

Vocational Training Team (VTT)

To work with teachers at Kyaithani and Lower Yatta Secondary Schools in Rural Kenya in partnership with Kenya Connect

Spring Break March 18-29 2019

An opportunity for

Vocational Training Team.docx

Rotarians and non-Rotarian middle and secondary school teachers from Rotary District 5040 in British Columbia.

Background:

The Rotary Club of Sunshine Coast–Sechelt has an ongoing relationship with schools in rural Kenya. Through a multi-club Global Grant, the Club has provided computer and Internet technology to Kyaithani and Lower Yatta Secondary Schools. In partnership with Kenya Connect Inc based in Elkridge, Maryland and their Kenyan field operation located near the secondary schools, teachers are offered support in using the technology. However, hands-on help is needed from experienced teachers to assist their Kenyan colleagues to successfully teach with technology.

The Vocational Training Team made up of six BC experienced, practising middle and secondary school teachers and a Rotarian leader will travel to Kenya during Spring Break 2019. The teachers with a variety of subject specialties will provide support to teachers from the Kenyan Secondary Schools through a series of information exchange sessions and workshops at the Kenya Connect Learning Resource Centre and at participating schools.

After the Kenyan portion of the project, six teachers/principals from the Kenyan schools, along with key Kenya Connect field

staff, would come to BC at the end of April, early May (approximately April 22-May 6) to visit BC schools and learn new techniques employing computer technology and using the Internet in their teaching..

At the conclusion of the Kenyan teachers tour, all twelve educators would attend the District Conference in Sun Peaks (May 3-5, 2019) and report out on the work of the Vocational Training Team.

Accommodation:

In Kenya, the Vocational Training Team will visit schools and work in the Kenya Connect Resource facility. Accommodation will be provided at Muthoki Country Lodge in Masii Machakos. This lodge is located in a secure 40-acre peaceful tree farm setting in Machakos County. The lodge offers fully furnished and serviced self-contained studio bungalows.

The Aims and Objectives of the VTT:

To improve the skills of the Kenyan teachers in teaching with technology so that they will be better able to utilize the computer technology provided through the Global Grant in their delivery of the curriculum required by the Kenyan Ministry of Education.

We will do this by:

Visiting schools to become familiar with the educational environment and student needs in rural Kenya.

Working with teachers and school principals to explore new ways of presenting material using computer and Internet technology.

Organizing and presenting hands on workshops at the Kenya Connect facility - Such workshops will be conducted in small groups and cover a variety of subject areas.

Observing teachers at secondary schools in this remote, rural area of Kenya;

Teaching demonstration lessons to students at Kyaitani and Lower Yatta Secondary Schools;

Providing assistance to teachers in the use of technology to enrich their teaching.

Introducing Kenyan teachers to BC schools and the methods used by teachers in a variety of middle and secondary school settings.

Learning about each other's culture by experiencing working conditions, school structure and different learning styles.

Advising on better use of educational resources.

Applications are invited from people with these skills and experiences:

Practising Teachers from BC schools within Rotary District 5040

Teachers who have at least two years classroom experience at the middle or secondary grade levels.

Teachers who integrate technology into their everyday teaching across a variety of subject areas.

Teachers who are familiar with skills needed to build 21st century teaching techniques within professional learning communities

Teachers comfortable leading workshops, demonstrating techniques, providing assistance and sharing their knowledge in a supportive manner

Flexible teachers, eager to learn, able to work in different cultural settings and willing to follow the requirements of working in a group setting

What is provided:

While Rotary Foundation Grants will cover most travel and accommodation expenses, the BC team will be asked to contribute \$500 each plus expenses for travel or costs incurred outside the scope of the VTT implementation e.g. safaris, sightseeing etc

Costs covered Include:

Economy Class air travel tickets from your home airport to Nairobi, Kenya

Transportation to and from airport and local travel related to the VTT implementation at Kenya Connect facilities in Machakos County and the Kyaithani and Lower Yatta Secondary Schools

Accommodation and food throughout the trip

Cost of inoculations, immunizations visas, entry and exit taxes

Insurance Costs

Normal and reasonable luggage charges.

Resource Materials

Registration Costs for District Conference

All applicants must possess a passport valid to at least 6 months past the date of the VTT.

Kenyan teachers will have all travel, food and accommodation covered while in British Columbia in addition to the above costs. Accommodation will be provided in the homes of Rotarians and activities covered by various Rotary Clubs around the District.

Suggested Program in Kenya:

Day 1 Travel to Vancouver, Leave for Kenya on an evening flight.

Day 2 More flying, Arrive settle in/relax in Nairobi

Day 3 Adjustment and orientation day with visit to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, Bomas of Kenya (for cultural introduction) and possibly Kenya Museum in Nairobi.

Day 4 Early departure for Wamunyu, meet teacher partners at Kenya Connect Learning Resource Centre, teambuilding and orientation to schools and Kenyan curriculum – visit local schools near Wamunyu.

Day 5 Workshops at Kenya Connect-Problem solving, discovery teaching

Day 6 Workshops continued 21st Century learning skills combined with lab work and teaching with technology

Day 7 Travel to Kyaithani and Lower Yatta Schools - meet students and all teachers.

Day 8 Team teaching at Secondary Schools

Day 9 Review/Workshops at Kenya Connect Resource Centre

Day 10 Meet Machakos Rotarians, local sightseeing

Day 11 Workshops Kenya Connect Resource Centre

Day 12 Workshops wrap up. Return to Nairobi for late flight home (or personal extension of trip)

Day 13 Travel Kenya to Vancouver

Day 14 Travel Vancouver home.

District Conference May 3-5 Sun Peaks British Columbia

Suggested Program In British Columbia:

Day 1 Travel to Nairobi for late flight to Vancouver

Day 2 Arrive Vancouver and settle in/relax

Day 3 Orientation Workshop Lower Mainland School District
meet partners

Day 4 Visit schools in Lower Mainland

Day 5 – 9 Partnership teaching in school settings around
District 5040 and Rotary Organized Activities – Sightseeing in
different communities.

Day 10 -11 Lower Mainland Workshops on 21c learning skills -
teaching with technology

Day 12 Travel to Kamloops and Sun Peaks

Day 13 14 15 District Conference

Day 16 Travel to Vancouver for evening flight to Nairobi

Day 17 Arrive Nairobi and travel back to Wamunyu/Kyaithani

Team Requirements:

Before Leaving for Kenya

Participate in all orientation sessions and team meetings and obtain the necessary documents for travelling.
Prepare workshop and presentation materials
Become familiar with the Kenyan Curriculum, teaching styles and cultural norms
Participate with the VTT organizing committee in planning and setting up the local BC visits by Kenyan VTT participants.

During the VTT

Participate in all Team activities under the direction of the Team Leader
Remain with the group throughout the VTT except when individual activities are planned
Respect cultural norms and maintain standards of behavior that reflects positively on the excellent relationships that Rotary and Kenya Connect have established in Kenya

After returning from Kenya

Participate as required in the return visit of Kenyan teachers in April –May
Attend the District Conference in Sun Peaks May 3-5 and participate in VTT presentation
Speak about your VTT experience to Rotary Clubs and other Groups.

After the VTT

Prepare and submit final reports of the VTT as required by the Rotary Foundation and District 5040.
Speak about your VTT experience to Rotary Clubs and other Groups.

Suggested Application Process:

Who Can Apply?

All participants must have careers linked to the aims and objectives of the VTT. We are looking for middle and secondary school teachers who use technology in their teaching and embrace the skills and knowledge students need to succeed in work, life and citizenship, as well as the support systems necessary for 21st century learning outcomes. Within the context of key knowledge instruction, 21st century students must learn the essential skills for success in today's world, such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration.

Applications are welcome from Rotarians and non-Rotarians. Rotarians must be members in good standing of a club within District 5040. Non-Rotarians must reside or be employed within District 5040, British Columbia.

All applicants must be available to travel between March 18-29 2019(Spring Break 2019) and on the weekend of the District Conference, May 3-5 2019.

All applicants must possess a valid passport and be eligible to obtain all required travel documents.

All applicants will be required to undergo a criminal record check and be eligible to work with children and vulnerable adults.

How to Apply?

Applications must be made through a Rotary Club in District 5040. Applications, addressed to the President, should include a current resume, and a statement of why you are interested and what you would be able to contribute to the VTT. Inquiries on the VTT or how and where to apply may be sent to John Anderson at; johnlanderson@telus.net. Phone 604 948 2944

Applications close September 30th and Rotary Clubs should send completed applications with all documentation and a supporting letter endorsing the applicant to PDG John Anderson, Chair of District 5040 VTT Committee at johnlanderson@telus.net. District Interviews will take place during October 2019. Rotary Clubs may wish to interview candidates prior to endorsement.