

December 18, 2018

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I kindly ask your attention for the following.

The Rotary Club of Summerland is pursuing an interesting new project in India and wishes to solicit help from our Rotary friends in Canada and the USA as well as any individual who wishes to donate.



It concerns the restoration of the dilapidated Miraj Highschool in Miraj, located very close to Ichalkaranji, a city in the Kolhapur district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Ichalkaranji, about 300 km SE of Mumbai, is known for its export of Textile goods and textile manufacturing industry. Our Host Club is the Rotary Club of Ichalkaranji-Textile City and our main contact is S.N. Agrawal who has extensive experience with Global Grants for projects similar to the one we are pursuing. Furthermore, we are working with the Rotary Club of Kelowna with Kathy Butler and Murlu Pendharkar, both experienced in GG applications and strong supporters of this project. They have so far been a great help for us. Dr. Vilas Prabhu, ENT Surgeon of the Penticton General Hospital and member of our club, attended this school while growing up in India and is very familiar with the local culture, people and language.

The Miraj High School is in dire condition. The attached brief information document includes a summary of the project and some pictures of the current condition of the school. The walls & structure are in fair shape but everything else needs work, including sanitation, drinking water, roofs, doors, furniture, etc. The focus of our project will be mainly on making the buildings safe and operational again, as well as ensure there are proper sanitary facilities, and clean drinking water for all school attendees. We also plan to give educational training for teachers. According to the Community Needs Assessment, we need a budget of US\$ 90,000 if we only focus on the highest priority deficiencies.

Would you individually or your Rotary Club be interested in donating or partnering with us for this project? If it concerns a Rotary Club, an other association or foundation, please consider supporting our project with US\$ 1000 (or more) to help us achieve the US\$ 40,000 mark we need to reach US\$ 90,000 with a Global Grant. Some 1200 students and their teachers will directly benefit from the implementation of this project, now and in the future. We will be very grateful for your support.

Please refer to the following links to our Rotary Club of Summerland website for further information of our Miraj Highschool Project: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/839> .

If you wish more information or discuss the project, contact our President Mirjana Komijenovic, our Director International Services Aart Dronkers or our Treasurer Doug Carnegie.

Thank you kindly. To all of you, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Aart Dronkers  
Garry Hollingshead  
Vilas Prabhu  
Nancy Wilson