

Report from Wan-Ching Chen -a cultural student from Taiwan June 28th to Sept. 18th 2010

It is my honor to serve as a cultural scholar and represent district 5310 Taiwan visiting Vancouver and district 5040. The visit in Vancouver started on June 28th and ended on September 18th. During the three months, I learned English in ELS and lived with a Canadian family. I improved my English ability and was involved in local communities. Moreover, I interacted with many friendly and energetic Rotarians in my host country. I participated at four local club meetings and introduced Taiwan to Canadian Rotarians and visiting guests. I believe, through such interaction, it can facilitate cross-boundary understanding, goodwill, and peace.

I took the intensive courses in ELS in Vancouver downtown. The English policy also facilitated our English practices and improvement. Additionally, in the advanced level, we spent more time on discussing specific issues, such as drug issues, ecological conservation, endangered species, censorship, spiritual growth etc. It is great to discuss several particular topics with people who came from different countries. Their various points of views and experiences explored and enhanced my understanding of the world.





I lived with a friendly host family. I was so happy! I build a strong connection with them and they were willing to share their lives with me. Therefore, they told me about several local events and included me in their activities. I became involved in a foreign life and experienced various local and outdoor activities in Vancouver. I learned to navigate a sail boat and to row a kayak, climbed Grouse Mountain, watched the outdoor musical show at Theatre Under The Stars and went to Cirque Du Soleil. I also went to the Rocky Mountains and saw the marvelous lakes and glaciers. These amazing experiences are unforgettable and I have never done things like this before.



Thanks to my Rotary Counselor, Clarinda Kung, from the West Vancouver Club, for picking me up from the airport and introducing me to Rotarians in Vancouver. I visited West Vancouver and met President Telford, Treasurer Paul, David and many Rotarians. I also made contact with three Rotary clubs in Downtown, Vancouver Sunrise, Vancouver Quadra, and Vancouver. They were happy to invite me to join their club meetings and arranged for my speech into their procedures to introduce Taiwan and district 3510 Taiwan.

I met President Carlos Obregon, Program Chair Cam Scott, Treasurer Adriana, President Elect Matthew, many Rotarians and a guest from Japan at Vancouver Sunrise. In addition, I met President Dawn, Erlene, Dave and a guest from Mexico Rotario Gloria Gonzalez at Vancouver Quadra. Vancouver is the biggest local club in downtown Vancouver and there were more than 150 members in the club. I met President Terry Miller, Treasure Bill, Arthur, Afshin and several Rotarians.



Finally, I would like to thank District 3510 Taiwan for providing the scholarship to me. The experiences to study aboard not only enhanced my English ability but also extended my understanding of the world.

Thanks to district 5040 Vancouver for hosting my stay. I learned from Rotarians, passion, kindness, spirit of service-above-self and energy. The experience will be embedded in my mind and shape my values and behavior in the future.