



ANNUAL REPORT

November 2012 - October 2013

SRI LANKA - CANADA ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA

PO Box 78037, Meriline Post Office

Ottawa, ON K2E 1B1

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Sri Lanka Canada Association of Ottawa (SLCAO) is pleased to present the following Annual Report for the period of November 1st, 2012 to October 31st, 2013.

The following members served as the EC of the SLCAO for the fiscal year from November 1st, 2012 to October 27th, 2013.

President: Chaminda Weerakoon

Vice president: Roshan Fernando

Treasurer: Samith Waidyatilake

Secretary: Ishara Amarasekera

Past Executive: Rohana Marakawatte

Directors:

Cultural Affairs: Shirani Ferdinand

Information: Anura Ferdinand; Assistant Information: Praveen Abeygoonawardana

Membership: Samantha Perera

Sports: Dhammika Herath

Community Outreach: Vacant

Youth: Vacant

Regional Chairs:

Central: Keerthi Weerasooriya

West: Vishan Senevirathne

South: Asoka Vidyaratne

East: Vacant

Executive Committee Meetings

A total of 8 EC meetings were held in 2012/2013.

Membership

The Association is proud to announce a membership of 90 single and family members this year; with overall membership revenue of \$1,680.00 including 24 new memberships. Most of the memberships were received during the AGM and Christmas celebration.

Finances

SLCAO ended its financial year with a well-rounded balance of \$5,836.01, compared to a balance of \$4,546.45 from the previous year. A financial report will be made available separately.

Events organized by SLCAO during the year.Christmas 2012

The SLCAO Annual Christmas celebration was held on December 08, 2012 at the Ukrainian Banquet Hall in Ottawa. One of the main highlights of the occasion was children's Christmas carols. Carol singing performances were delivered in Sinhala, Tamil and English by groups of performers as well as individuals.

The audiences as well as performers of all ages were pleased to see the enthusiastic arrival of Santa. All children who attended the event received gifts from Santa.

Over 15 valuable door prizes were available through generous sponsorships of members and non-members from our community. These door prizes were handed out via a draw which was held throughout the evening.

A local band provided contemporary music after the festive activities. This was followed by DJ music which took the celebrations to the wee hours of the morning.

New Year Celebrations 2013:

The SLCAO Annual Sri Lankan New Year Celebrations were held on April 26, 2013 at the Hellenic Meeting and Reception Center in Ottawa. The Guests of Honor at the event were the High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Canada, Her Excellency Chithrangani Wagswara, Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Lional Premasiri and other Canadian

Government representatives. Messages of felicitations were sent by His Worship Jim Watson, Mayor of Ottawa and Paul Dewar, member of the parliament. These messages were published in the commemorative Souvenir.

Highlights of the trilingual cultural show were the variety of the traditional dance performances and the fashion show. It was remembered to recognize and award the artists in the Ottawa Sri Lankan community who have contributed to the SLCAO events and the community in general with their elegant performances throughout the years.

The New Year Souvenir was an outstanding success this year. It generated \$8,901.00 in advertisement revenue. The souvenir was designed and produced by Shean Goonetilleke with the support of SLCAO committee members. This event was an overall success and significantly profitable to the association financially.

Sports Meet 2013

The annual sports meet was held on July 13th at the Vincent Massey Park, Ottawa. The meet received some participation from members and non-members. The winners of individual and team events were awarded with certificates and trophies at the awards ceremony in the evening.

Tri City Tournament and the Dinner Dance 2013

The tri-city tournament and dinner dance was held during the August long weekend. Three local teams participated in the netball tournament in addition to cricket under the guidance of the coach, Shirani Ferdinand. All three cities (Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto) participated in cricket. As usual, tri-city cricket event was a glaring success this year with the Ottawa team securing the Tri-City Championship trophy for 2013. It is unfortunate that only a hand full of members' and non-members shared the glory of the greatest win. It is encouraged that members attend these annual events to show their support to the Teams.

Initiatives 2013

- News Letter effective May 2013. There has been a great participation so far.
- Fundraising event initiated at the New Year Celebrations was a great success. Through Photo Booth event SLCAO was able to raise \$545.00 to help visually challenged children in Sri Lanka and we hope to deliver the funds collected once the organization has been registered.
- Registration of SLCAO – Committee was formed and is working diligently to complete the registration process.

Acknowledgements

- The Executive Committee of the SLCAO wishes to express their gratitude to:
- The past presidents, executive committee of the SLCAO for their guidance and support.
 - The High Commission of Sri Lanka for their continuous support towards SLCAO activities.
 - The artists in the Ottawa Sri Lankan community who have contributed to the SLCAO events with elegant performances.
 - Ven. Nugegalayaye Jinananda Thero, Ven. Kirinde Vijitha Thero, and Dayaka Sabawa of Hilda Jayewardenaramaya Temple for their blessings and support.
 - Reverend Father Freely Muthukudaarchchi and the members of the church for their continued support and encouragement.
 - All SLCAO event sponsors, advertisers and well-wishers.
 - The City of Ottawa staff.
 - The Auditor, Mrs. Padmini Hapuarachchi.
 - All members and non members of the community who have devotedly helped in numerous ways to the success of the SLCAO in 2012/13.

Conclusion

Year 2012/13 has been a very successful year for SLCAO. There was growth in membership, outstanding city wide participation in many events organized by the SLCAO, diligent spirit of volunteerism amongst members and non-members of the Sri Lankan community in the National Capital Region. The EC wishes to whole-heartedly thank all members for their unfailing support and dedication at all times in helping the association grow and look forward to continued support in the future as well.