



ANNUAL REPORT

November 2011 - October 2012

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, 2011 to October 31st, 2012.

The following members served as the EC of the SLCAO for the fiscal year from November 1st, 2011 to October 20th, 2012.

President: Rohana Marakawatte

Vice president: Chaminda Weerakoon

Treasurer: Anoma Tissera

Secretary: Beatrice Silva

Past Executive: Priyanka Alwis

Directors:

Community Outreach: Samantha Perera

Cultural Affairs: Dulip Mahanama

Information: Anura Ferdinand; Assistant Information: Roshan Rajapakse

Membership: Chandima Amarakoon

Sports: Dhammika Herath

Youth: Ishara Amarasekara

Regional Chairs:

East: SamithWaidyatilake

Central: Mahen Perera

West: Narada Kodithuwakku

South: Mahinda Piyasiri

Executive Committee Meetings

A total of 7 EC meetings were held in 2011/2012.

Membership

The Association is proud to announce a membership of 122 single and family members this year; with overall membership revenue of \$2315.00. Most of the memberships were received during the AGM and Christmas celebration.

Finances

SLCAO ended its financial year with a well-rounded balance of \$4546.45. A financial report will be made available separately.

www.slcaottawa.com

Events organized by SLCAO during the year.

Christmas 2011

The SLCAO Annual Christmas celebration was held on December 10th 2011 at Ukrainian Banquet Hall in Ottawa. The tickets for the event sold out promptly. While the event itself carried out successfully with the attendance of approximately 375 people.

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 audience 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.

Soon after, a raffle draw was presented with multiple valuable items at the event. These raffle tickets were drawn after dinner. A familiar dinner was served with the exception of upgraded china and service.

This was followed by DJ music provided by Anura Ferdinand which was in continuous demand throughout the night.

New Year Celebrations:

The SLCAO Annual Sri Lankan New Year Celebrations were held on April 28th 2012 at the Hellenic Meeting and Reception Center in Ottawa.

The Guests of Honour at the event were the High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Canada, Her Excellency Chithrangenee Wagiswara, and other Canadian Government representatives. Messages of felicitations were sent by Rt. Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada and by His Worship Jim Watson, Mayor of Ottawa. These messages were published in the commemorative Souvenir.

Highlights of the trilingual cultural show were the traditional dance performances and the fashion show. For the 5th consecutive year, the children's art competition was organized surrounding the theme, 'Colours of the New Year'. Winners were awarded with certificates and plaques.

The New Year Souvenir was an outstanding success this year. It generated over \$7000.00 in advertisement revenue. The souvenir was designed and produced by Shean Goonathilake with the support of SLCAO committee members.

Lakshman Dias provided the DJ music for an endless and memorable night.

This event was an overall success and significantly profitable to the association financially.

Sports Meet

The annual sports meet was held on July 14th at the Vincent Massey Park, Ottawa.

The meet received great participation from members and non-members, as anticipated. The winners of individual and team events were awarded with certificates and trophies at the awards ceremony in the evening.

Junior cricket was officially introduced this year and players were awarded with trophies.

Eranthika De Lambert, a residential Mortgage advisor from TD bank sponsored the event for the 3rd consecutive year and provided much needed financial support. This sponsorship was secured by Mahinda Piyasiri.

Free BBQ lunch was provided to all participants sponsored by our generous community member.

Tri City Tournament and the dinner dance

The tri-city tournament ended triumphantly during the long weekend in August. However the dinner dance was cancelled due to the funeral of Mr. Sunil Somathisa. Along with a flower bouquet sent in honor of Mr. Somathisa, SLCAO representatives attended the funeral respectively, in Toronto.

Free BBQ lunch was provided to all participants sponsored by Nanda Aiyathure.

Acknowledgements

The Executive Committee of the SLCAO wishes to express their gratitude to:
The past president of the SLCAO, Priyanka Alwis, for his 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, Anura Ferdinand and Lakshman Dias for their continued DJ support at various SLCAO events, sponsors, advertisers and well-wishers, the City of Ottawa, and finally all members and non-members of the community who have devotedly helped out in numerous ways for the success of the SLCAO in 2012.

Conclusion

Year 2012 has been a very successful year for SLCAO. There was growth in membership, outstanding participation in all 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.