



Kalapa Capital Centre

Halifax, Nova Scotia

The Kalapa Capital Centre

We have to figure out how we are going to build our city and how we are going to relate with our comrades who are doing the same thing.

-The Druk Sakyong, Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche

The Kalapa Capital Centre is a beacon proclaiming the physical reality of Shambhala.

- Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche

This project, creating the Kalapa Capital Centre, is purpose-driven, before building-driven.

-President Richard Reoch

Update

4 December 2010

Prepared by Steve Baker, Director

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Vision Statement

As the international capital of Shambhala, the Kalapa Capital Centre will be a beacon for world peace and will help enrich the province of Nova Scotia economically, spiritually, environmentally, and culturally.

1. Core Usage

First, The Kalapa Capital Centre is the spiritual and political seat of the Sakyong and the Sakyong Wangmo, housing their Tenno room, office suites, and shrine room.

It will also house what are known as the Three Pillars of Shambhala. These are Governance (administration), Practice and Education, and Service (the Dorje Kasung). Amongst the offices included in these Three Pillars are Finance, International Affairs, Practice, Education, International Affairs, Culture and Decorum and Societal Health and Well-being. For the past twenty years, the Sakyong has focused his energies on the health and growth of the Shambhala Centres around the globe. He has now focused attention on establishing the capital of Shambhala, known as Kalapa, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Establishing the Kalapa Capital Centre will be like a turning on a switch that will energize and connect all elements of our worldwide organization.

Core Requirements housed in the building.

- Suites for the Sakyong and Sakyong Wangmo
- Office of the Kalapa Court
- Offices of the Kalapa Council
- Offices of the Kalapa Executive including:
 - International Affairs
 - Office of Culture and Decorum
 - Office of Societal Health and Well-being
 - Office of Practice and Education
 - Shambhala Media (film, audio, print)

Offices of the Dorje Kasung
Shambhala Archives
Office of Practice Centre Relations
Office of Human Resources

Meditation and shrine halls for all levels and types of practice
Multi-purpose hall for 2000-3000 people
Living Legacy – gallery and displays of lineage items and cultural exhibits
Training facilities for teachers, leadership training, governance, and
administrative training
Halifax Shambhala Centre
Local Centre that serves the Halifax Shambhala Community
All Local Centre Administrative offices
Meditation hall
Member Services for Special Events, Families, Holidays

Stakeholder surveys and community meetings will be conducted in early 2011 to help determine usage.

2. Community Partnerships

*Start with the local community.
-Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche*

Finding Intersects

The Kalapa Capital Centre is so important because it provides a platform for us to work jointly with other faiths, other organizations, other segments of society; we can work together, with existing energies, forms, and initiatives to create a better society in which to live.

The purpose of the Capital of Shambhala is to create a place, a building, and a complex that not only hosts the Shambhala world, but also offers services to the community, to bring compassion to bear on the world, on our environment. Where are the “Intersects,” that is where do our uses and initiatives intersect with the community, the society in Halifax, in Nova Scotia, in the Maritimes.

Shambhala community members are involved in all areas of Nova Scotian society, such as the arts world, the business community, health, education, social innovation groups, leadership groups, music to composting, literally. Shambhala community members help organize the Atlantic Jazz Festival and the Atlantic Film Festival, and community members here helped design and implement the

state-of-the-art recycling and waste management program throughout the province.

Halifax as the International Hub for Environmental Sustainability and Waste Management Gatherings

Environmental initiatives have tremendous relevancy and currency today. What could be a more direct expression of sacred world, of genuine compassion, than protecting the world human beings inhabit? Nova Scotia, it happens, is very advanced in that area.

In 2007, the Provincial Government of Nova Scotia recognized that economic prosperity is indelibly linked to environmental sustainability, and they passed the Economic Growth and Sustainable Prosperity Act.

In addition to 21 specific environmental goals, EGSPA has this overarching goal: “The long-term environmental and economic objective of government is to fully integrate environmental sustainability and economic prosperity and to this end to demonstrate international leadership by having one of the cleanest and most sustainable environments in the world by the year 2020.”

Per a recent government report, Nova Scotia is a recognized world leader in solid waste management.

Moreover, in a recent tour of the Halifax Recycling Centre, Marcel Maesson, Waste Resource Education Officer, told our Shambhala delegation that Nova Scotia has a 60% waste diversion rate. The program is advanced enough that delegations come from around the world to learn about it.

In Nova Scotia Shambhala has a long and consistent track record of hosting conferences and gatherings of hundreds to thousands of people.

Nine programs in the past five years have drawn a total of:

- 4,500 – 7,500 visitors
- From 300 to 500 visitors, 2 to 3 times per year
- 55% from Halifax Regional Municipality
- 10% from NS
- 6% from Canada
- 30% international

Representing the following countries:

- Brazil
- Chile

- Germany
- France
- England
- Scotland
- Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- India
- Holland
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Austria
- Italy
- South Africa
- Thailand
- Laos
- Mexico
- Puerto Rico
- Thailand
- Czech Republic
- USA

Shambhala has skill in hosting and creating environments in which transformative change blossoms.

- Kay Crinean

One of Shambhala's core strengths is creating environments conducive to delightful, uplifted, elegant, and cheerful communication. As Nova Scotia is already a world leader in environmental initiatives, we would like to offer our services, via the Kalapa Capital Centre, to host international environmental and sustainability conferences, and to help Nova Scotia become the International Ecology Hub for such gatherings, hosting international delegations, gatherings, and conferences.

Peter Wuensch, founding partner and president of Breakhouse Design, tells us that it is consistent with Nova Scotia's history and accomplishments to think in this way:

"If you look at the Pugwash Institute (an international Nobel prize winning centre for peace in Pugwash, Nova Scotia), it's not out of character to think in that way, about Halifax as an international hub for conferences on ecology and sustainability."

Peter goes on to say: “So many things line up in a global focus in that realm; of having a home for an ecology centre.... There are a lot of bubbling pieces, and this could put them together. Your centre can solve so many things at once, for the Shambhala community, for the city, for the province.”

In a recent meeting MP Megan Leslie commented that the key to making this work is community engagement and she pointed out several initiatives that have been successful in that area, the public meetings on the design of the new library, and the Imagine Bloomfield project. In response to the idea of Halifax as an international centre for education and conferences on waste management, she commented on similar initiatives and that, “You are really on to something. This is something that people in the community want, something that they are trying to do.”

In December 2010, we are presenting these ideas to Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter, Halifax Mayor Peter Kelly, and Greater Halifax Partnership President, Paul Kent, to continue to help determine if this idea is indeed desirable to the province. With the help of Centre East, a Halifax film production company, we have created a presentation that includes filmed interviews with President Reoch, Jim Drescher of Windhorse, (the oldest sustainable forest in Canada), and Marcel Maesson of the Halifax Recycling Centre. It also includes footage from an upcoming film on the Sakyong’s life, “An Uncommon King.”

A Community Process

In order to develop more programs that are significant and genuinely serve our community, we engage in a number of processes:

- Research in the community through community engagement programs, such as town hall meetings and world cafes.
- Surveys with stakeholders
- Consultation with community leaders
- Market research conducted by a third party consultant

The net result is that the Kalapa Capital Centre includes, as a basic element, community oriented functions.

*The Kalapa Capital Centre is a great opportunity to teach by environment.
-Jonathan McKeever*

Based on conversations and meetings so far, there are any number of other areas where the Kalapa Capital Centre might intersect with the local community and provide needed, and financially sustainable, services:

- **Dance training/rehearsal/performance space**, for the Halifax theatre and dance communities. This could tie in with the Sakyong Wangmo's dance training. For example, there have been discussions with Paul Caskey of Live Art about the possibility of affordable, good-quality rehearsal and performance space for the dance and theatre community.
- **Public rooftop garden and with access to the Halifax harbour view.** This idea arose out of conversations with Howard Epstein, MLA, in contrast with current proposed developments, which prohibit access to building tops and which, in his words, "privatize the view."
- **Youth at risk after-school** computer training/education/occupational training facilities. Volunteers, primarily computer specialists, from the Hub, a community workspace, would staff this program.
- **Community Library, open to the public**, specializing in several areas, such as Shambhala and Buddhist texts and commentaries, environmentalism, social innovation, and various cultural topics. This would serve many people. According to librarian Mark Wilhelmi, a Minneapolis Shambhala member, "This library would have at least three roles:
 1. As an act of generosity it would freely offer resources on Buddhism and Shambhala to the Sangha, to researchers, and to the public in Halifax and perhaps beyond via interlibrary loan,
 2. As an act of protection it would provide a home for the major works and translations on Buddhism and Shambhala where we could safeguard and preserve them,
 3. As a statement of our identity and purpose as a community.Other capitals have their libraries. Housing the Kalapa Library is one more way to let the world see who we are as brilliantly as possible."
- **A sampling of additional possibilities:**
 - Shambhala Arts spaces which could include:
 - Tea Ceremony – traditional Japanese teahouse
 - Ikebana – the art of flower arrangement
 - Medical and Complimentary Health facilities
 - Facilities for teacher training
 - Facilities for leadership training
 - Media space or screening rooms
 - Hospice
 - Income producing possibilities, such as, for example,
 1. Renting meeting and event spaces
 2. Possible retail or food service tenants
 3. Assisted Living facilities for our aging community
 4. Residential space for our aging community

In addition....

Living Legacy Revolving Exhibition

*It will act as the energetic lightning rod of the Kalapa Capital Centre
- Donna Holme*

At this point, the relics, artifacts, and recorded teachings of the Druk Sakyong's legacy, the Sakyong lineage, and teachings of the Kongma Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche, are stored in the basement of the Halifax Shambhala Centre. Although well managed by the archive staff, the facilities could be much better and the precious objects of the Sakyong lineage are more or less vulnerable to fire and flood, as well as atmosphere and light.

An up-to-date archive has always been planned to occupy space in the Kalapa Capital Centre. Up until recently, most of us imagined this archive as being completely behind closed doors. Now there is a new concept: to display a rotating exhibition of these precious cultural and lineage items in the Living Legacy Exhibition and Preservation Centre (LLEPC). The LLEPC will be a centrepiece of the Kalapa Capital Centre and will have multiple functions.

1. It will preserve and protect the items, including the recorded teachings of the Sakyong lineage.
2. It will be similar to the Life Force Pole in the Great Stupa. The power of the objects themselves attracting and drawing down dralas to empower and enrich the Kalapa Capital Centre.
3. Items in the LLEPC will rotate into and out of an exhibition that is open to members and the public.

According to accounts from students, the Druk Sakyong made it clear that his practice materials and precious artifacts would lose their precious, alive quality if they were stored in a museum behind glass. So, the intention is to bring items out of the archives for limited periods of time, and exhibit them with recorded stories and explanations of the objects, what they are, how they were used, and even personal stories.

The Living Legacy Exhibition and Preservation Centre will be open to the public.

3. Project Plan to Date

Project Plan/Gantt Chart/Critical Path to Completion

OmniPlan. The critical path to completion. (See attached Critical Path Gantt Chart.)

We are using project management software to:

A. Track tasks, people and time for each step of creating the Kalapa Capital Centre and

B. Facilitate project coordination.

The project management plan is organized into the following general categories with the various tasks and sub-categories underneath:

Design –

Hire Architect and Engineers,
Develop Schematic / Design Development / Working Drawing Documents,

Construction
Hire Project Manager,
Bid the Project; and
Construction

Master Program

A Master Program is commissioned to begin December 1. It is first a narrative describing each service (who is doing what, how often and with whom) proposed to be provided at the Kalapa Capital Centre and second a translation of that narrative into required space on a room-by-room basis. The purpose of developing a Master Program is

a) To provide the programming specifications for the Kalapa Centre (e.g. a detailed list of required spaces and their functions) to the Architects / Engineers and

b) To provide a quality control mechanism to ensure that the Architects provide what is required in the Kalapa Centre. The Master Program is comparable to the working drawings and specifications produced by Architects and Engineers for a General Contractor.

Business Plan and Market Analysis

A business plan will be developed over the next two years, providing a three to five year projection of revenues and expenditures of both the construction of the physical structure and the ongoing operations of the Kalapa Capital Centre once it is built and occupied.

1. Financing plan

At this point we are working on developing a capital financing plan. The Kalapa Capital Centre will not be financed from within the current Shambhala community alone. We will be seeking funding from like-minded foundations and individuals. Since our worldwide sangha numbers in the thousands, and since 250,00 people a year participate in Shambhala programs internationally, we have numerous potential connections around the world with various organizations that could be looking for such a project.

Debt financing for a portion of the capital costs is also a possibility to be considered.

2. Market study

To develop our operating projections we will commission a market study in the first quarter of 2011 or once the funds are available. This market study will analyze the ability of the international and local Shambhala community to lease space to provide operating funds for the Kalapa Capital Centre. This study will also investigate potential tenants and conference participants from within Nova Scotia and the international community that are interested in living peace and protecting the earth.

3. Feasibility study

Once the financing plan and market study are in place we will look for specific sites for the KCC in the downtown core of Halifax, or existing buildings that could be modified to meet the needs of the Kalapa Capital Centre.

One or more feasibility studies will be done at that time to determine whether the buildings and/or land can meet the needs of the Kalapa Capital Centre with the financial means available.

Design and Architecture

*When they walk by the Kalapa Capital Centre people should shiver with the echo
of Absolute Ashe
- Kasung Acharya Mitchell Levy*

Halifax architect, David Quinn, has prepared sketches, emerging visualizations of the Kalapa Capital Centre, now posted on the blog, that are for stimulating discussion. They are not intended to be architectural renderings, but energetic sketches.

Eva Wong and Gina Stick have addressed the feng shui of the Kalapa Capital

Centre. Several years ago, Ms. Stick put together a detailed study on the sacred architecture, energetic, and fungi shui aspects of the capital building and its location. It is a comprehensive document, addressing the principles of lha, nyen, and lu, and at the same time, outer, inner, and secret aspects, and sacred architecture.

In addition, the Sakyong's Advisory Panel on Sacred Environments is charged with overseeing the design and construction of development and projects throughout the mandala. It is chaired by Steve Vosper, an architect in Boulder, and Eva Wong, a XXth generation Feng Shui master. Members of the panel include Wendy Friedman, head of the newly created Shambhala Office of Culture and Decorum, and Gina Stick, an architect with expertise in sacred architecture, and a number of other people.

A project like this does not begin with the architecture or the location. It begins with gathering the forces and the energy of all the people internationally involved in creating the capital of the kingdom of Shambhala.

- Anonymous

Location

The Sakyong has determined that The Kalapa Capital Centre should be located in the downtown core of Halifax. Accordingly, Ms. Wong and Ms. Stick have determined specific parameters for its location in the downtown core. (Please see the attached map with the outline of the location.)

The downtown core of Halifax has many uninhabited buildings and empty lots especially in comparison with many other North American cities. We have looked at any number of buildings in the specified location with prices ranging from several million dollars to multiple millions of dollars. The disposition of the current Shambhala center is also under discussion, in particular because the Sakyong has specified that the Halifax Shambhala Centre should be located in the capital building.

4. Local and International Communication and Promotion

Community Meetings – World Café

Local Shambhala members have asked for information and the opportunity to discuss the Kalapa Capital Centre. Questions have arisen as fundamental as what is it, what's it for, why are we doing it - especially at this time - who will be in it, how will it benefit the local and international sangha, and who are the

stakeholders. Rather than having a community meeting in the old style of talk, questions and answers, we have been exploring the possibility of hosting world cafes with ALIA (formerly the Shambhala Institute), both in Halifax for Shambhala sangha members, and throughout the communities in Nova Scotia. In addition, we are exploring Shambhala Online world cafes for international members.

Blog

On March 30, 2010 the first Kalapa Capital Centre blog was launched with an article by Director Steve Baker. Since then the blog has posted articles, updates, reports, opinion pieces and stories under several categories such as, "On a Personal Note," and "Stories of Immigration and Inspiration," and "On Living in the Capital," written by long-time residents such as Polly Wellenbach and Jeff Torbert, and written by newer immigrants such as Benoit Côté and Melissa Howell. There are written and filmed interviews with the Sakyong and with President Richard Reoch, and articles by Acharyas.

On August 9, 2010, the Kalapa Capital Centre blog posted an interview with President Reoch that appeared simultaneously in six languages. It turns out that the blog is spearheading an international Internet presence for Shambhala. A cadre of translators has assembled to help translate from English into Dutch, French, German, Spanish, and Chinese. This is the first time in the Shambhala world that posts have been simultaneously translated into multiple languages. We have added links to a .pdf file of each translation.

An international presence will define the KCC website, now in development. (See below, Kalapa Capital Centre.org Website.)

On September 24, the blog, newly designed by Francois Guyaux of Elephant Design, was launched. The blog site now has features, such as share buttons, archives, a visitor counter, and a number of tabs. It has a new look and an excellent user interface.

We continue to solicit articles from Shambhala sangha members on topics as wide-ranging as what it was like to move to Halifax (inspirations and irritations), to people's views on the Kalapa Capital Centre, to what it's been like living in Nova Scotia for the last 30 years or in the past 6 months, and articles about Shambhala itself. Occasional updates are posted, such as this one, on the progress of the Kalapa Capital Centre. The number of visitors rises weekly. Please visit kalapacapitalcentre.org to see the new Kalapa Capital Centre blog.

Website

After several interviews, based on the experience of working with Francoise and her firm, Elephant was chosen to develop our website. A \$5,000 matching grant has been generously granted by the Shambhala Trust to fund the initial stages of development. Design is in progress.

The Kalapa Capital Centre Website will be truly international. Rather than being written in English and translated into various languages, the first (“splash”) page will be international. It will recognize the IP address of the viewer’s country and open the site in their own language, so a person speaking Spanish will go to a Spanish site, a person speaking Chinese will go to a Chinese site, etc.

According to President Reoch, this truly international presence is a new initiative for Shambhala and will be the vanguard for its worldwide presence.

The current site map of the Website has headings, including an about page, volunteer opportunities, fund raising, donations tab, and contact us. The Site is will also host a section for the greater Halifax and NS communities to link to information about the Sakyong, the President, the structure and organization of Shambhala, the Kalapa Capital Centre – what it’s functions are, both for the Shambhala sangha and for the “larger” Shambhala sangha, that is, the entire population of the Maritimes.

The third section of the website will be dedicated to fundraising and endowment opportunities, such as major donors, government and business participation, foundation assistance, and institutions dedicated to the promotion of core values that are consistent with those of Shambhala, such as peace, compassionate leadership, ecology/sustainability.

5. Participant Network

Acharyas and the Kalapa Capital Centre

A number of Acharyas and Shastris have consulted freely on the Kalapa Capital Centre, helping to clarify what it is, its importance to the sangha and to the world, and how to promote it.

The Kalapa Capital Centre is nothing less than the reemergence of the Kingdom of Shambhala, with Kalapa as its capital.

- Acharya Christie Cashman

Acharya Christie Cashman

Acharya Cashman produced a collection of 10 readings from talks and letters on Shambhala, written and given by the Dorje Dradül, Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche, Premier of Nova Scotia, Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche, Thrangu Rinpoche, the and others. The thread running through all these talks and letters is that Shambhala is a real place, it exists in Nova Scotia, and its capital, Kalapa, is Halifax.

She has proposed that one of these short talks be read aloud at every event - nyinthüns, programs, and gatherings - at every Shambhala Centre throughout the world. The purpose of these readings is to bring to international attention Nova Scotia as the physical location of the Kingdom of Shambhala, and Halifax as its capital.

With Acharya Cashman's and Marty Janowitz's guidance, we have written a supplication to the Sakyong to compose four lines to invoke the aid of the dralas to bring the Kalapa Capital Centre into existence. Our hope is that this short chant might be recited at centres throughout the world to turn all Shambhalian's energy and intention toward realizing this project, much like the chant that was written to support the Great Stupa's construction.

Acharya Bill McKeever

Acharya McKeever has been advising in areas of fundraising, international public relations, strategizing, personnel, and general support and encouragement.

Acharya McKeever writes: "In the final years of his life, nothing was more important to the Vidyadhara than establishing the community in Nova Scotia. Not as an escape route, but as a training center and center of inspiration and guidance and seat of governance. In the Shambhala teachings, that capital at the centre of the mandala of Shambhala society is known as Kalapa. In our world that place is the city of Halifax and the province of Nova Scotia, where over the last thirty and more years our community is putting down deep roots, where we are gradually building the seat of governance once again, and where the Sakyong lineage is making its home."

*This will change us in ways we cannot imagine.
-Shastri Daniel Hessey*

Kalapa Acharya Adam Lobel has offered to arrange a meeting with the Acharyas and Mr. Baker to communicate information about the developments of the Kalapa Capital Centre, as the Acharyas and Shastris are instrumental to the success of promoting international understanding of what the capital of Shambhala means to all of us.

Network of Energy: Kalapa Capital Centre Consultants

President Richard Reoch

Design, organization, planning, fundraising, promotion, etc., consulting on all aspects of development

Ms. Wendy Friedman

The same

Ms. Connie Brock, financial oversight

Ms. Vittoria De Palma, project accounting

Mr. Jim Torbert

Master Architectural Planning Program

Mr. Tom Bell and Mr. Jim Torbert

Business plan and market analysis

Presentation to Greater Halifax Partnership, mayor, premier, ACOA (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) etc.

Networking GHP and government funding sources and ACOA

Mr. Landy Mallery

Consulting on Halifax partnering opportunities, locations, and financing

Mr. Marty Janowitz

Consulting on the vision of the project and on partnering opportunities, in particular in the area of waste management conferences

Ms. Johanna Lunn

Media, documentation, promotion, website consulting

Mr. James Hoagland

Business and fundraising consulting

Media consulting

Website consulting

Mr. David Quinn

Design, sketches

Mr. David Garrett

Design and environment consulting

Ms. Gina Stick

Shambhala environment consulting

Geomancy and design consulting

Logo design

Promotion

Ms. Eva Wong

Geomancy consulting

Business strategy consulting (personnel, fundraising, promotion)

Mr. Jim Gimian

Strategy and tactics, networking, promotion

Ms. Christie Cashman

Practice and magic
Ms. Susan Szpakowski
Nova Scotia and community networking, presentation, and hosting
Mr. Jeff Waltcher, fundraising
Ms. Lisa Johnston, fundraising
Mr. Bill McKeever
International promotion, personnel consulting, local issues, and
involvements
Mr. Michael Chender
Fundraising, promotion, and organization strategies
Mr. Geoff Crinean
General business management consulting
Mr. Nick Wright
Kasung liaison
Ms. Miriam Tarcov (nee Garrett)
Fundraising consultation
Mr. Jonathan McKeever
Community initiatives
Ms. Kay Crinean
Nova Scotia waste management partnering
KCC/City/Provincial partnership consulting
Ms. Françoise Guyault, Website development
Mr. Robyn Trail, Website content management
Mr. Marcel Maesson
Halifax Recycling Centre
Mr. Howard Epstein, MLA
Community service/legacy projects consulting
Mr. Peter Kelley, Mayor of Halifax
Mr. Darrell Dexter, Premier of Nova Scotia
Mr. Paul Kent, President of the Greater Halifax Partnership
Mr. Peter Wuensch, President Breakhouse Design
Ms. Megan Leslie, MP
Marja Miller, Translation
Beatriz Eugenia Alvarez Klein, Translation
Eike Armbrust, Translation
Renée Richard, Translation
Yeachin Tsai, Translation
Sharon Meadows, Event planning
Susan Morin, Event catering
Sue Corning, Event preparation
Petra Mudie, historical consulting
Will Perkins, Project planning
Trudy Sable, First Nations and Education

Conclusion

The Kalapa Capital Centre is at this time, the most important project for the continuity of the Kingdom of Shambhala, as it is the centre of our mandala, which causes the rest to flourish...

*When it is built, you will realize what has been missing.
-Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche*

Acknowledgements

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Acharya Richard John
Premier Darrell Dexter
Mayor Peter Kelly
Mr. Howard Epstein, MLA
Mr. Peter Wuensch
Mr. Martin Janowitz
Ms. Gina Stick
Ms. Eva Wong
Mr. Landy Mallery
Mr. David Garrett
Mr. David Quinn
Mr. Tom Bell
Mr. Jim Torbert
Ms. Johanna Lunn
Mr. James Hoagland
Mr. Ethan Neville
Ms. Susan Szpakowski
Mr. Jim Gimian
Mr. Michael Chender
Ms. Miriam Tarcov
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Ms. Kay Crinean
Ms. Françoise Guyault
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Mrs. Trudy Sable