
\$25,000 Donation Created 440 New Jobs for the World's Poorest Poor

The Charity Committee of Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc. has once again chosen Opportunity International as the Charity of Choice. The \$25,000 cheque recently presented by Robert Jones, President and Partner at Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc., to Lise Owen Struthers of Opportunity International will go a long way to provide additional micro-financing to would-be entrepreneurs in third world countries.

Toronto, ON

Every year, the Charity Committee of Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc. (Jones DesLauriers) selects a charity they would like to support. Once again this year, the brokerage chose to donate \$25,000 to Opportunity International, a micro-finance organization that provides small business loans, training, insurance and other financial services to the entrepreneurial poor in 28 Asian, African, Latin American and Eastern European countries. Opportunity International's mission is to transform lives by providing the working poor with start-up funds and the tools they need to rise out of poverty.

As a primarily entrepreneurial and employee-owned brokerage, it only seemed fitting for Jones DesLauriers to give again to an organization that provides its clients a parallel opportunity to succeed.

"This is money working at its best – growing and growing for people who really need it. We believe that our donation will help shape and create opportunities for impoverished entrepreneurs in developing countries, giving them a chance to succeed in business and in life," says Robert Jones, President and Partner at Jones DesLauriers.

"Lucy Sousa, our VP, recommended Opportunity International last year after she returned from a life-changing trip to Peru with the organization. It was a great choice – we are pleased to hear that our efforts last year created 440 new jobs for the world's poorest poor and touched the lives of over 2,200 individuals."

Jones DesLauriers is dedicated to giving back to the community every year, in more ways than one. In addition to a Corporate Charity of Choice, employees are asked to vote on a local charity they would like to support. The votes are tallied and \$10,000 is donated to help support a great cause. This year's Staff Charity of Choice is SickKids.

Every year, Jones DesLauriers supports charitable organizations that are dedicated to creating future opportunities for and re-investing in the community.

About Jones DesLauriers

Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc. is one of the largest privately held insurance brokers in Canada. The brokerage is committed to offering only the best commercial and personal insurance, financial services and mortgage experience.

The company prides itself on its passion for the industry, as each staff member has a dedicated and sophisticated approach to the knowledge and understanding of insurance and risk. They are dynamic and entrepreneurial in the way they combine industry knowledge, commitment to training, and personalized customer service.

Jones DesLauriers is built on the merging of two dynamic companies. Together, these two organizations create a unique blend of strengths – the diversity, knowledge base and service offering of a larger company, combined with the flexibility and personalized approach of a smaller company. The brokers believe this synergy is unmatched in the industry.

It's a "best of both worlds" experience that you will only find with Jones DesLauriers.

There are eight offices throughout Ontario – Toronto, Belleville, Brampton, Collingwood, Guelph, Hamilton, Ottawa and Port Hope.

About Opportunity International Canada

Opportunity International transforms lives by providing the working poor with the tools they need to rise out of poverty. It is a leading global provider of microfinance, providing small business loans, training, insurance and other financial services to the entrepreneurial poor. 86% of its clients are women.

In tandem with other supporting partners, Opportunity International Canada endeavours to raise and invest funds for 42 microfinance programs that serve over one million people in 28 Asian, African, Latin American and Eastern European countries.

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