



## Invitation to the Guatemala project 2015

PSAC Social Justice Fund invites you to participate in the next Education In Action project in Guatemala for 2 weeks in spring (month of March), **2015**.

The Education In Action (EIA) organization is supported in part by the PSAC Social Justice Fund and 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 2015, please complete the application form attached and return it to:

stjeanj@psac-afpc.com / 613-560-2974/ or, mail it to:

**PSAC Social Justice Fund**

Ref: Guatemala 2015  
233 Gilmour, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ottawa, ON K2P 0P1

Thank you,

## Education In Action Application Form 2015

The application:

- a) You will be notified once your application is reviewed.
- b) You must be 18 years and older to be eligible.

### CRITERIA

- The arrangements for reserving the group's airline tickets will be done by the PSAC Social Justice Fund. The tickets will be reserved for purchase in mid - December 2014 and you will be required to cover the cost of your airline tickets at that time. From past years, the average cost from Toronto International Airport to Guatemala (and return) is \$900. Then you have to add the amount from your departing region to Toronto.

Average example rates only: These rates are subject to change.

Ottawa: \$400  
Edmonton: \$700

Calgary: \$625  
Yellowknife: \$800

- Your participation fee (equivalent to \$600 US) is required in Canadian funds. This fee covers your travel in the country, accommodations and meals. Payment will be expected at the end of January 2015.
- Participants will be notified of the 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.  
<http://www.ppt.gc.ca/planification/index.aspx?lang=eng>
- 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 participate in 2 separate days of orientation prior to traveling. This can also be done via teleconferencing for those not able to be present on-site.
- 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 on-site.
- Completed application form must be received by **October 31, 2014**. Please mail to:

**C/O PSAC Social Justice Fund**  
233 Gilmour, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ottawa, ON, K2P 0P1  
Or, [stjeanj@psac-apfc.com](mailto:stjeanj@psac-apfc.com) Or, Fax: 613-560-6582

Thank you,

**Delegation to Guatemala 2015 – Application Form**

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**A. LOGISTICAL INFORMATION**

Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone: (home):

(cell):

Email:

Local:

Component (if relevant):

- Valid Passport (Passport must be valid until six months after your date of return)? You are unable to purchase your airline ticket without a valid passport.
- Languages: What is your first language? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you speak Spanish?  
\_\_\_\_ (none)      \_\_\_\_ (a little)      \_\_\_\_ (somewhat)      \_\_\_\_ (fluently)

**B) GETTING TO KNOW YOU:** (if necessary please use additional sheet for answers)

- What is your involvement with your union and/or your experience with social justice initiatives in your workplace and in your community?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- List the personal skills that you can bring to the group which you believe are strengths. Please include practical skills and knowledge (e.g. activism, profession (nurse etc.), photography, blogging, writing project report, translating, construction experience, First-Aid certification, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why is it important for you to be a part of this delegation?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How will you ensure that others in your community, workplace etc. are able to share this

experience?

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- What is your understanding of the political and historic situation in Guatemala and do you have any related skills and experience?

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**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?

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- Responsible Practices: In respecting cultural sensitivities, we are requesting that participants refrain from smoking and consuming alcohol during their participation on this delegation.

I respect and accept this practice, (please initial) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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- Living and working closely as part of a group?

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- Describe a stressful situation that you have experienced and how you dealt with it.

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

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- **Health:**

1. Do you have sensitivities to air pollution? If you have environmental sensitivities, we encourage you to disclose your situation.

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2. Do you have any health problems, allergies or illnesses, physical limitations? Please explain. Are you currently under a doctor's care and taking prescribed medication? Explain.

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