



HINDU CULTURAL CENTRE OF LONDON ONTARIO

62 Charterhouse Crescent, London, Ontario, Canada, N5W 5V5

hcclondon62@gmail.com

519-451-6884

President - Dr. Mohan Merchea, Vice-President - Mr. Tara Prasaud, Treasurer - Mr. Vishal Kothari
Secretary - Mrs. Sarita Gupta, Asst. Secretary Treasurer, Mrs. Shanta Doobay, Past President - Mr. R. Bhana
Members: Dr. A.V. Singh, Mrs. Shashi Bawa, Mr. Sanjay Singh, Dr. Dev Sainani, Mr. Nimish Shukla

NEWS LETTER – FEBRUARY 2019

Presidents Message:

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Temple Expansion:

I am happy to report that the expansion plans for the Mandir are well under way. Your President presented the latest concept design of the temple expansion on January 6th 2019 to the community. It was very well received. The design encompasses all the requirements of the community, namely expansion of the prayer hall, expansion of the preeti bhoj area, more parking spots and installation of an elevator to make the Mandir accessible for the elderly members.

The community on January 6th 2019 gave a full vote of confidence to Dr. Mohan Merchea, President of the Board of HCC to proceed with the expansion of the Mandir as outlined by him in the presentation.

Since that presentation we came to know that the property of HCC was registered under two different names, namely one lot as "Hindu Cultural Centre" and the second lot as "Hindu Cultural Centre of London, Ontario". This prevented us in registering the new easement and removing the old easement on the west side of the Mandir. This would also have caused future development of the property on the second lot.

We were able to combine both the lots under the name of "Hindu Cultural Centre of London, Ontario" which is the name under which HCC is incorporated with the Province of Ontario. Mr. Vikas Sharma, our lawyer with Brown Beattie & O'Donovan deserves special thanks. Mr. Vikas Sharma has been providing all his services at no charge to HCC. His contributions to HCC so far have been commendable.

The new easement has been now registered on the title of the property and old easement on the west side has been removed.



After extensive consultations Spriet Associates were selected from a slate of three architects to be the Architects for the expansion of the Mandir. They designed the concept plan for the expansion and have since submitted the application for site plan approval to the City Hall. They are now finalizing the final blue print detailed drawings of the expansion. They have assured me that they will be ready by the end of February 2019 for submission to the City Hall for building permit.

After extensive consultations and search Norlon Builders were selected as Construction Managers for the project from a slate of three quotes. I am happy to report that after negotiations with the Norlon Builders by your building committee were able to get a very good price from them. Mr. Tara Persaud and Mr. Sanjay Singh deserve special thanks for the efforts.

I will be amiss if I do not recognize the efforts and help provided during all the above by Mr. Narinder Pal Sharma. He has been immensely helpful at every stage I requested his help. Let us give him special recognition.

Your Board is hoping to break ground some times in April, or as soon as we are able to get permission from the City Hall.

FUND RAISING:

Your Fund Raising Committee under the leadership of Mr. Mohan Khandekar and Mrs. Geetha Swaminath are working hard to raise funds for the expansion. The expansion has a budget of 1.3 to 1,4 million dollars. I appeal to you all to be generous in your donations to HCC for the expansion project.

You can consider donating \$ 10, 000.00 over a period of three years and become a Patron member or \$ 6000.00 over a period of three years and become a Life member of HCC. You can also pledge to donate \$ 50 or \$ 100 a month.

We have approached TD Canada Trust for a construction loan. We will have to pay an interest of Prime plus 2% during the construction. I am sure with your dedication we should not seek any loans. In 1990's this very community gave us sufficient money to build the Mandir with no mortgage from the bank.

Some of our members gave us interest free loans in 1990 for us to complete the Mandir. You should consider coming forward and give us interest free loans for your Mandir.

HCC very successfully celebrated Diwali Fund raising Dinner on Nov 3rd 2018. We were honored to host three Members of Parliament on Diwali Fund raising Dinner. In addition we celebrated 25th year sthapana celebrations of Sri. Ganesh ji, Sri Krishan Privar and Sri Ram Privar. We have plans to celebrate 25th year sthapana of Sri Shiv Privar, Durga Mata, Sri Vanketeshwara and Lord Mahavir Swamy in the next three months.

HCC now has a Brokerage account with TDWaterhouse for the devotees to donate securities in kind for better tax savings.



Mr. Gary Anandasangree, Member of Parliament for Scarborough – Rough Park and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Multiculturalism and Heritage visited our Mandir on February 14th 2019. He was very happy and delighted with the visit.

Membership Fees:

We request all the HCC devotees to remit the membership dues of \$ 100.00 for the year 2019 This helps your Mandir for the day-to-day expenses of HCC.

As a reminder you have to pay the membership fee by December 31st 2019 to be eligible to vote and stand for the elections in March 2020.

As clarified earlier the membership fees are **tax deductible**.

The calendar of events for the year 2019 is attached. This is also posted on the HCC website.

Spring Fund Raising Dinner

The festivals committee under leadership of Mrs. Bhama Rajgopal is planning to organize a spring fund raising dinner. We will send the details.

Education:

Jagriti was distributed to the members and has been posted on the web site. I must thank the editorial board for the same. We must also thank our youths for contributing the articles for the same.

Preeti-Bhoj Sponsorship:

Your Board has established a committee headed by Mrs. Shipra Lala and assisted by Mrs. Shashi Bawa and Mr. Nimish Shukla for preeti-bhoj. Any devotee wanting to sponsor a preeti-bhoj, kindly contacts any member of the committee.

Monday to Saturday: 8:30AM to 10:30AM

Monday to Friday: 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Sunday: 10:00AM to 1:30PM

Temple Hours and Puja Schedule Revised:

Your Board has revised the opening hours of your Mandir and the Puja schedule. These are also posted on the HCC web site. These are as follows:

Monday to Saturday: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

Monday to Friday: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM



First Saturday of the month: –Suprabhatham & Vishnu Sahasranama

Sunday: 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

Havan: First Sunday of the month, 10:30 – 11:15 am

Shiv Puja: Monday 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Hanuman Puja: Tuesday 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Ganesh Puja: Wednesday 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Lakshmi Narayan Puja: – Thursday 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Durga Puja: – Friday 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Sataya Narayan Katha – on Poornima every month – Call Pandit ji for timing (will vary as per the day of the week)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:30 am - 11:30 am: Puja Service

10:30 am - 10:45 am: Invocation of Mantras

10:45 am - 11:30 am: Bhajans and kirtan

11:30 am - 11:50 am: Punditji's Katha /message

11:50 am: Aarti.

Followed by Preeti Bhoj

Website of HCC:

Please visit the website of HCC for latest information and we will make sure it is kept updated with the latest information. We appreciate efforts of Mrs. Suchita (Ranu) Jain for maintaining the website.



EVENTS HCC 2019

1. January 1st (Tuesday) – News Day and 25th Anniversary Sri Krishanji sthapana
2. January 13th (Sunday) – Lohri, Pongal, Makar Sankranti (January 13th)
3. February 2nd (Saturday 5-7pm) February 3rd Ram Privar 25th anniversary Sthapana – Drs. Shiv and Nidhi Sareen
4. February 10th (Sunday) – Vasant Panchmi and Saraswasti puja– Valentine’s Day (February 14th)
5. March 2nd – March 3rd (Saturday and Sunday)– 25th anniversary Shiv Privar sthapana
6. March 4th (Monday) – Maha Shivratri
7. March 10th (Sunday) AGM
8. March 20th (Wednesday) Holika Dahan
9. March 24th (Holi Celebration) (Holi is on March 20th)
10. Sharad Navratri – April 5th to April 13th (Friday to Saturday)
11. April 6th (Saturday) Mata Ki Chauki
12. April 6th – April 7th (Saturday and Sunday) 25th anniversary Durga Mata sthapana
13. April 13th to April 14th (Saturday & Sunday) – Ram Chritramans
14. April 13th (Saturday) Ram Naumi
15. April 21st (Sunday) – Mahavir Jayanti (April 17th)
16. April 27th – April 28th (Saturday & Sunday) 25th anniversary Balaji Staphana
17. May 12th (Sunday) Mothers Day
18. May 25th to May 26th – 25th anniversary Staphana – Mahavir Swami
19. June 16th (Sunday) Fathers day
20. July 1st (Monday) Canada Day
21. July 13th (Saturday) Spring Fund Raising Dinner
22. August 15th (Thursday) India Independence Day and Raksha Bandhan
23. August 17th India Independence Day and Fun – in -Sun
24. August 23rd (Friday) Janamastmi 9:00 – 12:00 P4
25. August 25th (Sunday) Dhai Handi
26. September 2nd (Monday) (Ganesh Chaturthi) Ganesh Sthapana
27. September 8th (Sunday) Preeti Bhoj – Ganesh Group
28. September 12th (Thursday) Ganesh Visarjan
29. Sept 14th to Sept 28th - Sharads
30. September 29th to October 7th Ras Garba in the temple
31. Sept 29th to Oct 7th Navratri
32. October 4th (Friday) Mata ki Chauki
33. October 5th (Saturday) Garba in a Hall outside
34. October 5th (Saturday) Durga Puja
35. October 6th (Sunday) Maha Naumi and Durga Puja
36. October 7th (Monday) Dusshera and Dashami Puja
37. October 17th (Thursday) Karva Chauth
38. October 21st (Monday) Ahoi Ashtami
39. October 26th (Saturday) Choti Diwali
40. October 27th (Sunday) Diwali
41. October 29th (Tuesday) Bhai Dooj



42. October 31st (Thursday) Halloween
43. November 3rd (Sunday) Chappan Bhog
44. November 16th (Saturday) Diwali Fund raising Dinner
45. November 23rd and 24th (Saturday – Sunday) Tulsi Vivah
46. December 25th (Wednesday) Christmas
47. January 1st 2019 ((Wednesday) New Years Day