the day, students participated in interactive workshops, dynamic speaker sessions, and a trade simulation game- The Fair Game™. Students also enjoyed a BBQ of certified organic and locally produced foods from Logan Farms in Nesbitt, MB. The students benefitted greatly from their experiences at YETII, as demonstrated in the feedback

YETII organizers received after the conference:

“I can make a big difference, just myself!” Harrison Middle School Student

“I take more care in my actions, how long I shower, what I’m throwing in the garbage . . . I have also started talking to peers and adults about ways we can help the environment. Also, I would like our school to be more environmentally friendly, and I came up with some ideas with the group that I went with to YETII”. Neelin High School Student  
Thank-you to all who attended and all who helped make YETII 2010 a success!



## Get WISE: (Workplaces Inspiring Sustainability and Equality)

The Marquis Project is starting a new initiative that encourages business to become WISE. Workplaces within the local community who are dedicated to reducing our ecological footprint and global inequalities are WISE (Workplaces Inspiring Sustainability and Equality). WISE workplaces inspire sustainability by investing in environmentally friendly products and practices, and WISE workplaces inspire equality by purchasing fair trade products, which create opportunities and financial support to producers in developing countries. Reasons to adopt a sustainable business model include cost saving benefits, develop and strengthening customer loyalties, becoming an innovative leader, fostering a healthier work environment and making a

difference locally and globally. When you register your business to become WISE, an evaluative assessment will be performed to identify areas of success and areas in need of improvement. The Marquis Project will collaborate with your business to set realistic and approachable goals, and will provide your business with a customized sustainable action plan to implement long term with the support of The Marquis Project. A WISE identification card will be issued to your business, which entitles you to discounts on fair trade and environmentally friendly products at The Marquis Project’s Worldly Goods Shop on 912 Rosser Avenue, Brandon, MB. The Marquis Project has also developed a certification system that classifies

your business as either a gold, silver, or bronze WISE workplace. Gold Certified WISE Workplaces utilize environmentally friendly and fair trade products in addition to taking part in a sustainable assessment of your workplace and receiving a customized sustainable action plan. Silver Certified WISE Workplaces utilize both environmentally friendly and fair trade products. Bronze Certified WISE Workplaces utilize either environmentally friendly products or fair trade certified products. If you want to encourage your workplace to become WISE or if you want to register your business as WISE, please contact The Marquis Project by phone 727-5675 or by email at [marquis@marquisproject.com](mailto:marquis@marquisproject.com).



## Marquis Makes an Impact!

Thanks to funding from the Cooperator's Group Impact! Fund, The Marquis Project undertook a monthly speaker series focused on regional climate change impacts and local actions that are being implemented to combat the effects of climate change. The purpose of the Climate Change Impact Speaker Series was to build connections to current sources of information, to identify issues of local concern, and to uncover strategies that members, partners, and local stakeholders can begin to adopt with respect to climate change in Manitoba. "Hunger for Change: Climate Change and the Food Economy" kicked off the speaker series with Dennis Cunningham, from the International Institute for Sustainable Development. Dennis discussed industrialized agriculture and its effects on local farming communities, economies, and environments, in addition to looking at global industrialized agriculture and its effect on people in the developing world. Dennis explained to the audience how the

business of agriculture is linked with climate change and development, both locally and globally. On World Water Day, Bryan Osborne, associate from the International Institute for Sustainable Development's Water Innovation Center discussed "Manitoba's Water Resources and Climate Change." Bryan discussed how Manitoba's water resources are vulnerable to changing climate and how water resource management can be an effective tool for adapting to the effects of climate change. In celebration of Earth Day, representatives from Manitoba Sustainable Energy Association (ManSEA) provided an intellectual panel discussion on "Alternative Energy Options for Manitoba." Participants at this event had an opportunity to learn about alternative energy sources like biomass, biogas, wind energy, and community focused solutions to energy challenges. The fourth speaker session took place at the Annual General Meeting, where our guest of honor Beny Mwenda, Chairman of the Tanzania Society

for Agriculture Education and Extension (TSAEE) in the Lake Zone, provided a captivating presentation on "Poverty and Climate Change Adaptation in Tanzania." The speaker series ended with James Beddome and Kelly Whelan-Enns from Manitoba Wildlands talking about "Transforming Landscapes: Climate Change and Southern Manitoba." James and Kelly informed the audience about the predicted increase in temperatures caused by global warming, and how the changing temperatures will have drastic impacts on the ecosystems and economies of rural Manitoba. In particular, frequent and persistent droughts, declining crop yields, and increased energy costs, which will likely change how we grow food and use water resources. The Climate Change Impact Speaker Series was a great success thanks to the help and dedication of The Marquis Project staff, volunteers, and members. Thank you to all those who attended this year's speaker series and to those who participated in the evaluative survey.

## Thank You Harrison Staff and Students

The Marquis Project would like to extend a gracious and sincere thank-you to Harrison Middle School students who elected to organize an activity day at the end of their 2009/2010 school year to fundraise money for two charities, one of which was The Marquis Project. The Marquis Project received an unexpected one hundred and fifty dollar donation, not to mention, endless support throughout the school year of our educational programming and our YETII conference.



*Cheryl Roberts' Grade 7 Social Studies class poses with The Marquis Project Executive Director, Josh Sebastian (far right) and Fair Trade Educator, Karli Brackenreed (far left).*

## Worldly Goods Store News

The Worldly Goods Shop is busily preparing for the holidays and has many fair trade and eco-friendly gifts available for you. We have many new and exciting products coming into the store such as, Make Your Own Chocolate Kits, fair trade soccer and basketballs, and many delicious chocolate treats!

We are looking forward to Monday, November 8th for our Holiday Season store opening! We will be open for extended hours for this special day; 10AM-9PM. We look forward to seeing

everyone's faces down at the Worldly Goods Store. Refreshments and food will be served throughout the day.

Enjoy a recipe from The BitterSweet World of Chocolate. This and other great world recipe books are found at our Worldly Goods Shop!

The Worldly Goods shop is open Monday to Friday 10AM-5PM and Saturdays 10AM-4PM. If you have any questions or concerns about the store please contact us at [worldlygoods@marquisproject.com](mailto:worldlygoods@marquisproject.com)



### Chili Sin Carne Con Chocolate

Serves 4

Preparation: 10 Minutes

Cooking: 30 Minutes

#### Ingredients:

- 2 Cans red kidney beans, drained (retain liquid)
- 2 Onions, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- ¼ teaspoon chili powder
- 1 cup mushrooms, chopped
- 1 can tomatoes and juice
- 2 tablespoons tomato puree
- ¼ cup tarragon vinegar
- 3-4 ounces dark chocolate

*\*Organic, fair trade Cocoa Camino chocolate is available at our Worldly Goods Shop!*

- Oil
- Salt and pepper

#### Instructions:

Heat Oven to 350 degrees

1. First fry the onions in oil in a large pan till golden Then put in the red bell pepper, garlic, coriander, cumin, oregano and chili and fry gently. Put them into a deep ovenproof dish with a lid.
2. Add the beans, mushrooms, tomatoes and juice, tomato puree, vinegar and chocolate. Season' stir and pour in enough retained bean liquid or water just to cover.
3. Put the lid on the dish and bake for 20-30 minutes; if it seems to be drying out, add more liquid. This tasted even nicer when its made the day before you want it eat it, and reheated.



## Welcomes and Farewells

As the new Marquis year begins, we have some new staff members to introduce. But first, it is time to say “farewell and best wishes” to some staff members who have carried on the work of Marquis over the past year.

Josh Sebastian, our Executive Director for most of the last year, picked up the role on a “temporary fill-in basis” when we were suddenly left without an E.D. After a two month trip to Tanzania last Winter to work on projects with our partner, TSAEE, he came back to Marquis and picked up the role once again. Josh will be remembered for getting programming back on track, for his exceptional proposal development skills, for helping us to get a handle on our financial situation, and for his general dedication to the position. We are truly grateful for all his efforts, including the countless unpaid hours he devoted to ensuring that the work of Marquis continued and grew despite tough financial times.

Josh is preparing to leave once more for sunny Tanzania, where he will be monitoring a project on behalf of the Manitoba Institute of Agriculture. We know he will also be eagerly looking forward to continuing to work with TSAEE on GIS projects, to the leisurely pace of life at the “Rest House”, and to continuing his “language studies” with three year old Josey. Have a wonderful trip Josh! We look forward to your regular updates while away and to hearing about it on your return.

Also leaving us this Fall is Tiffanie Skipper, who has been our “Environmental Issues Educator” since January, thanks to a grant from the Y Eco program. Tiffanie was responsible for coordinating the “Climate Change Impact! Speaker Session” and for visiting schools in the Westman region to engage youth and children on environmental topics. She worked with Karli and the Youth Committee as well to ensure that we delivered a successful YETII conference in 2010. Thanks for your efforts, Tiffanie! Best wishes in your return home to Ontario and good luck in your job hunt.

Welcome!

We are also thrilled to present our new Executive Director, Karli Brackenreed! Karli isn’t a stranger to Marquis, having worked for us over the past nine months in the role of “Fair Trade Educator”, also thanks to an internship grant from the Y Eco program. Karli was very

instrumental in helping Marquis to renew our relationships with the school divisions and re-establish our presence in the schools. Karli hopes the role will help her to gain a more in-depth understanding of development work. The Marquis Project will benefit from her commitment to development principles, her strong communication and organizational skills, as well as her creative flair.

This will be a challenging position for Karli, in that Marquis’ limited resources only allow us to engage her on a part-time basis (twenty-three hours per week). In the rest of her life, Karli works as a counselor for the Rural Stress Line (where she also volunteers), teaches music, serves on the executive of the Justice Community Association and plays soccer.

Welcome, Karli!

And finally, the Y Eco program has offered us funds to hire a youth intern for another six month position! Robyn Reid was the successful candidate for the Sustainable Development Educator Internship position. She moved here from the Maritimes less than a year ago to join her fiancée, who is posted at CFB Shilo. After a couple of years of university studies in music performance, she has decided to take some time off to expand her horizons. Robyn brings to the position a long history (well, as long as her young age will allow) of public speaking, coordinating events and teaching children, which will stand her in good stead as she engages children and youth on topics related to sustainable development, environmental stewardship, and social justice. She will also work with the youth committee, and help to plan and coordinate YETII.

Please stop by the Worldly Goods Shop at any time to welcome Karli and Robyn to their positions, and to offer your support.



*Robyn Reid,  
Sustainable Development Intern*



*Karli Brackenreed,  
Executive Director*

## Water Facts Courtesy of Environment Canada

- Canada has approximately 25% of the world's wetlands – the largest wetland area in the world
- Canada has more freshwater underground than on the surface
- Canada has more lake area than any other country in the world
- The Great Lakes are the largest system of fresh surface water on Earth, containing approximately 18% of the world's fresh water. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world by area
- Per capita water consumption in Canada is the second highest in the world, only by the United States
- The average Canadian uses 328 litres of water per day in his/her home...
  - 35% bathing
  - 30% toilet flushing
  - 25% laundry and cleaning
  - 10% cooking and drinking
- One drop of oil can render up to 25 litres of water unfit for drinking
- Health problems related to water pollution in general are estimated to cost Canadians \$300 million per year
- Water power meets about 62% of Canada's electrical needs
- Canada is the world's largest producer of hydroelectricity, following by the United States and Brazil
- Worldwide, one billion people lack access to safe drinking water

What you can do...

It's easy to cut your household water use, by making small, simple changes in your everyday life. Here's how:

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Fix leaking taps.
- When boiling food, use no more water than necessary and cover with a tightly fitting lid.
- Landscape with native or drought-resistant plants, and with garden designs that minimize water use.
- Switch to a low-flow showerhead.
- Toilets are big household water-wasters. Invest in water-efficient models or retrofit your toilet with a water-saving device.

Visit Environment Canada's website, [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca), for more ideas.

## The Marquis Project Committee Drive

Eager to get involved?

The Marquis Project would like to invite all interested individuals to get involved in our committees. Committees include:

### Programming Committee

- Maintains and develops The Marquis Project's overseas development projects, and local educational programs

### Fundraising Committee

- Plan fundraising activities and events, to raise awareness of The Marquis Project's mandates, while ensuring a steady stream of financial support

### Youth Committee

- Coordinates youth events around themes of development and world issues, including our annual youth conference YETII (Youth Educating Themselves on International Issues)

### Store Committee

- Provides guidance and support to The Worldly Goods Shop in areas of product selection, marketing, advertising, and staffing

## The Marquis Project Membership Drive

Join us by phone (204) 727-5675 or write in:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to receive the Marquis Newsletter? (Please Check One)

Mail  E-Mail

### Yearly Memberships

Student	\$15
One Person	\$30
Family	\$60
Supporting Member	\$120

You can pay by cheque, Visa, Mastercard or American Express. To pay or donate by credit card, please call 204-727-5675.

**Memberships and donations are tax deductible!**



The Marquis Project Presents  
a 2010 Speaker Series:



*Peace, Development,  
and Equality*

September 21st on the  
International Day of Peace

October □ TBA

November 16th on the  
International Day for Tolerance

*Watch for Details Coming Soon!*

