

CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR FACIAL PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Our Accomplishments

To date it has been the pleasure of The Canadian Foundation to support the efforts of the Education and Research Foundation's FACE TO FACE missions to Russia. Since 1992, when these humanitarian relief missions first began, FACE TO FACE surgeons have made 14 trips to the Bonum Centre, one of the largest pediatric institutions in Ekaterinburg and a hospital/rehabilitation facility which services the entire Sverdlovsk region of Russia and beyond.

Many Bonum Centre patients suffer from congenital deformities, trauma, post-ablative surgery problems and many other childhood disabilities. Since 1992 almost 1000 Bonum Centre patients, many of whom were orphans, have been seen in consultation by FACE TO FACE specialists and several hundred have been operated upon. Thanks to the outstanding surgical skills provided by FACE TO FACE surgeons, 68 of these 1000 children have been adopted or reclaimed by families that once abandoned them because of inability to cope, both financially and emotionally, with their deformities.

RUSSIA 2005

FACE TO FACE team members volunteer their skills and their time in the hopes of transforming children's lives, one child at a time. This year's FACE TO FACE Mission team to Russia included:

- **Mario Imola, M.D. Denver**
(Head and Neck Surgeon with special interest in maxillofacial and craniofacial surgery).
- **Daniel Danahey, M.D. Chicago**
(Head and Neck Surgeon with special interest in nasal reconstruction and soft tissue injuries).
- **Nick Slenkovich, M.D. Denver**
(Head and Neck Surgeon and Plastic Surgeon with special interest in soft tissue injuries).
- **Peter Kertes, M.D. Toronto**
(Ophthalmologist with special interest in retinopathy of the premature which causes blindness).
- **Peter A. Adamson, M.D. Toronto**
(Head and Neck Surgeon with special interest in reconstructive rhinoplasty and soft tissue facial injuries).
- **Laura Krioukov, R.N. Portland**
(Operating room nurse).
- **Kim Olson, R.N. Sacramento**
(Operating room nurse).

- **Stephen Duffy**
Executive Director, AAFPRS

These Mission team members, along with their Russian colleagues, saw 76 patients in consultations, operated on 24 patients and performed 36 procedures during their October 2005 visit to the Bonum Centre. During this humanitarian relief effort, a full day Academic Program including both Mission and Russian surgeons was carried out and approximately 30 participants took part in the invigorating discussions following the presentations. The types of procedures performed included maxillofacial, cleft lip and palate, nasal reconstruction following trauma and soft tissue facial repair.

Dr. Peter Kertes examined many premature infants and operated on several to provide the most recent information and practice in the treatment of retinopathy of the premature which can lead to blindness.

Also on this trip, Dr. Peter Adamson visited the largest general pediatric hospital in Ekaterinburg which houses 600 beds and has a 20-bed burn unit. Discussions with the head of the unit were held to determine the possibility of having Western surgeons visit the unit and Russian surgeons travel to the West to learn of the latest techniques in treating devastating burn injuries. Discussions were also held with Dr. Svetlana Blokhina, Director of the Bonum Centre, regarding the needs of future FACE TO FACE missions, the next one being tentatively planned by team members for Fall 2006.

Collaborative surgical interventions like Face To Face give countless children hope and offer local surgeons and nurses the necessary skills to create a lasting impact on the communities they serve.

Face To Face Facts

To date, the AAFPRS Foundations has written up 3,727 callers sheets for individuals interested in participating in this project. Out of 3,727 callers, 1,750 have been referred to AAFPRS surgeons and have made the decision to seek out a shelter and get a recommendation from a counselor/advocate.