

PGLU EVALUATES STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TOWARDS LU’S VISION

Vanessa Badua



PERFORMANCE REVIEW. The Provincial Government of La Union, headed by Gov. Pacoy, recognizes PGLU Offices that excelled in accomplishing their 2018 Wildly Important Goals contributing to La Union’s vision to be the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025 during the Annual Strategy Review on January 23, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Office for Provincial Strategy (OPS) spearheaded the conduct of the 2019 Strategy Review (Power Up, Raise Your Game) on January 23, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The event, which is one of the elements of the Performance Governance System (PGS), was participated in by PGLU department heads and key office personnel who had been working hands on for the past two years towards the attainment of the province’s vision to make La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. It served as an avenue to monitor, evaluate and report the status if the strategy is contributory to the fulfilment of vision.

In his speech, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III emphasized the importance of the vision in order to have direction. He also encouraged everyone to continuously work together to achieve more. “Today means it is high time for us to be in a level

beyond what is expected from us. We should raise our level of competitiveness by forging stronger bonds in working together cohesively,” he said.

The OPS, headed by Ms. Michaela Louise Delfinado, presented the strategic accomplishment of the province for the year 2018. The presentation included updates on scorecards; accomplishment of wildly important goals; strategic communication activities; governance outreach activities; and updates on the activities of the Senior Transformative Leadership Team (STLT) and the Multi-Sectoral Governance Council (MSGC).

The panel for this year’s strategy review were members of the MSGC and Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) who provided expert advices in the refinement of the strategy in preparation for the proficiency stage of PGS.

Different work units and individuals who have demonstrated exemplary performance to achieve their goals for 2018 were also recognized through the incentive program dubbed as “The

Governance Awards.” The Governance Trailblazer Award was conferred to the Provincial Population Office (PPO) while Governance Achiever Award was conferred to Office of the Provincial Assessors, Office of the Provincial Veterinarian and Security Services Unit; Governance Partner Award goes to Public Employment Services Unit (PESU), SP, Information, Communication and Technology Unit (ICTU) and Provincial General Services Office (PGSO); Office Documenters who had been religiously submitting required documents on time were also awarded. They were Mr. Francisco Peñamayor of PPO, Ms. Mia Jayn Ochoco of PESU, Ms. Rhea Matilde Ballesteros of SP, Ms. Margie Garcia of ICTU and Ms. Rio Renn Garcia of PGSO.

Moving forward, the different work units are expected to deliver effective measures to achieve strategic objectives that would have a direct impact to the province’s vision.

Later this year, the PGLU will be validated for the Proficiency Stage of PGS.



02 DISTRICT HOSPITALS CONDUCT ISO QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT



07 CDH CONDUCTS INFORMATION EDUCATION DRIVE AMONG OPD & INPATIENTS



08 PAGNA PAGNA PARA ITI BASURA



08 CREATION OF SP LEGISLATIVE BACKSTOPPING COMMITTEE APPROVED



Gov. Pacoy receives the 2018 National Anti-Drug Abuse Council Performance Silver Award for the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Regional Dir. James F. Fadrilan during the PGLU’s First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony on January 7, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union. Also present to witness were DILG Provincial Dir. Paulino Lalata Jr., Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency La Union Dir. Patricia Sitchon, Deputy Provincial Director for Operations PSUPT John Charongen, Board Member Nancy Bacurnay, Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan Manguiat and PGLU Employees.



Gov. Pacoy recaps the 2018 performance of the Provincial Government of La Union and encourages all Department Heads and Chiefs of Hospitals to work together in providing better services to the people during the Cabinet Meeting on January 7, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union.

DISTRICT HOSPITALS CONDUCT ISO QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT

Marlon C. Runas



Caba District Hospital Chief Dr. Gretchen F. Aromin, Lead Auditor for District Hospitals, discusses the process of Internal Audit during the La Union District Hospitals (LUDHs) ISO 9001:2015 Internal Audit Opening Meeting held at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center on January 21, 2019. The said event was participated by the Chiefs of Hospital, LUDH Internal Auditors and Deputy-ISO Facilitator for Districts.

The La Union District Hospitals (LUDHs) composed of Balaoan District Hospital (BLDH), Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH), Naguilian District Hospital (NDH), Caba District Hospital (CDH) and Rosario District Hospital (RDH), conducted the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Internal Audit Opening meeting on January 21, 2019 held at the Naguilian District Hospital Conference Room, Natividad, Naguilian, La Union.

Provincial Health Officer II and Deputy-ISO Facilitator for District Hospitals Dr. Hector T. Beñas, Lead Auditor for District Hospitals Dr. Gretchen F. Aromin, Assistant Lead Auditor Marlon C. Runas, and 55 Internal Auditors coming from LUDHs participated in the event.

Dr. Aromin discussed the agenda which included the discussion of the ISO 9001:2015 Work Plan for CY 2018, annual audit plan, detailed audit plan and reminders on the internal audit process.

Dr. Beñas expressed his gratitude to the LUDHs for their commitment in continuously implementing the ISO 9001:2015 QMS. He encouraged the auditors to continue their dedication in assessing the effectiveness of the organization's QMS and overall

performance.

The LUDH Internal Audit proper will be conducted in every district hospital from January 22-24, 2019 and the closing meeting will be conducted on January 25, 2019 at CDH.

Integral to Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III's vision of a Healthy La Union, Happy La Union by 2022, the ISO 9001:2015 Internal Audit demonstrates compliance with QMS and how the processes are implemented and maintained. It aims for compliance to the requirements of internal and international standards & regulation, customer requirements, effectiveness of the implemented system in meeting objectives, explore opportunities for improvement, meet statutory and regulatory requirements and to provide feedback to Gov. Pacoy.

All LUDHs are BS EN ISO 9001:2015 Accredited issued by National Quality Assurance (NQA) on November 15, 2017 valid until November 15, 2020. The certification is applicable for the provision of Health Care Services including inpatient, outpatient, emergency, diagnostics and laboratory.

PEO'S FIRST PROJECT MANAGEMENT MEETING FOR CY 2019 CONDUCTED

Emille Martinez



The Provincial Engineer's Office (PEO) headed by Engr. Elizabeth P. Sias conducted the first project management meeting on January 11, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union which reflected that almost all of their projects are completed on December 2018 and the rest are on-going.

The meeting was attended by contractors, project managers and site engineers of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) together with the PEO technical staff and project engineers. Quality Assurance Section Chief of the Department of Public Works and Highways - District Engineering Office Engr. Ressie A. Estrella who is also the meeting's guest speaker shared best practices to the attendees.

Project managers, site engineers and the PEO project engineers reported the percentage of work done for their on-going projects. Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III had priority projects implemented

immediately which included damaged infrastructures caused by Typhoons Ompong and Rosita in 2018 causing the extension of some projects.

Since there are identified projects under RA 7171 which were not yet implemented, their funds shall be realigned to the damaged infrastructures. The funds for those projects that were not yet implemented shall be returned once the next RA 7171 provincial share is released.

It was also mentioned that the Gov. Pacoy's expectation to all PGLU projects is to have good quality so that they may reach 10 years or more as these projects shall be a legacy of the PGLU to the next generation.

At the end of the meeting, contractors, project managers, site engineers and the PEO personnel committed to work hand-in-hand to complete more quality projects within the contract period and to receive payment on time creating a win-win situation.



The Office of the Provincial Accountant, headed by Atty. Albert F. Padilla, submits the Financial Statements for Calendar Year 2018 to Gov. Pacoy on January 8, 2019 at the Office of the Provincial Governor, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat convenes Department Heads and Chiefs of Hospitals of the Provincial Government of La Union on January 10, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union to come up with the different committees in preparation for the 169th La Union Founding Anniversary Celebration.

FEATURE: NEW PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURIST RAMON F. LAUDENCIA

Mario Eliseo Casimiro

La Union Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega installed Provincial Agriculturist Ramon F. Laudencia as 2019 opened. Laudencia's appointment to the agricultural portfolio spells out a promising agricultural landscape which is expected to continuously respond to the major program components in the field ranging from rice production, fishery development, cooperative enhancement efforts, corn production, farm mechanization, and high value crop development packages.

Truly aware of the role of agriculture as a banner program of the Agri-Tourism vision of the provincial leadership, "Mon," as he is fondly called by his close relatives and friends, started his provincial cabinet post through a general acquaintance staff meeting of the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg) with an exchange of pleasantries and personal introduction of every employee as Privincial Agriculturist Mon intently listened. It was, indeed, an opportune time for every staff to meet the newly-installed department head.

Following his initial meeting with the OPAg employees was his first official ocular visit to the department's agricultural facilities including provincial nurseries and techno-demo farms to see for himself, and assess what has to be done in alignment to the governor's vision of positioning La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. Joined by the unit heads and OPAg Governor's Press Corps (GPC), Provincial Agriculturist Mon managed his way to confer with the nursery staff and walked through the perimeters of the facilities followed by a simple yet sumptuous lunch offered late noon of January 11, 2019.

FROM A CITY LEGISLATOR TO A DEPARTMENT HEAD POST

Former City Councilor Ramon F. Laudencia assumed as the Provincial Agriculturist after Gov. Pacoy linked the appointment on January 7, 2019 as the newest member of the Governor's Cabinet. It was on the same date that the

first Cabinet meeting was held for 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The new appointee was the former Vice-Chair of the San Fernando City Council's Committee on Agriculture that paved the way for the legislation of landmark agricultural support services while enhancing the city towards progressive march in making the lives of the farming and fishery communities more convenient and at par with the middle stratum of the civil society.

Among others, Laudencia is a holder of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BSA) from the University of the Philippines-Los Banos and a Diploma in Agri-Business Management from the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU). His four government eligibilities include Career Service Executive Examination (CSEE) in 2003, Agriculture Office Examination in 1980, Career Service Professional in 1980, and the Career Service Sub-Professional in 1977.

Provincial Agriculturist Mon had likewise been a commissioned reserve military officer being a holder of Masters in National Security Administration (MNSA), the most notable of which is his present post as Battalion Commander of the first La Union Ready Reserve Battalion of the 103rd Command Defense Center, First Regional Command Defense Group (ARESCOM).

LAUDENCIA EYES OPAG AS A STANDOUT PGLU DEPARTMENT

Banking on his vast work experiences and technical trainings and courses in agriculture, Laudencia remains focused in making the OPAg as a performing department of the provincial government. Laudencia's initial messages to the agricultural stakeholders are centered on a serious attempt to collectively put all efforts towards realizing the governor's vision to position La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. With a refined and determined stance towards this end, the new agriculture head comes into play even

outside the comforts of his air-conditioned office and reaches out to the remotest villages just to deliver what could be best for the farming and fishery communities as he sends the message of inclusiveness where every achievement of the department will always be credited to ALL who have spared their efforts day in and day out.

True to his words, Mon carries the torch of agricultural greatness as he performs his mandate as the newest member of the Governor's Cabinet – an assignment that will showcase the fulfilment of a dream after the final term of Governor Pacoy as the Champion of Transformative Local Governance and Leadership in the North.



Ramon F. Laudencia
New Provincial Agriculturist



NEW BEGINNING. Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III highlights the achievements of the Provincial Government of La Union for 2018 and enjoins all employees to further work together to achieve more in 2019 during the First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony on January 7, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Provincial Board Member Geraldine R. Ortega meets the Senior Citizens Federation of La Union at the Diego Silang, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on January 16, 2019 to discuss their concerns in the federation. BM Denny also expressed her undaunted support to the programs and advocacies of the group.



Gov. Pacoy administers the oath to newly-appointed City of San Fernando Councilor Atty. Rizalde Laudencia on January 14, 2019 at Canaoay, City of San Fernando, La Union. Councilor Laudencia will serve the unexpired term of former Councilor Ramon Laudencia who is now the new Provincial Agriculturist.



Gov. Pacoy and ABONO Party-List Representative Vini Nola A. Ortega commend the Municipality of Bangar for their consistent promotion of their Inabel products during the Coronation Night of Mutia Ti Abel-Bangar 2019 at Bangar, La Union Municipal Gymnasium on January 2, 2019.



HEALING GARDEN. Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH), lead by the Management Committee, conducts an enhancement and clean-up activity of the hospital's Healing Garden on January 11, 2019. This is "A place where patients go to breathe fresh air and for visual relaxation," said BDH Chief Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan.



The Provincial Government of La Union, through the Provincial Treasurer's Office and Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office, distributes Food Subsistence to Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) of Municipality of Luna at the PWD Building, Luna, La Union on January 4, 2019.



Secretary to the Sanggunian Donato A. Rimando steers the Sangguniang Panlalawigan's first toolbox meeting on January 9, 2019 at the Cong. Eufanio "Franny" C. Eriguel Hall of the Speaker Pro Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Legislative Building, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. In said meeting, they reviewed the department's accomplishments and strategized how to implement their programs and projects to help La Union become the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.



Aiming to train volunteers for disasters, Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer Ranilo Ipac and staff spearhead the conduct of Camp Coordination & Camp Management Training of Stakeholders/Volunteers in the Municipality of Bangar, La Union on January 8 to 11, 2019 at the Peoples Civic Center, Bangar, La Union.



The Provincial Treasurer's Office (PTO) facilitates renewal of permits and payment of Annual Fixed Tax starting on January 3, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. To fast tract payments and collection of taxes, PTO Officer-in-Charge Bernabe C. Dumaguin also assigned PTO Tax collectors in the 19 Municipal Treasurer's Office in the province. Business permit holders who failed to renew permits on January 20, 2018 were asked to pay 25% surcharge and 2% penalty per month.



The Sangguniang Panlalawigan of La Union confirms the appointment of Col. Ramon F. Laudencia as the new Provincial Agriculturist of the province during their 131st Regular Session on January 10, 2019 at the Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



The employees of the Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) conduct their CY 2019 Work Planning Session on January 18, 2019 at the Fritz Resort, Santol, La Union. Among the objectives of said activity were the discussion of the office's CY 2019 Annual Work and Financial Plans and work assignments; strengthening the alignment of all programs, projects, and activities (PPAs) of PPDO down to the Unit and Individual level; and the facilitation of the monitoring of the programmed PPAs and budget of the PPDO for CY 2019.



Provincial Agriculturist Ramon F. Laudencia and Provincial Tourism Officer Adamor Dagang discuss their respective offices' preparations for the upcoming Agri-Tourism Festival during the Agriculture Stakeholders' Meeting at Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on January 22, 2019. Said Festival is part of the activities for the 169th Foundation Anniversary of La Union.



The Sangguniang Panlalawigan Committee on Public Works and Utilities, headed by its Chairperson Board Member Annabelle S. De Guzman, conducts a committee hearing on January 24, 2019 at the Cong. Eufanio “Franny” C. Eriguel Hall, Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega, Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union to discuss the status of various road-related programs and projects as well as public utilities which include the 1st and 2nd Engineering Districts’ service utility providers.



BUNGOL FARM SCHOOL MASTERPLAN. Provincial Agriculturist Ramon “Mon” F. Laudencia discusses the farm lay-out of the proposed Bungol Demonstration and Farm School with Engr. Jose Asprer of the Provincial Engineering Office on January 11, 2019 at Bungol Techno Demo Farm, Balaoan, La Union.



Chief of Information and Communications Technology Unit (ICTU) Gerry D. Binas-o presents the iTRACK Information System to the Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat, Assistant Provincial Administrator Arvin C. Camacho and personnel of the Office of the Provincial Governor and Office of the Provincial Administrator on January 17, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union.



GIVING LOVE. Board Member and La Union Vibrant Women, Inc. (LUVWI) Chair Geraldine R. Ortega and LUVWI Vice Chair Marivic Nisce distribute pre-valentines gift to patients of Rosario District Hospital, Rosario, La Union on January 28, 2019.



NEW PAGING SYSTEM. Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH), through the help of an overseas partner, made a breakthrough for easier communication towards a better health care delivery by installing a Paging System on January 15, 2019. It has 12 speakers placed strategically inside the three buildings of the hospital. This is part of the quality improvement of the hospital to better serve its patients towards the achievement of Gov. Pacoy’s health goal, “Healthy La Union, Happy La Union by 2022.”



Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Bellarmin A. Flores II distributes lunch packs to patients of Rosario District Hospital (RDH), Rosario, La Union on January 11, 2019 as a way to celebrate his 67th birthday. The legislator from Rosario was in return given a birthday program prepared by the staff of the RDH.



The Provincial Government of La Union, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Office 1 (DA-RFO1), distributes Hybrid Rice Seeds, High Quality Seeds (HQS) and Soil Ameliorants to municipalities with partially damaged rice areas during the onslaught of Typhoon Ompong as a part of the rehabilitation program on January 21, 2019. Cacao and calamansi seedlings are also released allocations from the High Value Crops Development Program.



The Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 1, distributes 52 native swine to 26 animal raisers affected by Typhoon Ompong in the Municipalities of Agoo, Aringay, Burgos, Naguilian, Pugo, Tubao and City of San Fernando on January 18, 2019 as part of the Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan. The animals were also given multivitamins and antibiotics during the distribution.



To further reinforce the preparedness of the five district hospitals in La Union, Gov. Pacoy turns over an ambulance for each hospital on January 7, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Recipients of the ambulances were Rosario, Caba, Naguilian, Bacnotan and Balaoan District Hospitals. Another ambulance for the La Union Medical Center is expected to be turned over before the end of the month.



Provincial Agriculturist Ramon F. Laudencia, co-chairman of the Provincial Agricultural and Fishery Council (PAFC) La Union, gives updates on their projects and plans for 2019 during the PAFC's First Monthly Meeting for CY 2019 on January 31, 2019 at the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Sevilla Norte, City of San Fernando, La Union. Their program Agrikultura: Kaagapay ng Bayang Pinoy (AKBay) was also discussed in said meeting.



SHARED BLOOD. SAVED LIFE. A patient who is a resident of Luna, La Union receives blood through transfusion during her admission at Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH). She is one of the recipients of the blood units collected during the 11th Mass Blood Donation Activity in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross – La Union – San Fernando City Chapter on January 27, 2019 at BDH. To augment the shortage of blood and blood products, BDH personnel, their friends, and partner agencies voluntarily donated their blood during the activity. Relatives of the patients also donated their blood.



CANCER AWARENESS. In celebration of the Liver Cancer and Viral Hepatitis Awareness and Prevention Month as well as the National Cancer Consciousness Week, Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) staff, led by its Chief, Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan, conducts a Cancer Awareness and Health Advocacy among the Youth on January 24, 2019 at Bacnotan National High School – Junior High School. Students learned from various topics such as hepatitis and cancer prevention, tobacco smoking cessation, HIV/AIDS prevention and hand hygiene during the series of lectures discussed by physicians, nurse and medical technologist from BDH. Ms. Lorna F. Sayago, a nurse who worked overseas also shared her experience on her battle against breast cancer. Such activities involve the youth in the attainment of the health goal of Gov. Pacoy which is "Healthy La Union, Happy La Union by 2022."



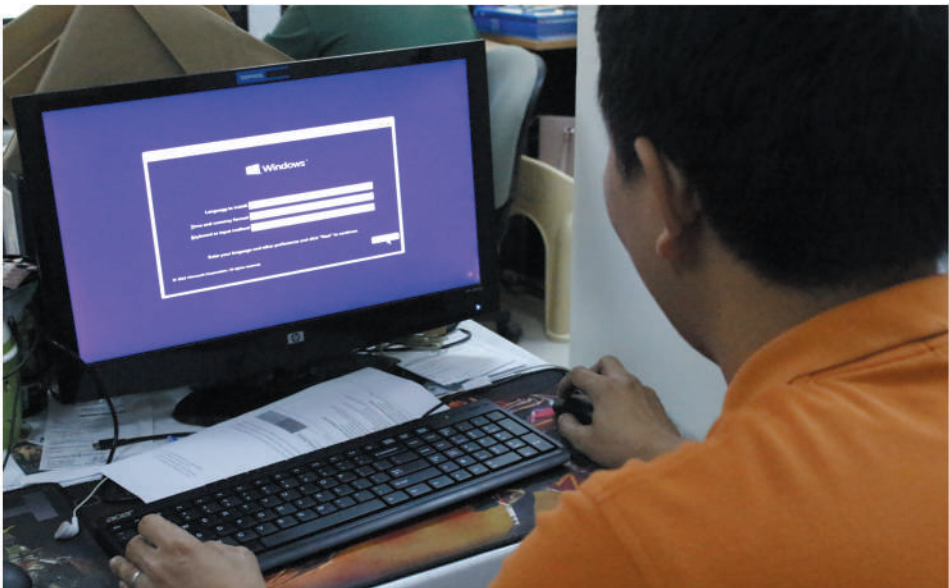
The Office of the Provincial Administrator-Human Resource Management Unit (OPA-HRMU) headed by Supervising Administrative Officer Evangeline S. Mendoza receives a Certificate of Recognition from Dir. Hedy Jose B. Lardizabal and Dir. Violeta N. Mendoza of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) La Union Regional Office I (CSC-ROI) during the Regional Recognition Rites of the CSC on January 28, 2019 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. The award was given to OPA-HRMU for meeting Maturity Level II in the four HRM Systems in its Program to Institutionalize Meritocracy and Excellence in Human Resource Management (PRIME-HRM).



Supervising Agriculturist Ma. Christine E. De Leon of Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Office 1 (DA-RFO 1) presents their programs to collaborate and provide direct assistance in marketing ventures during the Market Matching Consultation Dialogue on January 30, 2019 at the Conference Room, Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Aguila Road, Sevilla Norte, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Seed Growers of La Union, headed by Floro Micua, meets on January 28, 2019 at the OPAG, Sevilla Norte, City of San Fernando, La Union to discuss the status of planting on dry cropping season 2018-2019; the status of the warehouse of seed growers; the status of accredited rice/corn seed growers; and the buying and selling prices of inbred rice seeds.



Staff of the Office of the Provincial Governor - Information and Communication Technology Unit (OPG-ICTU) conducts regular Preventive Maintenance (PM) to ICT equipment of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) on January 18, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. PM was done to lessen the probability of equipment breakdowns and to avoid uncontrollable circumstances in the future that can severely impact the productivity within the organization. PM includes virus scanning, ink replacements, ICT cleaning services, network maintenance and others.

CDH CONDUCTS INFORMATION EDUCATION DRIVE AMONG OPD AND INPATIENTS

Marlon C. Runas

In line with the Department of Health (DOH) flavors of the month of January and to promote the hospital services and upcoming surgical services, Caba District Hospital (CDH) conducted an Information Education Campaign tackling various diseases, health awareness and hospital services held at the Outpatient Department (OPD) waiting area and pediatric ward, Caba District Hospital, Poblacion Sur, Caba, La Union on January 30, 2019.

Dr. Nancy Catherine N. Balanon, Medical Officer IV, promoted the upcoming surgical services of the hospital. She said that the hospital will arrange the schedule of clinic hours of visiting surgeons for timely scheduling of surgical procedures.

Rolyn O. De Vera, Nurse II and Infection Control Nurse tackled various infection control awareness which includes proper hand washing, waste segregation & disposal and other hospital services. Hospital services offered by the hospital such as OPD, emergency, dental, inpatient, radiologic,



USE ANTIMICROBIALS PROPERLY. Caba District Hospital (CDH) Pharmacist Geneva Angel Y. Ramos promotes the appropriate use of antimicrobials to the Outpatient Department (OPD) patients during the Information Education Campaign held at the OPD waiting Area, Caba District Hospital, Poblacion Sur, Caba, La Union on January 30, 2019.

laboratory and pharmaceutical services among others were also discussed.

Geneva Angel Y. Ramos, pharmacist, discussed the importance of the proper usage of antimicrobials. She said that proper information regarding the right use of antimicrobials and multidrug resistance shall be disseminated to the public to avoid self-medication and increase their awareness about the antimicrobial stewardship program of the hospital. Antimicrobial stewardship is a coordinated program that promotes the appropriate use of antimicrobials including antibiotics, improves patient outcomes, reduces microbial resistance, and decreases the spread of infections caused by multidrug-resistant organisms.

To achieve Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III’s mission to be a Healthy La Union and Happy La Union by 2022, the Information Education Campaign has become a regular activity of the hospital to promote awareness, and emphasize that prevention is better than cure.

SP ACCEPTS RENEWAL OF GOV’S CONSULTANTS

Jiroh Joy D. Marbella

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) of La Union approved SP Resolution 48-2019, authorizing Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III to renew the contracts of the consultants to the Office of the Provincial Governor on January 24, 2019 during its 131st Regular Session at the Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

In a letter to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Gov. Pacoy requested for the renewal of the contracts of seven consultants Ms. Victoria L. Aragon, Consultant on Gender and Development (GAD), Social Welfare and Development; Atty. Marivic E. Rimando, Consultant on Executive-Legislative Development Agenda Preparation and PPP Development; CSupt Warlito Pascual Daus (Ret), Consultant on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Public Safety Development Affairs; Mr. Ramon

Benito De Lara Tamayo, Consultant on Sustainable Apiculture, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development; Ms. Ma. Victoria Redempta S. De Guzman-Soriano, Consultant on Human Resource Management and Development; and Ms. Angelita G. Gongora, Consultant on Local Government Affairs of La Union.

Recognizing their value and expertise, the members of the SP is one with the governor who believes that the consultants will be vital in helping the Provincial Government of La Union in the delivery of basic services to the people, better governance for sustainable development, and judicious implementation of projects which will all lead to making La Union the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

Their contract will be effective from January 3 to June 30, 2019 and shall submit a monthly accomplishment report thereafter.

SP RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN LA UNION

Rafael C. Mosuela

The Provincial Government of La Union, led by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III, recognizes and honor the exemplary and selfless commitment of teachers in molding the minds of the learners and in continuously improving the quality of education in the province. Thus, Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) passed Ordinance No. 001-2007 creating the Ten Outstanding Public School Teachers in the Province of La Union.

In its 133rd Regular Session, the SP conferred a certificate of recognition to the Outstanding Teachers in the Province of La Union at the Session Hall of Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Legislative Building, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on January 24, 2019. These teachers were those who were just a margin away from the Top Ten Public School Teachers conferred in 2018

as per evaluation ratings.

They are Flordeliza H. Estepa of Tumapoc Elementary School in Burgos; Rhea E. Flores of Ambalite Elementary School in Pugo; Mary Grace T. Guinomma of Lacong Elementary School in San Gabriel; Imelda P. Hidalgo of Cabalayangan Elementary School in Bauang; Ilynn V. Manahan of Regional Science High School in Bangar; Rufina N. Engano of Sto. Tomas National High School in Sto. Tomas; and Ronald A. Rigua of San Gabriel Vocational High School in San Gabriel.

Said teachers received a certificate of recognition and P5,000.00 cash incentives. Present during the simple ceremony were the Honorable Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and the Presiding Officer, Hon. Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce.

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PAGNA PAGNA PARA ITI BASURA

Diana Estolero

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) joins the celebration of the National Zero Waste Month through a beach fun walk activity cum coastal clean-up drive dubbed as "Pagna Pagna para iti Basura" held along the shorelines of the City of San Fernando to the Municipality of San Juan on Saturday, January 26, 2019. Said activity was conducted in partnership with ABONO Party-List, SATRAP Power Corporation, Office of the 1st District Representative, Municipality of San Juan, City of San Fernando, and Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Environmental Management Bureau Region 1. 1st District Representative Pablo Ortega, and ABONO Party-List graced the awarding ceremony.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III said in his message delivered by Provincial Environmental and Natural Resources Unit (ENRU) Chief Annalyn Rosario-Valdez, said that "The bigger issue here is not where our waste end up, but where our waste begins. It is high time that we rethink our ways and practices in consumption, and how much trash we generate every day. We have developed this "throw away culture" where we irresponsibly consume and in effect, recklessly produce trash in tons on a daily basis. But the good news is, it is not yet too late to become more

environmentally-sensitive and proactive. Celebrations like the Zero Waste Month serve as reminder for us to be more conscious and sensitive to our waste generation, and lead a lifestyle that is sustainable, responsible, and fulfilling."

The governor then congratulated the participants, dubbing the event as a fun way of encouraging people and like-minded individuals to take a day-out, enjoy the beautiful view of the beach, and bask in the glorious sunrise. He stressed that taking care of the environment should not be just a one-day thing, but a lifetime commitment.

ENRU is planning to replicate said activity in all LGUs of La Union. Over 700 participants joined the event from different sectors and organizations. Students from Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University – Mid La Union Campus (DMMSU-MLUC), STI College, ABONO Party-List scholars, barangay officials and residents actively participated in the event. An estimated three cubic meters of trash were collected and disposed in the sanitary landfill of the City of San Fernando.

Through Presidential Proclamation No. 760 dated May 5, 2014, every month of January was declared as National Zero Waste Month. This serves as reminder to be mindful of waste produced.



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CREATION OF SP LEGISLATIVE BACKSTOPPING COMMITTEE APPROVED

Rafael C. Mosuela

The 21st Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) of the Province of La Union approved on final reading the creation of a Legislative Backstopping Committee in the SP during its 126th Regular Session on December 7, 2018 at the Session Hall of Speaker Pro-Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Legislative Building, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on January 24, 2019.

Principal Author of the said Ordinance, Board Member (BM) Reynaldo M. Mosuela said that the purpose of the Legislative Backstopping Committee, as pointed out in the Local Legislators Toolbox of the Institute of Local Government Studies, Inc., is to serve as the research arm of the August Body to be composed of the members experienced in policy science, and research and are adequately knowledgeable on the varied subjects of legislation brought before it for



Board Member Reynaldo M. Mosuela

appropriate action.

BM Mosuela said that the ordinance states that the backstopping committee will be of great help to the legislators in the preparation and crafting of legislative measures. It may serve as liaison between the legislative body and the executive department and establish a management information system for legislative action or decision.

The said Legislative Backstopping Committee shall be composed of the Secretary to the Sanggunian as the chairperson, the Board Secretary V as the Vice-Chairperson and five members who are personnel of the SP and who specialize in Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Environmental and Urban Planning, Law or Computer Technologies. Said members shall be selected and designated to the SP Legislative Backstopping Committee by the Vice Governor.



AGELESS SERVICE. Provincial Board Member Geraldine R. Ortega administers the oath to the new set of officers of the Senior Citizens Federation of La Union on January 16, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union. Elected officers were Ret. Judge Joven F. Costales as President; Natividad Pelaez as Vice President; Teresita Rivera as Secretary; Luella Estilong as Treasurer; Romeo Nilo, Jr. as Auditor; Cecilia Reyes as Center Manager; Alicia La Torre as Public Relations Officer; Salvador Directo and Isidro Ancheta as First District Directors; and Gloria Orpia as Second District Director.



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III administers the oath to newly-appointed Balaoan Councilor Cecilia C. Detran on January 16, 2018 at the Office of the Governor, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Councilor Detran will serve the unexpired term of former Councilor Nadine Joy S. Concepcion who is now the new Municipal Vice Mayor.