

Pueblito Annual Report 2009

Our Mission:

Pueblito works with local partners to support the growth and development of children and youth in Latin America.



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In 2009 Pueblito continued to deepen its relationships with partners in Nicaragua, with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and with our supporters, donors and partners in Canada. The rebuilding we began in 2007 when we elected a new Board of Directors has evolved into a number of progressive and enriching projects in Nicaragua.

In Nicaragua approximately 20 per cent of children drop out of school after grade one. For this reason, Pueblito has chosen to focus on helping students to stay in school longer. In 2009 the ¡Art Works! 2 project was completed in preschools in and around Estelí in the western part of Nicaragua. Pueblito worked with our Nicaraguan partner FUNARTE (Fundación de Apoyo al Arte Creador Infantil) to help transform classes, that relied simply on rote learning, into interactive, creative spaces where children's needs came first.

The success of this project led Pueblito and FUNARTE to collaborate on the Primary Colours project, where FUNARTE is bringing the same art-based teaching method to primary schools in Estelí. In the three years of this project, grade one and two classrooms will open their doors to this fun, creative and intellectually stimulating methodology.

New projects are also on the horizon. Project Director Amanda Proctor dedicated time in 2009 to completing and submitting to CIDA a comprehensive proposal for a project with FADCANIC (the Foundation for the Autonomy and Development of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua), which will begin in January 2011.

In Canada, we reached out to longstanding supporters, and to new audiences, through workshops and social events. In May, Pueblito honoured former Executive Director David Morley at an intimate dinner. The evening celebrated David's many contributions to Pueblito and brought together many who had worked with David and with Pueblito over the years. In July, students from George Brown College's Sports and Event Marketing Program organized a boat cruise to raise awareness of Pueblito and our sister organization Casa Canadiense. The evening celebrated the rhythms and food of Latin America.

Overall, the transition we began in 2007 continues to move forward as we develop new projects in Nicaragua and reach out to new partners and supporters in Canada. We are pleased with our progress this year and we look forward to a great 2010 as we continue to enhance our mission to improve the lives of children in Latin America. We sincerely thank all of our partners and supporters.

Sincerely,

Jill Nurse
Vice-President – Board of Directors

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Art Works! 2: Bringing Concepts of Psychological and Emotional Development to Rural Preschools in Estelí

Partner: FUNARTE (Fundacion de Apoyo al Arte Creador Infantil)

Beneficiaries: 33 rural community preschool teachers

This 3-year ¡Art Works! 2 project wound up at the end of 2009. Through this project FUNARTE imparted their art-based pedagogy, Caricia y Arte (Nurture and Art), to preschool teachers in the rural areas surrounding the city of Estelí. FUNARTE helped to transform classes that relied on rote learning and adult-centered pedagogy into interactive, creative spaces where children's needs are paramount. The success of this project has lead Pueblito and FUNARTE to collaborate on the Primary Colours project to bring these transformations to primary schools.



Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds: Preschool Lunch Program

Partner: Casa Canadiense

Beneficiaries: approximately 350 children aged 3 to 5

Pueblito Canada continued its partnership with Casa Canadiense to deliver three to five hot lunches per week to children in community preschools in some of Managua's poorest neighbourhoods. Community preschools are completely unfunded by the government and operate on volunteer labour only.

Children in these neighbourhoods face constant challenges to receiving the nourishment needed for proper development and learning. Most families struggle to feed everyone. Pueblito and Casa Canadiense have intervened by provided nutritious lunches to preschool children to help ensure that they will be able to learn what is needed to succeed at higher levels of primary education.

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“Primary Colours”: Fostering Equity, Critical Thinking and Creativity in Nicaragua

Partner: FUNARTE (Fundacion de Apoyo al Arte Creador Infantil)

Beneficiaries: 98 teachers, 29 school counselors, 360 parents and 8,350 children from 12 public primary schools in Esteli benefit directly from this initiative.

Pueblito Canada continued to work with FUNARTE in the city of Estelí in the north of Nicaragua. “Primary Colours” provides training workshops to first grade and second grade teachers and counselors. Participants learn about the innovative Caricia y Arte (Nurture and Art) pedagogy, which uses art to ensure the complete psychological and emotional development of primary school students. In addition, FUNARTE accompanies teachers in their classroom to aid in the implementation of Caricia y Arte in their daily practice. Finally, “Primary Colours” provides workshops to parents to ensure that they support the Caricia y Arte in home and compliment the work happening in school.



Let’s Get Global!: Knowledge Sharing with Canadian Educators

Beneficiaries: 15 high school teachers and teacher candidates

In December 2009, Pueblito launched its campaign to reach out to Canadian educators by hosting a workshop in conjunction with Casa Canadiense. The workshop provided lesson plans for teachers to perform with their students about global issues. In addition to providing resources to teachers, our “Let’s Get Global!” project also supplied a space where they could share and discuss their challenges and successes.

PUEBLITO CANADA INCORPORATED (A not-for-profit organization)

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31, 2009

REVENUES	2009	2008
<i>Restricted:</i>		
CIDA contribution agreement	\$ 58,075	\$ 3,539
<i>Unrestricted:</i>		
Donations and fundraising	176,363	144,341
Vancouver committee	-	3,248
Other	1,100	29
Change in cash surrender value of life insurance policy	<u>1,595</u>	<u>(4,498)</u>
Total revenues	<u>237,133</u>	<u>146,659</u>
EXPENSES		
<i>Programs funded by CIDA:</i>		
Overseas programs:		
Nicaraguan program expenses	47,511	-
Allocation of salaries and benefits	4,341	4,972
Allocation of administrative overhead	<u>6,223</u>	<u>3,460</u>
	58,075	8,432
<i>Programs and activities funded by Pueblito:</i>		
Nicaragua program expenses:	49,880	28,294
Overseas program monitoring	1,227	442
CIDA overseas program expenses	17,284	-
Total Program Expenses	126,466	37,168
<i>Administration and other:</i>		
Administrative overhead	68,552	80,426
Fundraising	28,236	19,730
Vancouver committee	<u>-</u>	<u>2,396</u>
Total expenses	<u>223,254</u>	<u>139,720</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	13,879	6,939
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, (beginning of year)	<u>44,728</u>	<u>37,789</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, (end of year)	<u>\$ 58,607</u>	<u>\$ 44,728</u>