

Insight

St. Vincent & the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc.

Quarterly Newsletter October 2007

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings and best wishes to all members, friends and supporters of the Association. We thank you for your continued support as we strive to serve our community.

The last few months of the year are usually interesting ones for the Association as we look forward to wrapping up events held earlier in the year as well as planning for the ones to come including Independence Anniversary celebrations, the awarding of scholarships, the Children's Christmas Party, the Christmas Hamper Project and to crown it off the preparation for the annual general meeting.

On behalf of the executive I thank all those who have volunteered their services and time so far to help us accomplish what we have. Special thanks to those who are serving on committees and assisting in organizing events. Without your help and support the work of the executive members would be too burdensome for us to properly function.

This year's Independence Anniversary celebrations begin with our Thanksgiving Church Service at Rosewood Church of the Nazarene on Sunday, October 21. We acknowledge the kindness of pastors and members of the church for accommodating us for a third consecutive year. We look forward to another large gathering and a good day of fellowship. The Dinner & Dance will be held on Saturday, October 27, one of the few times that such event is held on the anniversary date of our Independence. Those who attended last year's event at the Parque Banquet & Convention Centre will remember the good time they had. We are going back there this year with a revised program, a changed menu and an open bar. We look forward to making this one of the most memorable. The final event is the Town Hall Meeting at the York Civic Centre at Eglinton & Keele. The focus this year is on our youth, the leaders of tomorrow. We look forward to your support of this event on October 28.

The Council of Caribbean Associations of Canada is hosting a Career Options Day to introduce and encourage our youth to alternative career options in the field of Law Enforcement and Emergency Services.

This event was scheduled for late November but I have now learnt that it is postponed to March 1, 2008. We trust that this will be an opportunity for our young people to look at the many opportunities that may become available to them.

As we look forward to the Annual General Meeting in January it would be useful if we would take some time out to prepare ourselves for it. Over the past few years the focus was just around the office of the president. Getting persons to fill the other offices continue to be challenging and from time to time persons are forced to accept these positions not merely because they are qualified to perform the role but because no one else wanted the position. If we feel that there is need for this organization to continue then we need to do what it takes to make it go on. I therefore appeal to all those within our community who have the Association's interest at heart to offer yourselves to serve in some capacity to help the Association and our community advance.

The production of Insight and the upkeep of our website depend heavily on the contributions made by the advertisers. We thank them for their support and ask members and friends in our community to support those who support us.

On behalf of the executive and members of the Association I take this opportunity to express condolences to members of our community who have lost their loved ones. We pray that you will find comfort in knowing that they have gone to a place of rest with our Maker.

With all good wishes.
Gideon L. Exeter

CONTENTS

Sandra Sutherland – Immigration Matters, Page 2
Association Briefs, Pages 3
List of Executive Members, Page 3
News from SVG, Page 4,13
Calendar of Events, Page 5
My Experience In SVGAT, Page 6
List of SVGAT Committees, Page 13
Christmas Hamper Submission Form, Page 15

St. Vincent & The Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc.

Celebrating Independence

Open Bar 2007 Dinner & Dance

Under the Distinguished Patronage of
SVG Consul General to Toronto, Mr. Steve O. Phillips

Guest Speaker: *Former Magistrate from St. Vincent and the Grenadines -*
Mr. Errol Mounsey

Celebrating Yesterday + Embracing Tomorrow

Saturday Oct. 27th
Cocktails @ 6:30 P.M.

Ticket \$60.00 b4 Sept.30th
\$65.00 after Sept.30th

Live music by Julian McIntosh Band

Join us at:
Riviera Parquet Banquet Hall & Convention Center
2800 Hwy 7 west at Jane St., Concord Ontario

WESTERN UNION KIC / EASTERN CARIBBEAN FREIGHT LINE

Community Radio Station 102.5 FM

Reeny's Hair Designs 416-759-7883
 Ruby's Beauty Salon: 416-736-7896
 Hairoun West Indian Bakery: 416-754-3854
 Garraway Mechanical: 905-619-6980
 Ross Carpet & Courier: 416-256-1300
 Exeter Beauty Supply: 905-426-8293
 SVG Consulate, Toronto: 416-398-4277
 Ex. Mem.: Gideon 647-724-0645, Jim 416-459-2462

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

IMMIGRATION MATTERS: Doing it RIGHT!

Contribution by: Sandra Sutherland

Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) website proudly states that individuals can file applications on their own thus encouraging them to do so, despite the increasing complexity of the system and processes as well as tougher immigration policies.

Information required on applications, in conjunction with supporting documents, is critical and serves as the primary rationale for immigration officers to analyze and use as the rationale for their decisions. The applicant is thus expected to assess documentary evidences, comply with eligibility criteria and other related conditions, have adequate knowledge of the Immigration Act and Regulations, have adequate knowledge of the policies and procedures applicable to the type of application/program, circumvent any problems that may occur, implement follow-up procedures when and where necessary, etc - all this so as to avoid stress along the way and ensure that the application is decided in the shortest time possible.

We would presume that immigration officers would be obliged to provide legal immigration advice to applicants to

help them through the intricate stages of the application process. The reality is that they are not bound by any such obligation. In other words, when you make an application to CIC you are on your own in doing it right the first time so as to avoid negative decisions and costly delays.

Take the case of Mr. and Mrs. X. They wanted to save money by handling their application themselves, as encouraged by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). Application package includes various sets of forms, and each set of forms appears to be straightforward and uncomplicated. Surely even an eight grader should be able to read and answer the questions posed. Well, having surpassed high school education, Mrs. X felt confident enough to tackle this task on her own.

The couple did their utmost best and prepared and submitted the application forms. Not having received the forms back, they presumed that they had done an acceptable job. Mr. X was requested to attend an interview. The information he provided during the interview contradicted what was expressed in the incomplete and inaccurate application forms. This lead the immigration officer to conclude that the marriage was not genuine and was entered into for immigration purposes - and such was the basis for refusing the application.

Mrs. X's new dilemma was to appeal the immigration officer's negative decision. Appeal processes can be intimidating and complex. I was retained to handle the appeal process. The client followed my instructions to provide documents that would help to provide compelling evidence as to the genuineness' of the marriage relationship and was duly prepared to be interviewed at the Immigration Appeal Division. Needless to say, the documents and testimony served as convincing arguments and the negative decision was overturned at the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) conference stage, thereby eliminating the need to proceed to a full appeal hearing. Husband and wife no longer needed to worry about being permanently separated.

An appeal process is costly in terms of money and time. Depending on the type of case, one can expect the appeal process to take up to two years to be heard. Fortunately for some appellants, their cases end at an ADR conference stage, which substantially shortens the process. Ultimately an applicant hopes to save monies choosing to be self-represented. When things go wrong, these funds may likely be expended on the Appeal process. This expense combined with lengthy delays in uniting with loved ones could wreak havoc in curtailing time sensitive issues or circumstances.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all relevant information and documentations are submitted and it is the officers' function to review, assess and make decisions based on what is presented to him/her. An applicant may be required to investigate how best to put together a sound application package that adheres to immigration legislation and policies, among other things. This may be a time consuming process that may not yield accurate information.

Obtaining sound advice and assistance from a competent and qualified immigration specialist may not guarantee success but it serves to help applicants to do it right the first time thus increasing the chances of success and/or to curb unnecessary delays.

Sandra Sutherland is a Certified Canadian Immigration Consultant (CCIC) in good standing with the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC). If you would like her to address a topic in a future issue of the Insight or would like to pose your confidential queries directly to her, you may reach her at (416) 431-2829, at her office address, via e-mail at ssutherland@suthernimmigration.com or visit her company's website at www.suthernimmigration.com.

TORONTO CONSULATE OFFICE

Consulate of St. Vincent and the Grenadines
333 Wilson Avenue, Suite 601
Toronto, Ontario, M3H 1T2

Tel: (416) 398-4277 Fax (416) 398-4199
Email: consulategeneral@rogers.com

Steve O. Phillips
Consul General

The Office of the Consulate General in Toronto is here to attend to the needs of Vincentians. It also strives at strengthening its ties with organizations looking to do business in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

vicepres@vincytoronto.com

Executive Secretary - Petra Hutchinson; Tel: 416-652-5207
execsec@vincytoronto.com

General Secretary - Nichole Edwards; Tel: 416-256-4328
gensecretary@vincytoronto.com

Treasurer - Marcia Farrell; Tel: 416-645-0608
Treasurer@vincytoronto.com

Assistant Treasurer - Yolande Lewis - 416-809-6820
assisttreas@vincytoronto.com

Public Relations Officer - Jim Lewis - 416-459-2462
pro@vincytoronto.com

Immediate Past President - Jason Jones; 905-999-1771
jonesjason@rogers.com

Ass'n General Email address: svga@vincytoronto.com

Make a contribution to the Association

You can now donate to any of the following: the Relief Fund, the Scholarship Fund, the Children's Christmas Party, the Christmas Hamper to Families In Need and/or to General Operating Funds by contacting any member of the Executive or the Chair of the Committee you wish to support.

Help a child in your homeland to a brighter future.

An old saying reminds us that children are the future of every country. Each of us can help to build the future of St. Vincent and the Grenadines by helping the children. A little as Cdn\$1.00 a day, will amount to at least EC\$50.00 per month. This small sum can help to keep a young child in school and contribute to his or her development in the community. If you are interested in learning how you can go about sponsoring a child in St. Vincent & the Grenadines, how to select such a child and how to ensure that your sponsorship money is used for the development of that child, please enquire in confidence by writing to the Association either through regular mail or e-mail. You can also contact any member of the Executive.

Independence Church Service

Sunday, October 21 at 4:00 pm
Rosewood Church of the Nazarene
657 Milner Avenue, Scarborough
(Morningside & Milner)



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Executive Committee on behalf of the membership of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. hereby extends condolences to the family and the Government and people of St. Lucia on the recent passing of Sir John Compton, Prime Minister of St. Lucia.

ASSOCIATION BRIEFS

THE EXECUTIVE

Here is a list of the executive members just in case you would like to contact any of them:

President - Gideon Exeter; Tel: 647-724-0645
president@vincytoronto.com;

Vice President - Melba Da Silva; Tel: 905-919-9693

NEWS FROM SVG

Vincy Youth crushed

by GERALD PRIMUS

2007/09/28

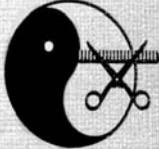
Four days after celebrating his 21st birthday, a Vincentian youth was crushed to death in a vehicular accident at Pennsylvania Avenue, USA.

Last Tuesday September 18, Aphick Toney became the latest road fatality in Pennsylvania, when he was struck by a vehicle at about 10:00 p.m. on the Dell Park way.

Aphick's aunt, Myrana Toney, related to **THE VINCENTIAN** that the young man was struck by one vehicle which threw him on to another before falling and being run over by a number of oncoming vehicles. Speaking to **THE VINCENTIAN** on Friday morning, Myrana Toney said that she was shocked and thorn apart by the tragic death of her nephew.

"I cannot describe my feelings, it is a great loss to me," the grief-stricken school teacher said. Trying hard to fight back the tears, Toney recounted the last conversation with him. "I called him for his birthday last Friday (September 14) and he said he wanted to come home and spend some time with us," Toney recalled.

As it turned out, Aphick will not make the trip, but his remains will. The young man was so badly crushed that his body will be cremated and the ashes sent home for burial. According to Myrana, Aphick's remains will be laid to rest on October 12, at the Byera cemetery, following a funeral service at the New Life Ministries Church in North Union. Aphick, a former student of the Georgetown Primary School and the St. Vincent Grammar School, migrated to the USA in 1996, to join his mother Eula Toney.



Reeny's Hair Designs
Make-Up Artist &
Hairstylist for all occasions

Modistic Hair Care Services

Tel/Fax: 416 759 7883
1410 Victoria pk Ave, Unit # 6, North york, ON M4A 2L8

RELIEF COMMITTEE APPEAL

Donate Your Canadian Tire Money to the Relief Committee to help us support a worthy cause.

SUTHERN IMMIGRATION & PARALEGAL SERVICES INC.

Interested in Success?

Talk to someone who is success oriented and who cares!

Call for a Free Consultation.

We handle a variety of Immigration Matters including:

Sponsorship Applications Appeals to the I.A.D.
Work & Study Permits Detention Reviews
Refugee Claims Skilled Workers Applications
Humanitarian & Compassionate Cases
And more...Plus Small Claims Court matters

Sandra Sutherland, CCIC

Immigration Law Practitioner (Honors Certification)
Full Member, Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC)

2175 Sheppard Ave. E, Suite 224 Tel: (416) 431-2829

Toll Free: 1-877-230-9451

Fax: (416) 431-4036

Website: suthernimmpar@bellnet.ca

Email: ssutherland@suthernimmigration.com

suthernimmpar@bellnet.ca

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association Toronto

Presents



SOCA & CALPYSO COMPETITION

Who will wear the CROWN?



Crazy Angle



Yellow



Sung



Musa



Storm



Tasha P



Roger Clark



Lady Ann



Dave

**Saturday,
November 24th,
2007**

Doors open @ 8pm
Show starts @ 9pm

Ticket \$ 20.00

CAW Union Hall
30 Tangiers Rd @ Finch

Music Supplied by:
DJ FUSION
ALBIONVILLE
LOVE POWER

Also appearing
The Man Age

**MASTER OF CEREMONY
VIN ABBOTT**



Tickets available at:
Eglinton Carpet: 1764 Eglinton Av. W (416) 256-1300
Ruby's Beauty Salon: 1280 Finch Ave. W (416) 736-7896
Jerome: (416) 439-2462, June: (416) 261-5399, Audrey: 416-829-6201

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.
TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2007**

Sunday, October 21	Independence Church Service	Rosewood Church of the Nazarene
Saturday, October 27	Annual Independence Banquet	Riviera Parque Banquet Hall
Sunday, October 28	Town Hall Discussions	York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Ave. W.
Saturday, November 24	Calypso Competition	CAW Union Hall, 15 Tangiers Road
Sunday, November 25	Monthly General Meeting	Northwood Community Centre
Sunday, December 9	Children's Christmas Party	TBA
Sunday, December 16	Annual Christmas Sing-a-Long	Northwood Community Centre
Saturday, December 22	Christmas Hamper Outreach	
Sunday, January 27	Annual General Meeting	Northwood Community Centre

Addresses & Directions:

Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, (off Arleta between Keele & Jane Streets)
 Rosewood Church of the Nazarene – 657 Milner Avenue, Scarborough (Morningside & Milner)
 Renaissance Parque Banquet Hall, 2800 Hwy7 West at Jane Street, Concord
 CAW Union Hall, 15 Tangiers Road, Toronto (Keele & Finch)
 York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Ave West at Keele, Toronto

**ST. VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES' FLAG -
A DESCRIPTION**

The flag of St. Vincent and the Grenadines was officially adopted on October 12, 1985.



The blue is symbolic of the sky, yellow for the almost constant sunshine and green for abundant vegetation. The *Gems of Antilles* (centered), are placed in the shape of a V, one that represents St. Vincent.

**SPECIAL MEETING
NOTICE**

Please note that due to the Independence Anniversary Town Hall Meeting there will be no monthly general meeting of the Association in October. The next meeting will be on Sunday, November 25 at Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, Toronto.

**BUILDING A HOME TAKES TIME.
AND THE RIGHT FINANCING.**

➔ Get financial support from the ground up.



SCOTIABANK HOME BUILDER LOAN

Yes, you can build your own home, with confidence. A Home Builder Loan provides funds to the builder at each stage of construction. Interest-only payments keep your monthly expenses down while you wait to move in. And upon completion, your Home Builder Loan automatically rolls into a Residential Mortgage, so you can start building equity. We can even help you finance the land.

We invite you to share your plans for home building. Call or visit us today.

The Bank Of Nova Scotia
 Halifax Street, Kingstown
 St. Vincent and The Grenadines
 West Indies
 Tel No.(784) 457-1601
 Fax No.(784) 457-2623



Life. Money. Balance both.

*Trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia. Trademarks used under authorization and control of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

My Experience As VP of SVGAT

..... Melba Da Silva

I must say being part of the SVGAT Executive has been a most memorable experience for more reasons than one. Being younger than ninety eight percent of our financial members; being female and - more shocking to the general body – being Canadian in their eye sight, had me fighting an almost seemingly losing battle. From the beginning I was interjecting into this well knitted blanket of individuals who make up the SVGAT organisation. I had no idea what I was in for or what to expect. I was interested and eager to get involved and share my expertise. I wanted to get to know everyone in the SVGAT community and they were eager to get know me.

What the members do not know about me is that I have a degree in Hotel/Restaurant Management, with more than ten years in the hotel business and over five years now working for a fortune five hundred company - full of experiences of my own. I believed that sitting through long board meetings with a room full of men in white shirts and ties, having to prove myself ten times over to a male dominated industry prepared me to face the members of the SVGAT. I was very wrong. The challenges I faced in the corporate world being the only young, black, female in my department was much easier than the challenges facing me with the SVGAT.

I always knew that I was Vincentian; my mother and father both born and raised in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. I have visited St. Vincent and the Grenadines several times over the years. Flown to Union Island on a seven passenger turbo prop; crossed the Bequia channel by ferry more times than I want to count; pushed my feet into the flour-like sandy beaches of Mayreau and Tobago Cays - twice I must add, and my favourite was discovering the pink stony sand on the gorgeous shores of Palm Island. I believe few can say they have shared the same. I love St. Vincent and the Grenadines and hence my reason for joining the Association in the first place.

I started to attend meetings back in May 2006. The Association at that time was going through a transformation. I regularly attended meetings and heard the cry for help. I sent emails and attempted to follow up on my suggestions but I saw very little progress. Only now after being on the Executive myself I can sympathize with their pain. I was an outsider then looking in. But now, as an insider looking out, I realize the massive amounts of labour to keep the Association functioning. The long meetings, commuting across GTA during traffic, the emails and emails - sometime hundreds to review several times a day, the phone calls, letters, follows ups and the list goes on and on. My life quickly changed from routine work at home with minimal extra curricular activities to a life too overloaded to explain.

My mother is full of old West Indian sayings, but the two that best describes my experience on the SVGAT Executive are “those who know it, feel it” and “you can do something ninety –nine times, but the one time you don’t do one to make a hundred, it’s like you never do.” I am sure most of you can relate with that!

After the meeting is over, the tempers have settled and as you walk out into the lobby everyone is calm, socializing, laughing and talking. What would it take to break down old mistakes, mistrust and hard feelings that are plaguing the members of the SVGAT organisation and leaving that grey cloud hovering over is to bring the lobby socializing atmosphere into the meeting room. Guide and don’t criticize, console and uphold our people and our community by not being a sheep but a shepherd. Baby boomers and retirees (anyone 45 years and older) it is your time to train, mentor and pass the torch on to future leaders of the SVGAT. All corporations are encouraging transfer of knowledge to prepare for the aging population and shortage in the not too distant future. So we need to act now to ensure that the legacy of SVGAT former leaders lives on.

GOVERNORS GENERAL OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Sir Frederick Ballantyne – 2nd September, 2002 to present

Mrs. Monica Dacon (Ag.) -- 3rd June 2002 to 2nd September 2002

Sir Charles Antrobus -- 1st June 1996 to 3rd June 2002

Sir David Jack -- 20th September 1989 to 1st June 1996

Mr. Henry Harvey Williams (Ag.) -- 29th February 1988 to 20th September 1989

Sir Joseph Lambert Eustace -- 28th February 1985 to 29th February 1988

Sir Sydney Gun-Monroe -- 27th October 1979 to 28th February 1985

**KLC / EASTERN CARIBBEAN FREIGHT
LINES**



Your Gateway to the Caribbean since 1982

Direct weekly service to



St. Vincent and the Grenadines



St. Lucia



Trinidad



Barbados

We provide complete packaging and shipping of personal and household effects, barrels, vehicles, crates and full container loads.

For further information and rates, please contact us at:
Office – (416) 759-2736 or Warehouse (416) 291-6733

Email: kclfretight@rogers.com

50 Tiffield Road, Unit 15
Scarborough, Ontario, M1V 5B7



JIM LEWIS

416-459-2462

Mondays – 4:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Conscious Vibes

(Jim Lewis and Kevin Padmore)

Tuesdays – 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

News

Every 2nd and 4th Sundays – 3:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Urban Griots

CHRY 105.5 FM

<http://www.yorku.ca/chry/>

Request Line Tel: 416-736-5656

Office Tel: 416-736-5293

Fax: 416-650-8052

**AJAX DENTAL
CENTRE**

*Your complete
family dental centre*

Evening and weekend
hours in a gentle
caring relaxed, state
of the art office.

Implants, braces,
cosmetic (veneers, in
office bleaching),
root canals.

Crowns, bridges and
white fillings in
addition to
your regular
check ups.



Dr. Tannis & Family

Call for a free consultation 905-426-8304

All insurance plans accepted. Payment plans available.

161 Harwood Ave N., #5B

HAPPY 28TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY – OCTOBER 27

IMPORTANT IMMIGRATION NOTICE TO SVG NATIONALS

We have been asked to advise St. Vincent and the Grenadines nationals that as of August 1, 2007, only the new Machine-Readable Passports issued by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines will be accepted as official travel documents for our country.

The last day for using the old type of passports that are not machine-readable was July 31, 2007. Please take the necessary actions to obtain your new St. Vincent and the Grenadines Passport. The following rates apply for obtaining your new passport:

When applying in Canada - Cdn\$102.00
When applying in the United States of America - US\$105.00

When applying in the United Kingdom - 40 Pounds (Sterling)

When applying in St. Vincent and the Grenadines - EC\$85.00

Please be guided accordingly and share the information with others. Please check with any SVG Overseas Office for further information. The SVG Toronto Consulate Office can be reached at 416-398-4277.

The Consulate is located at 333 Wilson Avenue West at Bathurst.

Email address is:

consulategeneral@rogers.com.

SVG NATIONAL FACTS

National Dish: Roast Breadfruit and Fried Jack Fish

National Bird: The St. Vincent Parrot, also known as *Amazona Guildingi*

National Flower: The Flower of the Soufriere Tree or *Spachea Perforata*

The **SVG Botanic Gardens** is the oldest in the Western Hemisphere, having been founded in 1763.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES CONSULATE TORONTO

The Consulate General wishes to advise the general public of its hours of operation:

Monday to Friday

Open to the General Public

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

By Special Appointment only:

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tel: 416-398-4277

The office is closed on all statutory holidays in St. Vincent and the Grenadines

NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK (SVG) LTD.

SVG's First local Commercial Bank, with a wide range of services including:

- Land purchase
- House purchase/construction
- House renovations
- Consumer items and the purchase of vehicles
- Personal items
- Commercial purposes
- Other consumer durables
- Low Income Housing
- 100% Mortgage for Public Servants
- Students
- Micro Enterprises

Come see us at any of these locations:

Head Office Bedford Street	Tel: 457-1844 Fax: 456-2612 email: natbank@caribsurf.com
Halifax Street Branch	Tel: 452-4210 Fax: 457-2256
Retail Lending Dept. Upstairs Halifax St. Branch	Tel: 457-2534/452-4231 Fax: 456-1886
Commercial Lending Dept. Micro Enterprises Methodist Bldg Granby St.	Tel: 452-4314/457-1844 Fax: 451-2036
Cash Express Centre Higginson Street	Tel: 456-1907/452-4194 Fax: 456-2663
Georgetown Sub Branch	Tel: 452-4171 Fax: 458-6482
Barrouallie Sub Branch	Tel: 452-4161 Fax: 456-0118
Bequia Sub Branch	Tel: 452-4196 Fax: 458-3237
Canouan Sub Branch	Tel: 452-4174 Fax: 458-8604
Union Island Sub Branch	Tel: 452-4178 Fax: 458-8512
AGENCIES Layout Chateaubelair	Tel: 458-7216 Tel: 458-2223

ATMs at: •E.T. Joshua Airport •Bedford Street •Halifax Street •Calliaqua •Mesopotamia •Barrouallie •Bequia •Canouan •Union Island

NOTES ABOUT ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

When St. Vincent and the Grenadines became an Independent Nation its first Prime Minister was Hon. Robert Milton Cato, a lawyer. Mr. Cato was leader of the St. Vincent Labour Party.

BROCHURES - CATALOGUES
PRODUCT SELL SHEETS
POSTERS - POSTCARDS
MENUS
CALENDARS
INVITATIONS - TICKETS
BUSINESS CARDS
BANNERS
& MUCH MORE

 **Printing Press Inc**

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

SCARBOROUGH
 40 Nugget Ave, Unit 1&2
 Scarborough, Ont, M1S 3A8
 Tel: 416-291-3292
 Fax: 416-291-9842
 ✉: office@printingpressdirect.com

DOWNTOWN
 101 Spadina Ave. Suite 211
 Toronto, Ontario M5V 2K2
 Tel: 416-203-1669
 Fax: 416-203-1863
 ✉: dtoffice@printingpressdirect.com

6000 FLYERS
 Cardstock HI-Gloss
 Full Colour 2 Sided

3"x4"	\$195
4"x5"	\$245
4"x6"	\$295
5"x8"	\$485

visit us at
www.PrintingPressDirect.com

"Where you always get more value for your money"

EVENT TICKETS
 AS LOW AS
\$49

ADOPT A CHILD PROGRAM

The Association has decided to adopt a child in St. Vincent and the Grenadines starting in 2008. The child will be selected from one of the 66 Government Primary Schools and Special Needs Schools throughout the country.



This program is coordinated by the Relief Committee. Please support this cause by making a special donation to it.

Please call Emergene Sam, Relief Committee Chair at 416-537-3269 or email svgatoronto@vincytoronto.com

EXETER BEAUTY SUPPLY

We Carry a Variety of Ethnic Products from Various Manufacturers

Wigs, Pony Tails, Human and Synthetic Hair, Accessories, Membership Discount Cards

Visit Us At:

**Unit 16A – 1725 Kingston Road, Pickering
 (Brock & Kingston Road in Mandarin Plaza)**

Tel: (905) 426-8293

Email: exeterbeauty@rogers.com

Hours:

Sun: 12 Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Mon - Thurs: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Fri: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Sat: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Agent for

foreign-phone
 the proper way to talk

A Complete Home Telephone Service with Unlimited Calling to the USA, Canada, UK*, the Caribbean*
 website: www.foreignphone.com

Tel: 1-866-978-5921

HAIROUN WEST INDIAN BAKERY

For all your West Indian style bread, cakes and delicacies



We will cater for your Special Occasions

2264 Birchmount Road, Scarborough, Ontario
Tel: (416) 754-3854
Gene & Nola Smith

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Main Sites and Attractions

- Trinity Falls
- Dark View Falls
- Botanical Gardens
- Montreal Gardens
- Black Point Tunnel
- Owia Salt Pond
- Vermont Nature Trails
- Fort Charlotte
- La Soufriere Volcano
- Mesopotamia Valley
- Petroglyphs
- St George's Cathedral
- St Mary's Cathedral
- 13 Carib Stones at Petit Bordel

The Professional Travel Place Inc.

**Worldwide Travel Arrangements
Specialists in Air Travel to and from
St. Vincent & the Grenadines**

**Full travel arrangements by
CHARTER or SCHEDULED AIRLINES**

**LIAT and CARIBBEAN STAR
tickets with confirmed reservations**

**We also specialize in:
CRUISES, VACATION PACKAGES
AIRLINE and RAIL TICKETS
CAR RENTALS, TRAVEL INSURANCE**

**TELEPHONE: (416) 391-1410
FAX: (416) 391-2590**

**23 Lesmill Road, Suite 105
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M38 3P6
E-mail: holidays@professionaltravel.ca
www.professionaltravel.ca**



MURRAY HOFFMAN INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE LTD.

**Auto Home Business Churches Life
Mortgage Protection Critical Illness
Individual & Small Business Dental & Medical Plan**

**Call
HILROY PETERS**

**1111 Finch Ave W., Suite 212, Downsview, Ontario,
M3J 2E5
Tel: 416-736-9066 Ext 231 Fax: 416-736-8556
Pager: 416-382-3032**

THANK YOU

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto acknowledges the contributions of those businesses and individuals who support the production of Insight by promoting their businesses and services through advertisement in our newsletter. We kindly ask our readers to support these businesses and individuals when and where possible.

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

During the past few months a number of members of our community have passed on, including former members of the Association. News of these deaths does not always reach the PR Committee or the Executive Members in time to circulate the information as we would like to.

The Executive and Members of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. would like to extend condolences to all members and friends of our community who have lost loved ones.

We wish you God's blessing as you cope with your loss and we trust that those who have departed will find rest in the Lord.

FACTS ABOUT ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Ports of Entry:

The seven Ports of Entry in the country are located in Wallilabou (yachts only), Kingstown, Bequia, Canouan, Mustique, Union Island and Chateaubelair.

Records of Ancestors:

St. Vincent and the Grenadines is the only Caribbean country in which petroglyphs, recording our ancestors' presence are found. These can be found in Yambou, Buccament, Layou and Barroullie.

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES TOURIST OFFICE, TORONTO

Marilyn Browne

Tourism Officer

St. Vincent & the Grenadines Tourist Office
601 - 333 Wilson Ave, Toronto, On, M3H 1T2
Tel: 416-633-3100 Fax: 416-633-3123
E-mail: svgtourismtoronto@rogers.com

SVGAT

Independence Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, October 28, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

Theme: Leaders of Today for Tomorrow

Venue: York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Ave. West, Toronto

(1 block west of Keele Street, north side)

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Please note that there will be no meeting of the Association for this month, due to the Independence Celebrations. Please bring along a friend to the next meeting of the Association on Sunday, November 25, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, North York (Keele & Sheppard)

'Jerk' Thyme Restaurant

*Dine-In & Take Out Caribbean Cuisine
Catering Available for All Occasions*

1794 Liverpool Road, Unit 11A
Pickering, Ontario, L1V 4G7
(In Pickfair Plaza next to Nicey's Supermarket)

Tel: (905) 421-9111; Fax (905) 421-0446
Email: jerkthyme@rogers.com
www.jerkthyme.com



KP Communications Inc.

Baynes Brothers Building, Granby Street, Kingstown
(Near to Old Public Library)
Tel: 784-457-1690

Other locations where full service is available include

Barrouallie

Barrouallie Cooperative Credit Union 784-458-7943

Union Island

Eagles Travel, Clifton 784-458-8179

Bequia

Admiralty Transport Co., Port Elizabeth 784-458-3348

Marriaqua

Marriaqua Cooperative Credit Union
784-458-1958 or 784-458-5269

For information call **1-800-325-6000**, or visit www.westernunion.com

**HIGH COMMISSION FOR
ORGANIZATION
OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN
STATES**

130 Albert Street, Suite 700
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5G4

Tel: (613) 236-8952
Fax: (613) 236-3042

High Commissioner: His Excellency
Mr. Brendon C. Browne
oeacsreception@travel-net.com

St. Vincent and the Grenadines
became an Independent Nation
on October 27, 1979.

Area: 130 square miles; slightly
less than twice the size of
Washington, DC. The Grenadines
include 32 islands, the largest of
which are Bequia, Mustique,
Canouan, and Union. Some of the
smaller islands are privately owned.

Cities: *Capital*--Kingstown.
Mainland St. Vincent is divided
into the following parishes –
Charlotte, St. George, St. David, St.
Patrick, St. Andrew.

MICHELLE FRASER

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

CONNECT REALTY
Independently Owned & Operated
905-427-6522

**FREE SPECIAL
REPORTS**

- 7 Deadly Mistakes Most Homeowners Make
- How to Buy with \$0 Down Payment
- 9 Step System How to get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar
- **WARNING!!** 10 Questions to ask Before You Hire an Agent
- **FREE** Over The Net Home Evaluation

Her Spirit will Move You!

To view my listings log on to:

www.michellefraser.com

THE MICHELLE FRASER TEAM:

YOUR HOME SELLING TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS

We are proud to introduce to you the Michelle Fraser Home Selling System. With the Michelle Fraser Team you will get the same high quality of service and professionalism that Michelle Fraser is famous for throughout the Durham Region. However, you will receive this superior customer service valued by homeowners from not only Michelle Fraser herself, but her trained team of professionals. We never run out of time for you because each of us is separately responsible for a specific process in the selling of your home. Together, our combined efforts add up to superior marketing and customer service, resulting in YOUR home being **SOLD FAST** and for **TOP DOLLAR!**

More News from SVG

Building Ties

by GERALD PRIMUS
2007/10/05

Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves believes that if St. Vincent and the Grenadines is to continue to forge its international links and reap significant benefits, a strong foreign policy is necessary.

Dr. Gonsalves is of the view that a strong institutionalized foreign policy will enable the country's leader to move freely across developed and developing countries, reaping the benefits of establishing diplomatic ties.

Since assuming office in 2001, the Dr. Ralph Gonsalves led Unity Labour Party (ULP) Government, has set about establishing a foreign policy thrust intending to enhance the capacity of the nation to address and interface with the external environment, in the interest of the people.

As a consequence SVG was able to deepen ties with Cuba, Venezuela and Taiwan and established relations with Mexico, Malaysia and some African states, including Ethiopia.

New York trip

Dr. Gonsalves' disclosure on his government's foreign policy thrust came as he hosted media personnel, on last Monday. He took time out to apprise local media personnel of his recent trip to the USA, which saw him making an address to the 62nd United Nations General Assembly (see pages 27 & 28 of this issue) and holding at least one town hall meeting with Vincentian nationals resident in New York.

Dr. Gonsalves also interacted with several leaders, many of whom expressed interest in deepening ties with SVG and also making state visits.

COMMITTEES OF THE ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.

Building	
Laverne Myall	Kuwassi Hutchinson - Chair
Yolande Lewis	Sally Tash
Constitution	
Education & Cultural	
Fred Williams - Co-chair	Fred Prescod - Co-chair
Edson Huggins	Monique Huggins
Kathleen James	Marcia Farrell
Finance	
	Marcia Farrell - Chair
Yolande Lewis	Elma Gabriel
Wendel Cole	Alfred Compton
Kenneth Farrell	Elaina Lewis
Fund Raising & Entertainment	
	Jason Jones - Chair
Marva Brazel	Melba Da Silva
Vere Palmer	Grafton Bibby
Fred Williams	Raymond England
Marcia Farrell	Audrey Lewis
Allan Austin	Sandra Sutherland
Children's Christmas Party	
Najla Edwards - Coordinator	
Publicity & Membership	
	Jim Lewis - Chair
Cordel Telfer	Fred Williams
Fred Prescod	Androula Samuel
Marva Brazel	Nichole Edwards
Mark Cox	
Recognition	
	Audrey Lewis - Chair
Carmen Parsons	Yolande Lewis

Relief	
	Emergene Sam - Chair
Joycelyn Jackson	Paula Pompey
Grace Stephens	
Scholarship	
	Gideon Exeter - Chair
Yolande Lewis	Ed Bernard
Glendon Carmichael	Jason Jones
Fred Williams	Monty Providence
Cordel Telfer	
Unity Picnic	
	Claudius Samuel - Coordinator
Youth	
	Petra Hutchinson - Chair
Caroline Michael	Zakiya Hutchinson
Independence Banquet	
	Raymond England - Coordinator
Yolande Lewis	Kenny Coombs
Shelley John	Fred Williams
Independence Thanksgiving Church Service	
Audrey Lewis	Grafton Bibby
Past Presidents	
Vincent Beache	Yolande Lewis
Ed Bernard	Allan Liverpool
Glendon Carmichael	Hermus Liverpool
Eddie DeFreitas	Rosalind McIntosh
Gideon Exeter	Silma Millington-Payne
Kenneth Farrell	Monty Providence
Malcolm Garraway	Claudius Samuel
Reuben Jeffers	Shirley Sutherland
Jason Jones	Cordel Telfer
Earla Labban-Dalzine	Samuel Warner (Acting)
Odel Ewan Lewis	Fred Williams

Guided Tours - Novice to Extreme
Motorcycle & Bike Rentals
St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Sailor's Wilderness Tours

Bike Hike Trek Eco-tour Sail Cruise
Discover Fish Peddle

...outfitters & adventure tour guides since 1982

Accommodations Airport Transfers VIP Check-In

For information, please contact: *Sailor's Wilderness Tours*, P.O. Box 684,
Middle St, Kingstown, St. Vincent, W.I. Tel: 784-457-1712 or 784-457-9207
Email: sailortours@hotmail.com Website: www.sailortours.com



Independence Town Hall Youth Forum



Leaders of Today for Tomorrow

Presented by
***St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of
Toronto
Education Committee***

Date: Sunday, October 28, 2007 **Time:** 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Venue: York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Ave. West, Toronto
(1 block west of Keele Street, north side)

Admission: Free

Keynote address by:

**Dr. Melanie
Kirby**

Pediatrician
Haematologist

Feature address by:

Duane Browne
B.Com. (Mktg), Dip.
Recording Arts
Management
Co-Winner of Youth
Debate

Moderated by:

Kathleen James,
B.A., B.Ed., M.A.
Educator



Feature appearances
by:

Tanya Charles,
B.Mus. Perf.
Violinist

**R. Chantelle
Grant,**
B.Mus. Perf., Artist
Diploma
Lyric Mezzo-soprano

Panel Discussion with Featured Presenters

Recognition of recent High School Graduates

SVGAT CHRISTMAS HAMPER 2007

For a number of years now the Association has been assisting less fortunate families in our community at Christmas time with a food hamper. We feel that there is a need for such and continue to ask you for your support both by contributing to the cause and recommending someone whom you feel should be a beneficiary of such. If you know of someone who needs this assistance, please use the form below to make your recommendation.

Please submit this form in person to Emergene Sam, Chair, Relief Committee

Or via email at: relief@vincytoronto.com, Tel: 416-537-3269

By December 10th, 2007

My Name: _____

My Phone Number: _____

I am an SVGAT member (Yes/No): _____

I would like to submit the following person or family to receive a Christmas Hamper:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Unit/Apt: _____ GTA Region/Area: _____

Main Intersections: _____

Phone Number: _____

Children (age/gender)	_____	(girl/boy)
	_____	(girl/boy)
	_____	(girl/boy)
	_____	(girl/boy)
	_____	(girl/boy)
	_____	(girl/boy)

Any Special Dietary Requirements (e.g. Diabetic, Lactose Intolerant, etc.)

Reasons why this family should be selected to receive a Christmas Hamper: _____

What is your relationship with this person or family? _____

P.O. BOX 392, STATION F, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M4Y 2L8
 Website: www.vincytoronto.com email: svgatoronto@vincytoronto.com

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc.

Membership Registration Form

Be a Member!
Join with us in achieving our goals.

Mission Statement

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association (SVGA) of Toronto is a non-profit community-based Association. We are committed to providing assistance and support to groups and institutions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Ontario, and wherever the Association deems fit. We are also committed to provide an anti bias forum for Cultural, Educational, Social and Recreational enrichment and to maintain a network of communication through information and referral.



Objectives

- To maintain a high level of volunteerism through recruitment, training and effective utilization of skills.
- To provide a forum to promote leadership and advocacy for the enrichment of Culture and Education.
- To provide an anti bias environment for the discussion of matters of general interest to its members.
- To plan, implement and participate in fundraising activities to meet urgent human needs.
- To promote social and recreational events to enrich the lives of Children, Youth, Adults and Seniors.
- To maintain a network of communication through information and referral.

Our membership meetings are held on the LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH from 4:00 p.m. at Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, (Keele St. & Sheppard Ave. W. area), North York.

We hope to see you there!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS: _____

NEW MEMBER OR RENEWAL: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____ (\$2.00 for new membership registration, \$20.00 annual subscription)

Please make cheques payable and mail to:

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.

P.O. BOX 392, STATION F, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M4Y 2L8

Website: www.vincytoronto.com email: svgatoronto@vincytoronto.com