

NORTH AMERICAN P.A.U. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Activities and Accounts from December 2004 to November 2005

ACTIVITIES

1. Annual Family Get-together

Annual family function and dinner of North American P.A.U. Alumni Association, Toronto Chapter, was held on Saturday, 13 November 2004 at National Banquet Hall, Mississauga, Ontario. Over 60 families attended the function. Children and family members of PAU alumni presented cultural programme including songs, poems and *gidha*. Dr. Balwinder Dhaliwal was Master of Ceremonies. The cultural programme was followed by dinner and dance.

2. Picnic at Heart Lake Conservation Area

We organized our picnic on 31 July 2005 at Heart Lake Conservation Area on Heart Lake Road, Brampton, Ont. It was attended by nearly 70 families of P.A.U. alumni. As usual, races and games were held for the children and adults, including tug-of-war games, which were extremely enjoyable. Barbequed and catered food was liked by all. The most liked food item was *gol-gappas*. An entertainment programme was presented by Sukhnain Singh, Jasbir Singh, Sukhjinder Singh and Harpinder Lubana. At the closing, children and winners of various events were presented medals by our senior alumni.

3. Visits by P.A.U. Scientists

Like the previous years, many P.A.U. scientists and alumni visited Canada during the period under report and were invited to meet P.A.U. alumni. These visiting guests included Dr. Darshan Singh (Dean Post-graduate Studies, PAU), Jaswinder Bhalla and Bal Mukand Sharma (distinguished comedians and humour artists), Dr. Amrik Sandhu (former Director of Extension Education, PAU), Dr. Balwant Singh (former Dean College of Veterinary Sciences), Dr. Gulzar Singh Binning from Vancouver, BC, Dr. Amarjit Basra and Dr. Ranjit Basra from USA, Dr. Paramjit Randhawa and Dr. Hari Singh Sohi from California, USA, Dr Surinder Kooner (renowned pesticide manufacturer) from Ludhiana, V.R. Mehta (owner of successful pharmaceutical companies in India) & Satish Kumar (senior bank manager).

4. Accommodation Arrangements at PAU

We had requested Dr. Darshan Singh, Dean Post-graduate Studies, to streamline reservation of accommodation for NAPAUAA members visiting Ludhiana. Owing to his efforts, the Vice-Chancellor of PAU has ordered that the visiting PAU alumni will be allotted rooms in the University Guest Houses on priority basis subject to their payment of the required room charges. Alumni from Canada, USA and Australia can inform the Warden, University Guest Houses about their period of stay at Ludhiana in advance by e-mail, fax or in writing for reservation of accommodation. The order of the Vice-Chancellor has been printed in this souvenir.

5. Meeting of the General Body

A general body meeting was called on 23 October 2005 at 1330 Midway Blvd., Unit # 1, Mississauga, Ontario. Despite continuous advertisement in various newspapers and on radio about this meeting, only 26 persons attended. After thorough discussions, a committee was constituted to give recommendations on the following issues:

- i) Annual membership
- ii) Drafting of mission statement and constitution
- iii) Structure and term of executive committee
- iv) Year-end of activities
- v) Criteria for honouring visiting guests from PAU, Department of Agriculture Punjab and alumni from other parts of the world
- vi) Other issues

Two meetings of this committee have been held under the chairmanship of Harjit Dhaliwal. Other members of the committee are: Iqbal Bhangu, Paramjit Birdi, Kirpal Bodal, Kuldip Chahal, Manjit Dhindsa, Jagtar Shergill, Satwant Sidhu and Varinderpal Singh. The final report of this committee will be submitted to the general body for approval in April 2006. The committee members request the input of your ideas and comments regarding these issues or any other issues related to our association. Please send your comments or ideas to any member of the committee. You can find contact telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in the list of alumni printed in this souvenir.

Suggestions from alumni to improve the functioning of our association are always welcome.

ACCOUNTS

1. Annual Function at National Banquet Hall, 13 November 2004

Funds collected:

Collection through dinner tickets:	\$3,950.00
Collection through advertisements in souvenir	\$1,400.00

Total funds collected: **\$5,350.00**

Expenses:

Payment to National Banquet Hall:	\$4,000.00
D.J. charges:	\$ 250.00
Liquor & beer:	\$ 969.65
Tickets, gift certificates, etc.:	\$ 226.50
Liquor license:	\$ 25.00
Total expenses:	\$5,781.15

Balance: **(\$ 431.15)**

2. Picnic at Heart Lake Conservation Area, 31 July 2005

This year there was no fee to attend the picnic which was fully sponsored by: Ravi Sodhi, Paramjit Birdi, Kuldip Chahal, Tejinder Bedi, Iqbal Bhangu, Harbans Brar, K.P. Singh Rathode, Kuldip Sidhu, Tehal Brar, Satwant Sidhu, Kuldip Garcha, Amarjit Bal, Beant Bhatti, Ranjit Singh, Varinder Pal Singh, Sukhdev Sekhon, Kulwant Gill, Subhash Sharma and Manjit Dhindsa

3. Other Expenses (2004-2005)

Dr. Darshan Singh, Jaswinder Bhalla
& Bal Mukand Sharma welcome & honour

Sponsored by Subhash Sharma

Dr. Balwant Singh & Dr. Amrik Sandhu
welcome & honour

Sponsored by Subhash Sharma,
Manjit Dhindsa, Iqbal Bhangu,
Ranjit Singh, Kuldip Chahal &
Tejinder Bedi

V.R. Mehta & Satish Kumar welcome & honour Sponsored by Kuldip Chahal & Tejinder Bedi

Total other expenses	\$ 0.00
Total deficit (annual function, picnic, other expenses):	(\$ 431.15)
Balance forward from previous year	(\$ 118.07)
Total deficit at the end of reporting period	(\$ 549.22)