



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR**  
Cataraman  
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**SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

*EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR HELD ON AUGUST 22, 2005, AT 2:00 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON AT ITS SESSION HALL, CAPITOL BUILDING, CATARAMAN, NORTHERN SAMAR.*

**ORDINANCE NO. 17**  
**Series of 2005**

*Author:*  
**Honorable HERBERT R. ESPONILLA**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL TREE PLANTING PROGRAM AND THE “LUNTIAN AWARDS” FOR THE PURPOSE EVERY JUNE 14 OF EACH YEAR.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled:

**Section 1. Provincial Tree Planting Program and “LUNTIAN Awards”** – There is hereby established an annual Provincial Tree Planting Program and the “LUNTIAN AWARDS” for the purpose, in the Province of Northern Samar in commemoration of the Provincial Environment Day every June 14 and to start the celebrations of the Province’s Founding Anniversary. The awards shall be given as incentives to municipalities, barangays, schools and other places which will be adjudged the greenest.

**Section 2. Definition of “LUNTIAN”** – “LUNTIAN” shall mean and be referred to as Linis at Unlad ng Nortehanon Tanim ay Ialay at Alagaan Natin.

**Section 3. Mandatory Participation of all Government Offices** – The Provincial Government of Northern Samar through the Provincial Governor shall initiate the implementation of the Provincial Tree Planting Program and the “LUNTIAN Awards” for the purpose. All local government units, national government offices and agencies as well as government owned and controlled corporations and public schools including universities, colleges, post-secondary, vocational-technical, secondary and elementary schools in the province shall take part in the program’s activities. The participation of the private sector including non-government organizations (NGOs), social, civic, religious and media organizations as well as private schools and business groups shall be encouraged.

**Section 4. Creation and Composition of “LUNTIAN Committee”** – A Multi-Sector Steering Committee to be known as the “LUNTIAN Committee” is hereby constituted to effectively and efficiently implement this Ordinance. The Committee shall be composed of the following:

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|---|---------------|
| a. Provincial Governor or his Representative  | - Chairperson |
| b. Schools Division Superintendent  | - Co-Chair    |
| c. Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer                               | - Vice-Chair  |
| d. Chairman, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, Sangguniang Panlalawigan | - Member      |
| e. President, League of Municipalities of Northern Samar                              | - Member      |
| f. President, Philippine Councilors League, Northern Samar                            | - Member      |
| g. President, Liga nga mga Barangay   | - Member      |
| h. President, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation   | - Member      |
| i. Provincial Agriculture Officer   | - Member      |

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| j. Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer   | - Member |
| k. Provincial Health Officer  | - Member |
| l. Provincial Local Government Operations Officer   | - Member |
| m. Provincial Prosecutor, DOJ   | - Member |
| n. Provincial District Engineer, DPWH   | - Member |
| o. Provincial Trade and Industry Officer  | - Member |
| p. Provincial Tourism Officer   | - Member |
| q. Representative from Constitutional Offices and other government agencies not represented (CSC, COA, COMELEC, etc.) | - Member |
| r. Provincial Police Director, PNP  | - Member |
| s. Brigade Commander, PA, DND   | - Member |
| t. Representative from NGO involved in Environment  | - Member |
| u. Representative from the Religious Sector   | - Member |
| v. Representative from the Business Sector  | - Member |
| w. Representative from the Agriculture Sector   | - Member |
| x. Representative from Civic Sector   | - Member |
| y. Representative from University (UEP) and Colleges  | - Member |
| z. Representative from the Media Group  | - Member |

**Section 5. Guidelines and Awards' Criteria** – the “LUNTIAN Committee” shall formulate and issue guidelines for the implementation of this Ordinance as well as the awards' criteria which shall consider, among others, the following:

- a. Community participation;
- b. Sustainability of the Program;
- c. Positive socio-economic and environmental impact;
- d. Grant of monetary awards to winners, the amounts of which shall be determined by the Committee, and other incentives such as trophies, plaques of commendation and citations to participants which may be used or considered in the performance evaluation and/or promotion of those either in public or private service;
- e. Encourage planting of fruit trees such as Pili and medicinal herbs and green leafy vegetables and assigning them higher points for the awards;
- f. Cooperation among residents and public officials;
- g. Year-round evaluation on a quarterly basis to motivate the municipalities and barangays not to let up on their efforts;
- h. Evaluation should consider the proportion of seedlings planted and maintained;
- i. Efforts to stop illegal logging;
- j. Use of indigenous materials;
- k. Encourage formation of “Purok” cluster in each barangay;
- l. Municipalities and barangays shall identify public planting areas including for school children. Private backyards are for individual residents;
- m. Encourage among the school children the “one pupil, one tree” which he/she commits to nurture by visiting regularly;
- n. Secretariat of the awards or contest may be assigned to an NGO or a committee on awards; and
- o. Monitoring may be assigned to the Liga ng mga Barangay and/or a monitoring committee.

**Section 6. Administrative Sanctions** – Any public official or employee who refuses to participate in the program and/or comply with this Ordinance shall be meted administrative disciplinary action in accordance with applicable laws, including the Civil Service Law, the Ombudsman Law, the Administrative Code and the Local Government Code (R. A. 7160).

**Section 7. Appropriations** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance, including the monetary awards to be determined by the LUNTIAN Steering Committee, is hereby authorized to be taken from any available funds or savings in the current General Fund. Thereafter, the said amount shall be included in the succeeding annual general fund budgets.

**Section 8. Donations and “LUNTIAN Trust Fund”** – The committee is authorized to receive donations for the program and the awards. All donations shall be deposited in a special “LUNTIAN Trust Fund” to be administered by the Provincial Treasurer.

The donations may be claimed as deductions from the donor’s income tax pursuant to the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 8424 also known as the “Tax Reform Act of 1997,” which amended the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended, specifically Section 34(h), Chapter VII, Title II thereof.

**Section 9. Repealing Clause** – All ordinances, resolutions and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 10. Separability Clause** – If, for any reason, any part or provisions of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 11. Effectivity** - This Ordinance shall take effect after 15 days of its posting in prominent places in the provincial capitol, municipal and barangay halls as well as in all government offices, and publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Northern Samar.

PASSED AND ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2005, Catarman, Northern Samar.

*(signed)*

**LUIS R. DASMARIÑAS**

Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**REMUS S. DULAY**

Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**BEN C. GOREMBALEM**

Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**HERBERT R. ESPONILLA**

Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**MIGUEL L. SARMIENTO**

Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**EDITO T. BANTILO**

President, Liga Ng Mga Barangay  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**ARTURO T. DUBONGCO, JR.**

PCL Federation President  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*(signed)*

**GUIDO A. LAVIN, JR.**

Vice Governor/Presiding Officer

*(signed)*

**ADONIS H. REBADULLA**

Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

*Approved:*

September 7, 2005

*(signed)*

**RAUL A. DAZA**

Governor