

SO WHAT ARE WE TO MAKE OF THE STATE OF THE WORLD?

Our world is mired in conflicts.
So many people struggle for lives of dignity.
We often feel helpless. We can do nothing.

NOT TRUE!

Opportunities to meet the challenges abound.



IMAGINE! ENGAGE! COMMIT!

Find meaning and purpose by assisting
youth who struggle in another corner of the world,
who share some of the same dreams you have
but have few options for fulfillment –
or even for basic survival.

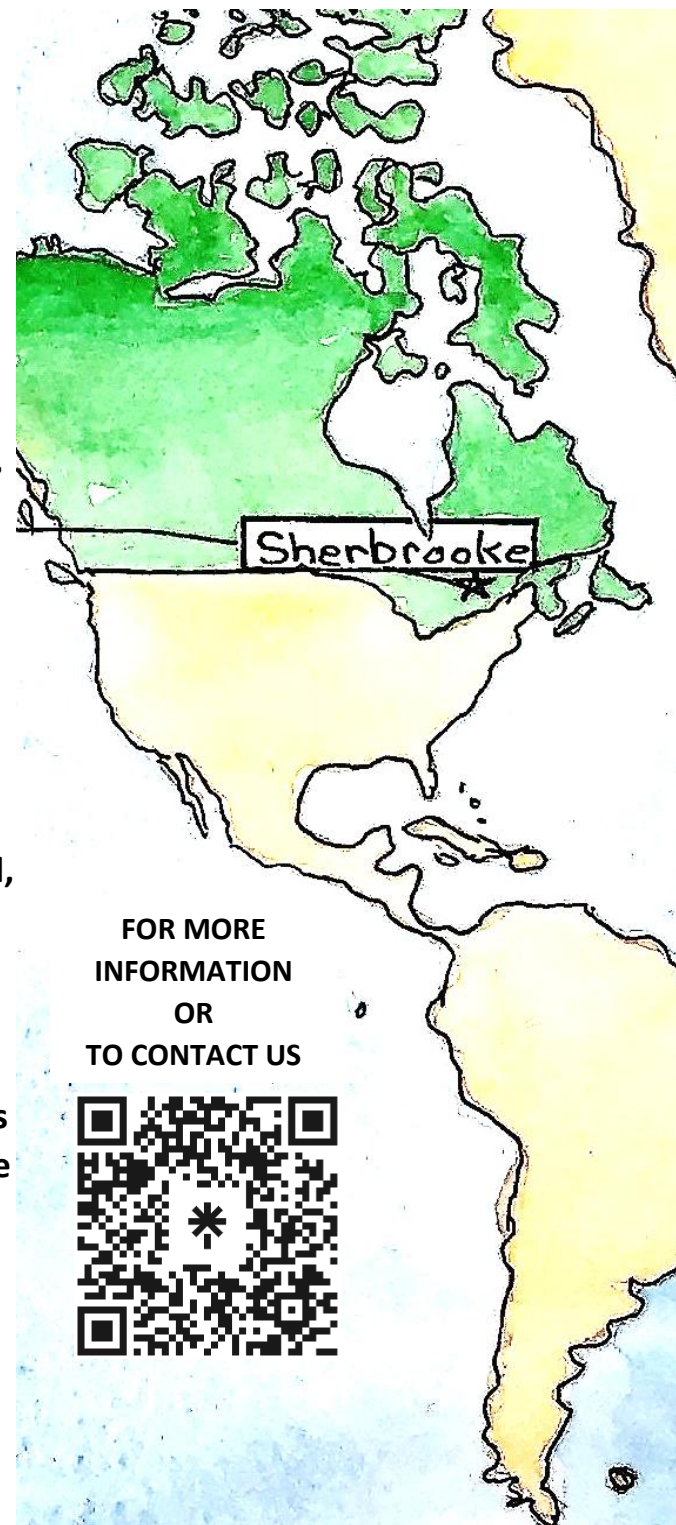
Apply to volunteer in Thailand assisting schools
for Myanmar migrant & refugee youth with the

MAE SOT EDUCATION PROJECT

Go to <https://maesoteducation.ca>
for application information and forms.

Next application period: Fall, 2026

Application deadline: Jan. 8, 2027



FOR MORE
INFORMATION
OR
TO CONTACT US



Who are we? Why this project?

The Mae Sot Education Project is a small, local project based in our Lennoxville community.

We aim to support the people of Myanmar [Burma] in their struggle to overcome repression and create a free, democratic and inclusive society by helping schools for Myanmar refugee and migrant kids living on the Thai-Myanmar border.

MSEP promotes friendship and solidarity between youth across borders and fosters global understanding among Canadians.

Why volunteer overseas?

Project volunteers work very hard but also benefit from a host of opportunities. As a volunteer, you will...

- become an educator and mentor to displaced youth struggling with life challenges unknown to most Canadians;
- gain experience working in a complex intercultural (interethnic, interreligious) context;
- build skills and knowledge and acquire experience critical to pursuing careers in the international NGO sector;
- develop leadership and team-building skills, deepened by an unfamiliar, overseas setting;
- learn about the situation in Myanmar and the problems of displaced people, about social justice issues and world affairs; about education in a challenging environment, about yourself!

NOTE: Bishop's students who volunteer with the project may have the possibility of earning credits for experiential learning in History or Global

Studies. See your program advisor or David Webster for more information.

How much does it cost?

Volunteers are asked to contribute \$1500 and to help raise funds for the project.

The cost to the project is \$5000 per volunteer plus \$12,000 for donations to partner schools.

Except for the volunteer contribution, funds are raised through collective fundraising by the Project Committee and volunteers.

What must you do as a volunteer to prepare?

You must be prepared to volunteer in Thailand for six months. Three month placements are possible if necessary due to academic program requirements.

During the winter, before going to Mae Sot, you will meet weekly with the other volunteers to....

- learn to animate English learning activities;
- learn about the situation on the Thai-Myanmar border;
- learn about Thai, Burmese and Karen cultures;
- learn some elementary Thai;
- help raise funds;
- do some team building.

What do you do as a volunteer in Mae Sot and upon return?

During the period of June–December, you will..

- help migrant children and teachers to learn English by animating learning activities, and assist Burmese community-based organisations (CBOs) in Mae Sot.

- provide classroom materials to partner schools.
- learn about the cultures in the Mae Sot community and share some of your Canadian culture.
- make friends and develop understanding between youth from Myanmar, Thailand and Canada.
- develop leadership skills – and character!

Upon return to Canada...

- help our community in Québec, Canada learn about migrant and refugee issues in the world by sharing your experience.



A volunteer helping students in Mae Sot

For more information

For more information about how to volunteer, go to: <https://maesoteducation.ca> or see Professors David Webster at Bishop's or Murray Johnston at Champlain or contact Mary Purkey, project coordinator (marypurkey@gmail.com).

