



# St. Patrick's College Jaffna

Alumni Association Ontario – Canada

Annual Report for the period 2008/2009

## **1. General**

St. Patrick's College Jaffna Alumni Association Ontario Canada is pleased to present this report and the statement of accounts in the AGM held today on September 27<sup>th</sup> 2009 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church Parish Hall in Toronto. The last annual general meeting was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, on which date the present committee was elected. During the period under review we had seven committee meetings as per the dates and venues agreed upon in our first committee meeting of year 2008/2009. The committee would like to thank all the committee members and their families for hosting the meetings at their residences. The following activities were organized in the period 2008/2009. However, the unprecedented human tragedy that engulfed the Vanni region of Sri Lanka and the impact it had in the form of wide spread protest and rallies around the world and in Toronto in particular, our annual SPC dinner dance in March and Senior's get together party in May were cancelled after careful discussion and deliberation and subsequent approval of the committee.

## **2. SPC Sri Lankan all schools carol service**

The carol service was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Bridletowne Park – Tamil Christian Church. Our sincere thanks to all the participants and our special thanks to Mr and Mrs. Raymond Santiago for being a gracious host. All practices were held at Raymond's residence with refreshments that boosted energy. We would like to encourage new participants to join us in future in this wonderful event.

## **3. SPC Christmas dinner and Children Party**

The annual Christmas dinner was held on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Swagat Banquet Hall. The event was well attended and it catered very well for the Children. There were kids carol singing which was a well received. Gifts were distributed to kids by Santa and everyone enjoyed the event. Thanks to committee members and sponsors who made the event very enjoyable and memorable.

## **4. SPC Flood relief fund raise (NISHA)**

During Christmas dinner, committee organized slide show with flood damage images and in the subsequent fund raising event exclusively meant for flood relief efforts of the Rector, we raised \$2,500. Thanks to committee members and sponsors who made the event a great success.



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## 5. St.Patrick's Feast Holy Mass

A mass was held at St. Joseph's & Our Lady of Good Health church on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 followed by refreshment at the church hall. Thanks to our committee members who made the event success.

## 6. SPC Day dinner dance

St. Patrick's Day dinner dance was scheduled on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at Swaget Banquet Hall and cancelled due to Vanni human tragedy.

## 7. Senior's party

The annual senior's party was scheduled on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Swaget Banquet Hall and cancelled due to Vanni human tragedy. The cancellation was requested by majority of the seniors and the committee accepted. Thanks to Albert Master, Mr. R.L Xavier and Mr. X.R. Francis for contacting our senior SPC members.

## 8. SPC Sports and Picnic

The annual Sports and Picnic that join forces with past Holy Family Convent members was scheduled to be held on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, same way to the 2006 arrangements and later cancelled due to Vanni human tragedy.

## 9. SPC Fund raising event

The fund raising event that was to be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 6 pm at St. Joseph Church Hall targeting C\$8,000 was again cancelled due to Vanni human tragedy and the impact it had on the Tamil Community in Toronto in particular.

## 10. SPC Fund raising for SPC Students affected by the Vanni War

The fund rising was organized within committee members and friends on SPC Rector's request for SPC Students affected by the brutal War in the Vanni. We set our target for \$5,000 and managed to raise \$4,250 to date. Thanks to our committee members who helped to achieve close to our target.

## 11. Other Activities

- The committee also records the passing away of three prominent Patricians, Mr. Nicholapillai Patrick Jeganathan (Retired Govt. Agent.of Jaffna), Mr. Iankaiyar Selvaratnam (former chemistry teacher) and Mr. J.S. Frederick. The Committee members attended their funerals and placed wreath on behalf of the association.



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- Committee members and past Patricians actively participated in the memorial service held at St. Joseph's church hall for our former Vice Rector Rev. Fr. P.Jesunasan, who passed away in August 13th 2009 in Colombo after a brief illness. SPC AA Canada through the good offices of the Rector, placed a wreath in the funeral in Jaffna on behalf of the Patrician community from Canada.

## 12. Membership drive

Activities such as gathering members to help especially our fellow patricians in Jaffna, collection of membership dues and updating of membership register are continue to be challenging and we request more help from our fellow Patricians to make our Alumni Association more vibrant.

## 13. Communication

All efforts were taken to communicate effectively with members with regards to various events organized by the committee. Conscious efforts were made to post oncoming events and photographs of events on our website [www.spcalumni.org](http://www.spcalumni.org) and via Ferdi/Sathi's email blast. The AGM 2009 notice was informed to committee members via individual email as well as through Ferdi/Sathi's global email blast. Further, our website, Uthayan, Senthamarai newspapers and CMR, CTR radio and TVI were utilised to inform AGM notification.

## 14. Conclusion

SPC AA Ontario Committee Members have strived to achieve the goal of promoting fellowship and help our Alma Mater in all possible ways. Our best wishes to the new committee to continue to grow further and achieve more with all real team effort. We would like to thank sincerely all members for their enthusiasm and support during the tenure of our office. On a personal note, I wish to thank all committee members for their cooperation and not forgetting their spouses for their understanding and hospitality.

Thank you

Gilroy Ponniah  
General Secretary  
SPC Alumni Association Committee