



Catholic Ontario Teachers Delegation

For the second year consecutively, a committed group of teachers from the Ontario Catholic School Board will be traveling to El Salvador during the month of July. The purpose of the Teachers delegation is to build permanent and sustainable links between Ontario Teachers and communities in El Salvador. This opportunity offers invaluable experiences and personal rewards to all participants, such as:

- Learn about meaningful partnerships between Canadian and Salvadoran grassroots development agencies (i.e. Development and Peace, **SalvAide**, CRIPDES);
- Improve Spanish skills (educational workshops will take place at hostel Bajo Lempa - by the Pacific Ocean);
- Awareness of critical social justice issues affecting people in the North and South of El Salvador;
- Participate and support economic sustainable local activities;
- Meet Salvadoran communities and learn more about their work and role in the social movement; and,
- Witness local social movements making a difference in their own communities
 - Workers defending their rights in maquila an agro-export plantations
 - Farmers collectivizing over the impact of biotechnology on food security
 - Peasants struggling to recuperate land
 - Women struggling to fully participate in their society

Teachers Delegation's Objectives:

- To involve teachers from the Ottawa Catholic School Board in a delegation to explore long-term, sustainable partnership opportunities with communities in El Salvador
- To have a deeper understanding of social justice and analysis of the critical issues affecting people in the North and the South
- To develop materials and activities that can be used in Canadian classrooms that tell the stories of the people of El Salvador
- To share teachers' experience/education/skills with members of the rural communities
- To develop, where possible, exchanges between Salvadoran and Canadian communities
- To relate the experience to the social teachings of the church
- To develop partnerships with another Canadian NGO's including **SalvAide**, Development and Peace and CHF (Canadian Hunger Foundation) and other educational institutions (Algonquin College) and other school boards in Eastern Ontario.

The Principal of Solidarity:

"All must consider it their sacred duty to count social obligations among their chief duties today and observe them as such. For the more closely the world comes together, the more widely do people's obligations transcend particular groups and extend to the whole world. This will be realized only if individuals and groups practise moral and social virtues and foster them in social living. Then, under the necessary help of divine grace, there will arise a generation of new women and men, the moulders of a new humanity."
Second Vatican Council, 1965—proclaimed by his holiness, Pope Paul VI on December 7th 1965.

Join COMPADRES in El Salvador, Summer 2010

Tentative dates: First week in July (depends on flight availability)

Time commitment: 1 pre-trip orientation, 1 formation day held in Ottawa

Length of trip and approximate costs: 12 days, \$2,200.00 All inclusive

❖ [Read a letter from one of our previous participants](#)