

C M T Y D

2001

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



2001 / 11 / 10

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

The Future Is Now



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Saluting Excellence in our Community



Our very best wishes to
the honoured recipients of the
Canadian Tamil Youth Development
Awards of Excellence.

We are proud of the
contributions you have
made to the community with
your talent, ingenuity,
imagination and initiative.
Here's wishing you continued
success in the new millennium.



Valuing People... Valuing Diversity

™ Trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia



Breaking The Barriers: Building The Future

CanTYD 705 Progress Avenue, Unit 40 Scarborough, ON M1H 2X1
Tel: 416-396-4663 Fax: 416-396-4522 Website: www.cantyd.org Email: awards@cantyd.org

This year marks the United Nations International Year of Volunteers. Having started with a mere 14 members in 1998, CanTYD has now flourished to over 300 members, who work tirelessly to empower, motivate and inspire our youth. CanTYDers' spend thousands of hours a month to ensure that Tamil Youth are supported in every possible way in order to maximize their potential: at their school, with the police, the justice system, the media and agencies across the City of Toronto and every level of government. The 2001 Awards of Excellence is the culmination of this spirit of volunteerism and dedication that is meant to highlight the finest accomplishments of our youth, professionals, and artists. Be it the documentary produced by our Medai Konal Team or the release of the "Akka Thamizha?" book or the incredible achievement of Dr. Devanesan - this event is to inspire everyone to set goals and to succeed.

Most importantly, this event is for you, the youth:

- you are the ray of sunlight that make us work 'til sundown;
- you are the hope that wipes your loved ones' cries;
- you are the inspiration that makes us who we are!

The Award winners we present today are the leaders of tomorrow. These winners are the seeds to the growth of a strong and vibrant Tamil-Canadian community: a community that embraces and helps each other; a community that cherishes its roots yet are willing to adopt and contribute to their new home; a community that will overcome the challenges of today for a better tomorrow; and a community that will work towards a "just society" for all. In these winners we may see a future Prime Minister, Premier, CEO, Labour Leader, Journalist, Social Worker, Teacher, or Doctor. Moreover, we will see these winners take on leadership and voluntary roles that will help our community and this great country.

This year, we have introduced two new Award Categories - Unique Distinguished Effort and Most Improved Student. These are special awards that recognize the enduring capacity of our youth to overcome challenges and to set goals and achieve them. These are significant achievements that should make all of us proud!

We are proud to dedicate the 2001 Awards of Excellence Program to the Spirit of Volunteerism and community service. We are grateful to the countless sponsors and the people from all walks of life who have come forward to make this event a roaring success. We want you to reflect on this event and make a commitment - a commitment to plant more seeds for the future of this community. We want you to rise to challenge - the challenge of giving back to your community - the challenge to make the sacrifices and to volunteer your time.

We want you to join us and work with us so that we can continue to make a difference. Our Special guests -the Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh and Dr. Ethirveerasingam have shown us in their own way that anything can be achieved with persistence, determination and dedication. Make the commitment now, to help our youth and our community to achieve their full potential so that we can make Canada an even better place!

Sathiyasangary Anandasangaree
Coordinator, CanTYD



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தடைகளைத் தகர்த்து எதிர்காலத்தை உருவாக்குவோம்

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இந்த வருடம் ஐக்கிய நாடுகளின் சர்வதேச தொண்டர்கள் வருடமாகும். 1998ல் 14 அங்கத்தவர்களுடன் ஆரம்பமாகிய கனடிய தமிழர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் இப்பொழுது 300க்கும் மேற்பட்ட அங்கத்தவர்களாகப் பொலிவுற்று எங்கள் இளைஞர் யுவதிகளை ஊக்குவித்தும், அயராது உழைக்கும் சக்தியையும் ஏற்படுத்தி வருவது தெரிந்ததே. கனடிய முன்னேற்ற நிலையமானது மாதமொன்றிற்கு ஆயிரத்திற்கும் மேற்பட்ட மணித்தியாலங்களை செலவுசெய்து இளைஞர் யுவதிகள் மத்தியில் நல்ல எதிர்கால வளர்ச்சியை ஏற்படுத்தும் முகமாக அரும்பாடுபட்டு உழைத்துவருகிறது. பாடசாலைகளிலும், காவல்துறையினருடனும், நீதித்துறைகளுடனும், செய்தி ஊடகங்களுடனும், முகவர்களுடனும், அரசு ஒவ்வொரு மட்டங்களுடனும் ரொரன்ரோ பெரும்பகுதிகளில் தொடர்புகளை ஏற்படுத்தி வருகிறது. 2001ம் ஆண்டுக்கான விருதுகள் விழா எங்கள் இளையதலைமுறையின் திறமையான அர்ப்பணங்களினாலும், தொழில் வல்லுணர்களினது அயரா உழைப்பினாலும், கலைஞர்களின் திறமையினாலும் பெறப்பட்டமை என்றே கூறமுடியும். எங்கள் "மேடை கோணல்" குழுவின் சிறு திரைப்படத் தொகுப்பானாலும் சரி, வெளியாகியுள்ள "அக்கா தமிழா?" புத்தகமானாலும் சரி, டாக்டர் தேவநேசனின் அரும் சாதனையானாலும் சரி, அனைவரையும் தங்கள் இலக்குகளை வழிவகுத்து வெற்றியடைய ஊக்கவிப்பதே இந்த விழாவின் நோக்கமாகும்.

மிகமுக்கியமாக, இந்த வைபவம் இளைஞர், யுவதிகள் உங்களுக்காகத்தான்:

நீங்கள்தான் ஆதவனின் ஒளிக்கீற்றுக்கள, சூரியன் அஸ்தமிக்கும் வரை நீங்கள் தான் எங்களை இயக்குகிறீர்கள்
நீங்கள்தான் உங்கள் அன்புக்குரியவர்களின் அழகையைத் துடைப்பதற்கு நம்பிக்கைச் சின்னமாகத் திகழ்கிறீர்கள்
நீங்கள்தான் நாங்கள் யார் என்பதை உணர்த்துகிறீர்கள்.

இன்றைய விருதுகள் பெறுவோர் நாளைய தலைவர்களாகத் திகழ்வார்கள். புலமாக மிழர்கின்ற தமிழ் கனேடிய சமுதாயத்தின் வளர்ச்சிக்கு வித்துக்களாக இவ் விருதுகளைப் பெறுவோர் எடுத்துக்காட்டாக இருப்பார்கள். இச் சமுதாயம் தனது பாரம்பரியத்தை மறவாமலும் கனேடிய பாரம்பரியத்தை மதித்து, இன்றைய சவால்களை வென்று நாளைய வெற்றிகளுக்காகப் பாட்டு, எல்லோருக்கும் "நீதியான சமுதாயத்தை" வென்றெடுக்கும். இவ்வாறு வெற்றி பெறுபவர்களில் நாம் எதிர்காலத்தில் பிரதம மந்திரியாகவோ, முதல்வராகவோ, தொழிற்சாலைவராகவோ, பத்திரிகை ஆசிரியராகவோ, சமூகசேவையாளராகவோ காணக்கூடியதாக இருக்கும். மேலும், இவ்வாறு வெற்றி பெறுவோர் தலைமைப்பதவியில் இருப்பவராகவோ அல்லது சுயவேலை செய்பவராகவோ இருந்து எங்கள் சமுதாயத்திற்கும் இந்த நாட்டுக்கும் உதவி செய்யமுடியும். இந்த வருடம், நாங்கள் இரண்டு புதிய விருதுகளுக்கான பிரிவுகளை அறிமுகம் செய்துள்ளோம். இவை "தனித்துவ திறமைத்துவத்திற்கான முயற்சி", "அதிதீவிர முயற்சி" என்பனவாகும். இவையாவும் இளைஞர், யுவதிகளின் பாடுபடும் சக்திக்காகவும், சவால்களை வென்றெடுக்கும் திறமைக்காகவும் அளிக்கப்படும் விசேட விருதுகளாகும். இச் சாதனைகள் எங்கள் அனைவரையும் பெருமையப்படக் கூடிய அளவிற்கு மிக முக்கிய பெறுபேறுகளாகும்.

2001ம் விருதுகள் விழாவைச் சமூகப் பணிகளுக்கு அர்ப்பணம் செய்வதில் நாம் பெருமையடைகிறோம். நாங்கள் எல்லா வேலைப்பிரிவுகளைச் சார்ந்த மக்களின் எண்ணற்ற ஊக்குவிப்புகளுக்கும் அதன்விளைவாக கிடைத்த அமோக வெற்றிக்கும் அவர்களுக்கு பெரிதும் கடமைப்பட்டுள்ளோம். நீங்கள் இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியை மனங்கொண்டு பிரதிபலிக்க வேண்டுமென்றும், இந்த சமுதாயத்தின் எதிர்கால வெற்றிக்கு வித்துக்களை விதைக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறோம். பிரதிபலனை எதிர்பாராது உங்கள் நேரத்தை சமுதாயச் சேவைக்காக அற்பணித்து தொண்டாற்றுவதை சவாலாக எடுக்குமாறு வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறோம்.

நீங்கள் எங்களுடன் இணைந்து எங்களது சமுதாயத்தின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகத் தொண்டாற்றுமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறோம். எங்கள் பிரத்தியேக விருந்தினர்களான மதிப்பிற்குரிய உஜ்ஜால் தொலாஞ் அவர்களும் டாக்டர் எதிர்வீரசிங்கம் அவர்களும் எதனையும் தொடர்ந்து சாதிப்பதனாலும் திடமான தீர்மானம் எடுப்பதனாலும், அர்ப்பணங்களை செய்வதனாலும் எதையும் சாதிக்க முடியும் என்பதற்கு உதாரணமாகத் திகழ்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இப்பொழுதே முயற்சியில் இறங்கி எங்கள் இளைஞர் யுவதிகளுக்கு உதவி செய்து எங்கள் சமுதாயத்தின் எதிர்கால வளர்ச்சிக்கும் பாடுபட்டு கனடாவை ஒரு மிகச்சிறந்த நாடாக மாற்ற முன்வாருங்கள்!

சத்தியசங்கரி ஆனந்தசங்கரி





Ontario

Greetings!

3RD ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE NIGHT
Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre

November 10, 2001

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am pleased to extend warm greetings to everyone gathered at the Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre's Third Annual Awards of Excellence Night.

It is always encouraging to see Ontario's youth excel in their fields. I commend the efforts of the staff and volunteers of the Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre for your efforts in helping to motivate and develop the young people in your community.

To tonight's awards recipients — your achievements exemplify the positive contributions that youth can make to our communities and our province. I congratulate you on your accomplishments, which will no doubt inspire other young people to strive for excellence.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable event.

Mike Harris

Congratulations to all the Award Recipients

The dedication and hard work of our Tamil employees has assisted in positioning Teknion as an international office furniture leader.

Today, we proudly show our support by sponsoring the Canadian Tamil Youth Development Awards of Excellence.

Teknion would like to congratulate the winners for all their hard work and devotion and wish them well in the future.



Teknion

**FURNITURE SOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW
AND CHANGING FORMS OF WORK.**

The Canadian Tamil Youth Development (CanTYD) Centre was formed in 1998 as a result of the need felt by the Tamil community for an organization dedicated to the development of youth and the fostering of a positive image within the community. Our mission is to empower and develop Tamil youth by holding fast to the principles of advocacy, partnership, education, assistance and research. The organization is structured as a non-profit centre that provides services to youth, parents and other stakeholders throughout the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). It is thought that these pro-active measures will considerably reduce the burden on other services by decreasing the crime rate and providing opportunities for youth involvement in positive community activities, while also contributing to the development and integration of Tamil youth into mainstream Canadian society. Our means of achieving this vision are through the following programs:

Research

research@cantyd.org

When CanTYD was initially formed, preliminary research was conducted to assess the needs of Tamil youth in Canada. Based on the recommendations of this preliminary research, several programs were started to address the issues that face Tamil youth. In August of 1999, CanTYD launched a year long in-depth research study funded by the National Strategy on Community Safety and Crime Prevention to explore the issues and concerns that face Tamil youth in the GTA. A survey of high school Tamil students as well as interviews of frontline workers and the youth themselves was conducted and culminated in the publication of *Toronto Tamil Youth: The Realities* in September 2000. CanTYD will continue to conduct research as needed to determine how to effectively serve the Tamil youth in Canada.

Awards of Excellence

awards@cantyd.org

Awards of Excellence, CanTYD's signature event seeks to motivate and inspire high school Tamil youth to excel in various fields and provide positive role models. Students are recognised for their achievements in Athletics, Academia, Community Service, Unique Distinguished Effort, Most Improved Effort, and Overall Achievement at this prestigious annual awards ceremony. In addition, awards are given to students who have strived to overcome great difficulty and also to those who have made a dramatic improvement in their scholastic career. An independent panel of judges determine the recipients of the awards. Award winners who are continuing on to post secondary education receive a scholarship towards their higher learning. It is CanTYD's vision to propel all Tamil youth to achieve their full potential.

Counselling

counselling@cantyd.org

The Centre provides peer counselling, information and referrals to Tamil youth. All information is kept confidential. Peer counsellors provide access to resources and options in general. They aid and advocate on behalf of Tamil youth with any issues they might have. CanTYD counsellors are trained by the Toronto District School Board of Education in the areas of conflict resolution, anger management, peer mediation and other appropriate areas.

Directions

directions@cantyd.org

This quarterly publication by CanTYD provides Tamil youth with a forum to express themselves through written contributions. Directions is widely distributed and read in the GTA and is also available to a global audience via the Internet. Readers of Directions include Tamils and non-Tamils who are working with or for the Tamil community.

Communications

communications@cantyd.org

The Communications Team, the outreach team of CanTYD, endeavours to establish relationships with mainstream and Tamil media to foster better relations between communities through workshops, presentations, and networking. The team provides support for all CanTYD programs to publicize the achievement of Tamil youth which in turn help overcome the inaccurate negative image of Tamil youth in the media while concurrently creating a positive one. The Communications Archiving Project (CAPS), aims to keep an accurate database of online and paper articles relating to Tamil youth.

Web Team

webmaster@cantyd.org

The web team connects CanTYD to the rest of the world. Our website, www.cantyd.org has been visited by individuals from all over the globe who have acclaimed the achievements of CanTYD. The website serves to inform both members and non-members of CanTYD's activities.



Project T.H.A.M.I.L.

tamil@cantyd.org

Project T.H.A.M.I.L. (Tamils Helping And Motivating to Inspire Leadership) team, works with Tamil youth at a grassroots level to inspire leadership in students. The program also seeks to involve parents as part of the process. To achieve this goal, Project THAMIL currently runs nine programs:

School Outreach - CanTYD currently works with Tamil students at five secondary schools on a regular basis. The outreach workers act to foster strong relations with students, teachers, administrators, and parents. Students are given the opportunity to actively participate in interactive workshops such as assertiveness, conflict resolution, and the bridging of the generation and cultural gap with parents.

Akka Thamizha? - *Akka Thamizha?* is a publication of literary and artistic submissions by Tamil students from Grade 7 to OAC. *Akka Thamizha?* is a result of an initiative by high school youth to promote youth expression, creativity, and originality through the arts.

Drop-In Centre - The Drop-In Centre serves to provide Tamil youth with a positive environment to interact with other youth and older mentors. Although no permanent facility exists at the present time, CanTYD uses community centres to hold constructive recreational activities during the summer and school year. The Drop-In Centre participants work on several projects, schoolwork assistance, sports, workshops, and discussion groups to name a few.

Girl Talk - Programs such as Girl Talk provide an avenue through which young Tamil women can voice their experiences and issues in an environment that is accepting and positive.

Parents Support Network - The team has created a Parents Support Network to provide Tamil parents with access to resources and support. A Parents Support Network will create greater awareness in areas such as education, careers in Canada, and the Canadian justice system.

Medai Konal - A young talented group of artists produce plays written and directed by writers and producers within the group. They have received rave reviews for their productions involving themes of domestic violence, substance abuse, and violence presented at several community events during 2001.

Youth Transition Program - A program for grade 8 students, it aims to make the transition from elementary school to high school a better and comfortable process. This is achieved throughout the transition summer with a workshop program facilitated by high school students on issues that they encounter in the high school environment (e.g., peer pressure, popularity, conflict resolution, etc.).

UniTY - A team dedicated to delivering a message of cooperation, unity and respect that CanTYD intends to resonate throughout the Tamil community. It provides an avenue through which the artistic, design, and production skills of youth are developed and utilized. T-shirts, designed by this team have now become the official t-shirt of CanTYD. UniTY is currently designing slides to be presented at local cinema theatres as large screen advertisements.

York Diversity Project - The designing team of a diversity and anti-racism poster campaign for the York Region District School Board.

Community Watch

comwatch@cantyd.org

CanTYD works with other organizations to find effective solutions for issues relating to the Police Services and seeks to educate the police on Tamil community issues. In partnership with other Tamil organizations and the Toronto Police services, CanTYD facilitates the Community Watch program. In addition, an important task of Community Watch is to provide education and awareness of the history, cultural background and issues of the Tamil Community that will hopefully assist police in serving the community in a culturally sensitive manner.



Finance Team

finance@cantyd.org

The finance team provides accounting and financial support for CanTYD's initiatives. To run the various programs in CanTYD, financial help is solicited from government grants, corporate sponsorships, and private donations. While maintaining the financial integrity of CanTYD, the team facilitates the training of new members in a non-profit financial environment.

Volunteer Team

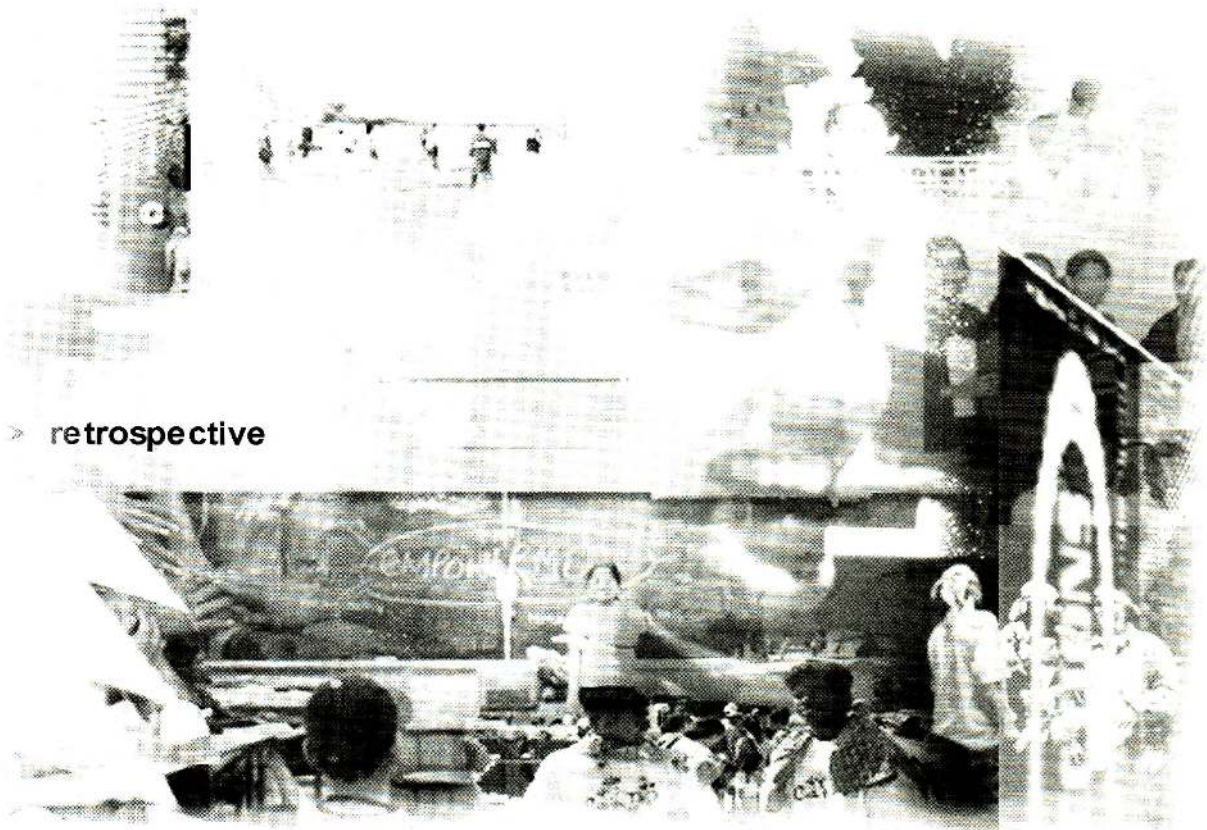
volunteer@cantyd.org

With over 300 volunteer applications in the CanTYD database, the volunteer team ensures that all new volunteers have found their niche in CanTYD. Facilitating the smooth transition into this organization, this team endeavours to make the "first impression" a good one.

Admin Team

coordinators@cantyd.org

This team is the engine that ensures the smooth running of the day-to-day activities of CanTYD. From ensuring the accuracy of CanTYD administration records to maintaining contact with the community and composing letters to service providers to updating volunteer hour logs, this team is involved in every facet of CanTYD. An opportunity to learn about the inner workings of a non-profit organization, volunteers eagerly sign-up for this up-and-coming team.



> retrospective



கனடியத் தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம்

தமிழ் சமூகத்தில் இளைஞர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு முற்று முழுதாக முனைந்து உழைக்கக் கூடிய ஒரு நிறுவனத்தின் தேவை கருதியும், அதே தமிழ் சமூகத்தில் சீரிய தலைமைத்துவ எடுத்துக்காட்டுகளை வளர்ப்பதன் அவசியத்திற்காகவும் கனடியத் தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் 1998ல் உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. ஆய்வுகள், கல்வி, உதவிகள் வழங்கல், பக்கபலமாகப் பங்களித்தல், பரிந்துரையாடல் போன்ற பல வழிகளையும் பயன்படுத்தித் தமிழ் இளைஞர்களை வலுப்படுத்தி வழிப்படுத்துவதே எமது இலட்சியமாகும். இந்த நிலையமானது ரொரன்ரோ பெரும்பாகத்தில் (GTA) வாழும் தமிழ்ப் பெற்றோர்கள், இளைஞர்கள், ஆர்வமுடையோர் ஆகியோருக்காகப் போதிய சேவைகளை வழங்கும் இலாபநோக்கமற்ற ஒரு நிறுவனமாகப் பதிவு பெற்று இயங்கிவருகின்றது. இத்தகைய முன்வழிநடத்தல் செயற்பாடுகள் மூலம் இளைஞர்களை ஆக்கபூர்வமான வழிகளில் வழிநடத்தி குற்றச்செயல்களின் நிகழ்வு விகிதாசாரத்தைக் குறைத்து கனடிய சமுதாயத்தில் அவர்கள் தம்மை இணைத்துக் கொள்ளவும் முன்னேற்றம் அடையவும் எம் நிலையம் உதவுகிறது. நாம் எமது இலக்குகளைப் பின்வரும் செயற்பாட்டு வழிமுறைகள் மூலம் அடைய முயல்கிறோம்.

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கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்ட காலத்தில் கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர்களின் தேவைகள் பற்றிய தொடக்க ஆய்வொன்று நிகழ்த்தப்பட்டது. இவ்வாய்வின் ஆலோசனைகளின்படி தமிழ் இளைஞர்கள் எதிர்நோக்கிய பல்வேறு பிரச்சனைகளுக்குத் தீர்வு காணும் வகையில் பல புதிய திட்டங்கள் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டன. தேசிய செயற்திட்டத்தில் சமூகப் பாதுகாப்பும் குற்றத் தடுப்புகளும் என்ற அமைப்பினால் வழங்கப்பட்ட நிதியுதவியுடன் 1999ம் ஆண்டு ஆய்வொன்று மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டது. ஒருவருட காலத்தில் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்ட இந்த ஆய்வில் ரொரன்ரோ பெரும்பாகத்தின் தமிழ் இளைஞர்கள் எதிர்நோக்கும் சவால்களும் பிரச்சனைகளும் அடிமட்ட நிலையிலிருந்து ஆராயப்பட்டன. இதற்காகக் கல்லூரி மாணவர்களிடமும், இளைஞர்களுடன் முன்னணியில் வேலை செய்பவர்களுடன் நிகழ்த்தப்பட்ட ஆய்வுகள், நேர்முகம் காணல்களின் தொகுப்பாக "ரொரன்ரோ தமிழ் இளைஞர்கள் - யதார்த்த நிலைகள்" என்ற அறிக்கை செப்டம்பர் 2000ம் ஆண்டில் வெளியிடப்பட்டது. தொடர்ந்து சீரிய சேவைகளை வழங்குவதற்காகக் காலத்திற்குக் காலம் தேவை அடிப்படையில் மேலும் ஆய்வுகள் எம் நிலையத்தினால் மேற்கொள்ளப்படும்.

விருதுகள் வழங்கும் விழா

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தமிழ் இளைஞர்களுக்கு சக இளைஞர்களது ஆலோசனைகள், வழிமுறைகள், செய்தி விபரங்கள், அறிமுகம் செய்தல் போன்ற வழிகளில் இத்திட்டம் துணைபுரிகிறது. இளைஞர்கள் கூறும் விபரங்கள் யாவும் அந்தரங்கமாக வைக்கப்படுகிறது. பொதுவான விபர ஆதாரங்கள் வழிமுறைகளைகள் போன்றவற்றை இந்த இளைஞர்கள் பெற உதவுவதுடன் அவர்களின் தனிப்பட்ட பிரச்சனைகளுக்குத் தீர்வு வழிமுறை ஆலோசனைகளையும் சக வழிநடத்துனர்கள் வழங்குகின்றனர். கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலைய வழிநடத்துனர்களுக்கு ரொரன்ரோ மாவட்டக் கல்விச் சபையினரால் விசேட பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இப் பயிற்சி, பிரச்சனைகளுக்கு சுமுகமான தீர்வுகாணல், கோபத்தைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தும் வழிமுறைகள், சக நண்பர்களின் மத்தியஸ்த வழிமுறைகள், இளைஞர்களுக்கு உதவக்கூடிய ஏனைய துறைகள் போன்றவற்றில் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

"வழிகள்" சஞ்சிகை

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தமிழ் இளைஞர்கள் தம் சுய வெளிப்பாடுகளை தமது பங்களிப்புகளின் மூலம் உருவாக்கித்தர இக் காலாண்டு சஞ்சிகை வெளியீடு உதவுகிறது. ரொரன்ரோ பெருநகரின் பல பாகங்களுக்கும் இது விநியோகமாவதுடன் பலராலும் விரும்பி வாசிக்கப்படுகிறது. தொடர் வலையத்தினூடாக இச்சஞ்சிகை உலக வாசகர்களையும் சென்றடைகிறது. இவ்வெளியீடு தமிழரால் மட்டுமன்றி தமிழ் சமூகத்துடனும் சமூகத்திற்காகவும் பணிபுரியும் மற்றினத்தவர்களாலும் வாசிக்கப்படுகிறது.



கனடியத் தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம்

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கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையத்தின் சமூக தொடர்புகளின் பாலமாக இத்துறை செயற்படுகிறது. இக்குழு கனடிய பெரும்பாக தொடர்புசாதனங்களுடனும், தமிழ் சமூக தொடர்புசாதனங்களுடனும் இணைப்புகளை உருவாக்க உழைக்கிறது. பல்வேறு சமூகங்களுக்கிடையேயும் பரஸ்பர நட்புறவுத் தொடர்புகளை பட்டறைகள், அறிமுகங்கள், வலைத் தொடர்புமுறைகள் மூலம் உருவாக்க முயல்கிறது. கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையத்தின் எல்லாப்பிரிவுகளுடனும் இணைந்து செயலாற்றி தமிழ் இளைஞர்களின் சாதனைகளை வெளியுலகிற்கு அறியத் தருவதுடன், சீரிய தலைமைத்துவத்தின் பிரதிபலிப்பை உருவாக்க முனைகிறது. CAPS எனப்படும் தொடர்புசாதனங்களால் வெளியிடப்பட்ட செய்திகளைக் கோர்வையாகச் சேர்த்துத் தொகுக்கும் முயற்சியும் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டுவருகிறது.

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சமூக கண்காணிப்பு

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கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் பிற நிறுவனங்களுடன் இணைந்து எல்லா வளங்களையும் பகிர்ந்து பாவிக்கிறது. அதுமட்டுமன்றி காவர்துறை சேவைகளுடன் தொடர்பான பிரச்சனைகளுக்குத் தீர்க்கமான வழிமுறைகளிற் தீர்வுகளைக் காண முயற்சி செய்கிறது. இதற்காக காவர்துறையினருக்கு தமிழ் சமூக விடயங்களில் கூடிய அறிவையும் விழிப்புணர்ச்சியையும் உருவாக்க செயற்படுகிறது. பிற சமூக நிறுவனங்களுடன் ரொரன்ரோ காவர்துறையினருடனும் இணைந்து சமூக கண்காணிப்புத் திட்டத்தை செயற்படுத்துவதைச் சுலபமாக்குவதில் கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் பங்கேற்கிறது. இச் சமூக கண்காணிப்புத் திட்டம் உருவாக்கியுள்ள "நகரத்தின் அழைப்புக்குரல்" என்ற தன்னியக்கத் தொலைபேசிச் சேவை தமிழில் மக்களுக்கு சமூகத்தில் இடம்பெற்ற அண்மைக்கால நிகழ்வுகளை அறியத் தருகிறது. இச் சமூக கண்காணிப்புத் திட்டத்தின் மற்றொரு முக்கிய பணி என்னவென்றால் காவர்துறையினர் தமிழ் சமூகத்துடன் கலாச்சார புரிந்துணர்வுடன் செயற்பட உதவுவதற்கு தமிழர்களின் வரலாறு கலாச்சாரப் பின்னணி, பிரச்சனைகள் பற்றிய ஊடக அறிவை காவர்துறையினருக்கு வழங்குகின்றமை ஆகும்.

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கனடியத் தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம்

தமிழ்த் திட்டம் (தலைமைத்துவமடைய தமிழ் இளைஞர்களுக்கு ஊக்கமும் உதவியும் அளிப்பது)

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பாடசாலைத் தொடர்பு மையங்கள் - கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் தற்போது ஐந்து உயர்கல்லூரிகளில் தமிழ் மாணவர்களுடன் ஒழுங்காக இம்மையங்களில் செயற்படுகிறது. இத்திட்டம் மாணவர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள், நிர்வாகம், பெற்றோர் ஆகியோருடைய வலுவான உறவுகளை உருவாக்கும் வகையிற் தொழிற்படுகிறது. தம்மை முன்னிலைப் படுத்தல் பிரச்சனைகளுக்கு சுமுகமான தீர்வுகள் "பெற்றோர் - கலாச்சார பாரம்பரிய இடைவெளிகளுக்குப் பாலம் அமைத்தல்" போன்ற கலந்துரையாடும் பட்டறைகளில் மாணவர்கள் தம்முனைப்புடன் பங்குபற்ற வாய்ப்பளிக்கப்படுகிறது.

அக்கா தமிழா? - ஏழாம் வகுப்பு முதல் ஓசி (OAC) வகுப்புவரையுள்ள தமிழ் மாணவர்களின் கலை இலக்கிய படைப்புக்களைத் தாங்கிவரும் சஞ்சிகைதான் "அக்கா தமிழா" ஆகும். மாணவர்களின் உணர்ச்சி வெளிப்பாடுகள்இ புதிய உருவாக்கங்கள், சுய ஆக்கங்களைக் கலைகளின் மூலம் வெளிக்கொணர்ந்து படைக்க "அக்கா தமிழா" ஊக்கமளிக்கிறது.

பொழுதுபோக்கு நடவடிக்கைகள் - தமிழ் மாணவர்கள் நேரிய சூழலில் தம் வயதொத்த பிற இளைஞர்களுடனும் வழிநடத்துனர்களுடனும் கலந்துறவாட Drop In மையம் உதவுகிறது. இன்றுவரை இம்மையத்திற்கு நிரந்தரமான ஓர் அமைவிடம் கிடைக்கவில்லை எனினும் இத்தகைய நேரிய வளர்ச்சிக்குரிய பொழுதுபோக்கு நடவடிக்கைகளை கோடை காலத்திலும் பாடசாலைக் காலத்திலும் சமூக நிலையங்களைப் பயன்படுத்தி கனடிய தமிழ் இளைஞர் முன்னேற்ற நிலையம் மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறது. தமிழ் இளைஞர்களைப் பற்றிய "சிலைட்" படங்கள் பார்த்தல், அதிகார பங்களிப்பு என்ற தலைப்பில் நவீன நடனம், காற்பந்தாட்டம், கைப்பந்தாட்டம் போன்ற நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் இந்த Drop In மையத்திற்கு வரும் மாணவர்கள் பங்குபற்றுகின்றனர்.

பெற்றோர் இணைப்புத் திட்டம் - தமிழ்ப் பெற்றோர்களுக்கான ஓர் ஆதரவுத் திட்டம் அமைக்கப்பட்டு அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வளங்களும் ஆதரவும் வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. கனடிய கல்வி முறைஇ தொழில் வாய்ப்புக்கள்இ நீதி நிருவாக அமைப்புமுறைகள் போன்ற துறைகளில் பெற்றோருக்கு கூடிய அறிவும் விளக்கங்களும் கொடுக்கப்படுகின்றன.

பெண்கள் கலந்துரையாடல் - ஒரு சுமுகமான ஆதரவான சூழலில் தமிழ் இளம் பெண்கள் தம் அனுபவங்கள், பிரச்சனைகள், சவால்கள் போன்றவற்றைப் பகிர்ந்து உரையாடுதல்.

மேடை கோணல் - தமிழ் இளைஞர்கள் தம் குழுவிலுள்ள எழுத்தாளர்களின் படைப்புக்களை இயக்குநர்களின் உதவியுடன் தத்தம் திறமைகளை வெளிப்படுத்தி நாடகங்களாக உருவாக்கி வழங்குகின்றனர். வீடுகளில் இடம்பெறும் வன்முறைகளும் விளைவுகளும், தகாத பொருட்களின் பாவியும் விளைவுகளும், சமூகத்தில் இடம்பெறும் வன்முறைகளின் தாக்கம் போன்ற கருத்துக்களை மையமாக வைத்து உருவாக்கப்பட்ட இந்த நாடகங்கள் பல்வேறு தமிழ்ச்சமூக நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் மேடையேற்றியது மட்டுமன்றிப் பலரது ஏகோபித்த பாராட்டுகளையும் பெற்று வளர்கிறது.

இளைஞர்கள் புதிய மாற்றங்களில் இணையும்கால திட்டம் - எட்டாம் வகுப்பு மாணவர்கள் ஆரம்ப பாடசாலைகளிருந்து உயர் கல்லூரிக்குச் சென்று சுமுகமாகவும் சிறப்பான முறையிலும் தம்மை இணைத்துக்கொள்ள வழிவகுக்கிறது. இவர்கட்குக் கோடை விடுமுறைகளில் பட்டறைகள் நடாத்தி வழிகாட்டுகின்றது. ஏற்கனவே உயர்பாடசாலைகளில் உள்ள மாணவர்கள் இப்பட்டறைகளில் தாம் எதிர்நோக்கிய சவால்கள் அவற்றை எதிர்கொள்ளும் வழிவகைகள் என்பனபற்றி கலந்துரையாடி விளக்குவார்கள்.

ஒருங்கிணைதல் - கூட்டுறவு, ஒற்றுமை நோக்கு, பரஸ்பர மரியாதை போன்ற நல்லெண்ணங்களைத் தமிழ்ச் சமூகமெங்கும் வழங்கும் ஓர் முயற்சியாகும். இத்திட்டத்தில் இளைஞர்களின் கலையுணர்வு, திட்டமிடும் திறன், ஆக்கத்திறன் போன்றவை பயன்படுத்தப்பட்டு விருத்திசெய்யப்படுகின்றன. இவர்களால் உருவாக்கப்பட்ட மேற்சட்டைகள் எம் நிலையத்தினரின் உத்தியோக பூர்வ மேற்சட்டைகளாகப் பயன்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. அத்தடன் ரொரன்ரோ சினிமா திரைகளில் விளம்பரம் செய்தற்கென "சிலைடுகளும்" உருவாக்கப்படுகின்றன.

யோர்க் பல்லினத்திட்டம் - யோர்க் பிரதேச பாடசாலைச் சபைக்காகப் பல்லினங்களின் வேறுபாடுகளை மதித்துணரும் வகையிலும் இனத்துவேஷ எதிர்ப்பு சுவரொட்டி விளம்பரங்கள் இக்குழுவினரால் திட்டமிடப்பட்டு உருக்கப்படுகிறது.



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Memories from AofE 2000

Building on the steps of the previous year's inaugural Awards of Excellence, on the evening of Saturday, November 4th, 2000, the Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre (CanTYD) honoured eighteen Tamil students for their brilliance in academics, athletics, classical arts and overall excellence in Toronto, Canada. It was CanTYD's second annual Awards of Excellence, an initiative to recognize students who had excelled, provide positive role models to other Tamil youth, and to highlight the positive aspects within the Tamil community as a whole.

The 2000 Awards of Excellence, which took place at the prestigious Royal Ontario Museum, showcased some of Toronto's finest Tamil youth. The award winners ranged from Grade 9 to OAC and were selected from a pool of applicants across the Greater Toronto Area by an independent judging panel. The judging panel consisted of school principals, university professors, lawyers, doctors, and leading business entrepreneurs. Entrance scholarships were granted to award winners in Grade 13, thanks to the generous support of sponsors such as Scotiabank, Teknion, and N2End Connectivity. Awards of Excellence 2000 boasted a sell out crowd of more than 500 attendees. The attendees included directors of various school boards, politicians, community leaders, police superintendents, corporate sponsors, and CanTYD supporters, all of who were present at the event to congratulate the night's honourees - Tamil youth.

The emcees of the night, Sujata Raisingaini of OnTV and Dushy Gnanapragasam did a fabulous job in ensuring that the event progressed smoothly. Awards were handed in the Academic, Athletic, Community Service, Classical Arts, Overall, Professional and Lifetimes categories. The 2000 Awards of Excellence featured a memorable instrumental performance, "Tala Vadyam", by students of the Mrdangam Shestharam. Also, later that evening, an elegant Bharatha Natyam piece entitled "Adum Chidambaram" was performed by Suki Mahalingam on behalf of the Natyalaya Dance Academy.

The reception featured displays of art created by Tamil youth throughout the room. The art received lavish praise from one and all. A well-received presentation, created by a team of high school CanTYD volunteers, was made highlighting CanTYD's many achievements within its brief two years of existence. The presentation left a lasting impression amongst many in the audience.

As part of the event, CanTYD released the first edition of its artistic and literary publication entitled Akka Thamizha?. Akka Thamizha?, a compilation of Canadian Tamil high school students' artistic forms of expressions was released with a lot of fanfare. The first book was presented to Trevor Ludski, Principal, Safe School Project.

The keynote speaker was Rahul Bhardwaj, a successful business lawyer, member of the Executive Committee for the United Way of Greater Toronto, and the Vice President, Community Relations, Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid. In a stirring keynote address, Mr. Bhardwaj spoke to the Tamil youth, urging "them to seize the moment" and to realize that "seizing the moment was the best way to live the good life [lead a life of happiness]." As the keynote speaker, Mr. Bhardwaj presented the two awards of the night geared for Tamil adults. The Professional Award which recognizes Tamils who have performed exceptionally in their careers was awarded to Caroline Jeba, TV reporter for CFMT and co-anchor of South Asian Newsweek. The Lifetime Achievement Award, an award that recognizes and honours a Tamil who has excelled in his or her chosen field and provides inspiration to others was awarded to the late Prof. Thurairajah. The late Prof. Thurairajah was honoured for his professional achievements and his dedication to the Tamil community; his son-in-law accepted the award on behalf of him and gave a brief speech.

The night truly was a celebration of the achievements of Tamil youth in Toronto, and bodes well for the future of both the Tamil Canadian and the larger Canadian communities.



Unique Distinguished Effort



Recognizing students who have overcome personal hardships and set an example for others.



bavani KAILAYANATHAN

Name: Bavani Kailayanathan
Grade: OAC
School: Centre for Education and Training
Currently studying Biotechnology at York University

Words for fellow youth...

"When you wish to achieve something you can't expect success in a moment. Be patient and stick it out. An important task cannot be done without patience and perseverance."

Bavani is an exceptional student who has overcome a lot of adversity in her life to get to where she is today. She is an honours student and has received awards in math, chemistry and art. Bavani has volunteered her time as a tamil teacher and as an office assistant. Further, Bavani is a proven orator, having won a number of awards in that area. All this, while raising two young children, and maintaining a family life! She truly is an inspiration for youth everywhere.

"Where there is a will, there is a way."

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Academic Achievement



Recognizing students who have performed exceptionally well in scholastics.



Name: Mayura Kandasamy
Grade: 9
School: Dr. Norman Bethune C.I.

mayura KANDASAMY

10 years from now...

10 years from now I see myself still in university specializing in neurology.

The importance of this award...

Winning this award is important because it is an encouraging factor that makes me want to achieve more.

"Do not follow where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Although Mayura's high school life has only recently begun, her list of achievements is endless. She received junior and senior completion awards in Kumon (an institution for Math and English), placed first in the regional and second in Ontario for Spelling Bee of Canada contests, and in the top 25% in the University of Waterloo's Pascal Math Contest. Her great scholastic vigour is also evident in the high academic average she has maintained. Mayura's teachers have described her as one of the top students in her classes.



Name: Jana Nadesan
Grade: 10
School: Rosedale Heights S.S.

jana NADESAN

Role model...

Mahatma Gandhi because he chose peace as a solution instead of war, and Nelly McClung because she fought for women's rights and was the first woman elected to the Canadian Parliament.

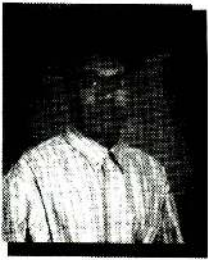
10 years from now...

I see myself as a successful Systems Design Engineer working for NASA.

"All the world's a stage and most of us are totally unrehearsed."

Jana has distinguished herself as an exceptional student by excelling in all subject areas. This young woman has been on the honour roll the two years she has been attending high school. She enthusiastically helps other students in all academic areas. She tutors schoolmates in Math, English, and Science in the after school homework club, and also finds time to help neighbourhood children master the English language. Further, Jana has also received numerous academic awards in recognition of her hard work and strong academic skills.





shajeehan KATHIRGAMANATHAN

Name: Shajeehan Kathirgamanathan
Grade: 11
School: Winston Churchill C.I.

Role model...
My brother, Gobi.

Words for fellow youth...
Have your priorities straight during and after the school year. Also, get involved in extra-curricular activities at school. You learn valuable skills in extra-curricular activities that you would never learn in any school subject.

*"The most important thing about goals is having one."
- Geoffrey F. Albert*

Shajee is an exceptional student with an academic average for the record books! He has been the school champion for the Pascal and Cayley Math contests, participated in the Invitation Mathematics Challenge, and received the Certificate of Achievement for his high academic average. Furthermore, Shajee has won The Rotary Club's top student award two years in a row, the Governor General's Canadian History Award, and the Ontario Association of Physics Teachers Award. His proficiency in various subjects has been demonstrated repeatedly in his three years of high school.



meera KANDASAMY

Name: Meera Kandasamy
Grade: 12
School: L'Amoreaux C.I.

10 years from now...
I see myself rushing around the ER trying to save lives.

Words for fellow youth...
We all have our faults. However our greatest glory is not in never failing or making mistakes but in rising each time we fall.

"Do not follow where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Meera Kandasamy is a very hard-working young woman who shows her flair in various areas. While maintaining a high academic average, she works at the Agincourt Kumon Math & Reading Centre and assists other students in their reading, spelling, and writing work. She has won the "Literary Explosion Contest" three times, as well as the Highest Academic Achievement award at her school. In addition, Meera is also a talented dancer, flutist, and tubist.



bavani KAILAYANATHAN

Name: Bavani Kailayanathan
Grade: OAC
School: Centre for Education and Training
Currently studying Biotechnology at York University

I attribute my success to...
I attribute my success to working hard. I sincerely believe that hard work can bail a person from adversity and take him to fortune. As well, I must also mention my husband. He is always encouraging me to pursue higher studies.

The importance of this award...
This award is my vitamin. It gives me added energy to pursue my goals.

"Where there is a will, there is a way."

Bavani is an exceptional student who has overcome many challenges in her life to get to where she is today. She is an honours student and has received awards in math, chemistry, and art. Bavani has volunteered her time as a Tamil teacher and as an office assistant. Further, Bavani is a proven orator, having won a number of awards. All this, while raising two young children and maintaining a family life. She truly is an inspiration for youth everywhere.





thadsana PREMACHANDRAN

Name: Thadsana Premachandran

Grade: OAC

School: Rosedale Heights S.S.

Currently studying Computer Engineering at the University of Waterloo

Thadsana is a remarkable student who has shown her talents in and out of the classroom. She is the treasurer of the Student Council, School Council, Chief Editor of the yearbook, editor of the Literary/Arts Magazine, and much more. Thadsana has also won the Centennial Scholarship for being the top student in her grade the last three years. Her hard work has also won her the Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Citizenship Award and Scholarship. Thadsana's outstanding performance has not only won her this year's Overall Achievement award but she has also tied for the Academic award.

I attribute my success to...

*Hard work. Self-determination.
Endless effort.*

CanTYD's influence on me...

CanTYD has motivated and encouraged me to help the youngsters in our community. Also, it has many unique individuals whom I look up to.

"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."

- General George Patton



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Program Agenda

7:00 Reception

7:30 Canadian National Anthem and Tamil Thai Vanakam

Opening Remarks

CanTYD Documentary by the Medai Konal Team

A documentary on Tamil youth violence, the views of the community, and CanTYD's role in these issues.

*Presentation of Unique Distinguished Effort Award
sponsored by Sunflowers Furniture
presented by Ms. Margie Vincent, President*

*Presentation of Academic Achievement Awards
sponsored by Royal Bank
presented by Imtiaz Seyid, Director, South Asian Markets*

Keynote Speech by Dr. Nagalingam Ethirveerasingham

*Presentation of Professional Achievement Award
presented by Dr. Nagalingam Ethirveerasingham*

Bharathanatyam Performance by Mr. Duston Jeristus (Kannan) and Ms. Anedani Arulrajasingam (Ane)

A South Indian classical dance that is reputed to be between 2,000 and 4,000 years old. It is one of the most evolved art forms and relates to all the aspects of human existence: body, psyche and the soul.

*Presentation of Athletic Achievement Awards
sponsored by Teknion
presented by Mr. Allan Bartolini, VP of Corporate Human Resources and Development*

Presentation of "Akka Thamizha 2001"

presented to Ms. Barbara Hall, Chair of the National Strategy on



Program Agenda

Intermission (15 mins)

Presentation of Most Improved Student Award

presented by Ms. Caroline Jeba, Co-host/Reporter, South Asian Newsweek

Presentation of Outstanding Community Contribution Awards

sponsored by Scotiabank

presented by Ms. Christine Williams, District Vice President

Presentation of Overall Achievement Awards

presented by Ms. Gerry Connelly, Executive Officer, TDSB

Chief Guest Speech by The Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh

Presentation of Lifetime Achievement Award

presented by The Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh

Musical Performance by Agni under the direction of Mrs. Silvia Francais

A contemporary fusion band of talented young musicians that has brought together the ethnic streams of Tamil and Western sounds. This group is a sample of tomorrow's young Tamil generation with its blend of cultural flavour.

Final Thoughts



Tonight's Speakers

CHIEF GUEST



The Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh

As Canada's first Indo-Canadian premier, he made the Sikh community proud by becoming British Columbia's premier on February 21, 2000.

- ... BA in political science
- ... formed the Labour Advocacy Research Association and the Farm workers Legal Information Service and recently the Canadian Farm workers' Union
- ... Involvement in a number of community organizations
- ... Won election in 1991 and was appointed Attorney General in 1995
- ... Served as Minister of Government Services and Minister responsible for multiculturalism, human rights, sports and immigration



Dr. Nagalingam Ethirveerasingham

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Ethirveerasingham has made a contributed greatly to the Tamil community worldwide. Some of his achievements include:

- ... BSc. at University of California, M.A, California State Polytechnic University, Phd. Cornell University, Agricultural Education
- ... Olympian in Helsinki(1952) & Melbourne (1956)
- ... Gold Medalist(1958), Silver Medalist(1962) at Asian Games
- ... Vice captain of the Sierra Leone National Cricket Team; fast bowler
- ... Humanitarian volunteer in Vanni, Sri Lanka from 1995-1999
- ... 1999 Awards of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award winner



Athletic Achievement



Recognizing students who have accomplished high standards in athleticism and/or excellence in sportsmanship.



Name: Melanie Ratnam
Grade: 11
School: Notre Dame Catholic S.S.

Melanie is one busy, energetic young woman. She has been a member of the Badminton Squad for three years and received the Bantam silver medal at the TDCAA in 1999. Last year, she was part of the division leading Junior Basketball team. Furthermore, Melanie has competed and placed respectably in many Track and Field events including shot put, long jump and relay. She has her Bronze Medallion in swimming and is currently working on the Bronze Cross. In 1999, Melanie was named the Athlete of the Year in recognition of her many accomplishments.

melanie RATNAM

The importance of this award...

Ever since I was six years old, my father and mother have helped me whole-heartedly with my sports career. They have seen me through thick and thin and have been there every second of my life. Winning this award is import to me, only because it brings joy to my parents and their pleasure is the burning flame of my life.

"The family that prays together, stays together."

- Anonymous



Name: Vanika Sivendrarajah
Grade: OAC
School: Woburn C.I.

Currently studying Life Sciences at the University of Toronto, Scarborough Campus

Vanika has been involved in many athletic activities in various sports. As captain of the "Violatorz" Community Volleyball Team, she led her team to victory. She's also a Teacher's Assistant for Girls' Phys. Ed, a member of the Senior Girls' Volleyball Team, a member of the Girls' Varsity Field Hockey Team and a member of Woburn C.I.'s Athletic Association. On top of this, Vanika has also demonstrated her leadership skills in the many volunteer activities and projects she has taken on.

vanika SIVENDRARAJAH

The importance of this award...

Winning this particular award is important to me because it helps emphasize that Tamil women will and shall play a significant role in athletics.

10 years from now...

A pediatrician working with children in 3rd world countries.

"Do not go where the path may lead, but go where there is no path and leave a trail."

- Les Brown



Most Improved Student



Recognizing students who have shown significant improvement in their academic endeavours over the past year.



mahathman KRISHNAPILLAI

Name: Mahathman Krishnapillai

Grade: OAC

School: Woburn C.I.

Currently studying Electrical Engineering at Ryerson University

Role models...

My parents. They are very hardworking and caring. They are my source of inspiration and they work really hard to provide me with opportunities to become successful.

The importance of this award...

This award motivates and encourages me to work even harder in the future. It also shows me that hard work never goes unrewarded.

Mahathman has done very well for himself this past year, as is evident in the improvement of his grades. After "deciding to study" and pursue a university education, he increased his average by an astonishing 17% in just a year. One of his teachers describes this change as stemming from his "determination to succeed." Mahathman is living proof that hard work and determination can really pay off.

"You are never given a wish without also being given the power to make it come true."

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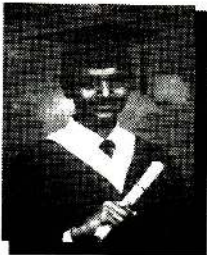
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Outstanding Community Contribution



Recognizing students who have made significant contributions towards improving the community and school life.



babujie ARULSUBRAMANIAM

Name: Babujie Arulsubramaniam
Grade: 9
School: L'Amoreaux C.I.

10 years from now...

I see my self in medical school, on my way to becoming a surgeon.

I attribute my success to...

I attribute my success to the encouragement that my family has provided me throughout my life.

"It is possible for anyone to be a high achiever by trying hard."

Babujie began his volunteer career at the age of 8. He tutored 2nd and 3rd grade students at the Thamil Olli Association. He is a mentor and Jr. Chess Champion at the Thunder Chess Club where he coaches over forty beginner and intermediate level chess players. He was involved in house league hockey, Student Leadership Council and piano. Babujie has been recognized for his exemplary leadership, academic excellence in Mathematics & Thirukural recitals.



thanu NADARAJAH

Name: Thanu Nadarajah
Grade: 11
School: Dr. Norman Bethune C.I.

Words for fellow youth...

Always try to put forth your best effort. Don't give up if you don't succeed at first. Eventually you will.

I would want to live the life of...

I would choose to live the life of Nelson Mandela. His courage and hope has inspired me to stand up for what I believe in.

"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars."

- Les Brown

Thanu is the Committee Chair of OSAID (Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving), student ambassador of the Kids Help Phone and the Grade 11 Rep. She is the editor of the yearbook and a member of Personal & Social Responsibility club, athletic council, women's soccer & hockey teams. Thanu has dedicated her time at the Kidney Foundation, Scarborough Grace Hospital and Canadian Cancer Society. Her achievements include the Pilot International Leadership Award, School Council Award & Toronto Sci-Tech Millennium Fair 2000 Bronze Medal.





jathishinie JEGATHISWARAN

Name: Jathishinie Jegathiswaran
Grade: 12
School: Woburn C.I.

Role model...
Mahatma Gandhi

Hobbies...
Reading, music.

"Do your best and fear no man"

Jathishinie is an intelligent and conscientious worker, a bharathanatyam dancer, a veenai student and a speech contest participant. She has volunteered her time at the Doctor's Office and the Women's College Hospital, where she was recognized for having the highest number of volunteer hours. She was also a member of the Teachers' Assistant Program and was employed at Dumex. Jathishinie has further been recognized for her dedicated volunteer work with the library and participation in the Science Club.



gayathri SIVAKUMAR

Name: Gayathri Sivakumar
Grade: OAC
School: David and Mary Thompson C.I.
Currently studying BioInformatics at the University of Waterloo

Words for fellow youth...
Get involved in the community, doing something you love. The experience, the friendships and the impact you make on others, are priceless.

The importance of this award...
This award reminds me that even though I have gone away to University, I must find a way to continue to volunteer and make a contribution to the community and encourage others to do the same.

"Learn to Give, not to Receive."

Gayathri exudes positive and tireless energy into volunteering for Robertson House Women's Shelter, as a tutor and as an organizer of the Red Cross Blood Drive. She was the president of the Athletic Council and was a member of the varsity tennis team, volleyball and soccer teams. She is a mural painter, member of the Leadership Council, and a CanTYD Communications member. Gayathari is the 2001 valedictorian and has received the Principal's Award for outstanding contribution to school life as well as the Top Female Athlete award.



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To Have & To Hold





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Overall Achievement



Recognizing students who
are well-rounded both in academic and
non-academic endeavours.



Name: Archana Balamohan
Grade: 9
School: SATEC @ W. A. Porter C.I.

archana BALAMOCHAN

I attribute my success to...

I attribute my success entirely to my family; my parents, who have guided and supported me; my brother, who has inspired me; and my sister, who has encouraged me

Archana is a talented artist, obtaining First Class Honours in her Grade 4 vocal and violin examinations, demonstrating her artistic capabilities at the Academy of Tamil Arts and Technology, Metro Caravan Festival, Isai Kalaamandram and Public Library Heritage Month. She is also a Volunteer Assistant Instructor and a member of the Woodwind Ensemble. She has received awards for her academic achievements, and athletic performances in track & field.

Words for fellow youth...

Don't look back and never give up. Your determination, effort and confidence will guide you to your destination.

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up"
- Thomas Edison



Name: Thanancheyan Ehamparam
Grade: 10
School: L'Amoreaux C.I.

thanancheyan EHAMPARAM

I attribute my success to...

I attribute my success to my determination and aim to always put the greatest efforts I can in every assignment/task that life has to throw at me.

Thanancheyan not only has an amazing academic record, placing 2nd in the University of Waterloo Pascal and Cayley contests and receiving awards for attaining the highest average in his classes, but he is also the school band trumpet player, yearbook photographer, and badminton team player. He volunteers his time as a tutor and computer teacher. His artistic talent led him to become a Webmaster of the Sexual Assault Care Centre website.

Words for fellow youth...

Never be afraid to take that extra step further.

"The best way to predict the future is to invent it".
- Alan Kay





jana LOGANATHAN

Name: Jana Loganathan
Grade: 11
School: David and Mary Thompson C.I.

Role model...

My role model is Mahatma Gandhi, who I have admired since I was little. I admire him because he remained strong in the face of opposition and didn't let anyone influence the way he thought.

CanTYD's influence on me...

CanTYD has influenced me by having this wonderful awards program that is a source of encouragement to Tamil youth all across Toronto.

"Success is sweet, but its secret is sweat"

Jana has not only selected as a Prefect in all the schools she has attended, but was also chosen as the top student of her school. She maintains an academic average in the 90s, while successfully reaching Grade 8 in piano (earning first class honours in RCM examinations). Jana is also an yearbook photographer, badminton team member, tutor, and peer helper. She has received Honour awards and distinctions in the University of Waterloo Cayley contest.



angeline RUBASINGHAM

Name: Angeline Rubasingham
Grade: 12
School: Senator O'Connor Catholic School

Words to fellow youth...

Try your best and never give up. You must be able to accept failure and to overcome obstacles in life. Always remember that everything happens for a reason.

The importance of this award...

Try your best and never give up. You must be able to accept failure and to overcome obstacles in life. Always remember that everything happens for a reason

"I came, I saw, I conquered"
- Julius Caesar

Angeline's accomplishments include finishing Grade 10 Piano with honours, winning the bronze medal in the Toronto Wide Science Fair Senior Division competition and being selected for the gifted program at UofT. She is a valued member of the choir, athletic council, field hockey, table tennis and badminton teams. She's the yearbook photographer and a talent show performer. Angeline has received recognition for her excellent academic performance and volunteer work.



thadsana PREMACHANDRAN

Name: Thadsana Premachandran
Grade: OAC
School: Rosedale Heights S.S.

Currently attending Computer Engineering at the University of Waterloo.

A change I would implement in the Tamil community is...

Most of our youngsters - mainly those that were born here - don't know our language and their origins. I want to be able to help those children come to terms of gaining full knowledge about their heritage and customs as well as their language.

"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."
- General George Patton

Thadsana is a remarkable student who has shown her talents in and out of the classroom. She is the treasurer of the Student Council, School Council, Chief Editor of the yearbook, editor of the Literary/Arts Magazine, and much, much more! Thadsana has also won the Centennial Scholarship for being the top student in her grade the last three years. Her hard work has also won her the Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Citizenship Award and Scholarship. Thadsana's outstanding performance has not only won her this year's Overall Achievement award but she has also tied for the Academic award. What an exceptional individual!



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*It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday
is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow.*

- Robert H. Goddard

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Professional Achievement



Recognizing Tamils who have performed exceptionally well in their chosen careers.



sudarshan DEVANESEN

Name: Sudarshan Devanesen

Career: Physician

Sudarshan Devanesen is a Medical Doctor (M.D.) specializing in studying heart disease amongst South Asians. Dr. Devanesen is an Associate Professor at the University of Toronto in the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

Dr. Devanesen studied at the Bishop Cotton Boy's School in Bangalore, India from 1953 to 1960. Then, he studied at Madras Christian College, University of Madras in 1961. He attended Medical School at the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. He completed his medical studies and decided to practice in the remote villages of Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan. This move appears to be the first step in his dedication to the medical profession.

Dr. Devanesen came to Canada in 1972. He practiced in St. John's, Newfoundland at Janeway Children's Hospital at Memorial University. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Toronto and decided to become a family physician instead of working as a surgeon, for which he was trained. Towards that end, he joined St Michael's Hospital and studied at the University of Toronto. He is an associate professor at the University of Toronto. He has been involved with St. Michael's Hospital since 1973. He was the Medical Director for the Broadview Community Health Clinic from 1980 to 1989.

In 1990, Dr. Devanesen received a Masters in Clinical Science from the University of Western Ontario. Dr. Devanesen founded the South Asian Community Council within the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. He was president from 1994 to 1997. He has also received numerous awards for his excellence in the medical field and his work volunteering in the community.

Recently, the Governor General of Canada, The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, announced the appointment of Dr. Sudharshan Devanesen as a Member of the Order of Canada. The Order of Canada is the highest honour bestowed by the Government of Canada to its citizenry. He is the first Tamil Canadian appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada. The citation of Dr. Devanesen's entry into the Order of Canada reads: "He has been a positive role model and mentor to hundreds of medical residents, family physicians and nurse practitioners. Believing in the holistic approach to medicine, he combines the medical and psycho-social aspects of patient care to produce a viable alternative to traditional models. In addition, he is an expert in the prevention of cardiovascular diseases affecting Canadians of South Asian descent and has worked tirelessly with the Heart and Stroke Foundation to launch education programs aimed at risk reduction."



Lifetime Achievement



Honouring and recognizing a Tamil who has excelled in his or her chosen field and continues to provide inspiration to others.



Prof. Christie Jeyaratnam ELIEZER

1921 - 2001

The late Professor Christie Jeyaratnam Eliezer was a famous Mathematician, a philosopher, a man of great vision, and a prominent Australian Tamil. He had his early education in Hartley College at Point Pedro. He entered University College, Colombo, for further studies. He received First Class Honours in Mathematics at the University College Colombo. He pursued further education at the University of London.

In 1937, Professor Eliezer received a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) from the University of London. While in Great Britain, Professor C.J. Eliezer received numerous awards. In 1940, Christ College awarded a special Scholarship in addition to the University of Ceylon Scholarship. Professor Eliezer continued his education in Great Britain at Cambridge University. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 1943. In 1947, he received the Charles L. Mayer award from the National Academy of Science. He was also Fellow of Christ College, Cambridge.

Diversifying his knowledge, Professor Eliezer qualified as a Barrister at Law in London in 1949. However, he continued his work in the sciences and held a Fullbright Scholarship at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies. It was during this time that he worked with some of the greatest minds of the 20th century. Professor Eliezer worked with Dr. R.A. Oppenheimer, who was the Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies. As well, he met with Dr. Einstein for academic discussions in 1955.

Professor Eliezer has held the same three positions, Professor of Mathematics, Dean of the Faculty of Science, and Acting Vice Chancellor at three different Universities in three different countries. The universities were the University of Ceylon in Sri Lanka, the University of Malaya in Malaysia, and La Trobe University in Australia. As well, he was invited to present papers at the United Nations Conferences on the "peaceful use of atomic energy" held in Geneva, Vienna, and Bombay.

Despite his academic and professional commitments, he never put his people second. In 1966, the government of Australia honoured him with the award of "Member of the Order of Australia (AM)" for the invaluable contribution made to the Tamil community and the Australian community at large. He was a chief spokesperson for the Tamils in the Australasian Region.

In 1978, he was the founder President of the Ceylon Tamil Association of Victoria (CTAV). After the July 1983 anti-Tamil movement in Sri Lanka, the CTAV played a significant role in getting the Australian Government to understand the plight of the Tamil People in Sri Lanka. Professor Eliezer was instrumental in setting up the first Tamil broadcasting service and helped in the realization of government funded Tamil ethnic schools so that the Tamils who were forced to chose Australia as their home could preserve and maintain their cultural and linguistic identity.

In 1983, Professor Eliezer retired from his position as Dean of Physical Sciences and Deputy Vice Chancellor from La Trobe University. On March 10th, 2001, Professor C.J. Eliezer passed away in Melbourne, Australia. He was 82 years. Dr. K. K. Navaratnam describes Professor Eliezer as "a life-long advocate of non-violent means to speak-out for the rights of the Tamil people anytime and everywhere."



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Honourable Mention



Recognizing students with very strong applications that deserve mention.



Name: Andrew Niranjan Carpenter

Grade: OAC

School: Turner Fenton S.S.

Award: Academic Achievement

Name: Sanjayan Ehamparam

Grade: 12

School: L'Amoreaux C.I.

Award: Outstanding Community Contribution

Name: Bramilee Dhayanandhan

Grade: OAC

School: Earl Haig S.S.

Award: Unique Distinguished Effort

Name: Jeyaverny Kanna Velauthapillai

Grade: OAC

School: Woburn C.I.

Award: Outstanding Community Contribution

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Phani Radhakrishnan, Ph.D.
Professor, University of Toronto



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*Tentative Efforts Lead to Tentative Outcomes.
Therefore give yourself fully to your endeavours.
Decide to construct your character through excellent
actions and determine to pay the price of a worthy
goal. The trial you encounter will introduce you to
your strengths. Remain steadfast... one day you will
build something that endures: something worthy of
your potential.*

- Epictetus

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Awards of Excellence
Winners*

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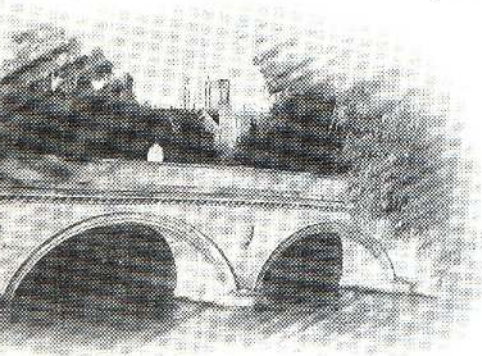
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