



November 23, 2009

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Alexandra Rydz and I am writing to you on behalf of the University of Alberta WUSC Local Committee.

The University of Alberta WUSC Local Committee is a student group on campus that is responsible for the Student Refugee Program (SRP). Through the SRP, approximately 50 student refugees are sponsored annually to come to Canada as permanent residents, allowing them to study at universities across the country for four years. The SRP has existed at the U of A since 1988, and since then, our local committee has sponsored close to 20 refugee students.

We are currently seeking donations of silent auction items for our SRP Gala. The Gala is an annual fundraiser that gives students, faculty, and community members the opportunity to come together to celebrate this amazing program. This year, it will be held at the Maharaja Banquet Hall on February 26, 2010.

Our goal for the Gala is to raise support and awareness of the SRP on campus and in the community. Raising awareness of this program is crucial in ensuring its sustainability and success. We are now responsible for expenses that were previously covered by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and so finding new sources of funding is an important task. The SRP has been endorsed by University of Alberta President Dr. Indira Samarasekera as an exemplary program. Students across the country continue to support the program in increasing numbers, and there is a great opportunity to expand the SRP to sponsor more refugees each year.

Your donation of a silent auction item to the SRP dinner would help us to achieve these goals and to ensure the continuation of the SRP program at the U of A. Your company name will appear alongside your displayed donation and in our program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Alexandra Rydz
SRP Gala Coordinator
WUSC U of A Local Committee
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