

Lions Youth Exchange Program

For over 40 years Lions Club International has promoted this exciting program involving Youth throughout the world. The Lions in Multiple District 37 and our District have in recent years been working very hard to increase involvement by our Clubs. In 2001 eight Clubs in our District participated sending six Students abroad. While we are pleased we want to encourage participation from the other 33 Clubs in our District. Your Youth Exchange Committee Co-Chairman this year are Lions Kimberly Lyall from Lethbridge Coulee and Kim Donais from Redcliff. We plan to contact every Club this year. We are confident once your Club is hooked on the benefits of Youth Exchange it will become a Program to look forward to each year. In this issue of our newsletter we have provided below the basic information for sponsoring the Outgoing Students. In a future edition we will provide details on Hosting the Incoming Students that attend the Waterton Leadership Camp.

2002 - How to Sponsor

A Lion's Club must first determine the level of sponsorship they can offer the prospective Youth Exchange Student or Student's. Consider the following three methods of sponsorship.

1. Basic Sponsorship

Basic Sponsorship consists of the Club paying \$300.00 Canadian funds for the Student Travel Kit provided by our Multiple District Youth Exchange Committee.

2. Partial Sponsorship

Partial Sponsorship consists of the Club paying for the Student Travel Kit plus a specified allowance towards the total cost of the Exchange. The student is then responsible for the remaining costs over and above the dollar amount specified by the Club.

3. Full Sponsorship

Full sponsorship consists of the Club paying for the Student Travel Kit plus all other costs related to travel insurance and camp fees (as sometimes applicable) involved in the Exchange. The total budget for an Exchange can start at \$1000 for a domestic Exchange to perhaps \$3000 for an International Exchange. All Canadian funds.

The sponsoring Club is responsible to advertise, interview and select the Student and to submit the completed application form to the District Youth Exchange Chair with the \$1,000.00 deposit. The Club shall further provide information and orientation to the Student about your Club and the Youth Exchange Program and to coordinate all travel and hosting arrangements, which are undertaken by the Multiple District Coordinator through the District Youth Exchange Chairman. Your District YE Committee have all the necessary forms and instructions in hard copy and electronic format to select your Student and provide orientation for this Program.

The Student is responsible for all additional costs and fees related to his/her exchange such as spending money, costs of any meals (while away from the Host Family) and costs to attend tourist attractions etc.. Keep in mind that additional costs can vary greatly depending on which country the Student chooses. If the Student sponsored does not have access to sufficient funds the Club may recommend an Exchange to a country that has a more reasonable cost of living.

Please Note: Spending money is not considered a cost of the Exchange to the Sponsoring Club, and should be provided by the Student and his/her family. However, the Club can elect to cover this expense, if the student has no other means. In such case the Club may consider a special fundraiser to help the Student raise these funds.

For more information please contact us as follows:

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Also check our International Web Site lionsclubs.org/English/YExch.html
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