

Casita Kitchen Building Progress report August 2024

Planned project duration: June – December 2024

Initial Budget: CAD60,000

Budget in local currency: Q373,945

Unfortunately, the exchange rate has not been very good. Almost half of the funds have been transferred. It appears that the project costs will exceed the initial budget but about 10%.

Expenses to date:

MONEY WIRED TO GUATEMALA FOR THE PROJECT:

MAY 25, 2024 CAD13,000 Q72,640.83

JUNE 15, 2024 CAD13,200 Q72,924.43

TOTAL CAD26,200 Q145,565.26

SPENT UP TO AUGUST 20 2024 Q101,200.00

AMOUNT IN CASH: Q44,365.26

The project manager, Gregoria Garcia, reports that the project is on time and on budget in local currency.

Summary of progress:

The Casita and our various programs are growing in size and reputation. It had become clear that our kitchen facilities were limited and difficult to work in. Various ideas were discussed and investigated. Then, a solution came together in early 2024 to solve the kitchen needs, plus to repair the failing walls, to improve safety accessing the Casita from the street and to provide additional spaces for learning and gathering. A much bigger undertaking than we had been discussing, and such a great solution.

When our two generous major sponsors, glasswaters foundation and the Gage Family, expressed interest in joining us, we had the opportunity to dive into the project right away!

The first step was to relocate the kitchen facilities to a temporary building on the grass behind the new building. Recycled materials were used to minimize costs. The cook and her helpers are more than willing to make do now, with the vision of a new kitchen at the end of the project!

Work on the new building began in early June, with the demolition of the street and side walls, and digging down the ground to street level. Happily, that process went smoothly, with no large rocks or other challenges. A dump of rain over several days caused some minor slides, but that was quickly managed. And then the building began.

Meanwhile, Casita activities continue. The entrance has been re-routed, and there is less outdoor area for the kids. Again, this inconvenience is tempered by the anticipation of the new spaces to come.

The first-floor roof has been installed, and the next steps are the kitchen roof, kitchen layout and windows and doors.

View of old kitchen building:



First Day of demolition June 2024:



Casita Kitchen Building Progress Report August 2024

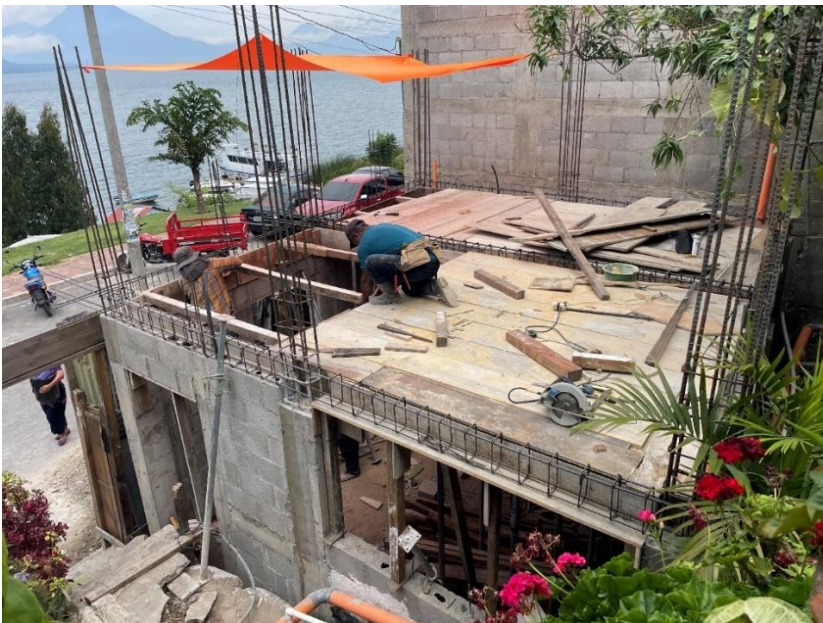
Temporary kitchen, fashioned from the old kitchen and other materials on hand:



Ground floor preparation:



Finishing the first floor roof:



Discussing the kitchen layout:

