



## MABC NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2008

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the New Year 2008 and the first issue of our 2008 Newsletter series... The Year of the Rat!!



What a great start we have for 2008!! More paid members have joined MABC this year than in the entire history of our Association. Our elected Vice President, Stan Ghanason decided to switch positions and focus on Membership and started a successful membership drive. Thank you to Boo Jock Chong for taking up the challenge of Vice President and Business Development Director. Your new Board of Directors is ready to bring you a very exciting and fun-filled year. With all this new energy and enthusiasm what could be missing? All we need is the support of our members and with your help we would like to achieve the following goals for 2008:

1. Increase the number and diversity of our membership, particularly the Malays and Indians, so that MABC is truly more representative of the multi racial composition of Malaysia back home. In addition, we want to reach out to other Canadians who show a keen interest in Malaysia, its culture and people.
2. Our MABC Building Fund was launched in 2007 with a \$1000 personal contribution from former Consul General Mat Dris, which was presented to our Association at his farewell Vancouver harbour cruise in Sept, 2007. He made a challenge for members to match or beat his contribution and our Director Luke Tham was the first to match his contribution. Our Building Committee will be working hard in 2008 and with MABC Members and friends of Malaysia's contributions and support, the Club House will become closer to that reality in 2008.
3. To create potential business opportunities for our members by collaborating closely with MaTrade, Mida, Tourism Malaysia, Malaysian Airlines and many others through trade shows and seminars organized by the MABC Business Development Committee.

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*Personal Contribution by former Consul General Mat Dris*

Our newly formed MABC Business Committee is looking forward to organizing seminars that are beneficial to our members and with this goal in mind. We have invited our Consul General, Mr. Hassan Bal to kick off our very first Business Presentation Seminar. Watch your email for an announcement of the date and place for this first meeting. We welcome your ideas and feedback for any future topics to be covered in other seminars. Please contact Boo Jock Chong. We're here to assist our members in any way we can to ensure that 2008 is truly a successful year for all.

Our monthly newsletter is now circulated, not only to our members, but also to many of our member's friends in Malaysia and other countries. We have sister Malaysian Associations around the world and I am sharing our contact information with those Associations, especially for business purposes, and it can be a goal of our newly formed Business Committee to assist MABC members in making business contacts with fellow Malaysian Businessmen in such places as China, Hong Kong and other countries.

Your Association's activities concluded with a Christmas Eve Dinner. We called it an Orphans Party for all our Malaysian and other members who did not have a place to go and experience a traditional Canadian Turkey Dinner. Our members Vicki and Sachi kindly offered their large home in Tsawwassen for the evening event. Our Consul General, Vice Consul and our VP of Malaysian Tourism and their families attended and shared in experiencing how Canadians celebrate at this time of year. It is important that we gather frequently to socialize and celebrate festivals and holidays that are unique to both our Malaysian and Canadian cultures. The friendships and close family ties many of us have built over the years has created a small but growing well knit Malaysian community here in Vancouver and we invite you to become more involved in this years coming events and activities.

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*Festive Christmas Eve Dinner at Tsawwassen*



### **SNOWSHOEING TOUR JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2008.**

Come and join our fellow members this coming Saturday for an exciting and enjoyable 2 hour walking tour of the Cypress Mountain Hollyburn Meadows area. Registration starts at 9:30 with shoe fitting, orientation and tour from 10am to noon and includes a professional guide, shoe rental and a cup of hot chocolate at the finish. This has been a yearly event for our Association and provides an opportunity to experience the snow and the beauty of the mountain wilderness. This is not mountain climbing or snow boarding.... it's an enjoyable walk on snow and is perfectly safe for the whole family to participate starting at 6 years old to adult. Adults fare is \$40.95 (includes taxes), Children ages 6-12 years are \$26.78 (includes taxes). To register call Patrick See.

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## **BADMINTON TOURNAMENT**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual MABC Badminton Tournament will take place on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 9am – 2pm at RichmondPro Badminton Centre in Richmond. This year multiple entries per person will be allowed (ie) participants can play both men's/women's doubles and mixed doubles and across both ability categories (ie) entrants can play men's doubles in advanced category and mixed doubles in beginner/intermediate category. Put this date on your calendar and entry forms will be available with our February newsletter. Prizes and trophies will be provided for the winners.

## **MABC CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION DINNER & DANCE**

Come and join our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chinese New Year Dinner & Dance Celebration on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Royal Restaurant, Garden City & Blundell, Richmond. Registration is at 6:30pm, Dinner is at 7pm. Enjoy a 10 Course Dinner... Lions Dance... Cultural Dance Performance... Couples Tango and Waltz Demonstration... Enjoy the songs and musical stylings from the 7 Member Band "Gardenburst". Then dance into the late evening with our DJ playing your favorite dance tunes. Terrific Door Prizes plus Raffle Prize Draws featuring a Return Ticket Vancouver to KL on Singapore Airlines await you. Tickets are \$35.00 per person; per table is \$350.00, which includes 2 bottles of wine per table. Tickets available from MABC Directors and are selling out fast.

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Our membership base is continuing to grow and we welcome the following new members:

Allan and Nicole Tham  
Christina Chan  
Peter Lim and Family  
Vickii, Sachi and Family  
Salina Chuah  
Julie Koo

## **NEW MALAYSIA RESTAURANT**

Congratulations to Jac Chung, originally from Petaling Jaya, Owner and Head Chef of Red Palms Malaysian Pondok who has now opened his new restaurant at Unit 130 – 140, 8291 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC. From February 7<sup>th</sup>, to February 21<sup>st</sup> the Restaurant will be featuring Chinese New Year Special Dish – "**Yee Sang**". For reservations call 604-304-3498. We wish to thank Jac for kindly contributing a Gift Certificate for our Chinese New Year Door Prize.

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## YEE SANG

Eating Yee Sang in Malaysia and Singapore is a tradition every Chinese New Year. Yee Sang is basically a Chinese raw fish salad. Unlike the Japanese, Chinese do not eat raw fish, preferring it cooked. However, this is the only Chinese dish that we know contains raw fish. So, if you ask Chinese outside of Malaysia and Singapore, they will very likely not know what Yee Sang is.

Half the fun of eating Yee Sang is by a communal tossing of the salad with chopsticks. The action of tossing is known as Lo Hei, which symbolizes increasing prosperity, abundance and vigour. That is why this dish is very popular among businessmen.

## MALAYSIAN CANADIAN BORN BABIES

Our local Vancouver Malaysian Consulate is continuing to add to the number of babies born in Canada. Consul General Mat Dris and wife started first by adding to their family here in Canada with the birth of a baby boy and Vice Consul Aliman and wife have now added to their family a third daughter born here in Canada. Almost all babies born in Canada are automatically eligible for Canadian Citizenship with few exceptions that include family members of official diplomatic representatives. A child born in international waters or airspace aboard a Canadian registered ship or aircraft is considered to have been born in Canada and thus automatically is a Canadian Citizen under Canadian law. However, the law varies with other countries and with many countries you are considered a citizen of the country you just flew from regardless of the airline you are flying on. So the moral is, if you are expecting and flying close to your due date, be careful of the airline and departure country you are flying from as that may determine the citizenship of your child if born on an airplane or ship.



*MABC President posing with the new babies.*

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## **MEMBERSHIP REMINDER NOTICE**

Just a reminder that it is now that time of year to renew your 2008 membership dues. This year there will be many outside benefits available to MABC members. More information will be available in our next newsletter.

Let's all make a commitment to make 2008 the best year for us all, with good health, prosperity and in our relationships with our families, friends, our community and our MABC Association.

### **Your MABC Board of Directors for 2007-2008 is:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Telephone #</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Where from:</b>	<b>MABC Responsibility</b>
<b>President:</b>					
Gina Quah Hansen	604 306 1956	<a href="mailto:gina@sunclubtravel.com">gina@sunclubtravel.com</a>	Owner, SunClub Travel	Penang	Everything: Special Projects, Editor
<b>Vice-President:</b>					
Boo Jock Chong	604 724 5625	<a href="mailto:cebejay@gmail.com">cebejay@gmail.com</a>	Businessman	Penang	Everything too: Special Projects, Golf, Business Development
<b>Secretary:</b>					
Luke Tham	604 781 8988	<a href="mailto:luke_tham@hotmail.com">luke_tham@hotmail.com</a>	Owner, Bridgeport Post Office	Ipoh	Secretary, Building Fund
<b>Treasurer:</b>					
Helen Yeoh Leong	604 942 6966	<a href="mailto:helenyeoh23@hotmail.com">helenyeoh23@hotmail.com</a>	Homemaker	KL	Treasurer, Social
<b>Directors:</b>					
Patrick See	778 895 8168	<a href="mailto:patricksee@canada.com">patricksee@canada.com</a>	Realtor	Cameron Highlands	Sports
Stan Ghanason	604 326 0022	<a href="mailto:ghanason@shaw.ca">ghanason@shaw.ca</a>	Retired	KL	Special Events, Membership
Aria Ganesan	604 924 5490	<a href="mailto:aganesan@shaw.ca">aganesan@shaw.ca</a>	Retired	KL	Director At Large
Philip Woo	778 238 1498	<a href="mailto:philipwoo@shaw.ca">philipwoo@shaw.ca</a>	Land Project Development, Consultant		Special Projects, Fund Raising, Building Fund
<b>Ex Officio:</b>					
Aliman Mohd Saad	604 685 9550	<a href="mailto:mwvcouvr@axion.net">mwvcouvr@axion.net</a>	Vice Consul		
<b>Auditor:</b>					
Guilbert Ho	604 926 4642	<a href="mailto:guilbertho@shaw.ca">guilbertho@shaw.ca</a>	Businessman	KL	
<b>Web Master:</b>					
Azroy Kandan	604 222 1411	<a href="mailto:gokun2@gmail.com">gokun2@gmail.com</a>	Java Developer	Petaling Jaya	Sub-Editor

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