

Electronic- News Letter

The Christian Cultural Association of South Asians (CCASA) was established in 1995 to promote good relations between people of South Asian origin and the Canadian Society. It is a non-religious, non-profit organization that makes strategic investments to build healthy, sustainable and caring communities in Canada.

Purpose:-

- To assist deserving South Asians to immigrate to Canada;
- to help newcomers to adjust and realize their potential as full participants in Canadian society;
- to disseminate information concerning education, culture and opportunities in Canada to members of the Association;
- to promote positive recognition of immigrants and their contributions to Canadian society;
- to protect the rights and interests of Association members and to serve as a national voice to government agencies and the public at large;
- to provide a forum for issues relating to women, children and seniors;
- to visit all shut-ins, sick and needy people in our community;
- to provide mentoring and proper guidance for youth.
- We declare our support for all basic human rights and abhor discrimination of any kind, including political, racial, economic, sexual, religious and any other prejudicial forms of discrimination.

Programs expanded to meet the need of present environment:

1-A few years ago we expanded our services to seniors to meet the need of growing population of seniors. It is working well. In Kingston we have an ongoing service to seniors by making them literate in computer and tablet.

In Ajax we provide social get together to a group of seniors. They meet once a wk. Every Friday.

2-Realizing the need of education to up lift the community, CCASA started the establishment of foundation called Pakistani Youth Education (PYE) fund. This is to address the need of 41 orphan children who lost their parents when the church was attacked in Peshawar, Pakistan. This program may expand to other areas in future. We are happy to say that Anglican Diocese of Kingston has agreed to support the foundation. In fact the chairman of PYE funds is the Bishop Oulton and the money is kept in the Diocese account where it earns about 5% interest. Our target is to have at least \$30,000.00 in the foundation funds. This will generate enough interest to send one lakh rupees annually to support the orphan children. **We need about \$1200.00 to meet our target.**

3-Furthermore, we are committed to invest in the community welfare projects executed jointly with other community groups in GTA. They were/are:-

- First clean drinking water facility, District Sialkot is fully operational since July 2015.
- Second clean drinking water facility, District Sialkot is operational since August 2015.
- Third clean drinking water facility, St. Roque's Catholic Church, Pasrur is fully operational since October 2015.
- Fourth clean drinking water facility, Francisabad Colony, Gujranwala is fully operation February 2016. **Each of these projects has cost app. \$1500.00**

4-Group is committed to Pastoral support program in Pakistan.

Details to follow at later date.

5-Support for stranded community members in Thailand: (share and care program).

a)- We are continuously knocking the door of the Government of Canada through various MP's. We are asking to allow and facilitate the migration of Pakistani Christian to Canada from Thailand. Thanks to MP Mark Gerretsen, MP for Kingston and the Islands for agreeing to make our appointment with the Minister for immigration. We will ask him if he could be with us when we meet the Minister.

B)-To help celebrate Easter, group has raised about \$700.00. This money will be used to help Standard Pakistani Christian in Thailand either in the form of food packages or monetary support for food. First shipment is due close to Easter 2016.

6-Under the Community share and care project, we have raised app. \$1800.00 for clean water and worship room in Chihawatni Pakistan. We are eager to raise more money as the building of worship room will need considerably more money.

All these projects are to meet the need of community in Canada and Pakistan. CCASA is committed to serve the community and hence the goals of the association are flexible to meet the need of time. My thanks to my children John, Joyce and Sammy who, for the last two years have been donating cash to PYE funds instead of gifts at Christmas time.

Special thanks to Dr. Pancham of Kingston, Vice Chair PYE Funds and Director of projects and outreach Mr. Joseph Patres of Scarborough. Without the help of these two gentlemen I do not think we could do any of these projects. They have a great passion to serve the humanity. My special thanks to both of you.

We have initiated the process to sponsor two families from Thailand. Your prayers are requested.

Our National President Qamar Khan has taken on the responsibility refugees sponsorship initiative. Please contact him if you need any information.