

Rotary

Club of Medicine Hat

International Committee Update

November 16, 2015



Presented by Karen Blewett
International Director
Rotary Club of Medicine Hat

Our Committee

- Karen Blewett
- Ted Cowtan
- John John
- Sandy Mackay
- Teresa Schile
- Bruce Shepard

Other Rotarians are always welcome!



Presentation in a Nutshell



Committee Work and Processes

- Purpose / objectives of committee
- Project review, guidelines, and recommendations
- Funding allocation



Overview of Projects

- Los Amigos, Mexico
- Estelli, Nicaragua



Updates / Next Steps

- Reconsideration for Los Amigos
- Other projects / requests (Sunrise Rotary Mexican Fiesta)

Committee Work and Processes

Our Purpose:

- To research, review and recommend project ideas
- To advocate for issues, projects, needs based on Rotary goals / mandate

Our Focus:

- Large international projects with “hands-on” involvement (where we are the sole / primary Club involved)
- Projects that have a Rotary Club in the recipient country (based on need)
- Consider other Rotary Club projects and requests on a case-by-case circumstance (Ex. Los Amigos).

Our Budget:

- \$20,000 budget – allocated annually as part of Club’s overall budget

Committee Work and Processes

Guidelines / Process:

- All project ideas / potential opportunities brought forward through the International Committee
 - Committee led
 - Rotarians with potential contacts, project ideas, etc.
- Committee reviews projects based on criteria related to key purpose / role as a committee
- Committee makes recommendations to Board
- Committee presents overview of projects recommended
- Club votes on support for projects

Los Amigos Project

Mexico



Five Years of Service

Year	Drivers	Volunteer Hours	# Vehicles	Vehicle Type
2011	6	2,500	3	3 School Buses
2012	10	3,000	4	2 Fire Trucks 2 Ambulances
2013	10	3,000	4	2 Ambulances 2 Handibuses
2014	14	4,000	6	5 Ambulances 1 Handibus
2015	10	4,000	4	2 Ambulances 2 Fire Trucks
Totals	50	16,500	21	

Los Amigos Project

Mexico

- A project (initiated through Lethbridge Sunrise Rotary Club) that coordinates the donation of decommissioned Canadian vehicles to Mexico communities
- Vehicles are in regular use for emergencies, fire fighting or transportation of young students and disabled individuals in México
- An advanced training program, delivered in Mazatlan, helps emergency medical technicians and fire fighters develop their skills
- Supplies accompany the vehicles to help support the local communities
- Each vehicle requires \$8000 to transport – however supporting Clubs are asked to contribute what they can
- The convoy travels April 16 – May 1, 2016

Los Amigos Project

Mexico

Our Club's Involvement

- Through a formal request from the Rotary Club of Medicine Hat, the City of Medicine Hat will donate two emergency vehicles to the convoy (pending Council approval)
- Blair and Stubbs, our local radiology firm, has donated medical supplies that could accompany the convoy
- Rotarian Roger Roy is certified as a driver and has volunteered to drive a vehicle, with supplies, down to Mexico
- Our International Committee made a recommendation to the Board to support a motion to go to the Club for a \$5,000 donation

Hogar de Ancianos Club Santa Lucia

Esteli, Nicaragua

<https://youtu.be/xgkeR-ihYJQ>

- A project identified by the local Rotary club in Esteli
- Focused on the improvement and rehabilitation of health conditions for the elderly in a seniors' home operated by a group of nuns:
 - Bathrooms
 - Kitchen
 - Clothesline
- 50 people live in the home which provides food, accommodation, and limited recreation.
- Sta Lucia is the last refuge for many seniors who would otherwise be on the streets, begging for enough to buy food and a place to sleep.
- Most of these people were abandoned and left to fend for themselves.

Hogar de Ancianos Club Santa Lucia

Esteli, Nicaragua

Objectives:

- To complete improvements in bathroom, kitchen and clotheslines that will help to ensure basic services and nursing treatment are available and maintained for elderly residents
- To ensure seniors are able to enjoy their human rights according to their characteristics and necessities – for dignity and comfort in the last stages of their life

Hogar de Ancianos Club Santa Lucia

Esteli, Nicaragua

Rationale:

- Club Santa Lucia is the only centre of social care for the elderly in the northern zone of Nicaragua
- Residents suffer from different illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, mental infirmities and physical disabilities and as a result could not survive on their own (and are often abandoned).
- Population growth, aging society.
 - Senior population in 2000 was only 5%, therefore a lower priority focus...however demographic is changing

Updates / Next Steps

- Brief overview of project information / request from Sunrise Rotary: Mexican Project
- Working on grant applications to District and RI for St. Lucia project in Nicaragua
- Reconsideration to Rotary Club for Los Amigos support
- Other project requests