

St. Vincent & the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc.

Quarterly Newsletter January 2006

President's Review of 2005

First, let me extend, on behalf of the Executive and the Chairs and Members of the various Committees, a special "Thank You" to the Membership and Friends of the Association for all the support you have given to us. It is your trust in the ability and decision making of the Executive and its Committees that act as catalyst and the drive in their commitment to the work of this Association. Your relentless support to the organization's many programs, its events and activities highlights your dedication to the growth and development of this organization.

I would also like to extend a special "Thank You" to the Executive, the majority of whom have displayed outstanding teamwork and support to the many initiatives and program development ideas challenging their foresight and their level of decision making. Above all, they have placed overwhelming confidence in and have supported the work of their many Committees – a symbol of their appreciation and encouragement.

Many of us agree and are fully aware that the Chairs and Members of the various Committees are the backbone of the development of this organization. They are the "work horses" no disrespect meant - of this organization. A simple "Thank You" could never reflect the value and appreciation of their contribution. It is with greatest admiration and respect that I closely associate myself with and refer to every member of each of these Committees. Their high quality of their work, their endless enthusiasm, their resounding dedication and the exorbitant amount of time they invested underscore the many successes experienced by this organization. Each of these Committees has tendered recommendations as part of their final report. I urge the in-coming Executive and the Membership to inform themselves of these recommendations and to move to support/encourage implementation of as many of these recommendations as possible during the 2006 term.

2005 year has seen record donations and sponsorship contributions to this organization. This attests to the relationship we have built over the past years with the continuing donors/sponsors and the kind of relationships we fostered with those that are new. We are elated with their support and would continue to work diligently to maintain this positive relationship.

The Executive, during its term of office, has worked on developing a variety of goals/initiatives. But in particular, it focused on:

- Building a strong network of participation within and outside of the Membership. We have reached out to the membership and to the larger community and brought in a variety of people in support of our various programming directions:
 - Through a well-developed program by the PR Committee we have reached out to the bereaved, the sick/ill, new and existing members and other readers by way of *Insight*, the quarterly newsletter and <u>www.vincytoronto.com</u> the Association's website. We have seen a surge of interest in membership, and increased advertising in our *Insight* and our Independence Anniversary Brochure.
 - The Education Committee has organized and delivered a variety of informative programming for the membership drawing attendance from many first time members. It has also joined with other committees to effectively enhance the outcome of a planned activity – underscoring the notion of teamwork within the organization.
 - We continue to maintain healthy relations with our sister SVG associations in this province and also with other SVG organizations in this city. The "Building Brides" program is an initiative of the SVG Associations here in Toronto. The SVGAT sat (and continues to sit) at the table as the largest organization and we are committed to continue the requisite work to make "Building Bridges" more than just a concept.
 - We maintain healthy discussions with the SVG Consulate, the OECS High Commissioner's Office and with other OECS and Caricom associations (note that we are a member of the evolving Caricom Association started in 2005) in this city.
 - The 2005 Children's Christmas Party saw approximately 100 children who attended receive gifts. The success of this project was because of the hard work of the organizing committee and the strong support by a variety of donors – cash, food and toys.
 - Through the hard work of the Relief Committee and many generous donors, six families celebrated a brightened Christmas. The Relief Committee is continuing to develop its policy and program that will guide

its functioning in meeting the identified needs of the Association.

- Establishing an operational base on which this Association can more effectively function on a longer-term basis. This operational base includes, but is not exclusive to, functional committee structures, clearly defining mandates of committees, and requiring accountability.
- Setting up structures that would allow the continuance of recognizably strong (as agreed upon by executive and membership) programs from one year to another. (e.g.) Each Committee is asked to develop an inclusive short-term and long-term program proposal showing specific goals and objectives, action plans, and a financial projection (where applicable). Upon completion of the proposed activity, the committee is expected to debrief and develop recommendations for consideration on any future implementation of the activity.
- Placing the Association in a financially stable position by approving fundraising activity proposals that show quality research, attainable goals and objectives and have well developed plans of action.

I would be remiss if I did not mention some of the other Programs that drove the Association this year:

- The Mothers' Day Brunch, the Unity Picnic, the Independence Banquet and the Annual Church Service have all set records of attendance in the history of the Association. Besides, the proceeds from each of these functions have helped to put the Association in a financially viable position. Should this trend continues, we know that the Association would no longer depend on individuals for financial support (loaning the down payment and other related costs) to make events happen.
- The establishment of a Scholarship Committee, its program development and the disbursement of the first Scholarship/Bursary cheque is a landmark. Plans for this program, as is set out in its goals and objectives, would widely impact our youths and attract many others who support the structure, the focus and the quality of such an investment.
- The Constitution Committee continues to actively review the current document in an effort to provide a revised version that better reflects the needs of the membership. Completion of the review is set for sometime in the spring of 2006.
- The Executive has resurrected the establishment of the Past Presidents' Council. Many of the Past Presidents are very excited about the role they can play on such a committee. It is still developing and affirming a mandate.
- We have not forgotten our seniors as we are continuing to explore appropriate ways to attract their interest, to dialogue with them about their needs and to get feedback on how best we can help them meet those needs.
- <u>Did you know that:</u>

- At the Annual Church Service, two of the officiating clergy were from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
 - At the Banquet the Keynote Speaker is a native of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and that she has an impressive background in international circles.
 - We had a young actress (recognized for her role in a television series) performing at our Banquet celebrations
 - At the Panel Discussion we had a number of young panelists of St. Vincent and Grenadines heritage, as was the moderator.
 - At our Annual Banquet celebrations we paid tribute (posthumously) to two past presidents and recently after the banquet we had the unfortunate task of extending sympathy to the family of another of our Past Presidents.
 - Two new members were added to the roster of Honorary Life Membership and that there is a first time husband/wife team registered on this list.
 - That a Vincy night at the (basket) ball game took place on December 16, 2005. Then, approximately 100 members and their families attended at the Air Canada Centre at the invitation and support of Adonal Foyle. This is one of the many supports given by Adonal to this Association – other supports include contribution to the Scholarship Fund, contribution to Christmas Hamper, and inviting to co-join in a cruise project (you would be kept informed on further development of this cruise project).

In reflection, 2005 has shown much growth in this organization. It is significant that new and returning members gave and continue to give support to the association's many ventures and that so many members volunteer to work (whether on committees or at tasks that empowered the committees) for the common good of the organization.

Again, on behalf of the Executive, the Committees and the Membership of the Association, thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year. We look forward to building an even stronger relationship to fast forward the growth of this association.

Jason Jones, President, SVGAT

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS TO VINCENTIANS

Our sincere thanks to those companies that have provided assistance to this publication by advertising with us again. Please support them.

To place your Ad, please email us at <u>svgatoronto@vincytoronto.com</u>, or contact any member of the Executive.

THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE A Review of its Role and Function

Although the filling of the P.R.O. position occurred one month after the Annual General Meeting and the subsequent establishment of the PR Committee approximately six weeks after the *general elections* this committee immediately went to work and put in place an agenda for the year. Among other things, our objectives were to elevate the profile of this organization; enhance its visibility in the community; relate more closely and effectively to our members and friends; expand our network of electronic communications; attract more advertisers, and essentially be the conduit for all public communications to and from the organization. In addition, we felt a need to create our own identity and embark on a process that would oversee the creation of a logo for our organization.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to report that as the Public Relations Officer and chair of this committee I am satisfied with the accomplishments of the committee. In looking back at 2005 the majority of our planned objectives were in fact completed. The logo competition remains a piece of work in progress. The *Members' Kit Initiative* was very well received and should be recommended as policy within the organization and not left up to the determination of the executive in office. Additional items, one of which is a booklet outlining a brief history of the organization, is being considered for inclusion into this kit. We continued to meet our objective of issuing quarterly newsletters (*Insight*) to an increased readership. We are still maintaining our appeal for contributions in the form of articles or other submissions to this quarterly newsletter and website, "www.vincytoronto.com".

A Members' Appreciation Event is in its planning stages and we are now hoping to join forces with the Fundraising and Entertainment Committee in execution of this event. Our interaction with the printed media is positive and ongoing and in the New Year we hope to expand this to include radio and television. The audio part is already in the making with a very viable relationship through our contact with CHRY radio.

In closing I extend sincerest gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the entire committee all of whom have worked very hard to help the organization meet its 2005 public relations objective. I encourage anyone who has an interest in the continuation of the newsletter and website to contact the chair of the PR Committee so that they could be quickly brought on board to take advantage of the vast experience of the current members.

To all our leaders, readers, listeners, members, friends, supporters, patrons, I wish for you a healthy and prosperous 2006. The committee and I thank you for your support, assistance, and cooperation throughout 2005. Without you we could not have done it. Let's continue to build bridges together.

Yolande Lewis PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Make a contribution to the Association

You can now donate to any of the following: the Relief

Fund, the Scholarship Fund, the Children's Christmas Party, the Christmas Hamper to Families In Need and/or to General Operating Funds by contacting any member of the Executive or the Chair of the Committee you wish to support.

THE EXECUTIVE

The Annual General Meeting of the Association is on January 29 at which there will be the election of officers for another year. As soon as possible following the elections the new list will be posted on the website, <u>www.vincytoronto.com</u>. Here, however, is a list of the retiring executive members just in case you would like to contact any of them:

President – Jason Jones; Tel: 905-999-1771 jonesjason@rogers.com or president@vincytoronto.com: Vice President - Elma Gabriel; Tel: 416-282-4557 elma.gabriel@sympatico.ca; Treasurer - Wendel Cole; Tel: 905-792-1248 wendelc@yahoo.com; Assistant Treasurer – June Ellis: Tel: 416-261-5399 juneellis 2@sympatico.ca; Public Relations Officer - Yolande Lewis; Tel: 416-809-9820 vlewis@sympatico.ca: Immediate Past President-Kenneth Farrell; Tel: 416-762-8283 farrell4180@rogers.com; Nominated Member – Audrey Lewis; Tel: 416-829-6201 siztazsvg@yahoo.com Nominated Member –Glendon Carmichael; Tel: 416-321-9029 gcarmichael@sympatico.ca



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Scholarship Program Launched

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Scholarship Program is intended to assist our young people to pursue their educational goals. The program was launched in October with a \$500.00 bursary contributed by Western Union going to Miss Keisha Carrington. It is expected that from the 2006/2007 school year there will be two scholarships issued with each recipient receiving \$1,000.00. Please visit the Association's website <u>www.vincytoronto.com</u> for more details and the application form. The Association herewith acknowledges contributions and pledges from Mr. Adonal Foyle, Western Union, The St. Vincent Cultural Group, Exeter Development Inc., the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Children's Charitable Foundation and Mr. & Mrs. Hermus Liverpool.

2006 Vincy Unity Picnic

For those persons living in areas served by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Associations of Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto who have never attended one of these picnics and to those outside of the country who are planning to be in Ontario next summer, please mark Saturday, July 15, 2006 on your calendar as that is the date for Vincy Unity Picnic 2006.

Association Logo

The attempt to get a logo for the Association was unsuccessful as the Selection Committee felt that the entries received bordered on the infringement of the rights of others. The Public Relations and Membership Committee will hold a workshop on March 11 to help to guide interested persons on the aspects of designing and producing logos. Please see Page 15 for more details.

Independence Anniversary Celebrations

The activities to mark the 2005 Independence Anniversary Committee were tremendously successful with record attendances at the Thanksgiving Church Service, the Banquet and Town Hall Meeting. Several presentations and recognitions were made at the Banquet. Mrs. Ruby Phillips, owner of Ruby's Beauty Salon and Mr. Edison Huggins a (our resident) photographer were recognized for their contributions to the Association by being named as Honorary Life Members. Mr. Allan Austin received the Dr. Allan Liverpool Award, Miss Keisha Carrington received the first bursary from the Association's Scholarship Program and two former presidents, Mr. Lawrence Collymore and Oswald George were recognized posthumously.

Andrea Lewis, star in the TV series, DeGrassi: The Next Generation performed two of her songs at the banquet. One of Andrea's parents is a Vincentian national.

Relief Walk-a-ton

The Annual Walk-a-ton in aid of Relief will take place in late July. Please mark this on your calendar and make yourself available to walk or sponsor a walker. All proceeds go to relief work in the Caribbean and here in Toronto. Please keep visiting <u>www.vincytoronto.com</u> for more information.

Annual General Meeting

All members and other interested persons are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on Sunday, January 29 at Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court. The meeting begins at 4:00 p.m. and the agenda will contain among other things a review of the activities for 2005 as well as the election of officers for 2006. Please plan to attend to support those who are vying for office and make yourself available to serve in some capacity.

Vincy Night at Air Canada Centre

Through the efforts of Adonal Foyle, the only Vincentian national currently playing in the NBA, his team the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors joined with the Association in hosting Vincentians at the Raptors / Golden State game at the ACC on December 16. Over 100 persons took advantage of specially reduced tickets to attend the game and meet with Adonal following the game. The Raptors has expressed an interest in making Vincy Night at the Air Canada Centre an annual affair.

Gospel Concert

Attempts are being made to host another Gospel Concert in April. More details will be made available as soon as arrangements are finalized. The last concert was held in 2004.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING Please bring along a friend to the next meeting of the Association(the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m. Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Crt, North York (Keele & Sheppard)

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

The Executive and Members of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. will like to extend condolences to all members and friends of our community who have lost loved ones.

We are cognizant that many members of our community have passed on since our last publication and that all the names were not reported to us.

We wish you God's blessing as you cope with your loss and that those who have departed will find rest in the Lord.

Logo Dynamics Overview

"You'll never get a second chance to make a first impression" a designer will say when referring to the power of a corporate logo. Unique eye catching company symbols and word marks are a way of business the world over. A vast profusion of colours or simple black and white, on brochures, buses, and banks. We use the logo to establish a new firm's public identity or reflect an established organizations mission statement. The omnipresent company logo has firmly established its relationship and reputation as a tool of business. "A quality logo presents image, a poorly designed one says something negative".

A fair amount of information can be communicated visually by a very simple design...Yes, sometimes less is more. A graphic shape, colour, lettering style, ORIGINALITY can suggest a lot about the company or organization itself. Why a Nike Swoosh Costs?

Professional designers will spend time interviewing corporate executives, workers in a plant, the janitor, the receptionists and members of a group, for whom they are designing a logo. A logo can cost "X" times 4- each hour is clocked, extensive field notes are taken. Hours and hours of free hand sketches are documented, legal staff are also involved. One can say a large firm can afford to pay top dollar for the image. Correct...but so can a small firm. The budget is established by the customer requiring the logo. The designer then must work smartly towards the budget set, based on a studio's hourly rate. All small or well established designer offer <u>Value Plus</u>, giving more than what they charge in hours.

PICASSO the great artist once was asked to draw a little something... something on a napkin at a French street side café, by two cafe customers. When they offered to pay and PIACASSO said \$ 36,000 US, the customers lost their breath and suggested politely to PICASSO to go to etc. etc. PIACASSO said calmly "You are not paying for this napkin creation...but for my 23 years to get to this napkin creation."

High impact in a few seconds is a designer's goal and a client's greatest satisfaction. The approach to creating a logo is thinking outside the box, asking detail questions of a company or group and listening, listening, listening. Can a logo really consolidate a company's image, an organizations impact on its new and old members, a restaurants daily clientele, a new line of clothing? Although it is difficult to prove statistically that logos translate directly into company profits and a group's success, the connection seems visible in many industries. So hot is the consumers demand for designer logo clothing, electronic devices, sports and bling, bling accessories that hundreds of knock off manufacturers have over the years sprung up to cash in on the seductive images of Lacoste, Gucci, Jordache and others.

The market isn't ready for designer jeans by Schwartz Engine Repair, but even in the usual presentations a snazzy logo will make an indelible impression. And the first step toward success for any business, organization or group is to be remembered.

Working with a designer be they day one out of college, art school or U of the Street presents a challenge for the buyer and designer. Communication, research and investigation into the personality of the project are paramount and plagiarism is not the way to go. Research and re-arranging nature... is the source of all creativity.



More next INSIGHT- Gerry Wolkowski

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Help a child in your homeland to a brighter future. An old saying reminds us that children are the future of every country. Each of us can help to build the future of St. Vincent and the Grenadines by helping the children. As little as Cdn\$1.00/day per month will give at least EC\$50.00 per month. This small amount can help to keep a young child in school and contribute to his or her development in the community. If you are interested in learning how you can go about sponsoring a child in St. Vincent & the Grenadines, how to get such a child and how to ensure that your sponsor money is used for the development of that child, please enquire in confidence by writing to the Association either through regular mail or e-mail. You can also contact any member of the Executive.

HIGH COMMISSION FOR ORGANIZATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES

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High Commissioner: Her Excellency Ms. Lorraine Williams

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TORONTO CONSULATE OFFICE

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The Office of the Consulate General in Toronto is here to attend to the needs of Vincentians. It also strives at strengthening its ties with organizations looking to do business in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

www.svgconsulate.org functions as an effective tool in assisting us to reach our goals. Visit our website.

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On behalf of the Ministry of Tourism & Culture and the Government and people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines the SVG Tourist Board in Canada takes this opportunity to wish all nationals of St. Vincent and the Grenadines both at home and in the Diaspora a Happy New Year.

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NEWS FROM SVC

(Courtesy of The Vincentian and Searchlight Newspapers)

Election Results

Vincentians went to the polls on December 7, 2005 and returned the United Labour Party to govern the country with the same mandate it had before going into the elections. The only change in the polling took place in the South Windward Constituency where Mr. Glen Beache took over the realms from his father, Sir Vincent Beache who retired from politics. Final score is United Labour Party headed by Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves won 12 seats to the New Democratic Party's 3. Mr. Arnhim Eustace heads up the NDP and is therefore the Leader of the Opposition Party.

The New Democratic Party is challenging the results of the election and boycotted the Opening of Parliament on December 29. Please visit website, <u>www.vincytoronto.com</u> for more details.

Ambassador Chu Goes Home

Taiwan's Resident Ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Elizabeth Chu who spent the last two and one half years representing and promoting her country there is returning home at the end of January to serve her country in another capacity. Madame Chu became quiet popular in SVG as she mingled with a wide cross section of nationals. In 2004 while in SVG, Ms Chu was selected as one of Taiwan's most outstanding civil servants out of a population of 22.7 million citizens.

Taiwan and SVG established diplomatic relations in August 1981 and during that time Taiwan has been quite generous in its support to SVG through gifts of computers, school supplies and

CANADA

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Email: svgtourismeurope@aol.com

Manager: Ms Rachel Charles

cash for numerous projects and programs. Ms Chu will be replaced by Ambassador Jack Chen who is currently serving his country in Australia.

SVG Attracts another Foreign Developer

UK based Overseas Dreams has decided to add SVG to its list of countries to launch its dream homes development. Buccament Bay, on the leeward side of St. Vincent will be transformed into a resort called Buccament Bay Resort.

The finished resort will have a mixture of properties, from studio apartments to four bedroom villas residing in their own landscaped grounds. Facilities will include a gymnasium, full hotel facilities, pools, spa, marina and casino.

The first phase of construction is scheduled for completion in December 2006 well in time for the 2007 ICC World Cup of Cricket and will consist of 40 detached, single bedroom Cabanas (Villas), 8 of which will be on the front line, with Jacuzzis in the garden. The resort will also contain 60 studio apartments that can be purchased freehold. Both the cabanas and the hotel rooms will be supplied fully furnished and will be part of the hotel's rental program.

The second phase will consist of a range for detached villas languishing in their own tropical landscaped grounds. These villas are not scheduled for completion until December 2007.

The whole complex will be run as a hotel, much as the famous 'Plantation Beach' in St Lucia. However, every owner will have full freehold title and will be entitled to use their property whenever they desire. The sand on the beach is currently volcanic but the finest white sand is being imported from Guyana to replace the existing beach.

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OPINION COLUMN

(We invite members and our readers to share their opinions with other readers in matters of interest to the development of the Association and our community).

Views and opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and do not reflect the views of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc.

The Association in transition.... A view from the eyes of the VP

As the popular saying goes, 'an organization is only as good The St. Vincent & the Grenadines as its members". Association of Toronto is no different. Vincentians have been pioneers in community involvement since their arrival in Canada. This organization is one of the oldest Caribbean island organizations in Toronto. Additionally some of its founding members have also been credited for starting other groups which have become vehicles of Caribbean culture in Canada, namely, Caribbean Cultural Committee and the annual Montreal Carnival. About thirty five years ago, a small group of Vincentians journeyed to Brown's Bay Provincial Park for a picnic. This was solely out of our love of picnicking together. Little did we know that we were starting something which has grown to become one of the single largest gatherings of Vincentians in the Diaspora, the Vincy Unity Picnic. In 2005 there were over six thousand people in attendance. I warn our members to be vigilant in protecting ownership of this valuable event and to maintain its purity. We should protect this event from being consumed by scroungers, motivated by corporate and personal incentives.

It appears that there maybe something wrong when despite all that have be achieved by our predecessors, today, our Association and the Vincentian community in Toronto at large appear to be less cohesive and united that they should be. I would want to believe that the Consulate being privy to the above historical information was motivated to organize the Building Bridges Seminar in October 2005. Kudos to the Consul General for creating an environment that allows for dialogue and progress within the community.

We must however not take for granted the privilege of living within a democratic society empowering such option as freedom of speech, allowing one to express his or her opinion. I therefore choose to empower myself in asking the questions. Why are we such a divided people? It is that we lack cohesiveness? It is that we lack mutual respect?

We must understand that all of us cannot be chiefs. At the same time, being in a leadership position does not permit any of us the opportunity to exhibit our dictatorial attitude but to seek and bring out the best in all individuals. This approach in itself aids in the formation of a reasonable medium in the life of all we come in contact with. Leadership must be upfront, personable and transparent. Superior leaders must be allowed to emerge.

Yes, I will agree that this may appear to be 'a bunch of words' and the real truth is that the challenges are the realities as they come. Like all accomplished leaders, there must be a focus, such as a memorized mission statement or that of a guide as a pillar of your strength. Leaders must show humility, his or her decision must reflect the spirit of compassion, moderation, kindness, care, showing to all; respect and dignity.

We do not have to love one another or be well wishers of each other however, we need to cultivate trust, unity and love through patriotism. We cannot get away from the fact that we share one common goal, that being from the same place, that place of our parents, fore-fathers and previous generations, a place of generational roots and struggles for cultivation, still to this day.

As the elected Vice President of the St. Vincent & the Grenadines Association of Toronto for the last three consecutive years, a first record in the 38 years history of SVGAT, put me in a type of feeling of questionable uncertainty. What are the people silently saying to me? As the VP position mandate (according to the constitution) only put me in a state of waiting, that state of dependence on the mercy, personality, flexibility, leadership style of the President. I wondered, three years? Is this a form of preparation, nurturing state to the inheritance of the challenges to the enhancements of a new SVGAT? Is it a testing of the extent of ones patriotic faith? Is it the opportunity to satisfy the curiosity as to the questioning of the feminine strength in a male dominant organization?

Well, whatsoever the purpose or the answers to those questions may be, they will not defeat my patriotic thirst, passion and persistence in the continuity of the struggle to participate in the building of a historical Canadian name for our SVG Canadian generation. It is all about serving my Country 'at home away from home,' about 'caring for one's people unknowing to the people,' about 'the experiencing of the pains of Chatoyer; the unending struggles of a hero!'

'Oh blessed land of our birth we come'

St. Vincent, so beautiful and free— How could I not commit to thee? I am a child of your dynasty-So, a part of you I will always be.

I am me; because of you, The essence of your love so true-And from your hills the sky's so blue, Heaven's glory; is shimmering down on you.

Our valleys beam as the water streams, The gardens green to enhance the scene, Is this a dream? As it would seem; Or! Is it paradise in the Caribbean?

The Grenadines our sister Isles--We can see them within the miles, They are there and we are here, But in our hearts we know they are near.

Oh islands! As one, in spirit we come-To lift you up and make you sound. We stand firm; without a frown, 'Oh blessed land of our birth we come!'

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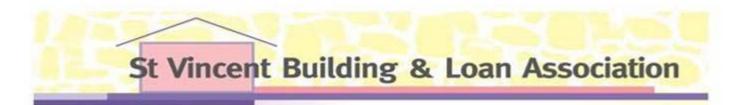
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The Public Relations Committee of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association is presenting a "Brain Gain"

"Brain Gain" ... new term in the North American creative world for a gathering of various professionals for the purpose of presenting workable ideas for the interested public.

Reason for this Brain Gain

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association often shares the talents of the Vincentian professionals from many walks of life; i.e. fields of music, finance, education, planning, culture, and history for panel discussions and topics of interest for the general public.

Saturday March 11th is the next "Brain Gain" of ideas...

Who would be interested?

Company owners wanting information from industry and professionals involved in developing a company's or group's image and brand identity.

Young designers in the development of a signature for a company's product or service.

Company decision makers gaining insight into the process of moving a logo from IDEA to PRINT.

Place: Scarborough Civic Center

- Committee Room No. (T.B.A.) - 11: 00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A three hour logo workshop in which the public can hear, see and interact with professionals from creative, marketing, photography and print companies.

This is a first register/first seating for only 20. Advanced registration is <u>a must</u>. This workshop will fill up fast.

Please contact Gerry Wolkowski at <u>gerry@bequiamarketing.com</u> by February 15, 2006. The 20 people WILL BE CONTACTED prior to the workshop to verify your attendance.

We are asking for \$10.00 canned/boxed food donation to be brought to the workshop in place of any workshop fees. All food donations collected go to a local Scarborough Fire Hall.



We look forward to hearing from you.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. www.vincytoronto.com email: svgatoronto@vincytoronto.com

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Be a Member! Join with us in achieving our goals.

Mission Statement

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association (SVGA) of Toronto is a non-profit community based Association. We are committed to providing assistance and support to groups, institutions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Ontario and wherever the Association deems fit. To provide an anti bias forum for Cultural, Educational, Social and Recreational enrichment and to maintain a network of communication through information and referral.



Objectives

To maintain a high level of volunteerism through recruitment, training and effective utilization of skills.

To provide a forum to promote leadership and advocacy for the enrichment of Culture and Education.

To provide an anti bias environment for the discussion of matters of general interest to its members.

To plan, implement and participate in fundraising activities to meet urgent human needs.

To promote social and recreational events to enrich the lives of Children, Youth, Adults and Seniors.

To maintain a network of communication through information and referral.

Our membership meetings are held on the LAST SUNDAY IN EVERY MONTH from 4:00 p.m. at Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, (Keele St. & Sheppard Ave. W.), North York.

We hope to see you there!

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