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 BOOK PROJECT
Project Manager	Laurie Thompson
Approved Budget	$243,000 MXN
Actual Expenditures	$230,587 MXN

Comments

The Book Project provides funds to purchase books for community libraries throughout the state of Oaxaca. This past year, **7540 books** were distributed to the **60 participating libraries** through CANFRO's partner agency, Libros Para Pueblos (LpP). In addition to selecting, purchasing and distributing quality Spanish-language books, LpP provides training to its regional coordinators and volunteer librarians, and is continually updating its curriculum for library managers ("*rutas literarias*"). The spring annual conference was attended by **150 library managers** and municipal authorities for enriching exchange and additional training. In addition, across the LpP network, **11,400 'reading promotion' activities** were carried out throughout the state-wide network. A total of **9,289 children** participated in the sum of the reading promotion activities. **New this year was an online creative writing workshop** was offered to library staffs, who then conducted **20 creative writing workshops** for children conducted in libraries.

The Literacy through Puppetry Program at LpP, designed to promote literacy and library use in communities continues to exceed expectations. In 2025-26, **10 puppet presentations** were given in various communities, with a total of **3094 attendees**. Ten puppet shows were written and performed by children from various libraries.

This year, LpP extended their network to include **a library at Centro de Aprendizaje (TOLC)**, one of CANFRO's five local partner agencies. TOLC library opened its doors in July offers comprehensive and engaging programming which is **available not only to TOLC beneficiaries but also to those at another CANFRO partner agency: Centro de Esperanza Infantil (CEI).**

During the 2025-26 school year, three additional libraries became sponsored by six CANFRO donors, bringing to **total number of fully or partially sponsored libraries to 11**. In addition to library sponsorship, CANFRO has several generous donors supporting the Book Project through LpP's general fund.

Current Fiscal Year	2026-27
Requested Budget	$270,000 MXN