Jennica Sedmak, the Club's RYE Student, Enjoying Bolivian Hospitality and Adventures

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Thirty-one hours after leaving from Kelowna on September 12th, Jennica Sedmak, the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise's sponsored Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) student, arrived in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, to begin an exciting experience that the RYE program offers to young people worldwide. Jennica's trip took her to Seattle, Miami, La Paz and finally Santa Cruz de la Sierra where she was met by her host family and members of the Rotary Club of Grigota, her host Rotary club located in District 4690.



Mom and dad with Jennica at Kelowna Airport on September 12, 2014

Jennica with host family one day later in Santa Cruz de la Sierra

Even though Jennica was totally exhausted from her long ordeal, she couldn't pass her host family's offer to take her to a restaurant and to then attend a birthday party at the invitation of her host sister Pamela before finally arriving at her new home 2:00 am where she was greeted by her own three month old yellow lab puppy named Molly. The following day, Jennica attended her first Rotary meeting with her host club, a club made up of 30 members or so, and then capped off the day with yet another birthday party where she met additional family members and continued to indulge in the Bolivian food. And so began an adventure that Jennica no doubt will never forget.

To learn more about Jennica's adventures, check out her blog www.jennicasjourneys.blog.com and visit the Rotary Youth Exchange site on this website. RYE can be found by going to the Club Service and Committee site located on the left side of the Home Page. From here, proceed to Youth Programs and then the RYE site.

Jennica graduated this past June from Rutland Secondary School. She is the only child and daughter of club member Gerry and Anke.