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I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III delivers speech to the residents of Bacnotan during the "I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY" program held at the Covered Court of Bacnotan, La Union on June 8, 2018. Around 3,000 residents served with medical and dental assistance, feeding program, rabies vaccinations and free massage.

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The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) was adjudged as Champion in the Search for CY 2017 Most Outstanding Project Monitors Award (Category C: 31 or more Enrolled Projects) in the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) conducted by the Regional Development Council (RDC) – Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC) I.

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LA UNION OFFICIALS URGE PDEA IN THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE AND ORDER

The official delegation of the province of La Union presented Resolution No. 307-2018 to Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Director General Aaron N. Aquino on June 18, 2018 in his office in Diliman, Quezon City. Resolution No. 307-2018 requests PDEA headed by Dir. Aquino and all law enforcement agencies of the government to come together to preserve peace and order and to protect the people from lawless elements in the Province of La Union.

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LU SK LEADERS CHALLENGED TO EXCEL

The newly elected Panlalawigang Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan (PPSK) Officers took oath before Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III during the 2018 PPSK Orientation and Elections on June 11, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

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08 TOUR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION FORTIFIES ITS CREATION

I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY PROGRAM IN BACNOTAN

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III conducted the "I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY PROGRAM" through the Provincial Population Office headed by Ms. Mila L. Gamboa on June 8, 2018 at the Covered Court of Bacnotan Town Plaza, Bacnotan, La Union.

During the said program, free medical and dental services, feeding program, rabies vaccination and free massage services were provided by ABONO Party-list and PGLU to almost

3,000 beneficiaries.

Bacnotan Mayor Francis Fontanilla expressed his appreciation to Gov. Pacoy and ABONO Party-list Rep. Vini Nola A. Ortega for the assistance and to the people of Bacnotan for being cooperative citizens.

Cong. Vini reminded the people that the program was made out of "AYAT" or LOVE thus she quoted the pail of goodies being given away as "Balde ng Pagmamahal." "This is a service that we want to give to you that is why we are here personally because we want to return the love and support that you have given us,"

she said.

Gov. Pacoy, who was welcomed with tremendous cheers and applause mentioned that he is continuing "I Love My Barangay" public service which his father, immediate past Gov. Manoling C. Ortega have started. He also highlighted that Bacnotan have achieved the "Seal of Good Local Governance" which is the highest award that DILG gives.

Presidential Spokesman Mr. Harry L. Roque also graced the event as special guest. He imparted to the people the warm greetings of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Sec. Roque praised the

leadership of Gov. Pacoy for making La Union one of the provinces with lowest poverty rate in the country. He hailed Gov. Pacoy as "isa sa pinakamagaling na gobernador sa buong Pilipinas" and acknowledged Cong. Vini Nola A. Ortega as a good friend and one of his classmates in the 17th Congress.

I LOVE MY BARANGAY then called Operation Rang-ay iti Barangay (ORB) and is now being continued by Gov. Pacoy and renamed it as "I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY." -RAJ B. Pasion



LA UNION COMMEMORATES INDEPENDENCE DAY 2018

The Provincial Government of La Union joined the City Government of San Fernando in celebrating the 120th Philippine Independence Day on June 12, 2018 at the City Hall Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel R. Ortega III, Vice-Gov. Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce, ABONO Party-list Representative Vini Nola A. Ortega, San Fernando City Mayor Hermenegildo "Dong" Gualberto, Association of Regional Executives headed by their President Melchito Castro of the Office of Civil Defense Region 1 and other public officials attended this year's celebration of the Philippine Independence in the province. The singing of the Pambansang Awit was led by the Philippine National Police - Police Regional Office 1 Marching Band. Other attendees were uniformed personnel from Philippine National Police, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Navy, Coast Guard, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, Bureau of Fire Protection and government employees.

The celebration revolved under the theme: "Pagbabagong Ipinaglaban, Alay Sa Masaganang Kinabukasan." This was reinforced by Gov. Pacoy saying, "Our independence has given us the right to

determine our way of life and our future as a nation and as people and to pursue progress and prosperity for all Filipinos." He emphasized that in La Union, passion for the people is the driving force in the realization of our vision.

On the other hand, Mayor Dong encouraged unity among the people saying, "...the real essence and meaning of our independence day is our sense of community our sense of unity, our sense of oneness."

About 500 people attended the said celebration despite the drizzly weather. They witnessed other activities such as the 21 gun salute by the La Union Provincial Police Office in honor of fallen heroes, re-enactment of the highlights of the Philippine History performed by Dulaang Elyu portraying how we gained our freedom, and a wreath-laying ceremony to honor Dr. Jose P. Rizal headed by Gov. Pacoy and Cong. Vini Ortega.

The Koro Azul led the attendees in singing "Ako ay Pilipino" while waiving their flags as the celebration ended. They also wrote their greetings and expressions of love for the country in the allotted freedom wall. -Camille R. Bumatay



Gov. Pacoy and Cong. Vini Nola Ortega lead the wreath-laying ceremony during the joint celebration of the Provincial Government of La Union and City Government of San Fernando for the 120th Philippine Independence Day on June 12, 2018 at the City Hall Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.

PGLU, ABONO EXTENDS ASSISTANCE IN CRISIS SITUATION

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III personally awarded financial assistance, in the form of cheques, to almost 100 beneficiaries, at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol on June 25, 2018. Said assistance is from the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and ABONO Party-list who continuously extend financial assistance to constituents who are in crisis situation.

The provision of Assistance in Crisis Situation (AICS) is a support system of the PGLU to alleviate and temporarily restore the normal social functioning of the clientele groups through the social services particularly to the qualified needy indigent individuals and families in the province.

The assistance is an augmentation to clients in crisis situation and is freely

accorded in times of sickness in the form of medical assistance and in times of death of a love-one in the form of burial assistance. It is given to them after completely complying with the required documents and after assessment of the Social Welfare Officers. The amount of assistance varies according to the assessment of client's needs.

The PGLU through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office assists an average of 100 clients monthly with funding budget ranging from PhP500,000.00 to more than 1 Million pesos which shows that the PGLU is providing appropriate welfare interventions for a much improved wellbeing of the people of La Union.

-Zenaida Del Moral Sellem



Gov. Pacoy hands over a check to one of the beneficiaries of Provincial Government of La Union's financial assistance on June 25, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

LA UNION OFFICIALS URGE PDEA IN THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE AND ORDER AND PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PROVINCE



Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Bellarmin A. Flores II, on behalf of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, with Congresswoman Sandra Y. Eriguel presents the SP Resolution No. 307-2018 to Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Director General Aaron N. Aquino on June 18, 2018 at his office in Barangay Pinyahan, Diliman, Quezon City.

The official delegation of the province of La Union presented Resolution No. 307-2018 to Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Director General Aaron N. Aquino on June 18, 2018 in his office in Diliman, Quezon City. Resolution No. 307-2018 requests PDEA headed by Dir. Aquino and all law enforcement agencies of the government to come together to preserve peace and order and to protect the people from lawless elements in the Province of La Union.

According to SPM Flores in his privilege speech on June 21, 2018, the PDEA Chief gladly received the resolution and he was happy and awed by the huge delegation of elected officials from the province visiting him. He pledged to do his very best in performing their functions as mandated by law but his agency cannot do as much as they want because of the limited resources his agency has. He asked the two representatives in Congress for an increase of his agency's budget. The two representatives of the province said that

they will work on it. He also appealed to the local elected officials especially the mayors to actively engage in the fight against illegal drugs in their respective localities. He also called for stronger measures and concerted efforts of all local officials in the province to put an end to the drug menace in their communities.

According to the PDEA Chief, a public official can be named and included in the narco-politicians in several ways such as: actively engaging in drug trade like using, pushing or selling illegal drugs; if a mayor, for example, is not doing anything in his territorial jurisdiction to stop or prevent the proliferation of illegal drugs, he is considered a protector; if a Barangay Captain is not doing anything to arrest or cause the arrest of known drug personalities actively engaged in an illegal drug trade, he will be listed as protector or in complicit with the illegal drug trade; or a person in authority asking a law enforcement officer for favor to go easy or to free a drug

offender, he will be listed as drug protector.

SPM Flores mentioned that Dir. Aquino appealed to them to direct all barangay officials especially the Punong Barangay to always be vigilant and on the look-out of drug personalities in their barangays and immediately report to the local authorities, otherwise, they will be listed as protector. He added that after rehabilitation of drug surrenderees, the province must provide livelihood and training for them to earn a decent living so that they will not go back to doing illegal activities.

According to the Director General, there is now a process established under his watch of who will be de-listed and those who will remain listed in the narco-list. There is an adjudication team composed of the PDEA, Philippine National Police, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) and Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces (ISAF) that will adjudicate based on intelligence reports,

verification or validation whether a particular narco-politician in the list of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte still engaged in the trade or a protector. If he is no longer active and is supportive of the fight against illegal drugs, like initiating effective intervention to help and rehabilitate drug dependents in their jurisdiction, he will be recommended for de-listing. The President is the only authority to de-list.

SPM Flores said in his speech that it is important that we develop and maintain a strong and lasting relationship with PDEA for the good of the province and for the protection of the people. He introduced a resolution which was unanimously approved by the SP to thank the Director General for his generosity and warm reception to the La Union national, provincial and municipal officials bestowed by him on June 18, 2018 and also to express full and unwavering support of the province to PDEA in its mandated function to fight and eradicate illegal drugs.

-Cristina C. Marvida

LA UNION IS 2017 REGION I CHAMPION IN PROJECT MONITORING

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) was adjudged as Champion in the Search for CY 2017 Most Outstanding Project Monitors Award (Category C: 31 or more Enrolled Projects) in the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) conducted by the Regional Development Council (RDC) - Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC) I. RDC Chairperson Mayor Juan Carlo S. Medina handed over the trophy to Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator Mauro A. Libatique, Jr., who represented Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, during the State of the Region's Development Conference (SORDC), Circa 2017 and RDC-1 Awards and Recognition Program held on June 7, 2018 at the S.R. Paradise Resort and Hotel, Bauang, La Union.

Also present during the Awarding Ceremonies were RDC-1 Vice Chair and NEDA-1 Regional Director Nestor G. Rillon, NEDA-ROI Asst. Regional Director Donald James Gawe and Ms. Estrella Mandap who represented Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC)

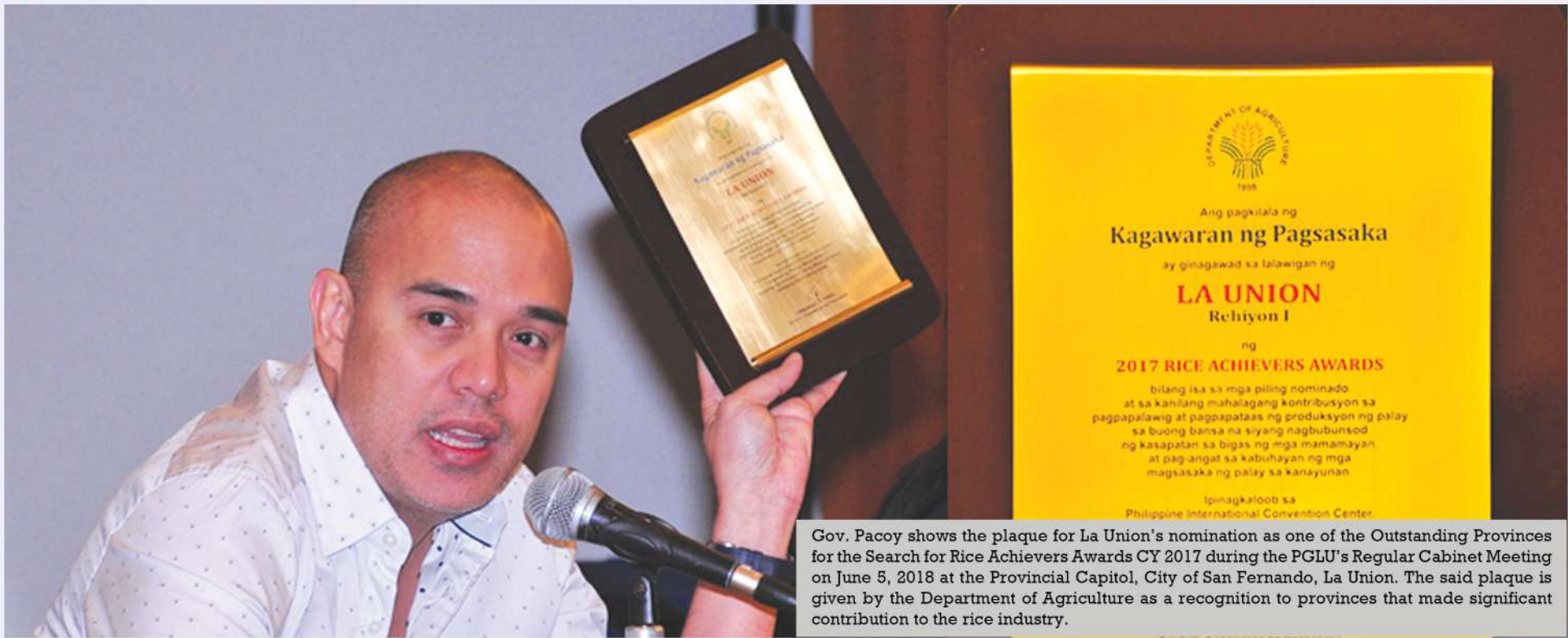


LA UNION IS REGION 1's CHAMPION IN PROJECT MONITORING. Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator Mauro A. Libatique, Jr. receives a trophy for the Province of La Union as Most Outstanding Project Monitors in the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System for CY 2017 (Category C: 31 or more Enrolled Projects) during the Regional Development Council Region 1 (RDC-1) Awards and Recognition Program held on June 7, 2018 at S.R. Paradise Resort and Hotel, Bauang, La Union. Also in the photo are (L-R) NEDA-ROI Asst. Regional Director Donald James Gawe, RDC-1 Chairperson Mayor Juan Carlo S. Medina, Ms. Estrella Mandap of DBM-ROI, and RDC Vice-Chairperson and NEDA-ROI Regional Director Nestor G. Rillon.

Co-Chairperson & DBM ROI Regional Director Nenita A. Failon.

As Most Outstanding Project Monitor, La Union bested all other provinces in Region 1 by successfully complying the criteria set by the Regional Search Committee which includes the preparation of quality reports which were submitted on time; provision of timely and quality monitoring reports during the year and timely implementation; and completion of development projects, thus displaying exemplary support to the objectives of the RPMES.

The RPMES Awards, which is a component of the RDC Awards System, is an annual undertaking of the RPMC to recognize the achievements and contributions of deserving regional line agencies, provincial local government units, government owned and controlled corporations and state universities and colleges that have exemplified outstanding implementation of programs and projects that are supportive of and consistent with the region's visions and trusts as contained in the 2017-2022 Regional Development Plan. -Editha A. Cardenas



Gov. Pacoy shows the plaque for La Union's nomination as one of the Outstanding Provinces for the Search for Rice Achievers Awards CY 2017 during the PGLU's Regular Cabinet Meeting on June 5, 2018 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. The said plaque is given by the Department of Agriculture as a recognition to provinces that made significant contribution to the rice industry.



Provincial Administrator Ms. Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat welcomes and exchanges conversations with Presidential Spokesman Harry Roque who served as Guest of Honor and Speaker during the 37th Commencement Exercises of Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University North La Union Campus, Bacnotan, La Union on June 8, 2018.



Gov. Pacoy representing the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and Ms. Victoria Zambrano (4th from left) representing the Land Bank of the Philippines sign a Memorandum of Agreement on June 5, 2018 at the Diego Siltang Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union for an omnibus term loan to finance projects including the consolidation of ownership of the lot where the existing Bauang Diesel Power Plant (BDPP) is erected and for the construction of proposed establishment of the La Union Communications Backbone (Phase II); Peace, Order and Public Safety-Emergency Operation Center (POPS-EOC) System (Phase II); three-storey executive offices and multi-purpose building; and new Provincial Engineering Office (PEO) Complex. Also in the photo are (L-R) Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan Manguiat, and Susan De Vera from Land Bank who served as witnesses for said agreement.



WELCOME, SEC. HARRY ROQUE. Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III welcomes Presidential Spokesperson Harry L. Roque who was the special guest during the "I LOVE LA UNION, I LOVE MY BARANGAY" program held at the Covered Court of Bacnotan, La Union on June 8, 2018.



Civil Service Commission Region 1 Policies and Systems Evaluation Division Chief Marina Cabañero talks about equal employment opportunity for all during the Orientation on the Provincial Government of La Union Equal Employment Opportunity Plan and Training on Coaching, Counseling, and Mentoring on June 20, 2018 at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center (LUTLDC), City of San Fernando, La Union.



Provincial Health Officer II Dr. Hector Beñas leads the distribution of medicines during the "Bantay Buntis Project" held on June 13, 2018 in Bagulin La Union. This activity of the Provincial Health Office is aligned to the Millenium Development Goal which aims to lower the maternal and infant mortality and morbidity of the province thus leveraging the quality of life of the mother and child.



Senior Citizens of Barangay San Jose, Caba, La Union actively participate in a Zumba Exercise for elderly during the Caba District Hospital Community Outreach Program for Senior Citizens on June 13, 2018 at Brgy. San Jose Lying Inn, San Jose, Caba, La Union.



The Philippine Navy, headed by Commander Nichols Driz, welcomes Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III in an Arrival Honor during the Philippine Navy Command Briefing on June 26, 2018 at the Naval Forces Northern Luzon, Naval Station Ernesto Ogbinar, Poro Point, City of San Fernando, La Union. Gov. Pacoy served as the Guest of Honor and Speaker.



Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Bellarmin A. Flores II, on behalf of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, leads the ribbon cutting and opening of the Department of Science and Technology-Region 1's three-day Science and Technology Caravan for the 2nd District of La Union at the Rosario Civic Center, Rosario, La Union on June 27, 2018. Said Caravan includes conduct of various free seminars and trainings on DOST's programs and services especially on livelihood projects.



The Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (PDRRM) team discusses first aid and basic life support concepts and principles to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Secretariat and Staff during the disaster preparedness orientation on June 22, 2018 at the Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Proper administration of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) was demonstrated by a PDRRM staff.



MOVING UP. Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III congratulates ABONO Party-list Scholars during their 2018 Commencement Exercises at the Diego Siltang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union on June 22, 2018. The said ABONO Party-list scholarship program is in partnership with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training for Work Scholarship Program.



GIVE BLOOD, SHARE LIFE. Caba District Hospital Chief of Hospital, Gretchen F. Aromin, (4th from left), Ms. Michelle Bermudez of Philippine Red Cross La Union Chapter (PRC-LU) (2nd from left), PRC-LU Administrator Almira V. Abrizado, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member and PRC-La Union Chapter Dir. Jonathan Justo A. Orros, and City of San Fernando Health Officer Dr. Eduardo S. Posadas as they donate blood during the CDH's 11th Mobile Blood Donation "Alay Sagip Buhay" on June 14, 2018 at Caba District Hospital, Poblacion Sur, Caba, La Union.



One of the pregnant residents of Bagulin, La Union is being checked during the "Bantay Buntis Project" held on June 13, 2018 in Bagulin La Union. This activity of the Provincial Health Office is aligned to the Millenium Development Goal which aims to lower the maternal and infant mortality and morbidity of the province thus leveraging the quality of life of the mother and child. Necessary services were rendered such as prenatal check-up, dental check-up and giving of buntis kits to recipients.



GETTING READY FOR THE RAINY SEASON. Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer Ranilo P. Ipac supervises his staff in the repacking of relief goods on June 14, 2018 at the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO), City of San Fernando, La Union in preparation for the disaster season. Yearly, the Provincial Government of La Union through the PSWDO prepares relief goods ready for distribution to victims of calamities.

LU SK PRESIDENT TAKES OATH AS EX-OFFICIO SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN MEMBER

The voice of the youth is back in the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) as the President of the Panlalawigan Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan (SK), Hon. Alyssa Kristine B. Sibuma took her oath as an Ex-officio Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member (SPM) during the 104th Regular Session of the 21st Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) on June 28, 2018 at the Speaker Pro Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Legislative Building and Session Hall.

O. Sibuma, uncle of the new SP member.

In her acceptance speech, SPM Sibuma shared how she struggled in her college years which took her 6 years before she graduated last June 23, 2018 at the University of the Philippines - Los Baños with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management. She also shared that her college thesis was about the Grapes Industry in La Union. Furthermore, she said that she now realizes that all the hardships she faced in her college years prepared and toughen her for a more challenging future. She expressed her excitement to work with the other SPMs and to see first hand how they serve the people of La Union. She is also ready to witness how they turn their passion of public service through legislation into action. She is grateful that her experiences made her heart, mind and hands strong enough to handle the responsibilities of being a youth leader but open to new experiences as well as learnings and

trainings to improve her values and strategies as a leader. She encouraged her fellow SK Federation Presidents to serve excellently with a heart. "May your hearts break for all the right reasons, may your hearts break for the poor and discriminated and may your hearts break for the uneducated and mistreated," she added. In closing, she declared that the SK is definitely back and better and that they are ready to serve.

In his speech, Gov. Pacoy said that PGLU has always got a special place for the youth of La Union. "I am excited and eager to learn from you. I want to hear the ideas and dreams of the young people of the province. I know you will be an invaluable new voice as we work to realize our own dream and vision for La Union to become the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025," he added.

"This is your first taste of leadership and my advice to you is to take your first step with your right foot forward." This is

the message of Vice-Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce to SPM Sibuma and to all newly elected SK Federation Presidents. He added that the 21st SP looks forward to work with her harmoniously. He likewise reminded them that the laws that they will help create will be for them and their generations' future. The Vice-Governor also gave a personal advice to her in the proper blending of the wisdom of the old and idealism of the youth, of which the new SK President nodded in approval.

On July 2018, SPM Sibuma together with the SK Federation Presidents of La Union will undergo cascading sessions to familiarize them with the La Union Transformative Roadmap and to help them in identifying their roles as youth leaders as well as their action plan as a youth organization to further help position La Union to be the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

- Jiroh Joy D. Marbella



SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN IN SP. Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation President Ms. Alyssa Kristine B. Sibuma of Aringay takes oath as Ex-officio Board Member of the 21st Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) on June 28, 2018 at the Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union during the 104th Regular session of SP. Her oath was administered by Gov. Francisco "Pacoy" R. Ortega III.

LU SK LEADERS CHALLENGED TO EXCEL

The newly elected Panlalawigan Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan (PPSK) Officers took oath before Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III during the 2018 PPSK Orientation and Elections on June 11, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

All 20 Municipal and City Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation Presidents were present in the program and voted for the PPSK Officers. Elected federation officers were Alyssa Kristine B. Sibuma from Aringay as President; Mark Anthony A. Ducusin from the City of San Fernando as Vice President; Demieliz E. Nudo from Bauang as Secretary; Ronald Jake O. Rodriguez from Santol as Treasurer; Jovelyn N. Doctolero from Sto. Tomas as Auditor; Jaira Manhel M. Gonzales from Bacnotan as Public Relations Officer; and David George A. Almiana from San Gabriel as Sergeant-at-Arms.

The election, canvassing and proclamation of PPSK were conducted by the constituted Election Committee and facilitated by Board of Election Supervisors Chairperson Paulino G. Lalata, Jr.,



PLEDGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE. Gov. Pacoy administers the oath of newly elected Sangguniang Kabataan Federation Officers during the 2018 Panlalawigan Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan Orientation and Elections on June 11, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Elected officers were Alyssa Kristine B. Sibuma from Aringay as President, Mark Anthony A. Ducusin from the City of San Fernando as Vice President, Demieliz E. Nudo from Bauang as Secretary, Ronald Jake O. Rodriguez from Santol as Treasurer, Jovelyn N. Doctolero from Santo Tomas as Auditor, Jaira Manhel M. Gonzales from Bacnotan as Public Relations Officer and David George A. Almiana from San Gabriel as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Provincial Director of Department of the Interior and Local Government La Union Provincial Office.

The participants were also lectured on the Legal Bases, Powers and Function of the PPSK as well as the Powers and Functions of SK Pederasyon Officers, Internal Rules of Procedure, Session and Meetings, and Quorum. They were also introduced to the Advocacy on Federalism and Bantay Kaagapay Program through an Audio Visual Presentation.

In his speech, Gov. Pacoy shared the Transformative Governance and Core Values of the Provincial Government of La Union to the Sangguniang Kabataan Federation members. He also encouraged the PPSK to carry on their duties and functions while doing the "right thing."

The SK was developed out of the Kabataang Barangay which was established on 1975 to give youth a chance to be involved in community affairs and to provide the government means to inform youth of the government's development efforts. -Camille R. Bumatay

CLEANEST, SAFEST AND GREENEST MUNICIPALITIES IN LA UNION RECOGNIZED

As a manifestation of the province's environmental excellence, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) recognized the winners of the 2017 Search for the Cleanest, Safest and Greenest Municipality and Cleanest Inland Bodies of Water in La Union during the celebration of the Environment Month held on June 20, 2018 at Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

This annual activity is conducted by the PGLU in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources headed by Sec. Roy A. Cimatu and its regional offices to recognize the Local Government Units that made remarkable efforts to make their municipality clean and green.

The search served as one of the strategies that contribute to the success of the Province's vision to make La Union the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

Vice-Gov. Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce echoed the challenge of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III and extended his greetings to the winners saying, "...congratulations to all of our deserving winners! Our agri-tourism vision will only succeed if it is in sync with Mother Nature and will only thrive in a well-protected and well-preserved for natural environment such as these programs and projects as well as strategies that we are creating and sustaining throughout the province."

For the 1st to 3rd Class Municipalities, Municipality of Bacnotan as the 3rd place won Php 500,000.00;



CLEANEST, SAFEST AND GREENEST. The Provincial Government of La Union awards the trophy and cash prize to the Municipality of San Gabriel for bagging the Cleanest, Safest and Greenest 4th to 5th Class Municipality in the Province of La Union during the Environment Month Celebration held on June 20, 2018 at Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Giving the said award are Vice-Gov. Nisce, Regional Dir. Reynulfo A. Juan of DENR, Assistant Regional Dir. Donald James Gawe, ASec. Josefin Macus E. Fragaada of DENR for Field Operation in Luzon, Chairman of SP Committee on Environment and Energy Francisco "Kit" Ortega and Regional Dir. Maria Victoria Abrera.

Naguilian as 2nd place won Php 1Million; and Agoao as Champion won Php 1.5Million. Whereas for the Category of 4th to 5th Class Municipalities, Santol bagged the 3rd place getting Php500,000.00 reward; Caba as 2nd place got Php750,000.00; and San Gabriel as Champion won Php 1Million.

There were also winners for the cleanest inland bodies of water where Pugo bagged the first place and won Php 1Million, followed by San Gabriel as 2nd place who won Php750,000.00 and Bagulin as 3rd place won Php500,000.00. Since there is only one City in the Province, special award and citation is awarded to the City of San Fernando La Union for reaching the required rating of 95 % to 98 % with a cash prize of 1.5 Million pesos.

For the Cleanest, Safest and Greenest Municipality, criteria include the Environmental Management that is divided into two; the Physical conditions like general cleanliness and urban space greening for 50 points and the Support system for 25 points. Another 25 points came from the Public Safety and Peace and Order of the Municipality for a total of 100 points. For the Inland Bodies of Water, the criteria include the Physical Conditions for 70.5 points and the Support System for 29.5 points for a total of 100 points.

The prizes won by the winning Local Government Units will be used to fund on-going and future projects that will sustain clean and green environment in their localities.

-Kemberly Domingsil

BACNOTAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL LAUNCHES NEPHROLOGY CLUB PROGRAM

Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) Chief, Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan, in partnership with Hemotek Renal Center, Inc. headed by Dr. Fred Allison U. Concepcion conducted a lecture on kidney diseases and its prevention. This program was his initiative together with the Nephrology Committee of the hospital chaired by Dr. Ana Claire V. Pagnas, in partnership with Hemotek.

Dr. Requero also lectured regarding the impact of the environment on renal diseases. The aim of this club is to facilitate patients with kidney diseases in their holistic care which is a major step towards the achievement of the hospital's vision of becoming a Nephrology Center by 2022.

Profiling of dialysis patients was done as well as other activities like sharing of experiences and concerns, and picture-taking in a photo booth to strengthen the bond between patients, their relatives and health care providers.

Attendees of the said launching were also given copies of the Provincial Government of La Union's official news publication, Baro a Timek ti Kapitolio, to let the patients know of the recent activities and projects of the PGLU led by Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, was doing for the people of La Union.

Doctors Pagaduan, Requero and Concepcion also took the gathering to talk about the concerns of dialysis patients and issues on the public-private partnership of the province and Hemotek.-Melanie Holt



Bacnotan District Hospital Chief, Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan welcomes dialysis patients and their relatives at the launching of the Nephrology Club Program held at the hospital on June 26, 2018. The program is a joint effort of the hospital and Hemotek Renal Center, Inc. which assists patients with kidney problems in their holistic care. This is a major step towards the achievement of the hospital's vision of becoming a Nephrology Center by 2022.

VICE-GOVERNOR NISCE INSPIRES YOUNG MINDS

Vice-Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce shared his thoughts on the importance of education to the beneficiaries of the Joint Impact Project "Batang Mahirap: Edukasyon Mo, Sagot Ko" of the La Union Police Provincial Office headed by PSSupt. Ricardo G. Layug, Jr held at Camp Diego Silang, Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union last June 01, 2018.

The activity aims to extend assistance through the distribution of school supplies to the poor but deserving elementary learners from different municipalities in La Union. There were 23 beneficiaries for SY 2018.

Helping the poor and deserving students who are eager and committed to pursue their studies is also one of the advocacies of Vice-Governor Nisce, so he became one of the major sponsors of this Joint Impact Project of LUPPO and

serves Guest of Honor and Speaker every year. "Good education is the catapult to success," said the Vice-Governor as he emphasized on the importance of education. "What you do with your years in school can have lasting impact for the rest of your life. You are now in your elementary years...soon you will move up to high school, then college. You have to concentrate on your studies and believe that you will succeed," he added.

The learners and their parents thanked Vice-Governor Nisce and the men and women of LUPPO who were tasked to implement the program.

This project of LUPPO is expected to create an impact of ensuring the future of the next generation who will soon become the leaders of the province.

-Kemberly Domingsil



Vice-Governor Nisce imparts his message to the student-beneficiaries of the "Batang Mahirap: Edukasyon Mo, Sagot ko" annual distribution of school materials for SY 2018-2019 during the LUPPO Joint Impact Project 2018 on June 01, 2018 at Camp Diego Silang, Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union.

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TOUR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION FORTIFIES ITS CREATION

To strengthen the association of professional travel and tour service providers in La Union being dedicated and active partners of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) in the development of the tourism industry in the province, the La Union Alliance of Travel and Tours Agency (LUATTA) conducted their first planning session on June 25, 2018 at the New Speaker Pro – Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building Provincial and Session Hall, Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The meeting was presided by their president, Mr. Robert Ranchez of Ranchez Travel and Tours and was attended by 14 other officers and members of LUATTA. Part of the agenda is the strengthening the alliance through participation in the upcoming tourism projects of the province and the region. They also discussed about the group's registration at the Securities and Exchange Commission to make



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III administers the oath of the newly elected officers of the La Union Alliance of Travel and Tour Agencies (LUATTA) on June 25, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. LUATTA is expected to provide support to all tourism promotions and activities of the Provincial Government of La Union, Department of Tourism Region 1 and other related units which aim to promote La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

LUATTA as a legitimate and recognized organization in the Philippines.

After the meeting, the induction of officers was held. It was administered by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III.

"The private sectors such as travel agencies are the key players in achieving La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025," said Gov. Pacoy emphasizing his gratefulness in the active participation of the members of LUATTA towards the attainment of his vision for the province.

As support to the association, PGLU gave selected officers and members the privilege to attend in the International Travel Festival (ITF) in Cebu City on July 13-15, 2018. The event will serve as a benchmarking activity for the alliance in marketing La Union tour packages and promoting the vision of the province.

-Rechelle Galleta

LA UNION STRENGTHENS CULTURE AND ARTS PRESERVATION

With the aim of strengthening the preservation of Culture and Arts, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) hosted the Cultural Orientation on Promoting Filipino Cultural Values conducted by the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the National Economic and Development Authority – Regional Office I (NEDA-ROI) on June 21, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

It was participated in by 40 Stakeholders composed of Local Cultural/Tourism, and Planning Officers of the 21 Local Government Units (LGUs) in La Union including the Provincial Government.

Board Member Nancy Bacurnay, SP Committee Chair on Education and Culture welcomed the delegates. She entailed that the local culture, environment and commitment of all the people and the entire province as a whole must be inspired and enhanced hence the strategic vision of Gov. Francisco



Speakers from National Commission of Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) answer questions from the different Local Government Units of La Union during the Q and A part of the seminar-workshop on Promoting Filipino Culture and Values on June 21, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. In the photo are (L-R) Philippine Registry of Cultural Property Project Coordinator Mr. Bernardo Arellano, Local Government Unit Culture and Arts Program Project Coordinator Mr. Edison Molanida, Program Monitoring and Evaluation Division Arts Section Head Ms. Arlene Flores, and NEDA Policy Formulation and Planning Division Supervising Economic Development Specialist Mary Jane Cacanindin.

Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III to transform La Union to become the Heart of Agri-tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

Program Development Officer of Program Monitoring and Evaluation Division of NCCA, Ms. Arlene E. Flores, also welcomed the participants and extended her gratitude to PGLU for

accommodating the event with their endeavor to harmonize the different cultural initiatives of the locality to that of the Ilocos Region Development Plan as well as Philippine Region Development Plan of 2017-2022.

One of the highlights of the orientation is the presentation of Mandates, Programs and Projects of

NCCA through a comprehensive video followed by the presentation on Cultural Mapping, Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP) and Overview of Heritage Law by Mr. Bernardo Arellano, Project Coordinator of Philippine Registry of Cultural Property of NCCA.

Mr. Edison Molanida, Project Coordinator of LGU

Culture and Arts Program (LCAC), elaborated the relevance of the creation of Local Culture and Arts Councils in every LGU in connection with the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) in the DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2018-49.

Ms. Flores then presented the Philippine Development Plan for Culture and Arts 2017-2022.

Senior Economic Development Specialist of NEDA Formation & Planning Division, Ms. Mary Jane Cacanindin, also discussed the Highlights of Region 1 Regional Development Plan (RDP) on Culture – Assessment, Challenges and Identified Strategies

Speakers from NCCA and NEDA answered questions from the representatives of different LGUs in La Union during the Q and A part of the orientation. The Planning Workshop took place afterwards and each LGU presented their outputs.

Assistant Regional Director of NEDA-ROI, Mr. Donald James Gawe, thanked the NCCA Officers, PGLU and LGUs for being part of a major step in achieving a deeper understanding of Filipino culture and heritage.

The Cultural Orientation was timely and significant to the continuing efforts of the PGLU in cultural preservation and promotions. Same Orientation will be held in the three other provinces in Region 1.

-Darlene Acosta

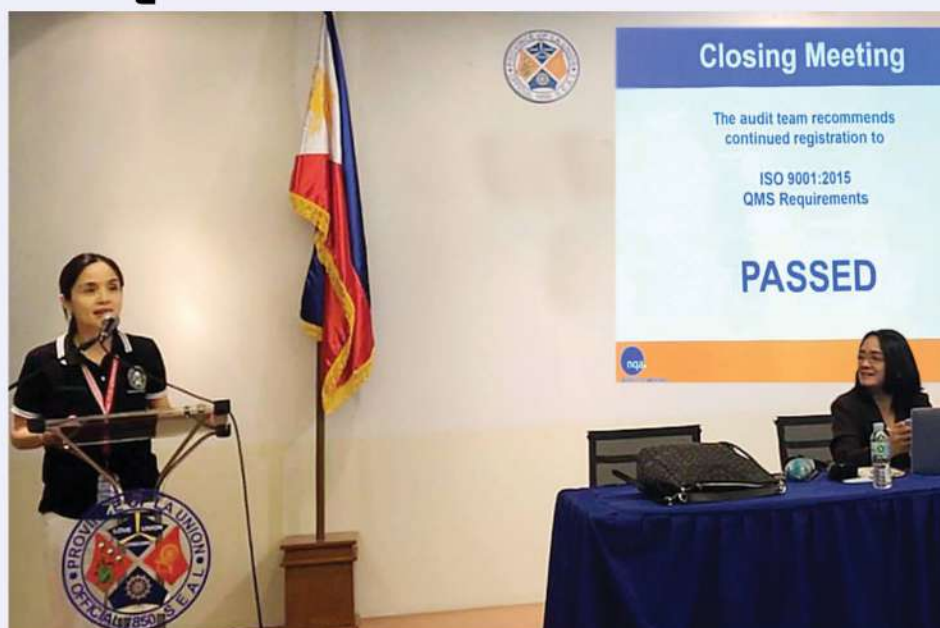
The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) departments/offices successfully PASSED the recently concluded 1st ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Surveillance Audit conducted by NQA -Philippines on June 4, 2018 with the assistance of Engr. Margel A. Jajurie of the MACRO VISION Consultancy.

The PGLU headed by Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III braved the challenge of being ISO Certified in 2017 in compliance with Executive Order No. 605, s. 2017 to demonstrate its ability and passion to consistently provide products and services that meet clients' statutory and regulatory requirements for the ultimate welfare and benefit of our constituents.

A Surveillance Audit was conducted by the NQA-Philippines, a certifying body and an external auditor to ensure that the management system is effective and continues to meet the requirements of the standard. The external auditor confirmed the correct usage of certification by reviewing the management system over the past 12 months.

The audit started with an opening meeting in the morning. Among the areas that were visited by Lead Auditor, Ms. Lorelie Ann Beltran and NQA-Philippines

PGLU PASSES 1ST ISO 9001:2015 QMS SURVEILLANCE AUDIT



Provincial Administrator and ISO Facilitator, Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat, delivers Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III message during the PGLU's 1st ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Surveillance Audit conducted by NQA -Philippines held at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on June 4, 2018.

representative Ms. Teresita Aquino include the Top Management/ISO Facilitator; Customer Focus; Internal Audit; Office of the Provincial Agriculture; Office of the Provincial Administrator - Human Resource Management Division; Bids and Awards Committee; Document Control Center; Office of the Provincial Engineer, among others.

In the afternoon, Ms. Beltran announced that all offices in PGLU PASSED the stringent Surveillance Audit. Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat, Provincial Administrator and ISO Facilitator, represented and conveyed the message of the Governor. "These are exciting times and we are yet in the beginning of a much better and brighter La Union as we collectively persevere to achieve our vision to be the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025," she relayed.

The passing of PGLU in said audit attested that PGLU has been true and faithful to its Quality Policy to efficiently and effectively plan, implement and maintain its Quality Management System (ISO 9001:2015) in compliance with its regulatory requirements, and shall always aim for customer satisfaction that is guaranteed by continual improvement and shall be made available to all parties for the love of La Union. -Joy Ann L. Gurtiza