

### **Who gets to go?**

The Rotary Club of Whitby Sunrise will interview applicants **and** their parents and select the best candidates. The successful candidates and parents will attend two training sessions, one in early February, the other in May, to prepare them for the exchange.

Applicants must be Canadian citizens in good health living in the Whitby area. They must be attending high school fulltime and be 16 by July 1, 2015 and not yet 18 by August 25, 2015. They must be recommended by their school.

### **Where do I get an application?**

Preliminary Applications for interested candidates may be obtained from your guidance office in April and again in September and are available on our web site. Students should review this brochure with their parents and then contact their Guidance Counselor. A group meeting at their school will be arranged, followed by an information meeting with interested candidates and their parents during the month of October, 2014. The student and at least one parent must attend.

### **What is Rotary International?**

Rotary International is a worldwide organization of community based service clubs established in 1905 with the motto "Service above self". It currently has over 28,000 clubs in 168 countries with a total membership of over 1.2 million worldwide. The local clubs work to improve life at the local, national and international level.

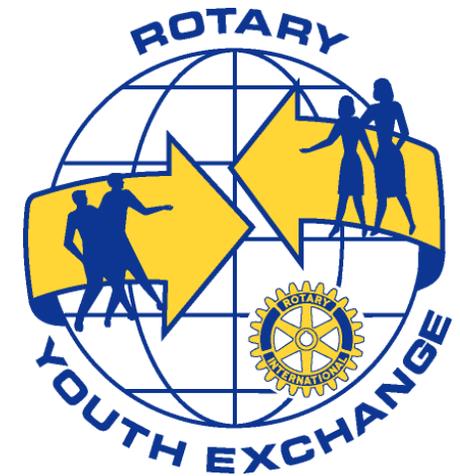
### **What is the Youth Exchange Program?**

It is a worldwide program involving about 90 countries with about 8,000 students participating each year. The objective is to build better understanding, peace and acceptance of different cultures around the world. It provides each participant the opportunity to experience a different part of our world under the protective umbrella of Rotary International.

## *Rotary Youth Exchange*

*A program that will challenge you  
and change your life for the better  
forever.*

# Rotary



*Rotary has had a presence in Whitby since 1933, serving both the local and international community. The International Youth Exchange Program is part of Rotary's objective to promote international goodwill and understanding.*

### CONTACT

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# ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM 2015-2016

The **Rotary Youth Exchange Program** offers young people an opportunity to study and learn about the culture of other countries with other young people under the auspices of Rotary International.

## Objectives of the Program

To provide students with the opportunity to:

- \* further international goodwill and understanding
- \* study in a new academic environment
- \* really learn another language
- \* experience life from a different point of view
- \* learn first hand about different cultures
- \* act as a Canadian Ambassador to the people they meet on their exchange
- \* pass on experiences they had when they return
- \* develop skills and confidence to last a lifetime

## Who is Eligible?

Full time Secondary School students who are Canadian citizens at least 16 but not yet 18 at the time of departure to the host country, of good character, reputation and recommended by their school. They must be in good health with no significant pre-existing medical conditions and reside in the Rotary Club area.

## How long is the Exchange?

The selected student(s) will study abroad for 10 to 11 months. Northern hemisphere exchanges usually start in August. Southern hemisphere exchanges start in August or can be delayed until January, with a departure planned for early in the New Year.

## Where might I go?

Successful candidates will get to indicate a preference from each of four country groupings with which District 7070 has established exchange programs. The district committee will then allocate all of the outbound students, trying to satisfy one of their preferences. The district currently has exchanges with *Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, France, Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Japan, Taiwan and Switzerland.*

**Successful candidates must be prepared to go to any of the exchange countries in the current year.**

Visit our website to read our current and past exchange student blogs.

## Where will I stay?

Exchange students are hosted by a local Rotary Club. This Club will make arrangements for you to live with one to five Rotary or Rotary-approved host families while you are away. The Rotary district will have events bringing all of the inbound students together during the exchange term.

## How will they treat me?

The host family will treat you as one of the family. You are expected to adapt to each family style and integrate into their routines. To help you deal with challenges the local Rotary Club will provide a counselor who you can use to help with special situations. In addition there is a district Youth Exchange Committee in your host country who can also help you. If the challenges are still not resolved the District 7070 Youth Exchange Committee will get involved. *Adapting and dealing with a wide variety of different situations is one of the major benefits the exchange student gains from the program.*

## What about school?

You must attend school full time. This is key for your integration with your peers in your host country. Rotary is responsible for your tuition. You are responsible for course materials and in some cases school uniforms. Depending upon the courses taken and the language, you may or may not take their exams.

## Will I get school credits?

Do not count on receiving credits for your year away. Only your school here can grant credits and these would only be considered after you return and your academic progress is evaluated. The Ministry of Education has not yet established rules for credits for exchange students.

## Can I travel?

While on exchange, unsupervised and solo travel is not permitted. You will have many opportunities to travel with host families and through Rotary sponsored events and trips. Rotary is responsible for your safety and will ensure you have a safe and fulfilling year.

## What are the rules and restrictions?

- \* No Driving, No Drugs, No Drinking.
- \* No serious Dating (Steady boyfriend/girlfriend).
- \* Don't break any laws.
- \* ADAPT to host country culture and host families.
- \* Be a good ambassador for Canada, Rotary, your community and your family here.

## Who pays what?

You/your parents pay for:

- \* transportation costs and travels while away;
- \* health coverage while away (additional insurance costs may be incurred due to pre-existing medical conditions);
- \* language/culture school activities at the start of your exchange;
- \* clothing and school uniforms;
- \* cash reserve fund held in trust for emergencies (usually \$500 with balance refunded at end);
- \* supplementary allowance and special activities.

## Host Rotary Club provides:

- \* school tuition arrangements;
- \* room and board;
- \* special Rotary Club and District events;
- \* a small monthly allowance;
- \* transportation to and from school

## Sponsor Rotary Club provides:

- \* pre-departure orientations for student and parents;
- \* Rotary Youth exchange blazer, allowance and sweatshirt;
- \* the hosting of an inbound student to provide the outbound student with the opportunity to be an exchange student.