



# Participant Information Package

## *Educators for Solidarity Initiative*

### Santa Marta, El Salvador, 2017

The *Educators for Solidarity* initiative is an opportunity for Saskatchewan post-secondary education students to see first-hand the work of SCIC's member agencies on the ground, to learn about international development and global citizenship education, and to build meaningful cross-cultural relationships within and across borders. We are excited to work with pre-service educators because of their unique positioning at the beginning of your professions, eager to learn about multiple ways of knowing, teaching, and being in the world.

**SCIC is accepting applications from pre-service educators for this fantastic opportunity until January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.**

### **Program Overview**

The *Educators for Solidarity* initiative is a unique, immersive, international, experiential learning opportunity for globally-minded pre-service educators in Saskatchewan. Youth participants must be between 19-30 years of age and enrolled in a Saskatchewan teacher education program. Participants will explore concepts of solidarity, sustainable development, and equality through three phases:

- Phase 1: Preparation for and initiation of learning journey;
- Phase 2: International travel to an SCIC member project;
- Phase 3: Post-experience debriefing and public engagement work.

Participants will be selected for SCIC's *Educators for Solidarity* initiative from a diverse applicant pool of pre-service educators from throughout the province. In addition to pre-departure training and international travel, applicants must be available to participate in a variety of public engagement events upon returning to Canada until March 2018.

The *Educators for Solidarity* initiative will be developed and managed through close collaboration between SCIC, PWRDF and CoCoSI ensuring that the program directly responds to and contributes to the needs of local communities.

### **Program Goals**

The *Educators for Solidarity* initiative will provide youth with the opportunity to:

- develop a strong foundation for teaching global citizenship education by exploring concepts of sustainability, justice, and globalization as they relate to education and active engagement, and by exploring anticolonial and decolonizing pedagogies;
- develop a global consciousness and competence for critical and active engagement;
- develop cross-cultural relationships rooted in solidarity and understanding by participating in reciprocal North-South knowledge exchanges, sharing learnings, stories, and realities with our neighbours in the global south;
- develop leadership and cross-cultural communication skills;

- learn about international development and explore the connections between local and global issues through a solidarity and justice lens by participating in experiential learning activities such as: excursions, host family living, educational workshops, and critical reflection before, during, and after their trip;
- learn first-hand about SCIC members' community-driven development projects by supporting their campaigns and participating in educational workshops;
- exploring intersectionality and the multiple ways that identities are impacted by colonial legacies;
- engage the Saskatchewan public around concepts of global citizenship.

## **Timeline**

- **Phase 1 - Preparation for and initiation of learning journey:**
  - February 2017 until departure for international travel in Phase 2;
- **Phase 2 - International travel to an SCIC member project:**
  - June 28 – July 12, 2017 (*Note: Dates may vary depending on flight availability*);
- **Phase 3 - Post-experience debriefing and public engagement work:**
  - Between the end of Phase 2 and March 2018.

## **What Can Participants Expect?**

The *Educators for Solidarity* initiative is intended to be an immersive project of change rooted in solidarity and understanding. It is not intended as a short-term travel program whereby Canadian participants are the sole beneficiaries of the experiences and knowledge created. Participants have a responsibility to meaningfully engage in the relationship-building process, sharing and learning with other Saskatchewan pre-service educators and with the community members you will be visiting in a reciprocal process.

Often within international experiential and/or volunteer programs there can be a lack of critical reflection regarding the role of the participants. In order for social justice and solidarity to be at the core of this international experiential learning experience, the *Educators for Solidarity* initiative will invite participants to explore and recognize the privilege experienced by Canadian youth who have the opportunity to take part in international development learning experiences.

In order to achieve this, participants will be expected to commit to a number of activities before, during, and after the experience in order to support a reciprocal relationship with all program partners. From the Preparation Phase (1), through to debriefing upon your return and sharing your learnings with others (Phase 3), participants will be supported in understanding these new experiences as well as having an opportunity to learn more about the work led by Canadian NGOs and their international partners.

### *Phase 1 - Pre-departure training:*

There will be required readings and reflections that participants will need to complete in the lead up to Phase 2 which will culminate with an in-person orientation (2 to 4 days) in the days leading up to our departure.

### *Phase 2 – International Travel to an SCIC Member Project*

Participants will have the opportunity to meet with staff and volunteers from SCIC member organizations and local partners, as well as community members who have been impacted by their projects.

Alongside a videographer, the participants will also create a short video of your experience, sharing what you have learnt about international development work, both locally and globally. As such, participants will be expected to play an active role in the creation of the documentary.

### *Phase 3 - Debrief and Public Engagement*

Participants will be required to participate in a post-trip debriefing (1 to 3 days) in order to reflect on Phase 2, as well as to support and plan for public engagement activities.

A major component of the *Educators for Solidarity* initiative is to apply the knowledge and experiences gained from the initiative to the creation of resources which can be used in Saskatchewan internship classrooms in the Fall 2017.

Participants will also be expected to participate in several public engagement events between the Fall 2017 and Winter 2018 semesters to share the documentary created in Phase 2 with a diverse population across Saskatchewan.

## **Participant Criteria**

To be eligible participants must be:

- A Canadian citizen;
- Youth, between 19 and 30 years of age;
- An undergraduate student/pre-service educator in good standing within their Faculties of Education at one of the following teacher education programs in Saskatchewan:
  - University of Regina
  - University of Saskatchewan
  - Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP)
  - Northern Teacher Education Program (NORTEP)
  - Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP);
- In the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> year of study in an undergraduate program in education;
- Achieving a 60% average at the end of the 2016 Fall semester (December 2016);
- Available to participate in all aspects of Phases 1, 2, and 3, including developing a video, lesson plans, and written articles, both abroad and upon their return, as well as public engagement events across Saskatchewan throughout 2017 until March 2018;
- Able to participate in a physically demanding program which could include, but is not limited to, activities such as walking or hiking for long periods of time over steep inclines or rough terrain, especially with luggage.

## Program Costs

<p><b><u>Included – paid for by SCIC:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Orientation facilitated by SCIC and community members;</li><li>• In-country orientation and hosting from The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund Program Director and CoCoSI staff;</li><li>• International airfare, airport fees and taxes, and trip cancellation insurance;</li><li>• Transportation, accommodation, and programming for the duration of the initiative;</li><li>• Three meals per day and potable water for the duration of the program.</li></ul>	<p><b><u>Not Included – paid for by youth participants*:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Valid passport for at least six months beyond the date of expected departure from El Salvador;</li><li>• Single-Entry Tourist Card and Exit Tax;</li><li>• Recommended immunizations or vaccinations (<b><i>must visit travel health clinic to determine on an individual basis</i></b>);</li><li>• Individual travel and medical insurance;</li><li>• Transportation to Regina from your home, and return, for the orientation and debriefing;</li><li>• Spending money (i.e. snacks, souvenirs, gifts, etc.)</li></ul>
<p><i>*If any of the expenses identified above are cost prohibitive, please contact <a href="mailto:pe@earthbeat.sk.ca">pe@earthbeat.sk.ca</a>.</i></p>	

## Application Submission

When submitting your application please ensure the following documents are attached:

- Completed Application Forms - *filled out by the Applicant*;
- Two Letters of Reference – *one personal and one professional with the names and contact information for each*;
- Most current University Transcripts indicating a minimum 60% average.

The **deadline** for applications is **Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017**. Selected applicants will be notified the week of January 16 – 20, 2017.

**Email:** [pe@earthbeat.sk.ca](mailto:pe@earthbeat.sk.ca)

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact us at 306-757-4669 or by email.