



Invitation to the Guatemala project 2012

Education In Action (EIA) invites you to participate in an education project in Guatemala from February 10 – 23, 2012

The EIA organization engages Canadian volunteers to deepen their understanding of Guatemala and building solidarity by working closely with the Comité Campesino del Altiplano (CCDA) who are strengthening communities in Guatemala.

CCDA is a grassroots' co-operative working to protect the rights of subsistence farmers in Guatemala. They implement programs that provide financial assistance to small producers; promote gender equality and strengthen women's programs. The CCDA promote access to land, agrarian reform, labour rights and encourage the formation of women groups including supporting micro projects empowering women.

EIA is engaged in the building of new homes for families in need, and also provides support to CCDA's education programs, their fair-trade coffee "Café Justicia", their medical centre in Quixayá, the support of a teachers salary and more. <http://education-in-action.squarespace.com/>

EIA Mission: Support the efforts of grassroots organizations to improve livelihoods of Mayan campesinos in Guatemala through initiatives based on social justice and fair trade.

EIA Vision: Using education as a bridge to social change. To work in solidarity with coffee producers supporting community projects in Guatemala and encouraging the sale of fair trade organic coffee in Canada. Education in Action is committed to learning through cultural immersion and community outreach in the spirit of partnership and respect for indigenous peoples.

If you are **18 years and over** and interested in being part of the EIA Guatemala project in 2012, please complete the application form attached and return it to:

<http://education-in-action.squarespace.com/contact-us/> or, mail it to:

Education In Action
Ref: Guatemala 2012
6-201 Station Blvd
Ottawa, ON K1G 6N0

Note: You will be required to cover the cost of travel, accommodations and meals (approximately \$1,600 US in total). All arrangements are managed by the EIA working group (committee). There is limited space available (12 persons per delegation including facilitators) therefore, it is important to submit your application early. You will be notified once your application has been reviewed.

Thank you,

EIA Committee Coordinators

Education In Action Application Form 2012

The application:

- a) Return this completed form with a \$45 Registration Fee by regular mail. (see address below)
Your application is not complete until we receive this fee. This fee will be refunded to you if your application is declined or if the tour is cancelled.
- b) You will be notified once your application is reviewed.
- c) You must be 18 years and older to be eligible.

CRITERIA

- You are required to cover the cost for travel, accommodations and meals (approximately \$1,600 US in total).
- Participants will be notified of payment schedule. Failure to meet the payment schedule without making other arrangements will be deemed as withdrawal from the tour.
- You will be required to have a valid passport.

Passport validity requirement

<http://www.ppt.gc.ca/planification/index.aspx?lang=eng>

Many countries require passports to be valid for a number of months beyond the date of a visitor's entry. For that reason, before travelling to a country, ensure that your passport is valid beyond your expected date of return home (approximately 6 months).

- Education In Action reserves the right to cancel this tour for reasons such as: not reaching the required number of participants for the tour; if deemed unsafe for reasons beyond our control; etc. Should the tour be cancelled, you will be notified and you will be refunded for your payments.
- You will be required to attend a gathering upon return on a mutually-agreed date, to reflect and share experiences. This can also be done via teleconferencing for those not able to be present.

We welcome your application by mail

Registration Fee can be paid by cash or cheque and paid to: Education In Action, (ref. Guatemala 2012) and mailed to 6-201 Station Blvd, Ottawa, ON K1G 6N0

Delegation to Guatemala 2012 – Application Form

A. LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone: (home):

(cell):

Email:

- Passport Number _____ Country of Citizenship _____
(Passport must be valid until six months after your return)
- Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____
- Languages: What is your first language? _____
- Do you speak Spanish?
____ (none) ____ (a little) ____ (somewhat) ____ (fluently)
- **Health:**
 1. Do you have sensitivities to air pollution? If you have environmental sensitivities, we encourage you to disclose your situation.
 2. Do you have any health problems, allergies or illnesses, physical limitations? Please explain.
 3. Are you currently under a doctor's care and taking prescribed medication? Explain.

B) GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

- List the personal skills that you bring to a group which you believe are strengths. Please include practical skills and knowledge (e.g. activism, social justice, photography, writing, translating, construction experience, First-Aid certification, etc.)
- Are you willing to participate in follow-up activities upon your return from Guatemala?
- What is your understanding of the political and historic situation in Guatemala and do you have any related skills and experience? (Use an additional sheet if necessary, maximum 400 words)
- What is your motivation for participating in this tour?

C) COPING SKILLS:

- Delegations to Guatemala are physically and emotionally demanding. Participants in these intensive tours are likely to experience some physical discomforts (e.g. air and noise pollution, stomach ailments) and emotional stresses (exhaustion, heat, unfamiliar food, lack of privacy, disagreement within the group, etc). How would you propose to handle stress under any of these conditions?

- What experience have you had in the following situations:
 - Living and working with people of a culture other than your own?
 - Living and working closely as part of a group?

- Describe stressful situations you have experienced and how you dealt with them.

- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

D) Send your completed application form along with your registration fee (\$45 payable to Education In Action) to:

Education In Action
6-201 Station Blvd
Ottawa, ON K1G 6N0

If paying by cheque, please indicate EIA Guatemala Delegation on the memo line.

Thank you,