



### **Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua... a port city on the Caribbean**

Puerto Cabezas, with the rest of Nicaragua’s Atlantic Coast, is geographically and culturally distinct from the Pacific side of the country. Ethnically the area has great diversity, with its mix of Miskito, Mayagna, and Rama Indian, black English-speaking Creole, and Mestizo/Latino populations. In recognition of its historic and ethnic differences, the constitution of Nicaragua has designated the area as an Autonomous Region.

### **Engage in Citizen Diplomacy**

For over 60 years Sister City Programs have promoted international understanding by building respectful relationships between countries on a people-to-people basis.



THE BURLINGTON/ PUERTO CABEZAS SISTER CITY PROGRAM  
15 BEECH STREET  
BURLINGTON, VT 05401

# *MEET YOUR SISTER CITY*



## **BURLINGTON/ PUERTO CABEZAS SISTER CITY PROGRAM**

since 1984

15 Beech Street, Burlington VT 05401

[www.uvm.edu/sistercity](http://www.uvm.edu/sistercity)

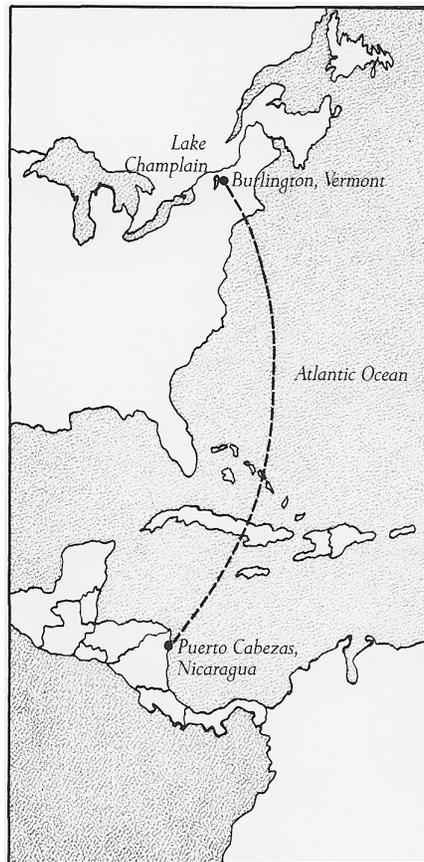


## THE SISTER CITY PROGRAM... A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR BURLINGTON RESIDENTS

### History of the Program

The Burlington/ Puerto Cabezas Sister City Program was founded in 1984 in opposition to the Reagan-supported Contra war against Nicaragua. Its mission was to promote understanding between the people of Vermont and the people of Nicaragua.

Since our inception we have partnered in Vermont with various organizations including UVM's Latin Studies Program, Johnson State College, Burlington Little League, Burlington Fire Department, various high schools and churches, and local Public Access Television channels. In "Port" we have partnered with the Mayor's office, the local hospital, various NGOs, Puerto Cablevision, and URACCAN University. We maintain good contacts in the region and are always ready to assist local organizations in establishing relationships with their Nicaraguan counterparts.



Past Sister City projects have involved material aid, construction brigades, the creation of a tree nursery, cultural, educational, and sports exchanges, municipal visits, and the establishment of ongoing community video projects. Because of the unique character of Vermont and Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast, project priorities have related to issues of economic self-sufficiency, autonomy, indigenous rights, and community empowerment.

### Join us

The main strength of the program has been, and continues to be, creating people-to-people connections. We invite all Vermonters to attend our meetings, join our email list, and learn more by visiting our web site.

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