

OBJECTIVES

RAINBOW OF HOPE FOR CHILDREN

September - 2009



A. International Development

1. To promote at home and abroad values of participatory democracy, gender equality, environmental responsibility, and a social consciousness that stresses the common good through a system that cares for and shares with the most destitute in societies.
2. To engage members and donors in sustainable international development activities, continuing but not limiting our traditional focus on the well being of children and communities in project countries.
3. To increase the society's profile in the NGO community in Alberta and other provinces and abroad through networking, consultation, research, communication, and partnerships.
4. To seek beyond symptoms to discover and address the causes of poverty; to take preventative action and to lobby with our partners to transform dehumanizing structures at the root of poverty, hunger, oppression, and armed conflict.
5. To learn from the poor and oppressed, integrating their experience in organization and management partnerships.

B. Development Education

6. To assist students in understanding the complexities of global relations and to foster responsibility toward those ignored or neglected.
7. To increase community awareness of global issues and human concerns using project information and monitoring visits as a basis for such education; to promote alternative visions for a possible world; to create awareness of the society, its activities, projects, and resources, enabling Canadians to participate in making a realistic difference.
8. To promote North/South dialogue and communicate our relationship through columns on social justice in relevant newspapers and journals.
9. To speak on behalf of our Southern partners on radio and television whenever possible and to use the Internet to disseminate the information.
10. To provide speakers for conferences, workshops, and seminars on social justice and international development.
11. To provide information and resources and to co-sponsor educational opportunities for church groups and schools.

12. To support cultural exchanges between North and South in order to strengthen critical analysis of social issues, to improve communication and leadership skills and foster a climate of understanding and healing.
13. To support greater care of the environment and to promote ecologically sound and sustainable development in Canada and abroad, thus encouraging more responsible lifestyles friendly to our global environment.
14. To champion gender equality through education and enabling women to participate fully in the decision making processes affecting their communities and societies.
15. To further tolerance and understanding for traditions, customs, aspirations, and cultures of other peoples and to support individual and collective efforts to create conditions favoring the attainment of dignity and rights as citizens, thus furthering harmony and peace.

C. Local Charities

16. Though the primary focus of the society is international development of the poor and marginalized and education, the society may direct donations from its benefactors to local charities that are qualified donees (as defined in the Income Tax Act) if approved by the Board of Directors.