

Changli's Jieyangli residents complete training, plan environmental project

Residents of the Jieyangli Community in Changli, Hebei Province identified three projects they want to initiate as a result of training held May 22.

“Residents are concerned about litter and its environmental impacts,” said Wu Ju, program coordinator for the Program for Leadership Training and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Development in China. “They want to initiate an project which helps residents understand the impacts of dumping and littering in the community.”

The residents want more than awareness,” Wu Ju said, they will take action also. “They want to clean up their community, and beautify two large concrete retaining walls that are attracting vandals - the concrete walls provide a perfect place for murals which promote their awareness project.”

The residents also plan to conduct a monthly music event to amplify the importance of good environmental stewardship in the community.

Program trainers Wu Ju, Fang Shi, Qian Chunyu and Yu Xiang, from Environmental Management College of China (EMCC) conducted the training with Jieyangli residents and will continue to work closely with leaders of the community to assist them in organizing and carrying out their project.

“This is clearly a highly motivated community,” said Darrell Erb of Harmony, who assisted at the training. “There is a core group of strong leaders, as well as a solid contingent of residents, determined to make their neighbourhoods healthier, more vibrant places in which to live and work.”

Some residents have been cleaning up their community for the past six months, but seek a more sustainable solution. Their neighbours, unaware or apathetic, continue to dump garbage on neighbourhood sidewalks and streets.

“It was a very successful training,” said Fang. “The greatest success will be when the project is complete, and residents are making better environmental choices for their community.”



An action plan -- Jieyangli residents work cooperatively to plan their environmental initiative. The training was held May 22.



A good time-- Jieyangli residents enjoy volunteering.



A musical greeting -- Resident musicians and vocalists welcome Harmony and EMCC representative to their community with a Chinese rendition of “Red River Valley”.



Thumbs up for local action - Changli local leaders are eager to collaborate with the program. Harmony and EMCC have developed strong support from local leaders in government, environmental protection, and community services. Over 30 leaders attended a May 20 information session held at the Luxi Sub-district offices to learn more about community training and public participation.

Changli local leaders gather to support The Program for Leadership Training and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Development

Changli, Hebei Province, China - Community leaders gathered May 20 to express their support and interest in participating in the tremendous opportunities *The Program for Leadership Training and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Development in China* presents to their communities.

The meeting was attended by Zhang Guangdong, General Secretary of Changli Township, and Zhao Shukang, General Secretary of Luxi Sub-district, as well as 30 other community leaders representing nine communities and over 50,000 residents.

Presenters at the session included Zhao, Zhu Gengshen, Director, EMCC Department of Environmental Engineering, Qian Chunyu, Fang Shi, and Wu Ju, EMCC program trainers, and Darrell Erb of Harmony.

“This was a good opportunity to involve many stakeholders as we begin to establish the program in Changli,” said Zhu. “Support from local leaders is important - their active involvement will open the door for other trainings and projects in Changli.”

Changli local print and broadcast media covered the event.

New facility at Xiaoguan Sub-district in Beijing will enhance training for Harmony/Shining Stone whole community initiative

Beijing, China - Leaders from the Xiaoguan Sub-district in Beijing conducted a tour of a new training, education and public health and safety facility for Harmony and Shining Stone Community Action representatives May 26.

Harmony and program partner Shining Stone Community Action will use the new Xiaoguan facility to provide training for Xiaoguan residents.

Harmony is seeking funding for the Xiaoguan Sub-district Training Initiative, which represents the

opportunity to positively impact the lives of tens of thousands of Beijing residents whose communities suffer from long term environmental neglect and rapid urbanization.

“Our success depends on the support of forward looking organizations and individuals who share our commitment to inclusive communities where people from all walks of life work together to achieve development which is socially and environmentally sustainable,” Michael Bloomfield, Founder and Executive Director of Harmony Foundation said.

Bloomfield, Bu present Chinese “Mayors’ Mindset” at Canada China Environmental Forum in Toronto in June

“Face and Faith - Chinese Mayors’ Mindset” was the title of the presentation delivered by Harmony’s Michael Bloomfield and Lanlin Bu at the Canada China Environmental Forum held June 8 in Toronto.

Leaders from government, business and civil society attended the presentation, which focused on China’s need for clean technologies and services, and how Canada has the opportunity now to improve its profile in this key market.

“The Chinese government has made it clear that China’s local leaders must be innovative, achieving economic development while protecting social, cultural and environmental assets and public health.” said Bloomfield.

“Those who assist China to move ahead in meeting this serious challenge at this critical juncture can benefit greatly.”

*Michael Bloomfield
Harmony Founder, Executive Director*

Harmony and collaborators in China are training Mayors, Vice-mayors and Environmental Protection Bureau officials through their initiative, The Program for Leadership Training and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Development in China.

One of Harmony’s goals is to introduce Canadian expertise and clean technologies and services to Chinese Mayors, Vice-mayors, and Environmental Protection Bureau managers who participate in training.

“China’s local leaders seek partners whose expertise, products and technology can help develop the skilled leadership, effective public participation and economic initiatives necessary to meet their goals,” Bloomfield said.

“This presents tremendous opportunities, and those who assist China to move ahead in meeting this serious challenge at this critical juncture can benefit greatly,” he concluded.



A well attended address - Michael Bloomfield and Lanlin Bu of Harmony explained that mayors of China are playing an increasingly important role in city management and spending in their presentation at the Canada China Environmental Forum.



A gathering on the Great Wall in Beijing - Jeff Immelt, General Electric CEO, and Darrell Erb of Harmony Foundation discuss *The Program for Leadership Training and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Development in China*. General Electric invited Erb from Harmony and Song Qinghua, Founder and President of program partner Shining Stone Community Action for a gathering held to celebrate Immelt’s visit to China. GE Foundation is a major supporter of Harmony’s China program.

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