



February 1, 2016

Internet issues have continued to plague our town. The November outage was followed quickly by a month long outage in January with little to no internet. Though it does limit communication which can lead to stress, there is a peaceful side as the noise of headlines and the social media racket grow quiet and distant.

2017 is shaping up to be a very busy year for our team here. We have teams preparing to allocate into three new tribal works this spring! We are glad to see them each opening new areas that are relatively untouched by the gospel and missionary work. That doesn't mean they are untouched by the outside world though. One of the groups travels through their swampy village not in dugout canoes but on boardwalks - riding electric scooters!

These three teams will need eight missionary houses built. These projects will mostly employ local labor but many materials will need to be purchased by the supply team and shipped by plane, or possibly by boat. Allocation also means that some people in town who have been very helpful in support during their allocation planning will be moving interior where they will be on the receiving end instead. If you also factor in the loss of two long-term, full-time support workers this month, and our main supply buyer heading on home assignment for most of the year it is going to be a very shorthanded year indeed.

Dawn will help out where she can when homeschooling is done in May. I'll also be quite involved but only 'til September, when we too are planning to leave on our first home assignment! That's right, we are planning for an eleven month return to our home and native land this fall. We are looking forward to being home in Canada for sure, but it will be bitter-sweet as many of our good friends and teammates will be working through the challenges of their first year interior and we will not be on the ground here to help them.

Praise God for:

- teams getting ready to venture out into new people groups!
- much needed rest over the Christmas break.
- our regional support team and its heart to serve.

Pray with us for:

- safe travel for friends visiting here in February.
- strength, endurance and grace for the support team.
- God's guidance and provision for teams moving interior.

Thank you for being part of **our** support team!
In His grip,

Duane



Otis is helping full-time around the house with yardwork and projects. He's trying to earn money to go back to college and finish his computer studies program, and I'm trying to keep up with lots of work. I'm hoping to get him some work helping our support team with driving, office work, running errands and other jobs. His love of music and good sense of humor make him easy to work with, and he fills in the gaps of my national language with his english.