



CMA NEWS 2015

Bridging minds of Marathi Community

Calgary Marathi Association (CMA), is a registered non-profit organization to preserve the Marathi Culture by bringing together Marathi speaking persons in Calgary and surrounding area. website : <http://www.cmacalgary.ca>

CMA Vision

- To preserve and promote Marathi Culture in Calgary and surrounding area for generations to come.

CMA Mission

- To celebrate major Indian and Maharashtrian To bring together all persons speaking Marathi language and/or others interested in the promotion of the Marathi language
- To encourage and promote Maharashtrian culture, traditions and festivities.
- To provide a platform for Marathi speaking artists from across the globe to give performances through social gatherings, musical evenings, dramas and other forms of cultural activities.
- To acquaint the young generation of the cultural heritage of India in general and of Maharashtra in particular, through various activities.
- To support the spirit of Multiculturalism in Canada and invite other Canadians to participate in CMA functions to familiarize with the Marathi culture

Makar Sankrant and AGM:

Date: 21st February 2015. 5.00pm

Venue: Mckenzie Lake Community Association, 16198 McKenzie Lake Way SE Calgary, AB, T2Z

No of attendees: 64

Makar Sankranti is celebrated on 14th or 15th Jan every year and being the first festival of the year (calendar year) EC-2015 decided to organize fun games for all age groups followed by Annual General Meeting.

Annual General Meeting:- At AGM, Executive Committee received many suggestions from members of CMA which were taken in to consideration as a part of discussion. There was no point discussed which required poll by members



Gudhi Padva

Date: 11th April 2015. 5.00pm

Venue: SCA Community Association 277 Strathcona Dr. SW. Calgary, AB, T3H 2A4

No of attendees: 185

This festival marks the start of the “Marathi New Year”. The event started with chanting of “Ramraksha” as this festival marks return of Lord Ram from 14 years of banishment.

To celebrate this festival event was organized by facilitating the different cultural activities such as Dance, Singing, and Plays etc. performed by our enthusiastic members.

On this event the most favorites and famous Marathi snacks “Wada Pav” was been served.

We invited a Group from Edmonton Marathi Mandal to perform Marathi Drama named “Aga Aga Sunbai Kay Mhanta Sasubai” the play was much appreciated by all the members.

In all 27 participants performed various Dance and Drama on that eve.



Team of “Aga Aga Sunbai....” from Edmonton Marathi Mandal



Chanting of “Ramraksha”



Kids performing on stage

Kridangan (Games) and Picnic:

Cricket Match

Date: 11th July 2015

Venue: Calgary Rotary Challenger Park, 3688 48 Ave NE, Calgary, AB T3J 5C8

No of participants: 37

There was a Cricket Match within the participants who registered for this game. The registered participants were divided in to two teams of 11 players in each team. There was one official match

played of 20 overs and later 2nd friendly match were played as an enjoyment.

Badminton

Date: 12th July 2015,

Venue: University of Calgary,

2500 University Dr NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

For Badminton there were Single and Doubles Matches where in singles “Rutvij Khanolkar” was the winner. In case of Doubles Final Match couldn’t take place and EC had to draw the Doubles game.

Chess

Date: 12th July 2015,

Venue: University of Calgary,

2500 University Dr NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

Each game was of 20mins we had the Finalist Ashish Pradhan and Santosh Phalke where Ashish Pradhan was the winner.

Picnic

Date: 19th July 2015

Venue: Little Elbow Park, SW “Forgot Me Not Pond”

No of attendees: 50

A half-day picnic was organized at ‘Forgot Me Not Pond’, which is also known as ‘Little Elbow’. There were fun games for all age groups, Traditional picnic in Maharashtra, whereas a food we served ‘Bhel’ and Tea/Coffee as it was sunny day watermelon helped to keep every one hydrated.

Ganeshotsav:

Date: 26TH September 2015

Venue: Glenmore Christian Academy 16520 24th St. SW. Calgary, AB, T2Y4W2

No of attendees: 225

Ganeshotsav is one of the most popular festivals of India. We celebrated this festival with worship of Lord Ganesha followed by cultural event. In this event our members performed their arts like singing, dance, small skits.

We also organized felicitation of Shruti Kotwal and Deepa Mittimani for their achievements during the year. Shruti Kotwal is Indian Speed Ice Skater and is a national record holder in Speed Ice Skating. Deepa Mittimani is Marathi writer whose ebook “Mazyra

Pillanchya Babas” was nominated for Best ebook of the year award. In all 37 children, youth and adult members presented their talent during the entertainment eve. The event ended with delicious Indian dinner.

New executive committee for year 2016 was formed during this event.



Worship of Lord Ganesha



Felicitation of Deepa Mittimani

Navratra / Bhondla / Dandiya

Date: 24TH October 2015

Venue: Mckenzie Lake Community Association,

No of Participants: 193

The event of Navratra was celebrated with “Bhondla” Custom celebrated as the Sun moves to 13th constellation of zodiac called “Hasta”. To celebrate this custom girls go around motif of elephants drawn with rangoli on wooden stool and sing traditional “Bhondla” songs by holding each other’s hands. All “Bhondla” songs are traditionally passed down the generations. “Bhondla” was followed by “Garba” and “Dandiya”. As a part of “Kojagiri Pournima” masala milk was served.



Bhondla



Diwali

Date: 21st Nov 2015

Venue: Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre, 197 First Street SW, Calgary, AB, T2P4M4

No of attendants: 197

This is one of the major festival of the year, which is also popular as festivals of lights. A record number of participants ie 53 was on stage during the eve. On this auspicious day CMA organized a get-together with the local Artists performing their Arts namely “Bharat Natyam” followed by Indian Traditional Fashion

Show and the “Palakhi” representing the Warkari for Vithoba chanting (Maui ...Maui...) these were the big performances of the event.

As a Tradition of CMA and being the last event of the year, overview of the Events and Paalavi financials for 2015 were shared.



Traditional Fashion Show

Youth Development Group(Paalavi): Overview of 2015

CMA supports the youth group Paalavi.

What is Paalavi?

Paalavi is the next generation of Marathi youth (age 13-21) in Calgary. It’s an opportunity to meet other youth with diverse interests, while creating long lasting friendships and promoting community involvement....Adding new dimension to youth engagement to community and their personaility development.

Paalavi Intiatives for Year 2015:

The year started with the survey asking our Youth members and their parents expectations from Paalavi. Based on the feedback, the requirements into following 6 categories of recreation.

Six Dimensions of Wellness



The year around program delivery was done based on the above model.

Kick off meeting:

When: Saturday, May 9th, 2015

Time: From 03:00 PM - 06:00 PM

Where: Wyldwood Estates, Suit 92, 9540, Bonaventure Dr, Calgary AB T2J0E5

The 1st meet was attended by 31 youths.

During the kick off meeting the youth were asked about their expectations from the Paalavi.



Fitness Session : Majority of Canadians spend most of their time sitting down, there are simple ways to combat the aches, stress, and fatigue associated with a sedentary lifestyle; especially long hours at Computers or in front of TV. Ergonomic solutions at home, school and in the workplace are a great way to combat the strains of repetitive movements, but remaining active and stretching your muscles daily is extremely important. The practice of stretching and strengthening muscles increases blood circulation and decreases stress. It also helps those who are actively involved in sports and other fitness activities.

Donna Kanomata our fitness trainer teaching fitness for over 20 years at YMCA for youth as well as corporate conducted the session.



Hike to Lake Agnes Tea House, Lake Louise:
Date : Sunday August 16th 2015
Participants : 35
Volunteers: Sadhana Khanolkar , Aditi Kulkarni,
Leena Berde, Bindu Purohit, Sid Kolhatkar



Engineering careers and admission criteria :
Presentation by Parth Thakurdesai

Calgary Food Bank Drive

Date : June 24th 2015

Location : Calgary Food Bank , SE

Number of Participants: 10





of such club is Marathi Book club/ library, See link for details; <http://www.cmacalgary.ca/pages/bot/>

We thank all for active participation in all CMA events.

Other Paalavi initiatives;

- Archery Event arranged by Chinmoy Ayachit
- Chinmoy Ayachit helped to arrange the CMA Badminton and Chess tournament during the annual Sports event
- Chinmoy was the MC for Ganeshotsav

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for 2015**
 - Anand Thakar- President
 - Rujuta Deshapande- Vice President
 - Deepa Desai: Secretary
 - Sameer Jirnakalgekar: Treasurer

- **BOARD OF TRUSTEES for 2015**
 - Sucheta Kolhatkar (Year 2015-17)
 - Rajashri Thakurdesai (Year 2015)
 - Nitin Borse (Year 2015)

- **PAALAVEE FACILITATORS**
 - Ajay Khanolkar
 - Prarthana Kumthekar
- **PAALAVEE YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR**
 - Chinmoy Ayachit
 - Parth Thakurdesai
- **NEW IMMIGRANT FACILITATORS**
 - Ravindra Injal
 - Rajesh Jintikar

CMA supports new immigrants. Please check out CMA website for information. Some useful link: <http://www.cmacalgary.ca/pages/new-to-calgary/>

CMA also supports the Marathi School (Shala) and initiatives by individual members to form clubs. One