

**San Antonio La Casita Expansion**  
**Close Out Summary**  
September 22, 2022



**Initiative Purpose:**

The proposed initiative is called the Guatemala, San Antonio Palopó La Casita Expansion.

During the past few years, the programs at the La Casita Learning Centre have flourished and expanded to the point where students are having to work in crowded and sometimes noisy conditions. The planned expansion will replace two small, older outbuildings with a well-designed two-storey building (approximately 5 meters by 7 meters) to provide additional classroom space, as well as a bathroom accessible from the outside (there is currently only 1 small bathroom on the property). The space on each level will be open-plan, to allow maximum flexibility. The second floor will be open on one side. The structure will be built with the possibility of adding another level in the future. A long washing 'trough' with several taps is planned to be installed outside, to allow easy access. As part of the new building, connection will be required to the existing water and septic systems.

This will address the key issue of needing more space at La Casita Learning Centre, by providing a secure space that can be used by multiple groups at the same time.

**Purpose for Closure:**

The Expansion was completed in December 2021. An opening ceremony was held, and immediately programs were moved into the building. Furnishings were acquired by March 2022. Excess funds were transferred, with donor agreement, to the San Antonio Education and Community initiative.

## Initiative Achievements:

1. The project succeeded in its primary purpose, to “address the key issue of needing more space at La Casita Learning Centre, by providing a secure space that can be used by multiple groups at the same time.”
2. The project was completed on time and under budget, thanks to excellent project management by our field lead. This is an amazing accomplishment, since it was accomplished in spite of COVID-impacted challenges related to labour and materials.
3. The resulting building is clean, bright and cheerful, and enhances the learning environment.
4. New efficient hand washing and toilet facilities improve the environment for all using the Learning Centre.
5. Secure, locked spaces are available for valuable assets such as computers.
6. As a byproduct of the expansion, the septic system was identified and documented, and water management improved.
7. The new building has energized the staff and attendees, and impressed the community.

## Details of project:

**Start Date:** August 1, 2021

**End Date:** March 31, 2022

<b>Budget:</b>	Building:	CAD 37,333.33 (Q 224,000)
	Furnishing:	CAD 5,000.00 (Q 30,000)
	Total:	CAD 42,333.33 (Q 254,000)

**Total actual spent:** CAD 40,389.87 (total IFR amount)

**Total Donations:** CAD 40,419.87

**Remainder in CAD:** CAD 30.00 (Remainder transferred, with donor permission, to San Antonio Education and Community initiative)  
**Remainder in Q:** Q 1,038.28



Entrances



Second floor balcony



Volunteer painters