Canadian Friends of Oaxaca Inc. (CANFRO)
PO Box 23043, Belleville, Ontario K8P 5J3
www.canfro.ca

Annual Project Report & Budget Request

Fiscal Year	2025-26
Name of Project	THE ADVANCED EDUCATION PROJECT
Project Manager	Laurie Thompson
Approved Budget	$45,000 MXN [$1500/month x 10 months x 3 students]
Actual Expenditures	$39,000* MXN

Comments

CANFRO's Advanced Education Project supports academically capable students from low income families living in and around the city of Oaxaca who want to further their education at a public high school or university. The program, run by our partner agency *Centro de* Aprendizaje/The Oaxaca Learning Center (TOLC) includes two components: financial support during their time in school and additional training to strengthen personal and professional skills to succeed in life and become meaningful participants in society. Some themes covered in these workshops include: decision-making, emotional intelligence, chemistry/math/physics tutoring, sports, art, languages, AI, first-aid, prevention of risk behaviors, and many more. Parents and family members are also included in the programming at TOLC, with workshops dedicated to fostering healthy, supportive families.

Students in the AEP program receive a monthly scholarship ($1500 MXN for high school level; $2000 MXN for university level) to pay expenses related to their continuing education, including but not limited to: travel (to the city and within the city), food, tuition, books and school supplies, connectivity, and other required fees. Because of the structure of the program and the selection process, the 10-month scholarships are given January – October, spanning two different CANFRO fiscal years. Scholarship recipients complete monthly spending reports along with appropriate receipts.

News from this year includes TOLC's increased collaboration with other CANFRO's partner agencies: TOLC joined forces with Libros Para Pueblos to open a dedicated library at TOLC, with a full range of programs and activities. The Coordinator of the Library is Karen Cuenca, a UNAM graduate who was a scholarship recipient through Fondo Guadalupe Musalem. Karen, in her new position at TOLC, recently gave a reading circle workshop to the current generation of becarias at Fondo Guadalupe Musalem – completing a full circle of enrichment and support for Oaxaca youth.

Further news at TOLC, includes their opening of a dedicated, private counseling space to better attend the psychological support offered to all students at TOLC, an increasing need seen spread across the youth population served by our partner agencies.

Canadian Friends of Oaxaca Inc. (CANFRO)
PO Box 23043, Belleville, Ontario K8P 5J3
www.canfro.ca

For the 2025/26 academic year, CANFRO expanded its support to **three high school students**, thanks to a grant from the RR Smith Memorial Foundation Fund in BC — which was renewed and slightly increased — and thanks to individual donors. All three students continue to excel in the program.

** The AEP project spending January – October (across two CANFRO fiscal years) and is paid bimonthly. So, the spending for the fiscal year 2025/26 includes supporting two students for 3 months and 3 students for 7 months. That is why the amount of spending is under budget. The additional spending will be reflected in the first months of the following fiscal year (i.e. August, Sept, Oct 2026).*

Current Fiscal Year	2026-27
Requested Budget	$45,000 MXN [$1500/month x 10 months x 3 students]