



# “BROADCAST”

Newsletter of the Toronto Unit

*Naparima Alumni Association of Canada*

*Naparima Teachers' Training  
St. Andrew's Theological  
St. Augustine Girls'  
Naparima Girls'  
Naparima  
Hillview  
Iere*

**Vol XXIX No. 2**

**Spring 2006**



*Christmas Dinner & Dance, November 26, 2005  
at Elite Banquet Hall. (Photo: Martin Latchana)*



*Bursary Presentation to Kristin Poon  
by NAAC President Vitra Mungal  
(Photo: Martin Latchana)*



*Panache's performance at XMAS Dinner & Dance, November 2005.  
(Photo: Martin Latchana)*



## **OUMARALLY, BABOOLAL**

Barristers and Solicitors



**Aneesa Oumarally, B.A., (Hons.) LL.B.**  
**Selwyn R. Baboolal, B.A., (Hons.) LL.B.**

**3351 Cedar Creek Drive  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L4Y 2X9**

**T: (905) 366-5400**

**F: (905) 366-5404**

**e-mail: [aneesa@oblaw.ca](mailto:aneesa@oblaw.ca)**

**Real Estate**

**Criminal**

**Personal Injury**

**Civil Litigation**

**Wills & Estates**

**Corporate Commercial**

**Family**

The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (NAAC) was founded in Toronto in 1976 and includes graduates of Naparima College, Naparima Girls' High School, St. Augustine Girls' High School, Hillview College, Iere High School, Naparima Teachers' College and St. Andrew's Theological College. Among other things, it supports programmes at alma mater schools as well as a steelband programme in schools in the Toronto area. All graduates coming to Ontario are invited to join the Association.

### NAAC Executive - 2005/2006

President	Vitra Mungal	416-537-2927	vitra@pathcom.com
1st Vice President	Selwyn Baboolal	905-366-5400	selwyn@oblaw.ca
2nd Vice President	Norma Ramsahai	416-283-0675	npramsahai@rogers.com
Secretary	Ian Ramdial	905-844-1254	iramdial@cogeco.ca
Assistant Secretary	Cynthia Ramdeen	416-499-7357	cynthia_ramdeen@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Glenda Ramsahai	905-275-8996	ramsahai@rogers.com
Executive Member	David Seemungal	905-420-0677	davids@moneytrends.ca
Executive Member	Anand Ramsahai	905-275-8996	ramsahai@rogers.com
Past President	Merle Ramdial	905-844-1254	mjramdial@hotmail.com

### Board of Trustees

Executive	Norma Ramsahai	416-283-0675
Executive	David Seemungal	905-420-0677
Non-Executive	Howard Sammy	705-466-3480
Non-Executive	Krishna Nankisoor	905-568-1244

### CREDITS

"Broadcast" is the newsletter of the Naparima Alumni Association of Canada, Toronto Unit and is published twice a year. The views expressed in articles published are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Executive or of the Association unless specifically stated as such.

Editor	Merle Ramdial
Advertising	Vitra Mungal
Layout & Printing	Bluetree Graphics Inc. (416) 754-1225
Contributions and Correspondence should be forwarded to:	The Editor, "broadcast" NAAC, Bridlewood Mall Postal Outlet P.O. Box 92175 2900 Warden Avenue Scarborough, ON M1W 3Y9

### CONTENTS

President's Message .....	2
From the Desk of the Editor.....	2
Finance Report .....	3
Bingo Report .....	4
Membership Report .....	5
Communications Report .....	5
Steelband Report .....	6-7
Steelband & Calypso Fun Run/Walk 2006 .....	7
Christmas Dance 2005.....	9
Silent Auction of Oil Paintings for SAGHS.....	9
News from our T & T Schools.....	11
Naparima Alumni Assoc. of UK/EUROPE .....	12-13
Calling All Past Students of NGHS & SAGHS .....	14
The Proposal To Dissolve The NAAC	
Board of Trustees.....	15-18
Mailbag .....	19-20

---

## President's Message

Spring is in the air! At this time of year most of us pause to take stock and make plans. Whether it be cleaning out our closets or getting started on our gardens or planning trips and “must do” activities. The decisions we make in spring generally set the tone for the rest of the year.

The same applies to the NAAC. As we head towards our Annual General Meeting and a new Executive term, I would like to ask each of you to take a moment and think about how you can set the tone for the coming year. Many of us never realize the impact of the things we do and how our actions translate into so much more. Whether you serve on the Executive or on a special committee, whether you volunteer at bingo sessions or perform with the Steelband, whether you attend events or simply renew your membership, it all goes towards making this Association the success that it is. So when you meet a bursary winner or hear our Steelband play or see everyone enjoying themselves at an

event, it is all because of something you have done. Just think how much more we all can do.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who continues to support the Association and have contributed to the success of our events and programs. As you know this is a volunteer organization. To all of you who generously donate your time and resources, your efforts are duly noted and very much appreciated.

I look forward to seeing most of you at our AGM in May. You should also mark your calendars for our 5K Fun Run/Walk in June and our Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance in November.

Best wishes to you all.

**Vitra Mungal**  
President

---

## From the Desk of the Editor

As I prepared the content for this issue of *broadcast*, I could not believe that I was checking out the details of the Notice for the Annual General Meeting to be held on May 27, 2006. Does time really move faster as one gets older?

Please note that the venue for the AGM is now on **the north side of McNicoll at number 1050**. I am mentioning this here as well as in the Notice on page 3 in the hope that members will not spend their time wandering around the building and parking lot and showing up late for the meeting. This actually happened at last October's meeting.

You would not want to miss any item on the agenda, especially the important Motion re dissolution of the Board of Trustees. See pages 14-17 for background information and a submission along with responses from the Executive team.

Another item that caused quite a stir among NGHS alumnae can be viewed on the back page. Many voiced “outrage at this sacrifice made in the name of progress”. Thanks for sending photographs to backup your descriptions.

Another year has sped by and it is time for a new Editor to take over. Best of luck to my successor. You can still reach me by phone or email.

**Merle Ramdial**

— QUOTE OF THE DAY —

### ***“Forgiveness:***

*It really doesn't matter if the person who hurt you deserves to be forgiven.*

*Forgiveness is a gift you give yourself.*

*You have things to do and you want to move on.”*

## Finance Report

At the time of going to print, this report reflects the Association's financial affairs at March 31, 2006, subject to normal accruals and adjustments. Any changes would be reflected in the Annual Financial Statements to be presented at the Annual General Meeting on May 27 2006.

**Bingo Account** \$ 7,969

### General Account

Bank Account (BNS) \$35,215

### Investments

Bank of Nova Scotia - Arthur Siblal

Memorial Fund: Bank Account @ Feb.23/06 \$ 413

Term Deposit - Balance @Dec. 31/05 \$ 1,111

Scotia McLeod - Inter Pipeline Fund: 100 Units  
- Book Value \$10.00 \$ 1,000

Market Value -Mar. 31/06 @ \$10.10 = \$1,010.00

Dividend Income - @ February 28/06 \$ 69

\*Edward Jones - GIC @ 2.75%

Maturing May 5/06 \$14,477

**Total Investments - NAAC** \$17,070

### Naps 100 Account

Bank Account @ Mar. 17/06 \$ 1,270

Scotia McLeod Inter Pipeline Fund:  
1500 Units - Book Value \$10.00 \$15,000

Market Value -Mar. 31/06 @ \$10.10 = \$15,150

Dividend Income @ February 28/06 \$ 1,039

CIBC Wood Gundy - AIC Advantage 11  
Book - 1,872.659 Units \$15,000

Market Value Mar. 31/06 @ \$10.89 = \$20,393.25

\*Edward Jones - GIC @ 2.75%

Maturing May 5/06 \$10,492

**Total** \$42,801

The Association continues to fulfill its commitments to the schools in Trinidad and the local community. During the year we have supported the following:

Trinidad & Tobago Schools (5) \$5,660

NGHS Centenary Fund in  
memory of Beulah Meghu \$ 500

NAAC Bursaries \$2,000

Misc. Bursaries & Awards - Steelband Prog.  
-W.H & Cedarbrae \$2,150  
Youth Without Shelter \$2,000  
JWE Newbery Bursaries \$ 350  
York University Fund \$ 500

Our participation in the Bingos continues to be the major source of revenue. Other contributors were the Xmas Dance -2005; NAAC 5K Fun Run/Walk 2005; Panache Steelband and Membership dues. Profit & Loss statements for these events would be presented with the financial statements.

To date the financial statements for the fiscal year end March 31, 2005 are not yet completed due to the ongoing problem with the previous year's outdated software. We are hopeful an Opening Balance Sheet would soon be provided to enable the completion of the current year's financial statements.

Respectfully submitted

**Glenda Ramsahai**, Treasurer



## NOTICE of 2006 NAAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**SATURDAY MAY 27, 2006  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

at

The Montessori Teacher  
Training Centre  
1050 McNicoll Avenue,  
Scarborough, ON

**(NOTE NEW ADDRESS  
North side of McNicoll)**

---

## **Bingo Report**

For the current fiscal year April 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2006, NAAC was responsible for 35 bingos and earned revenue of \$17,725 to January 2006 and expected revenue of approximately \$3K for February & March 2006. This total of \$20,725 averaged out to about \$600 per session, about the same per session as the last fiscal year. This was a drop per session of over \$150 when compared with the first half of the year 2005. We hope this is not a trend that will continue for the remainder of 2006.

Bingo revenue continues to represent over 75% of the Association's net income for the fiscal year. At the last Finch Country Bingo Association's meeting held in November of 2005 we had some disturbing news. It was projected that in the year 2007 all bingo halls would be electronically operated and the charities such as NAAC would no longer be needed to run bingos. It was not certain as to what plans the Ontario Lottery Commission has for the charities or for the distribution of funds that are currently allocated to the charities. At an NAAC executive meeting a committee was formed to investigate alternative funding sources. One of the possibilities could be the Trilium Foundation of Ontario whose granting priorities seem to be congruent with some of the aims and objectives of our Association.

We would like to welcome one new volunteer to the fold, Mr. Everald Seupaul, who would fit in like "yam in West Indian mouth". This year there were numerous changes in running bingo sessions for each of the charities involved which have forced us to use a greater part of our grey matter! Exercising the brain at our age is good.

Bingo revenue was used for the most part to fund the following programs -

Awarding of scholarships and bursaries to Toronto students in the amount of \$6000.00. Funding the steelband programs at two high schools in the amount of \$9000.00.

Donations, Cultural & Community Support in the amount of \$5000.00

Details of the individual items would be contained

in the Profit & Loss statement to be presented at our Annual General Meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup> 2006. Hope to see you all there.

**At this time we wish to acknowledge the work done by all our volunteers and their team leaders in running the bingo sessions. They are, in alphabetical order:**

**Leaders:**

**Roy Bhopalsingh**

**Vitra Mungal**

**Ian Ramdial**

**Norma Ramsahai**

**Regular Volunteers:**

**Selwyn Baboolal**

**Roy Bhopalsingh,**

**Fred Debidin**

**Milton Moonah**

**Vitra Mungal**

**Karma Naike**

**Krishna Nankissoor**

**Charmaine Nankissoor**

**Rustin Oree**

**Winston Ramcharan**

**Ian Ramdial**

**Merle Ramdial**

**Anand Ramsahai**

**Glenda Ramsahai**

**Norma Ramsahai**

**Prem Ramsahai**

**Janet Sanayhie**

**Sheila Satram**

**David Seemungal**

**Everald Seupaul**

**Ras Shreeram**

**Gerard Sinanansingh**

**Marlyne Sinanansingh**

**Roger Singh**

***Norma Ramsahai***

Bingo Coordinator



---

## Membership Report

### NAAC Membership as at April 10, 2006:

Honorary	25
Life – Regular	138
Life – Associate	26
Annual – Regular	50
Annual – Associate	29
Annual – Student	10
Annual – Family	5
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>283</b>

The membership spans a broad age range with the majority of members being more mature. These members prefer to support the organization by attending events that bring them together at rare occasions to socialize e.g. our Christmas Dance or a Reunion.

They give their blessing to those who can actively participate and make decisions on their behalf. Some of our senior members have given many years of their lives to shaping the Association and we thank them for their contribution.

We welcome new Life members Ms Veda Abu-Bakare and Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Albert to the Association. The following members have changed their status from Annual membership to Life members:

Mr. Sam Sinanan & Mrs. Nora Sinanan  
Rev. Keith Rameshwar and Mrs. Lydia Rameshwar  
Mr. Neville Mahabir and Mrs. Dawne Mahabir

Through the steelband program, several advanced players have joined the Association. While they are enjoying the opportunity of learning to play pan, they are also becoming active in the community and have embraced our Association's credo "To give back".

This past year, an attempt was made to "regionalize" the membership so that a more personal approach could be used to keep in touch and to remind members of meetings and upcoming events. This initiative needs some more time to prove itself as a useful method of bringing members in areas outside of the GTA together.

Submitted by  
**Cynthia Ramdeen**, Assistant Secretary

## Communications Report

This issue of *broadcast* will soon be available in electronic format on our [www.naactoronto.ca](http://www.naactoronto.ca) website along with the two previous issues posted. Since the price of postage has increased, mailing copies of the newsletter to members in Canada, US, UK & Trinidad costs approximately \$650 (includes envelopes and labels).

### The question we now ask is:

Do you prefer to receive an email message letting you know when the e-version of *broadcast* is posted to the website **instead of** receiving a hard copy in the mail?

If yes, please send a message to [administrator@naactoronto.ca](mailto:administrator@naactoronto.ca)

If you have not visited the website, please take a look and give us feedback. We will be adding a photo album, as soon as our amateur web administrator figures out how to get scanned versions of old prints posted to the site without crashing the server. Any advice on this matter is welcome. I know that it is possible to digitize old photos, but the cost is a concern.

Again this year, our advertisers have stayed with us and we thank them for their support.

**Merle Ramdial**

Chair, Communications Committee

### ***Thank You***

***NAAC would like to thank the  
advertisers that appear in broadcast.  
Their support is greatly appreciated.***

—

***For advertising information, please  
call Vitra Mungal or any member of  
the NAAC executive (p.2)***

---

## Steelband Report

### From the West End:

The Association's Community Steelband teaching program at West Humber C.I. is operating at a hectic pace. Under the musical leadership of Pan Man Pat and Blake Stansfield, the NAAC (West Humber C.I.) Community Steelband teaching program provides for weekly Thursday classes catering to both Beginners and Advanced players. NAAC is indebted to Joe Cullen (WHCI Music Department Head) for the excellent partnership relationship that exists between NAAC and WHCI that allows for the Association "To provide an avenue for education and cultural interaction with the society at large"

Since the Fall 2005 *broadcast* report, the NAAC *Panache* Steelband members planned and presented two gigs at Connections in Mississauga. The first was a free admission Christmas Jam on December 11, 2005 that included a Food Bank Collection, a Santa Picture Studio and a Kids Activity Centre. The second was an Old Mas Carnival Jam on February 26, 2006. The *Panache* band members not only performed sweet pan music for the over 150 guests, but also entertained the audience with a number of Old Mas "PANACHE PAGEANT" characters.

Looking forward to the rest of this year, the NAAC *Panache* Steelband received 19 invitations to perform. I've listed upcoming gigs where we will be performing for charitable and community causes, such as:

- Apr 22 Special Needs Adult Program Services Organization (SNAPSO) Dinner/  
Dance
- May 6 Massey Public School  
(World Tour)
- May 13 Peel & Halton Police Day
- Jun 10 Annual NAAC 5K Fun Run/Walk
- Jun 11 Halton Region Police Special  
Friends Picnic
- Jun 16 Canadian Cancer Society (Etobicoke)
- Jun 17 Highfield Junior School (*Enrichment  
Program for Needy Families*)
- Jun 25 St. Clement's Church - Fundraising  
- Outdoor Event

*Panache* will also be performing at several wedding, birthday and anniversary parties. In addition, negotiations are ongoing with Wild Water Kingdom to perform at the park during July and August.

There are two projects being contemplated and in the early stages of research by the band members. The first project is to choose fabric & designs for outfits for both casual and formal occasions. The second project is to look into the making of a CD.

Sharing in the responsibilities of the band operations and working as teams, individual band members regularly volunteer to document gig information, coordinate gig performances, manage music scores for all classes, collect administration fees to offset the cost of materials and to work on committees to ensure the goals and objectives of the Association and all members are addressed.

The dedication of the *Panache* band members is exceptional. Everyone is there to make the Association proud when they perform at public events. The spirit and energy from everyone is truly contagious. Members are there to play pan, enjoy the music, have fun and share friendships.

Anyone interested in learning to play pan at West Humber C.I. should contact Anand Ramsahai at (905) 275-8996 or by email: [ramsahai@rogers.com](mailto:ramsahai@rogers.com) or any member of the NAAC Executive.

### *Anand Ramsahai*

NAAC Executive Member  
Steelband Liaison

### From the East End

This year the school steelband program at Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute was successful, with four classes, i.e. two classes in each semester, each with an average of thirty students per class. The projected numbers for next school year (2006-2007) look to be the same. One of the major

*(continued on next page)*



## Steelband Report

*(continued from previous page)*

accomplishments was the making of a CD with 15 tracks, which will be released soon. There was another CD made of the band's live performance at George Weston Recital Hall.

The school band continues to perform at community events and recently performed at the Law Day Conference at Central Technical High School where the student players were complimented by Ontario's Chief Justice and Global TV's News Anchor Leslie Roberts, who chaired the meeting.

On April 28, 2006 the CCI steelband will perform at PanFest at Bickford Centre, Christie & Bloor in the morning. Later at 7:30 p.m. the band will perform at PanFever (same venue). The Toronto District School Board sponsors both concerts. The CCI band was chosen from among four other bands based on their previous year's performance.

Looking ahead to next year, about 15 to 20 steelband students intend to visit Trinidad during the March break and plans are being made to perform at Hillview College, SAGHS, NGHS, Iere High School and Naparima College.

The community steelband classes are held on Wednesdays from 5:00pm-7:00pm at Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute, 550 Markham Road, Scarborough. There are still spots available so if anyone is interested in learning to play pan, please contact Randolph Karamath at 416-283-4152.

**Randolph Karamath,**  
Music Teacher  
Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute

## NAAC - Sponsored Steelband Classes

*Interested in learning to play pan  
or in joining a Steelband?*

### Two venues:

**West End:** West Humber C.I.

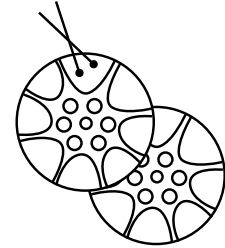
Anand Ramsahai: 905-275-8996

E-mail: ramsahai@rogers.com

**East End:** Cedarbrae C.I.

Randolph Karamath: 416-283-4152

ramachez@hotmail.com



The **Naparima Alumni**  
**Association of Canada**

*Presents*

*The 7th Annual...*



**Steelband & Calypso Run for Youth**

Saturday June 10th, 2006

9:30 AM

*On the Scenic  
West Humber Trail*

**5K Fun Run / Walk for the Entire Family**

**Steelband  
Entertainment  
Food &  
Prizes...**

For More Information  
Please Contact:

Rustin: 416.745.4814

Ras: 416.743.1331

Milton: 416.284.0931

Registration and pledge forms are available from our website: [www.naactoronto.ca](http://www.naactoronto.ca)



# SOCA WARRIORS

SHOW YOUR TRINI COLOURS

**Warriors**

**Home Football Jersey**

Limited Quantities



**\$40.00**

**Volume Discounts**

**Dealers Welcome**

**Warriors**

**Fan Shirt**



**\$15.00**



For ordering information Call 905-607-7033 or E-mail [daverahaman@rogers.com](mailto:daverahaman@rogers.com)

---

## Christmas Dance 2005

Our annual Christmas dance for 2005 was held at the Elite Banquet Hall in the West End of Toronto. This hall has had rave reviews for the interesting menus and ambience. Added to this was the musical feast of “Panache” and “The Vibes”.

Our homegrown steel band “Panache” set the tone for a fantastic evening with their wide repertoire of popular tunes and Christmas favourites.

After a tasty dinner was served, the “Vibes” filled the dance floor with happy members and guests, almost from start to finish.

The exception was for the presentation of our annual bursary awards to Kristin Poon and Laura Maharaj. The awards of \$1,000 each will be used towards the annual tuition costs of the recipients’ university or college courses.

The ever-popular raffle raised the hopes of all participants, while making many of us happy with a selection of great prizes. An added bonus was the amount raised towards the association’s work with the Trinidad schools.

This year’s dance will be held at the same venue in an expanded facility to accommodate the many people who were unable to obtain tickets for last year’s dance.

Don’t forget to order your tickets early to ensure your place at our annual celebration.

Submitted by

**David Seemungal**

Chair, Education Committee



*Who Let these Guys In? (Photo: Martin Latchana)*

## Silent Auction of original paintings

The four original oil paintings featured on the back cover were donated by Mrs Dawne Mahabir, a SAGHS alumna. She has asked that the money raised be donated to her alma mater.

BULL AND CART, AJOUA SCENE  
26”x 50” Est. value - \$600.00

BOATS ON THE RIVER  
24”x 36” Est. value - \$350.00

FLAMINGOES IN THE CARONI SWAMP  
29”x 22” Est. value - \$300.00

STEELBAND (abstract)  
15”x 21” Est. value - \$200.00

The paintings are all framed.

The artist, Ian Ali, was a lecturer of Art for 14 years at the Government Training College.

He also taught Art at the University of the West Indies, School of Continuing Studies.

Ian is involved in Carnival competitions, design and construction of Carnival costumes and has even assisted in design of carnival bands in Nevis.

He has had one-man Art exhibitions in Toronto (1991), London, Ontario (1992) and Miami (1998).

He has taken part in local exhibitions mounted by the Trinidad Art Society and other similar organizations.

He is a retired teacher but continues to do his artwork.

**We will accept bids until November 17, 2006. The highest bids will be announced at the NAAC Christmas Dance on November 25<sup>th</sup> at which time attendees will have an opportunity to top any of the earlier bids received by mail. Bids may be mailed to:**

NAAC

Attn: Secretary

Bridlewood Mall Postal Outlet

P.O. Box 92175

2900 Warden Avenue

Scarborough, ON M1W 3Y9



## Kelvin Seepersad

MORTGAGE CONSULTANT

*An intelligent way to get a mortgage  
call today for a free no obligation consultation on:*

- Discounted rate / cash back
  - Up to 107% financing
- Complementary pre-approval
- Choosing the right mortgage product
  - Best variable or fix rate mortgage
  - Beating the bank at their own game

*Knowing your mortgage product is as important as getting low mortgage rates  
exercising your prepayment options allows you to pay your mortgage  
off faster as such the qualified buyer should demand the best products in the market.*

*My mission is to ensure that you are so completely satisfied with my level  
of service that you are eager to refer me to your family, friends, and colleagues.*

— Kelvin Seepersad —

PHONE: 416-236-9300 ext.14 • FAX : 416-236-1530

E-MAIL: [seepersad.k@mortgageintelligence.ca](mailto:seepersad.k@mortgageintelligence.ca)

[WWW.MORTGAGESMADESIMPLE.CA](http://WWW.MORTGAGESMADESIMPLE.CA)

---

## *News from our T & T schools...*

### **Naparima College**

Thanks to Ms Kamla Jhagroo, Acting Principal, who sent us an update on activities at Naparima College in November 2005.

Both the Principal, Ms Maureen Atwal, and the Vice-Principal, Mr Moonilal Pagee, retired in September 2005 and October 2005 respectively.

At the Speech Day exercises held on October 13, 2005, Ms Jhagroo paid tribute to the past Principal, Ms Atwal, who made history when she became the 1<sup>st</sup> female Principal of Naparima College. During her term of office, she was responsible for reviving the Olympian magazine, which was not published for many years. She also got the long-awaited construction of the gymnasium started.

#### **Student Accomplishments**

For the third consecutive year, Naparima College students have been included in the Cambridge World Listing. Ryan Kunjal – 5<sup>th</sup> in Physics and Kris Parag – 10<sup>th</sup> in Chemistry.

In addition to the 17 scholarship winners, there were several other students who gained full scholarships to UWI and to U.S. universities based on the SAT examinations.

#### **Sports**

The Championship Football Team were South Zone winners again. In the match for the Val Turton/Carl Osbourne award, Naps won over Presentation College.

#### **Cricket**

The Championship Cricket Team reached the National Semi-Finals for both the League and Knockout competitions.

(Editor's note: Mr. Michael Dowlath has since been appointed Principal of Naparima College).

### **St Augustine Girls' High School**

I have excerpted information from the most recent SAGHS Annual Report sent to us by the Principal, Ms Kathleen Anderson.

The school's academic accomplishments are many, so we'll look at the overall figures. Of the 110 students who wrote the 2005 CXC Examinations, 108 (98%) gained full certificates. At the 2005 Advanced Level Examinations, 83 students wrote and 80 (96%) received full certificates.

There were 16 National Scholarships awarded to SAGHS senior students in 2005, 10 for Science, 3 for Modern Studies, and one each for Mathematics, Drama and Business.

Just as impressive as their academic achievements, SAGHS sports teams participated in numerous tournaments and were winners in many categories. The results of the coaching that the school provides in badminton, volleyball, field hockey, football, swimming, rugby and lawn tennis are evident in the number of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes.

In addition, the school provides for a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Drama, Literary & Debating, Scrabble, Chess, Dance & Karate clubs are in operation after school. Students are also given an opportunity to perform in the choir, steel orchestra or recorder ensemble.

To round out the academic, team sports & extra-curricular activities, the school has several outreach programmes that ensures that the students give back to their community.

---

## *Greetings from The Naparima Alumni Association of UK/EUROPE*

Dear NAAC

Greetings from our side of the Atlantic. The grey dome that is this very British winter's sky continues to dominate our landscape and as it moves nearer its departure date to make room for the arrival of Spring with its burst of energy, colour and new hope it takes our thoughts back to that perfect day in Spring last year when our Alumni was born out of the memorial service held here for our beloved Buelah Meghu on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

In our last contribution to your magazine we shared with your readers news about our official launch held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2005 at which Cannon John Metivier delivered the feature address.

I would be extremely grateful if you would print Cannon Metivier's feature address so that all your readers many of whom I am sure know him well can enjoy his speech as much as we did. This item will be the only contribution from our Alumni here for your forthcoming newsletter as our AGM is booked for 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006 following which I will be delighted to share with your readers in your Fall newsletter all that we got up to in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of our existence.

Thank you for remembering us and I look forward to receiving a copy of your newsletter.

Sincerely  
Shirley Sookraj  
Interim President  
NAAof UK/Europe

### **Cannon Metivier's Feature address:-**

**LAUNCH OF THE NAPARIMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
of UK/EUROPE  
SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2005  
on  
"THE MAYFLOWER" CRUISE BOAT  
RIVER THAMES, LONDON.**

A young preacher in Mid West USA had won a place on the list of "Watch These Young Preachers". He was invited to address a church group in a neighbouring community. He was flattered, until he arrived at the hall, and learned that he was the group's 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. Someone else had been invited before him and had declined.

In introducing the Pastor, the person rather light-heartedly referred to the fact that their guest was No. 2, and then in a clumsy attempt at levity, he pointed to a broken pane of glass on the wall of the church into which a piece of cardboard had been inserted to keep out the cold weather." Our speaker tonight, he said, "is kind of like the piece of cardboard in the window- he is a substitute".

Of course, a little shaken by the introduction, he decided to give it to them real good and he socked it to them. When he had concluded his address the person in charge of the evening got up and said:

"Reverend we want you to know  
That you are no cardboard substitute  
You are a real pain tonight  
I mean you no pain tonight"

The idea of another try at a Naparima Alumni Association surfaced at the memorial Service for Buelah Meghu. An occasion which told us that there were more of us here than we ever imagined. The occasion was like one big family reunion.

The person who ran with the idea is here today...Her boundless energy and zeal outruns the rest of us. We can't hold her down or hold her back yet.

Of a certain US Secretary of State it was said, that he was always just arriving or had just left. He gave a new dimension to shuttle diplomacy-one Henry Kissinger. By her travels in this country and in Trinidad, Naparima has an answer to Henry Kissinger in the presence of Shirley Sookraj. We have with us La grande dame, Lynette, Master Clive Teelucksingh, Patricia Jaggs, Jeanette Lalla-Maharajh and Martin Sinclair, Lenore Teelucksingh, Indrani Boodoo and others who have helped us to come together today.

THIS is a social occasion, and we hope you will all enjoy it. Take the opportunity to say "do you remember when, the dreams, the regrets, the halcyon days at Naparima", and catch up with our best friends whom we last saw at graduation or for the fortunate at the Memorial Service.

The Naparima experience is unique. The things which make Naparima what it stands for, and which have us where we are today are things we can't finger and say it was this or that; but rather a combination of intangible, unforgettable things which

*(continued on page 14)*



---

## ***Greetings from The Naparima Alumni Association of UK/EUROPE***

**Cannon Metivier's Feature address:-**  
*(continued from page 13)*

have contributed to the experience, one which people who lived in the Dormitory experienced to a deeper degree. As we used to say, it taught us life and the art of survival.

This is encapsulated in the Aims of our Association:-  
It is inclusive,"with malice towards none and charity towards all"  
In solidarity with other Naparima Associations, our aims are:  
1) To unite all students and teachers of the Naparima family of colleges in the UK and Europe.  
2) To provide for social activities among its members (more about that later)  
3) To provide an avenue for educational and cultural interaction with the society at large  
4) To be of assistance where possible to members of the Association and the Institutions from which the membership is drawn.

Today is the Birthday of the Association. Will we live? Will we die soon after birth? That depends on you and me. How much do we want it to be vibrant and triumph? Membership forms are available. Take one and sign up today. Tell others about the Association, tell us about others, and together not rest until we have approached every Naps person in the land.

112 years ago the CM Missionaries under the shade of a samaan tree gave birth to a secondary school for boys. There being a lack of secondary education for his son, Dr. Grant started the school and it grew to a school of 50 students with 4 teachers. The year was 1883.

1890— The Presbyterian Training College for Catechists, now  
The St. Andrew's Theological College,

1898— The Training College for Teachers

1898— They were all brought together in the Oriental Hall.

It was under a samaan tree in what is now the hallowed ground of Susamachar and Grant School that Naparima began. In 1900 the college gained affiliation to QRC, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cambridge School Certificate graduates were in 1904.

In 1917 the complex moved to its present site. Leaving Broadway you wend and wind your way up, with samaan trees on the left and undulating pastures green on your right.

With the sloping lawns of the Paradise pasture on the front and the Gulf of Paria at back, you have one of the most scenic campuses in the country. Where the setting sun dipping below

the Gulf and Moonlight on Flat Rock Bay were inspirations to the poets in our midst. I am led to believe that sunrise at La Pique is out of this world; it's nearest rival being sunrise in the Rockies.

The Founding Fathers chose for the School Motto:

*A Posse Ad Esse*

Literally "from to be to being". The official translation reads from Possibility to Actuality.

"We are today like a bather who has divested himself of his clothes, has donned His bath suit, and is about to plunge. We see the water below; we are conscious Of the fact that dangerous currents lie ahead; that here and there the rocks are sharp; But if we are strong and determined we are sure to attain the beach, to walk in the Sunlight and to have the breeze of confidence and hope on our faces."

Ladies and gentlemen,

Great is Naparima.

As daughters and sons of this family

May it be said of us what St Paul wished for his flock

"By the grace of God we as people are what we are, and His grace in us has not been in vain".

---

### ***Launch of The Naparima Alumni Association of UK/Europe on "The Mayflower", River Thames, London.***



**Back Row Left to Right  
Janette Lalla-Maharajh; Martin Sinclair; Ansel Wong;  
Lenore Teelucksingh; Cannon John Metivier;  
Patricia Jaggs; Shirley Sookraj (sitting)**

---

## ***Calling All Past Students of NGHS & SAGHS***

*Your Almer mater needs your financial support for school expansion projects.*

### **NGHS**

The NGHS Alumnae Association has taken responsibility for raising funds to assist in paying for the cost of construction and equipment for the school's multi-media and conference rooms. The total cost is TT \$5 million, but NGHS has to provide one-third of that figure. The Alumnae is accepting minimum donations of CDN\$20. Please make cheques payable to:

The NGHS Alumnae Association Building Fund

Ms Bianca Persad, Treasurer  
4 La Pique Road  
San Fernando, Trinidad

Karma Naike of the NAAC Toronto will be coordinating this effort in Canada.  
Please contact her at Tel: 416-783-6591

### **SAGHS**

A document ,“SAGHS - Building for the future today” outlined the urgent need for expansion of the physical facilities. To celebrate the 55th Anniversary of the school, SAGHS launched their School Modernization Project, which will extend the Sixth Form Block and will house two computer labs and four classrooms. The cost of this project will be shared by the Ministry of Education, but the school must still raise TT \$900,000.

If you wish to make a donation, please contact:  
Cynthia Ramdeen  
of NAAC Toronto  
at Tel: 416-499-7357

## ***Mark your Calendars***

**Our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Fun Run/Walk** will be held on Saturday June 10, 2006 at the West Humber Trail starting at 9:30 a.m. Again there will be music, entertainment, food & lots of prizes. Registration and pledge forms are available from our website [www.naactoronto.ca](http://www.naactoronto.ca)

**Silent Auction** of four original oil paintings.  
Bids will be accepted until **November 17, 2006**

**2006 Christmas Dinner & Dance** will be held on **November 25, 2006** at the Elite Banquet Hall. The Vibes will be back to play your favourite dance music. Good news! We have booked the full hall so we can accommodate more than 300 attendees.

---

# THE PROPOSAL TO DISSOLVE THE NAAC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**MOTION:** *Whereas, the Board of Trustees is not a legal entity and therefore cannot operate within the mandate given it by the Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (Toronto Branch), such as making legally binding contracts or inheriting legacies; be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees be dissolved and that all its duties be transferred to the Executive of the NAAC.*

**In reaction to a motion put forward by the NAAC Executive to dissolve the Board of Trustees, the following submission was made by Mohan Bissoondial and Howard Sammy against dissolution of the Board, interspersed with responses by an Executive team headed by Norma Ramsahai. The submission (against dissolution) is in regular font, while the Executive team's comments are in italics.**

## BACKGROUND

At the last NAAC general meeting, a motion to dissolve the Board of Trustees was introduced after notice was published in the NAAC newsletter but no rationale was provided in the newsletter. It was pointed out at the meeting that when the Board was duly constituted, due process was followed; a proposal was written in the newsletter; comments were invited and the proposal was revised and presented at a general meeting for approval. No written report was given regarding dissolution — just a verbal one. It is strongly recommended that the current Executive follow a similar due process as stated above.

*The rationale for putting forward a motion was stated in the last newsletter i.e. "The Board of Trustees is not a legal entity and therefore cannot operate within the mandate given it by the Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (Toronto Branch), such as making legally binding contracts or inheriting legacies." A good analogy is "a house that is built without proper foundation cannot perform its function of housing and is of little value". What is the point of due process when the Board is not set up to perform some of its functions?*

A) It is simple to "mash up" a structure but more difficult to create one! The proposal does not have any specific recommendations as to what was going to be done to replace the Board. Was a new committee going to be created to replace the Board? There were some general comments about the Education committee undertaking the role of the Board but the current constitutional mandate of this committee does not include such a role. Will the constitution be changed? This newsletter includes a proposal to dissolve the Board and this is our response to that proposal.

*NAAC's Constitution makes no mention of a "Board of Trustees" and therefore no change has to be made to the Constitution to transfer ownership of its role.*

*Bylaw 7.4 (b) of the Constitution states with respect to the organization of the Education Committee: "The committee shall be responsible for developing programmes to provide an avenue for educational and cultural interaction with the society at large and with the institutions in Trinidad and Tobago".*

*In fact, the creation of the Board of Trustees essentially stripped the Education Committee of its duties as mandated by the Constitution. It is acknowledged that the Board of Trustees was given additional duties (handling bequests, fund-raising etc.) – but none of these, to our knowledge, were addressed by the Board. In effect then, the Board simply replaced the Education Committee.*

We encourage the membership to review the proposal and our response and contact us or the Executive with their comments.

First, we need to understand the background to creation of the Board and the vision of the Executive at that time.

B) The following were the reasons for creation of the Board:

1) Administration of the NAAC Bursary funds (both for Trinidad and Canada) and the Trinidad Book Awards: we wanted to have a separation

*continued on next page*

---

## **The Proposal To Dissolve The NAAC Board Of Trustees (*continued*)**

of the Board from the Executive to ensure that these programs had a permanent life and could not be discontinued based on the whims and fancies of any Executive at any point in time. Also, the objective was to have a group that was independent of the Executive who would make fair and impartial decisions without any conflict of interest. Dissolving the Board may well result in discontinuing these programs at any time without the approval of the membership.

*As per the Board's guidelines it has to operate within the mandate given to it by NAAC and its Executive. Therefore the Board can neither operate separately nor independently of the Executive since all decisions have to be approved by the Executive. On the contrary, the NAAC's officers are governed by the Business Corporation Act and are entrusted with the responsibility of bringing forward motions for approval of any changes in its operations to its membership. The Board has no such governance since it is not a legal entity.*

2) We wanted to have a greater participation from the membership at large in the NAAC's activities by appointing people to the Board who had an interest in the Board's mandate. Dissolving the Board will result in further centralization of activities and power in the hands of the Executive rather than sharing of those activities and power. This is a backward step.

*We appreciate the objective, but we have a case of scarce resources, i.e. volunteers. The implementation of the "posse" proposal has helped to decentralize activities e.g. the 5K Fun run/walk. If all decisions by the Board have to be approved by the Executive, how is this decentralizing the power that you talk about? We are not sure about the use of the word "power" since the members of the Executive are really "servants" i.e. serving the membership. All we are trying to do is "to give back".*

3) We wanted to have a vehicle to administer

funds donated by members for specific purposes such as a bequest of funds from an estate to administer a scholarship program or building fund etc. The Board also had a mandate to raise funds for particular purposes and this has not really materialized but there is no reason why it cannot be done today. As the NAAC membership ages and reaches retirement, many members are considering donating funds to NAAC for specific purposes. Dissolving the Board is a detriment to that goal. No one in their right mind will donate major funds to an association with an Executive that is transient in nature. The Executive serves for one term (except the President) although, to be fair, many members have served for many terms but they have to be elected every year. The Board was setup with rotating terms to have stability and longevity and to fulfill such purposes.

*Again, the Board is not a legal entity and therefore cannot inherit a bequest. What is in place legally to prevent the Board from the misuse of funds? The Board is not legally accountable to the donor. NAAC on the other hand can inherit a bequest and its officers are accountable to the donor and can be held liable for any wrongdoing. NAAC can at that time set up a legal trust, which should be handled by a trust company. Our understanding is that the Naparima Old Boys' Association is currently utilizing some form of trusteeship with a trust company.*

4) We wanted to change NAAC's image of being an organization with an image for organizing great "fetes" to one with an image of being a more socially conscious organization with a new focus on "giving back" to society both in Trinidad and in Canada. Up until that time, NAAC had only provided funds for book awards to the Trinidad schools. The Board was the vehicle created to provide that focus and ensure longevity. That is why the various bursary programs and book awards were placed under the Board's mandate along with a mission to focus on raising funds and administering bequests etc. Dissolving the Board will lose this focus.

*We think this is a great achievement by the Board, but this is an achievement that could*

*continued on next page*

---

## The Proposal To Dissolve The NAAC Board Of Trustees (*continued*)

*have been done by the Executive or the Education Committee. What precludes the Executive and its membership from putting forward great ideas? Is it only a Board of Trustees that can be visionary? As a matter of fact, the Board of Trustees are also members of NAAC and would be able to do what they did without the structure of the Board. Members of NAAC are encouraged to bring forward ideas. NAAC's current mission statement is "To give back". Eighty percent of the funds raised by NAAC comes from the running of charity bingos. The Ontario Lottery Commission will not deal with the Board, which has no legal status, but with the officers of NAAC. The expenditures from the Bingo Funds are audited and approved on a monthly basis by the Bingo Licensing Officer.*

C) This is a response to the proposal to dissolve the Board of Trustees.

Overall, the motion is based on legalistic and cost reduction rationales. It lacks any vision of what values NAAC and the Board represents. It has no recommendations on what replaces the Board.

*Again, in order for the Board to perform some of its functions it has to be a legal entity. The Board has to add value to the organization. For the past 8 years or so the Board has added very little value and most of its duties are similar to "make work" projects. Dissolving the Board will neither cap the value nor the vision of NAAC.*

1) It is agreed that the Board is not a legal entity and no one has ever made that claim to the best of our knowledge. It is a non-sequitur to say that the Board cannot operate within a mandate given to it by the NAAC (which is the sole legal entity managing the affairs of the NAAC) since the NAAC has the power and authority to give a mandate to the Board or any other sub-group such as the Running Club or the Steelband group. Further, the NAAC Executive can choose to delegate authority to the Board or any other sub-group to enter into contracts with third parties or to collect donations or administer funds for specific purposes. One such instance is the administration of the funds collected for the Arthur

Siblal Memorial Book Award.

In summary, the Board was properly constituted by the NAAC and certain powers were given to the Board and documented in the Guidelines.

*The officers and director (the President) of NAAC can delegate to have an agent act on their behalf but they are ultimately held liable for misuse of funds or wrongdoings. Therefore they should be the ones conducting the affairs of the Association, and entering into contracts with third parties or to collect donations. Again regarding the administering of bequests, this should be handled by a trust company.*

2) How could the Board be burdensome on the Executive when there was a separation of powers, responsibilities and activities between the two, with the Board reporting to the Executive?

*The guidelines require that 2 members of the Executive sit on the Board; that the Executive appoint replacement trustees; that the Executive administer the functions and mandate of the Board; that the Executive review and make recommendations as proposed by the Board; that the Executive give monies to the Board to administer the Trinidad bursaries and book awards; that the Executive has to deal with an extra layer of reporting from the Board's Treasurer etc. As mentioned before to Howard, does materiality play a role in our structure? Monies generated and disbursed from the general account are under 6K per year. Why do we need a Board made up of 5 members to administer 6K. It is so simple and efficient to make up the cheques directly from the general account and send it down to the schools in Trinidad. What better controls in terms of accountability and efficiency does the Board have over the NAAC Executive? According to the Constitution the books of the Association have to be audited but who audits the books of the Board?*

3) Regarding the effectiveness of the Board, one has to ask the question "Why was it effective in the initial years when it was established and not in later years? What changed? Was it a lack of effectiveness

*continued on next page*

---

## **The Proposal To Dissolve The NAAC Board Of Trustees (*continued*)**

on the part of previous Executives in providing guidance, encouragement and support to the Board or were there other reasons?" One can't just make a claim with any supporting evidence.

*In today's environment some of the duties of the Board are a duplication of effort.*

*For example, consider this:*

*Much of the time-consuming work involved (during the initial years) in providing student educational support material (books, magazines, computer software etc.) for the Trinidad institutions vanished when the Executive decided to send funds to the schools and have them purchase their own material. This has resulted in the streamlining of the procedure for the Education Support Programmes for the Trinidad institutions. All that had to be done was to write a cheque to each school for the total amount of funding required for the bursary, the awards and the educational support.*

*So at the start of each school year, the process now was for the Executive to write a cheque (from the general account) for the total funding for the 5 schools, pass it on to the Board, which would then bank it and then write out 5 cheques for each of the schools and mail them to Trinidad.*

*As for the NAAC Canadian bursaries, the Board had to deliberate over the bursary applications (passed on to them from the Executive) and determine which applicants were successful recipients of the awards. The Executive then had to write the cheques (because the Board had no access to the bingo account) and pass them on to the Board. The Board had very little to do – and even less when the number of applications for the NAAC bursaries started to drop to 2 or 3 instead of the 5 or 6 we had previously.*

4) What specific costs are incurred in carrying out the Board's activities?

*The cost is the time and effort put out to accomplish so little.*

*See response to (3) above. In addition, there was some waste in having to maintain all these bank accounts by the Executive and the Board.*

## **D) CONCLUSION**

We acknowledge that all organizations need to change and grow to revitalize itself over time. The Executive is certainly within its right to bring forward this motion to the NAAC membership. But it has an obligation to understand the background that led to the creation of the Board and recommend specific actions as to what and how they plan to achieve the goals stated in the Board's Guidelines and this should be incorporated into the proposed motion. Just "mashing up" the Board is not the answer. The question is replacing it with what? We cannot support the motion without getting answers to this question. We are willing to work with the Executive or its designate(s) to arrive at a satisfactory outcome that will benefit NAAC over the long term.

*Thanks for the acknowledgement and for giving us some background information.*

*The goals as stated in the Board's Guidelines could be taken over by the NAAC Executive and its membership as follows:*

*Mandate - 2.2 - Finance Committee; 2.3 - Education Committee; 2.4 - Bingo Licensing Officer; 2.5 & 2.6 - Trust Company when needed; 2.7-NAAC Executive, the membership, posse groups (walk/run, steelband)*

*Operations - 8.1, - The Social Committee, 8.2 - Finance Committee, 8.3 - Education Committee.*

*We have two choices in regards to the dissolution of the Board:*

*1) That the NAAC Executive continue with business as usual by achieving the goals and objectives of the Association as stated in the Constitution without the Board of Trustees.*

*2) That the NAAC Executive bring a motion to the membership to officially dissolve the Board at the AGM in May, 2006 since it does not add any value to the organization in its current state.*



## MAILBAG

Mailing Address:  
Naparima Alumni  
Association of Canada  
P.O. Box 92175  
2900 Warden Avenue  
Scarborough, Ontario M1W 3Y9



To the Naparima Alumni Association of Canada

My name is Linda Sarju and I was awarded the Naparima Alumni Millennium Scholarship. I would like to express my gratitude for sponsoring this award and for helping me pursue my education.

Throughout my four years of high school, I concentrated mainly on my academics. Despite my heavy workload, I always made time for the steel band. The steel band has been an important part of my life for the past seven years, and your continued support of the program helped make my experience with the West Humber Steel Band as enjoyable as it was. Your funding of the program and this scholarship has provided many opportunities, especially when beginning post-secondary education, and it is greatly appreciated.

I am currently attending the University of Toronto for studies in the life sciences and I would like to become a General Practitioner. This scholarship is helping me overcome the financial barriers of attending university. This year, I will be able to give my full attention to my studies because I will not have to worry about finances. This is very important to me because I believe that being able to fully concentrate on my studies has been an integral part of my academic success in school. I know that there are many other outstanding candidates for this award, and receiving this scholarship means a lot to me. The award is another motivating factor for me to do well at university because it shows me that hard work and dedication are rewarded.

Sincerely,

*Linda Sarju*

To: The Naparima Alumni Association

My name is Christine Veeria and I am writing to thank you for choosing me to receive the NAAC Steel Band Award for the 2004-2005 school year. I am very grateful for the award and being considered to receive it. Currently I am a student at the University of Toronto and planning to pursue a BSc and hopefully move on to medical school.

Once again thank you.

Sincerely,

*Christine Veeria*

*RainSoft*

### ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR WATER QUALITY?

IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY OF THE  
FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- Chlorine Smell • Brown Stains • Salty Taste
- Rotten Smell • Cloudiness • Scale Deposits
- Blue-Green Stains • Other Stains • Dull Hair
- Dry/Itchy Skin • Stained/Ruined Laundry
- Poor Tasting Tea/Coffee
- Excessive Detergent Use

**THEN YOU SHOULD BE CONCERNED  
ABOUT YOUR WATER QUALITY**

**FOR A FREE NO-OBLIGATION  
WATER ANALYSIS IN YOUR HOME  
CALL RUSTIN @ 416-745-4814**

---

## MAILBAG *(continued)*

The Secretary,  
Naparima Alumni Association of Canada  
c/o Mr. J. Cullen, West Humber C. I.  
1675 Martin Grove Road  
Etobicoke, Ontario  
M9V 3S3

Dear Sir,

It is truly an honor to be a recipient of the NAAC Steel Band Bursary Award.

I am grateful to the association for giving students the opportunity to bring music into their lives. Music makes learning fun. The steel band program has created a family environment for me away from home. Playing with the school program on the double soprano in grade nine and the soprano in the following years has enabled me to become closer with my Trinidadian heritage. Through the program I've gained knowledge about the origins of pan and the music that evolved from it. As a result, I have developed a profound respect for music. I hope to pursue a steel band course at York University and continue my love for playing the pan.

The program has taught me how to work as a team, has provided me with organizational skills, as well as public speaking skills. Furthermore, these skills have enhanced my performance in my private piano lessons, as well as my past contributions to WHCI's Student Leadership Program. I enjoy playing pan because it brings satisfaction to be able to read a piece of music and translate that knowledge to the pan. My involvement in the program is one I will cherish forever. My most memorable moments of the program will continue to be my performances at local churches, schools and the trip to Niagara Falls because I like it when the audiences felt compelled to get up and dance. These performances exposed me to people of other nationalities and engaged my desire to advance technically as a performer.

WHCI's Pan program has given me the confidence needed to be one of the firsts students to partake in the combination of pan and concert band instruments. Thanks to my high school Steel Band teacher, Mr. Cullen for giving me the opportunity to do so. Mr. Cullen is an incredible teacher who always has his students' best interest in mind. Some of the things

he has taught the students at WHCI are how to read music, to perform and how to improvise.

Thank you NAAC, for giving students of different backgrounds in Canada, the opportunity to experience playing music in pan. I truly appreciate all your efforts to shape my musical interests. NAAC's long-standing support of West Humber Collegiate Steel Band Program is an incredible partnership that means a lot to the students. WHCI's program has enabled me to strive to not only excel as a player in one type of music but to expand my skills to classical and pop music. The teachings I have received were not restricted to the classroom but they applied to other areas of my educational career. Thank you Naparima Alumni Association for supporting me in my educational career. I have plans to keep in touch and one day join the local steel band group on Thursdays. I continue to boast to fellow peers at York University about the wonderful Steel Band program at WHCI.

With the bursary I have obtained I have placed it into a savings account to help pay for my second year university tuition. Currently, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Earth and Atmospheric Science at York University. I have plans to obtain a certificate in meteorology in my third year and further my professional career as a meteorologist. I have high hopes that I would one day appear on Global news, the Weather Network or City Pulse bringing residents up to date information on Ontario's weather.

My love for steel band music will never die. The joy I have encountered from playing the soprano will remain forever in my heart.

Sincerely,  
*Coreece Dookhie*

***If you have something to  
trade or sell:***

- *Garage Sale • Furniture*
- *Cars • Exhibits,*

***consider a listing in broadcast!***

Proud Supporter of  
Naparima Alumni Association of Canada

# David D. Seemungal

***“Your Financial Advisor™”***

- Guaranteed Investments
  - Investment Funds
  - RRSPs & RRIFs • RESPs
- Life Insurance • Disability Insurance
  - Critical Illness Insurance
  - Long Term Care Insurance
    - Estate Planning
- Company Group Benefit Packages
- Individual Health & Dental Packages
  - Travel Insurance
- Loans, Mortgages & Leveraged Investments

**2100 Ellesmere Road, Suite 330, Toronto**

**Tel: (416) 445-1233 / (416) 716-4675**

**E-mail: [davids@moneytrends.ca](mailto:davids@moneytrends.ca)**

**[www.moneytrends.ca](http://www.moneytrends.ca)**

MUTUAL FUNDS OFFERED THROUGH HUB CAPITAL INC.



*(L to R) WHCI Music Director Joe Cullen, NAAC President Ms. Vitra Mungal, NAAC Steelband Bursary Winners Christine Veeria & Coreece Dookhie, NAAC Member Ms. Portia Barriffe, NAAC Member Ms. Michele Comeau and NAAC Scholarship Winner Linda Sarju (Photos Courtesy of Joe Cullen)*

*NGHS alumnae expressed shock at seeing their favourite tamarind tree hacked and now surrounded by concrete and asphalt. Will it survive?*



## *Highlights from the Christmas Dinner & Dance*

*(Photos: Martin Latchana)*



*Original Oil Paintings by Ian Ali*



## *Silent Auction of original oil paintings for SAGHS.*

*These four original oil paintings were donated by Mrs Dawne Mahabir, a SAGHS alumna. She has asked that the money raised be donated to her alma mater. See Details on page 9.*