Peace Studies Practicum 3P03, 2016 – Proposal submitted by The Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) McMaster

We Are Your Future: Creativity and Resilience among Women Weavers of Palm, Tlamacazapa, Mexico

Atzin Community Development is a humanitarian organization registered in Mexico, Canada and the United States and has no religious or political affiliations. Atzin works closely with Indigenous villagers, particularly young women, who take ever-increasing responsibility for program activities and decisions. The Atzin report for 2015 is attached, which will give a clearer picture of the scope of the work of Atzin. We Are Your Future (WAYF) is a project of Atzin Community Development. The objectives of the WAYF exhibition are three-fold and are explained in a second attached document.

The WAYF exhibit is scheduled to open on November 19, 2016 at The Pearl Company in Hamilton. Dr. Susan Smith is scheduled to give a presentation at McMaster University in co-sponsorship with the HOPE Chair in Peace and Health, the Peace Studies Program, the Centre for Peach Studies, and the McMaster Indigenous Student Community Alliance on Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

The Peace Studies Practicum student responsibilities in connection with the WAYF exhibition would be as follows:

Assist with the advertising of the WAYF exhibit and the scheduled talk on campus, using a variety of social media with the hopes of reaching a wide audience.

Assist with the set-up of the exhibit at The Pearl Company (recognizing time restraints due to classes and other assignments), potentially on Wednesday, November 16, Thursday, November 17, Friday, November 18th, and/or Saturday, November 19th. They would be asked to assist at the opening on Saturday, November 19th.

Seek donations to help deflect costs associated with hosting the exhibition.

Seek local retail outlets (e.g. Hamilton Art Gallery Shop), where products handcrafted by the women’s co-operative of Atzin could be sold.

Assist with OPIRG’s Fair Trade Fest on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 where Atzin items will be sold and the upcoming exhibition will be promoted.

Time permitting, the student could investigate possible funding sources for the construction of the Women’s Wellness Centre, an Atzin project. Project details are attached.

For more info: shelley@opirgmcmaster.org