

## President's Message

**APRIL 2015** 

St Joseph High School (Guyana) Alumni Association Toronto Chapter

Anne Bhagwan President

Regina Cheong Vice President

Gail Hugh Secretary

Penny Jaundoo Treasurer

Carol Abdool Assistant Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

**Executive Members:** 

Chandra Lake
Janis Longe
Joan Amo
Joy Khan
Rosie D'Ornellas
Valerie Dye
Nadine Bahadur

The Frigid winter has passed and we are now anticipating a bright, comfortable Spring & Summer. It was surely a long and agonizing season with February 2015 being the worst for cold temperatures in about a century in Ontario

The fall of 2014 saw the completion of the restoration of the school grounds. This date was ear-marked for completion, so it was reassuring to see that fulfilled. The school, which had excelled in sporting competitions over the years, had great challenges in this area due to the poor condition of the grounds. Our V.P., Regina Cheong was present for the ceremonial opening. It was a very meaningful and emotional event for her. The main concern now will be the maintenance of the grounds; hopefully the Ministry of Education and Sports will fulfill this as requested by the Board of Governors. The School was also visited by other Executive member, Penny Jaundoo, Carol Abdool and Joan Amo.

There are other projects, needed by our Alma Mater, these are: a basketball court, a cricket pitch, field hockey goals and a long jump pit. Our organizations will continue its fundraising activities in order to fulfill some of these goals. Our survival can only occur with your patronage and those of our well-wishers; therefore I urge you to uphold our cause for the future of our school. We do thank you for your past generosity and consideration.

Our Association also maintained our activities for 2014, vie, the Casino trips, the annual Spring dance and Last Lap Lime. Our dance usually proves to be a favourite item for the spring, and it does make a profit. The Alumni also continues to support charities in Toronto; Agincourt Community Centre and Covenant House.

2015 is a significant year for us. We will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tri-Annual International Reunion in Toronto, Canada. This celebration is special for we hope to attract attendees from the U.S.A., Guyana, England and parts of the Caribbean. The events will showcase areas of Toronto, one of which will be the boat cruise on Lake Ontario. Highlight will be the view from the lake of the awesome coastline of Toronto and the large metropolitan city. The Picnic in the Park will be a happy occasion, filled with fun activities and camaraderie. So please plan to attend some or all of the events. Relatives and friends are also invited.

We, as your Alumni, would truly like to receive more input and have some new faces present at our annual meetings. You are also invited to attend our monthly meetings.

With the dawn of Spring, and on behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish you and your family a pleasant and joyful and safe 2015.

Hope to see you at the Reunion.

Anne Bhagwan