



(Side) Typical wash stand. These are found throughout Afghanistan near bathrooms. Most bathrooms are pit toilets; these stands help improve health and hygiene. This one is fed from an elevated water tank supplied by a solar pump in a well. Most places in Afghanistan lack electricity so solar pumping is a reliable way to provide water.

(Bottom) Typical well in a village for access to water for drinking, cooking, washing and of course playing!



TPS Head Office

Bill Murphy,

My name is Warrant Officer Maarten Annion; I am an Environmental Technician working in Kandahar City, Afghanistan. My job is to help the local Afghans rebuild their schools and improve the quality and availability of their water and sewage services. I am writing to you today to openly express thanks for the support provided to me by one of your employees or possibly business partner. A couple weeks ago I was traveling home on leave and became stuck in Toronto with a member of your company, Mr Tim Dakers. As one flight after another was cancelled, an experience both Tim and I shared, Tim assisted me greatly by making sure I had the means to a place to stay for the night, provided assistance in contacting the Air Canada Customer Service Centre and most importantly he kept my spirits high. I had been away from home for sometime and was very disappointed I was not making it home that night to see my wife and kids. Tim kept my spirits up by sharing his support for what I am doing as well as making me laugh.

As I mentioned my job here currently includes the repairs to various schools and water and sewage services. Several schools in Afghanistan have been damaged throughout the many years of conflict and are in poor condition. These schools lack basic services such running water and electricity. In some cases the schools are located in dangerous areas and require the construction of boundary walls to make them safer for children to attend them. Working with local Afghans my team is helping to repair some of the schools around Kandahar City.

Southern Afghanistan is very dry and water can be difficult to reach. Most of the communities in southern Afghanistan rely on wells for their water supply. Afghanistan receives very little rain in the south which has resulted in many shallow wells drying up. In most cases the wells that have not run dry are very poor in water quality and are not safe for drinking. We have been repairing the wells and protecting them from pollution so that more people have access to drinking water.

Thank you very much for the support of your company seen through guys like Tim. Thanks Tim!



Maarten Annion

(Maybe Tim deserves a raise? LOL)