



CONSULADO GENERAL DE BOLIVIA

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Ann Marie Sayers
Tribal Chairperson
Costanoan Indian Research Center
Indian Canyon Nation
P.O. Box 28
Hollister, CA 95024-0028

Dear Ann Marie Sayers:

I want to extend to you and the Indian Canyon Costanoan Research Center a formal letter of support not only for the work you are doing in your educational programs for indigenous Ohlone Indian issues, but especially for the Indian Canyon Village House project.

In Bolivia, the communities I represent face very similar issues of building strong communities emphasizing cultural and ecological preservation with economic sustainability as a major component.

We would like to link with you a similar community development and educational program in Bolivia. It is called "Universidad Aymara". The building is long constructed by the indigenous community of Laja, near La Paz, Bolivia. They plan to include solar technologies that will allow them to link up with your Village House Project near Hollister, California where Indian Canyon is located.

In these challenging times, cross cultural links that educate local communities on global issues are vitally important to building mutual beneficial bridges. We can learn from each others success and failures.

In my various visits to Indian Canyon, I have been surprised by the work you are doing, especially with young people giving them a place to have hands on experience in environmental restoration and to participate in cultural and educational programs. The cultural preservation of the Ohlone Indians and the knowledge systems of your people is vital to us all. Thank you for your example. The work you are doing to build strong local communities that embrace principles of environmental and cultural restoration is important to the global community. The Village House in Indian Canyon will be inspiration to many other indigenous communities around the globe who seek to embody future technologies and to educate and empower their youth.

Kind regards,

Manuel Helguero
CONSUL GENERAL OF BOLIVIA