

Embassy of the Republic of Slovakia
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December 18, 2004

Chargé de' Affaires a.i
Zuzana Chudá

Activity report for June to December 2004

Projects

After the visiting of the Self-governing region of Trenčín, we have been working with the official return visit of the delegation of the Region of Trøndelag in Self-governing Region of Trenčín from Sunday October 3rd to October the 6th.

Proposal of topics for discussion

- Presentation of mutual visions about future possibilities especially in the field of culture and environmental protection.
- Definition of the potential of both parties
- Determination of priorities of mutually beneficial cooperation.
- Discussion about realization of common projects and possible financing of the project of renewal and reconstruction of the Castle in Trenčín.
- Negotiating of the Project and partnership of upper secondary schools and local companies.

July to September 2004

The Ambassador Andrej Sokolik opened the exhibition in Huseby School. "Why I'm happy in the world 1994 - 2004". The exhibition has within the last 10 years developed a world wide network. The initiative was first taken by the Slovak Minister of culture in 1994 as part of the struggle against drugs. The exhibitions focus on positive values in life.

October to December 2004

- Visited the self-governing region of Trenčín. Succeed underwriting a declaration about Partnership and Cooperation between Self-governing Region of Trenčín and Region of Trøndelag.
- Ambassador Andrej Sokolik and I visited Piešťany for a spa visit. We stayed at Hotel Balnea Splendid for 6 days. We had meetings with Managing Director Frank Machac. Our stay inspired me to maintain contact and to develop good cooperation and communication in the future.
- Assisted Valeria Zolcerova in her visit to Trondheim. She visited Innovasjon Norge (Innovation Norway), Chamber of Commerce and local companies.
- Assisted the TroNett in working with the Embassy in inviting Mrs Brigita Schmognerova to attend a conference in Trondheim as a key note speaker.

Goals for the First Half 2005

Continue working with Trenčín in the following matters:

- Student exchange and support in the establishing of a Nursing Studies program with the University Alexander Dubcek. HiST (www.hist.no) is currently in contact with University Alexander Dubcek.
- NTNU (www.ntnu.no) will make contact with University Alexander Dubeck to discuss the possibilities for closer cooperation
- Regional High Schools (Sør Trøndelag) and Trenčín to work in the EU's Leonardo Program.
- A group has been established to investigate the possibilities of restoring Borgen in Trenčín.
- Continuation of the establishment of a Norwegian-Slovakian industry network within water treatment, shoe and other potential industries
- Continued work towards the establishing of a Project Office in Slovakia.
- We have been contacted by the local chapter of the Red Cross. They wish to establish a new international partner to cooperate with. We hope it will be Slovakia.
- Arrange a meeting with Slovaks who reside in this region.
- Participate in arrangements which promote Slovakia.

I would like to thank Ambassador Andrej Sokolik for all the great help he has provided me since I was appointed honorary consul in September 2002. He has been a strong contributor to the development and evolution of the consulate and me personally. I have also received invaluable help from his wife Lubica Sokolikova. I would like to use this opportunity to wish them both all the best in the future.

The consulate's expenditures concerning projects, was 1.1 million SKK for 2004.

Respectfully,

Erik Frederiksen
Honorary Consul
www.konsulat-slovakia-trondheim.no