

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Centre for Bhutan Studies is grateful to all those who contributed to conceptualization and organization of the Second International Conference on Gross National Happiness. It is beyond the scope of this page to thank everyone – support staff, volunteers, students, and others – who made the conference a success.

Ron Coleman, Executive Director of GPI Atlantic who was the primary organizer of the conference, worked very hard to ensure the success of the conference. Without his boundless energy and attention to details, the conference could not have been orchestrated so smoothly.

Richard Reoch, President of Shambhala, contributed in too many ways to enumerate. Besides sharing organizational responsibility and chairing the conference, he and the Shambhala Community hosted the Bhutanese delegation and provided opportunity to learn and share our experiences, and reflect on questions raised by GNH.

The Canadian Research Development Council once again demonstrated Canada's commitment to open up new paths for thought and discourse.

Jean Timsit, President of French American Charitable Trust, who chaired a workshop, and Maria Eitel, President of Nike Foundation, supported the Centre's participation in the conference.

The Coady International Institute of St. Francis Xavier University demonstrated its sensitivity to needs of the Centre and all participants.

The Centre wishes to acknowledge its special thanks to all the participants without whose participation the conference would not have been possible. More than 600 people participated in the conference.

Finally, Renata Lok Desallien, Resident Representative, United Nations Development Program in Bhutan until December 2005, supported both the activities of the Centre and participation of the Bhutanese delegation. Her successor, Nicholas Rossellini, has continued similar support, both financial and intellectual, to the Centre in its endeavour to deepen and promote GNH.

All those working to share the concept and practice GNH nationally and internationally are indebted to His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Singye Wangchuck for the inspiration he has unleashed. May GNH spread in all directions and languages.
