

# Goan Overseas Association Vancouver, BC

(Formerly the Canadian Goan Association - Inc. 1976)

P.O. Box 97064, Main Post Office, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada V6Y 4H4



## Special Interest Articles

- Upcoming Events
- Summary of Events from the Past Year
- Outstanding Achievements

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## Mission Statement

*To promote Goan Heritage and Foster a Caring Community. We Believe that Together, We Can Make a Difference.*

This year we have had a few changes to our committee. We would like to thank all the previous members who have helped us get to where we are as a committee and a community.

For any inquiries regarding community events, activities, membership or other topics regarding the organization please feel free to contact any of the executive members for more information.

## Executive Committee 2010/2011

President - Samson Correia: [president@goavancouver.com](mailto:president@goavancouver.com)

Vice-President - Anand Monteiro: [vicepresident@goavancouver.com](mailto:vicepresident@goavancouver.com)

Treasurer - Edward Soares: [treasurer@goavancouver.com](mailto:treasurer@goavancouver.com)

General Secretary - Elsa D`Lima: [secretary@goavancouver.com](mailto:secretary@goavancouver.com)

Social Director - Doris Amaral: [socials@goavancouver.com](mailto:socials@goavancouver.com)

Publicity/Communications Director - Charmaine Rozario: [communications@goavancouver.com](mailto:communications@goavancouver.com)

Youth Director - Jaclyn D`Rozario: [director1@goavancouver.com](mailto:director1@goavancouver.com)





## Announcements

Get ready ... this is going to be quite an event, there will be a lot of entertainment, great food and a chance to spend time with some of your friends and a WHOLE TON of FUN. So take a look at the details and hope to see you there!

The Goan Overseas Association presents our annual Dinner/Dance Gala

***“A NITE IN GOA”***  
**October 30th, 2010**  
 DINNER, DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT

Riverside Palace Hall, 14500 River Road, Richmond  
 \*please note that Riverside Palace is located down the street on the right from the Riverside Banquet Hall

Time: 6.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.  
 Cocktails: 6.00 p.m. Dinner: 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. (cash bar only)  
 Dress Code: Ethnic/Formal

***Live Music by The DynaMIX***

***Highlights of the menu***  
 Vegetable Pakora, Chicken Tikka, Chilli Chicken,  
 Channa Curry and much much more

***Ticket Prices***  
 Adults - Member: \$30 Non-Member: \$40  
 Seniors - Member: \$25 Non-Member: \$30  
 Youth (14-25 years) - Member: \$25 Non-Member: \$30  
 Children (7-13 years) - Member: \$10 Non-Member \$15  
 Children 6 and under - FREE  
 FREE BABYSITTING

Tickets are on sale now - kindly call or email one of the Executive Committee

## Membership Profiles

If anyone is interested in submitting profiles about themselves or their families so that the community can get to know one another please send your submissions to Sam Correia at [president@goavancouver.com](mailto:president@goavancouver.com).



## Scholarship Awards Program

The G.O.A will be awarding 3 scholarships of \$250.00 each. Students must be completing Gr.12 in 2010, and must be enrolled in a B.C. post secondary institute. Applicants must be either members, or dependents of members, in good standing to be eligible for these scholarships.

The application deadline was July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and has now passed but awards will be presented at ``A Night In Goa`` Gala Dance on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Good luck to all our applicants.

Information and award criteria are posted at our website under the Youth section for those interested in applying for the following year.

If you would like to donate towards this worthy scholarship program please contact any member of the Executive.



## A Great Way To Gain Exposure and Advertise Within the Community



For those who own a business, work for a company or are thinking about starting up something new, and all other SPONSORS, ADVERTISERS and SUPPORTERS of the G.O.A here is a GREAT way to get the word out about your projects. We are offering advertising in our upcoming 2010 brochure for the event "A Night In Goa" Gala Dinner Dance.

We solicit spaces in our printed brochure for our upcoming event to support our membership, make donations to the Pillar Sisters and to continue to be a caring society. Part of the funds are also used to ensure that we can continue to provide the services that we do including events, scholarships, sponsorships for Eastside Lunch Programs and subsidies for the Y.G.O.A committee and much more.

To advertise in the brochure please submit a completed copy of the form on the following page or contact Sam Correia at [president@goavancouver.com](mailto:president@goavancouver.com) or Doris Amaral at [socials@goavancouver.com](mailto:socials@goavancouver.com).

## Volunteers Needed



The G.O.A is in need to get a group of volunteers together for a **Phone Committee**, we require help in order to stay in contact with all our members. If you are interested in volunteering please contact an executive committee member.

**RATE SHEET FOR ADVERTISING IN BROCHURE OR WEBSITE**



**Goan Overseas Association, Vancouver**

P.O. Box 97064, Main Post Office, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada V6Y 4H4

[www.GoaVancouver.com](http://www.GoaVancouver.com)

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**FINISHED SIZE** : Letter 8.5” X 11.0

Inside Front Cover : \$500 (color)

Outside Back Cover : \$500 (color)

Inside Back Cover : \$500 (colour)

Full Page : \$275

Half Page : \$175

Quarter Page : \$75

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Yes I would like to advertise in the brochure:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

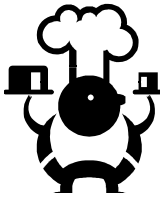
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your cheque payable to the GOA Vancouver at the above address**



## Project Cookbook



Project Cookbook is an initiative undertaken by various members of our community. We have been compiling our very first edition of a Community Cookbook. It will be a book of mouth-watering delicacies to tantalize even the "fussiest" of palates. This project has been on the back-burners for some time, and the hope is to be able to have it published by year end.

This is no ordinary cookbook. It is an "all-inclusive" cookbook, with recipes from the Goan, East-Indian, Mangalorean, Anglo-Indian Diasporas in Canada and Internationally. The main objective of this venture is to promote our cuisine, create a legacy for future generations and to introduce a culinary fusion.

To succeed in this project, we need your help in three areas:

1. A **title for the cook book** - one that encompasses what our objectives are in undertaking this venture.
2. **Your creative talents to help us design the cover and the graphics** for the book.
3. For you to send us your favourite and most popular (max. 3 per person) recipes to be considered for inclusion into the cookbook.

To provide a little incentive for you to submit **your entries**, your Committee is pleased to offer a prize of \$200 to the final entry that is chosen to be used for **the title and cover design**. Details and rules of the competition will be available on the GOA Vancouver website by August 30th, 2010. The competitions will close on September 30th, 2010 at 5.00 pm PST.

Recipes should be created in a (.doc) format (MS Word). Please make sure the recipe is fully detailed and that it contains your name and city/country along with the name of the person, if any, who you wish to have credited for it, if the recipe is published.



Recipes may be sent to:

Email: [cookbook.vancouver@gmail.com](mailto:cookbook.vancouver@gmail.com)

Address: C/o Heather Martin, 10-7955 122<sup>nd</sup> Street, Surrey, BC V3W 4T4

We do hope that this publication will be the corner stone for future publications in the years to come.

## “Officially the Official Language of Goa”



World Goa Day 2010 - A goodwill Message.

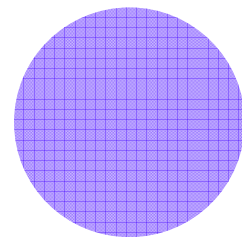
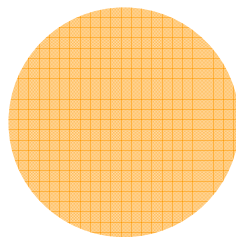
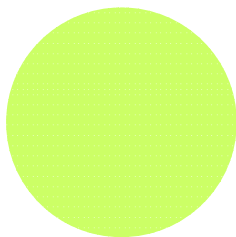
World Goa Day 2010 was celebrated worldwide on 20th August, 2010. We marked the historic inclusion of Konkani language in the VIII Schedule of the Indian Constitution, hereby making Konkani the official language of the State of Goa. It is a great day of rejoicing and jubilation. And we deem it our good fortune to be a part of this great event.

## Summer G.O.A. Sports Club

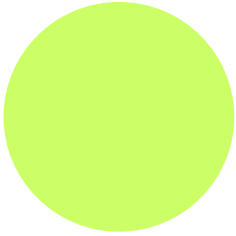
By Samson Correia

The 2010 field hockey and soccer Friday sessions have just been extended into the first week of October. There have been an ever growing number of participants attending in both sport activities. Even though the Easter Bunny Hop fundraising event was poorly attended and insufficient funds were raised, the diligence and hard work of Mr. Willie Lobo has been able to see us through another extremely enjoyable season of Friday evenings, for youth and over the hill sport enthusiasts.

All those who have attended the sport sessions and other intending to come out, please make a point of supporting Willie in the 2011 season.

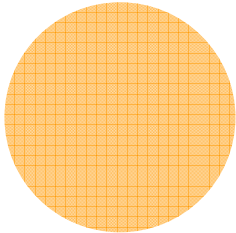


## We Will Always Remember...



I am not gone  
While you cry with me  
I am not gone  
While you smile with me  
I am not gone  
While you remember with me

By Michael Ashby



The Executive and members of the GOA would like to send its sincere condolences to the families of Maria Antoinette Antao, Flory Cordeiro, Sylvester Faleiro, Maria Fernandes, Lucian Franz, Marlene Pereira, Joyce Rozario and Marguerite (Mrs. Alfie) de Souza, on the passing of their loved family member.

Please keep the memory of all the recently departed and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



## Community Announcements

As an important community service, GOA sends out birth announcements; marriage announcements; notice of a death(s); information about funeral service(s); or notices about other important events in peoples' lives either by mass emails or by bi-annual GOA Newsletters.

In sending out community announcements two things are important. (1) Please ensure accuracy and completeness as errors can slip and names can be misspelled sometimes and (2) To ensure that the privacy of all parties involved are respected, the G.O.A will only send out

information or post emails on the website that have been submitted by the family or a designated family friend.

If you have any announcements, either births, marriages, obituaries, funeral notices, or any other news you want to share with the community, please submit emails to a member of the Executive or email any of the following:

Avril Carey:  
604 524 8676

[Avril.Carey@cibc.com](mailto:Avril.Carey@cibc.com)



## A Special Story

### Help, Learn & Discover

By James Rodrigues

This January, two representatives, Juan and Melissa, from Help, Learn and Discover showed up in my Biochemistry class to tell us about a volunteer program in Ecuador. I remember as I rolled my eyes sarcastically and I looked over to my friend and said, "What are these guys advertising now!!!!" Little did I know that by the end of Juan and Melissa's presentation, I would reach a decision that would change my perspective on life.



My interest in attending medical school made me very intrigued and excited by this program. I decided to join the program and travel to Ecuador to help, learn and discover. I was in a group of 28 students who were united with a sole purpose of helping the people of Chunchi - an underprivileged community in Ecuador.

For the help part of the program we contributed to an ongoing project to build 17 homes for families in need. As a group we fundraised money here at home, the money that we raised went towards buying supplies and materials. Our

record breaking goal was set at \$25,000, but we defied all odds and did the impossible, WE RAISED \$25,422!!! When we were in Chunchi, the whole group toiled from dawn to dusk. At the end of one week, only one house was completely done.



*The most rewarding part though was the smiles on faces of the community members.*

The Learn part of the program consisted of a week of medical rotations. I had the opportunity to shadow doctors, learn about different specialties and departments in the hospital; as I watched surgeries and went through different rotations. I gained an understanding of the responsibilities that face nurses and doctors. My time in the hospitals got me excited about what could be in store for my future.

During the Discover part of our trip, we toured cities all over Ecuador. I had the opportunity to take part in many activities I had never done, such as water rafting, waterfall repelling, tubing and bungee jumping. In addition to all these exciting adventures, we learned about the heritage of the Ecuadorians. It was during this part of the trip that our group of 28 really bonded.

Though this trip was fun and exciting, tragedy did strike when one of our group members, Josh, passed away during a water rafting accident. Even through all of the sadness, no one from our group left to go back home. We all knew we were there to help a community in need. We all became very very determined to build those houses in Chunchi for the families and in the memory of Josh. I was surprised and amazed at the strength of the people I came with and I am proud to be a part of this special group.

What I got from this trip? Everything you could say. I met some fantastic people. I learnt the meaning of “having each others’ backs.” Through all our ups and our downs we were there for each other. All in all I wouldn’t trade any of my 21 years for that one month in Ecuador.

I will end with a MasterCard Quote:

Cost of one brick: \$0.50.  
 Cost of a hiring a worker: \$30.  
 Cost of the trip: \$4000.  
 Cost of a house: \$5000.  
 Cost of building a home and a community:  
 Priceless.

### About James Rodrigues

By Jaclyn D`Rozario



You all are probably wondering, who is James Rodrigues. Being the group leader of the trip James took to Ecuador this past May, I can provide you with a little insight to that. I had the pleasure of working with James through fundraising, events and all the activities from March all the way through travelling with him until the end May. I watched him work at our volunteer site and interact with the families in Chunchi as well as the other students on the trip. He truly made the most of this opportunity. James Rodrigues was an easy acceptance into our program because he possessed all the qualities in an applicant we look for. He is empathetic, kind, compassionate, funny, friendly, smart and above all extremely enthusiastic. He made the trip that much more exciting for everyone and I now consider him a great friend.

In addition, at 21 years of age James attends UBC and is studying for his Bachelors in Biochemistry. He moved to Vancouver with his parents, two sisters and one brother in December of 2005. His mother and father worked as doctors before moving to Canada and now both are first aid attendants. To follow in his parents’ footsteps James also has aspirations of attending medical school after graduating with his bachelor’s in the next couple of years. I wish James all the success in his ventures and hope that if you run into him that you stop him and ask him of his experiences. He is definitely an interesting person with a lot of cool things to share.



*“Life is too short for Maybe’s”* ~ Josh Steckley



## Exciting Events From the Past Year

### July 2010 Summer Picnic

The weather was great, the venue was excellent, and although the crowd didn't show up till after the World Cup finals, those that did come out had a great time.

There were a ton of great events that made this picnic a success, from the kids games to a fun-filled game of bingo which handed out 3 prizes of \$15, \$25 and \$40. We also enjoyed a game of Tug of War, did some Sack Racing and played Bocchi courtesy of the one and only Ernie Fernandes.



However, the highlight of the day was most definitely the volleyball tournament which brought a lot of excitement and cheering. The volleyball games began at 1:00 pm and continued all through the evening until 8:00 pm. However, the official tournament started at 4:30 pm. That's when everyone put on their game faces and brought out their real competitive spirits. Six teams were vying for the prestigious Goenkar cup which was generously donated to us by Alan Saldanha.



The tournament began with a round robin elimination leading the two teams having 7 points each which placed them into the finals for the

cup. At the end of some exciting competitive volleyball Team E came out as the victors. The skills and ability of Shrayan Mahra, Kevin Fernandes, Daniel Fernandes, Suraj Mahra, Trent D'Souza, and Clinton Gomes proved to be the winning combination. Congratulations to all of them!



Many thanks goes out to the three food vendors, Alan Saldanha, Roger and Leena Sahai and Anna and Edward Soares from Kaitlyn's Kitchen for the good selection and variety of food, as well as their help in the G.O.A. fundraising effort. We would also like to thank Rey D'Cunha and Robyn Correia for organizing the Bingo, and Audra Lobo for getting some Kid's Games. Also, to all those that volunteered to put on the volleyball tournament, the referees and all committee members.

Those that came out and participated in the picnic definitely had a good time and should give themselves a pat on the back for getting involved. We hope that you all had a great time and we look forward to hosting many more picnics and seeing all those who attended and more of our community join in the fun.



## Y.G.O.A Updates

By Vanessa Sequeira

This year started off with a bang!!! With the 2010 Winter Olympics in town we had an opportunity to be a part sports history. As a group we had the chance to take part and celebrate in our cities victory of hosting the Olympic Games.

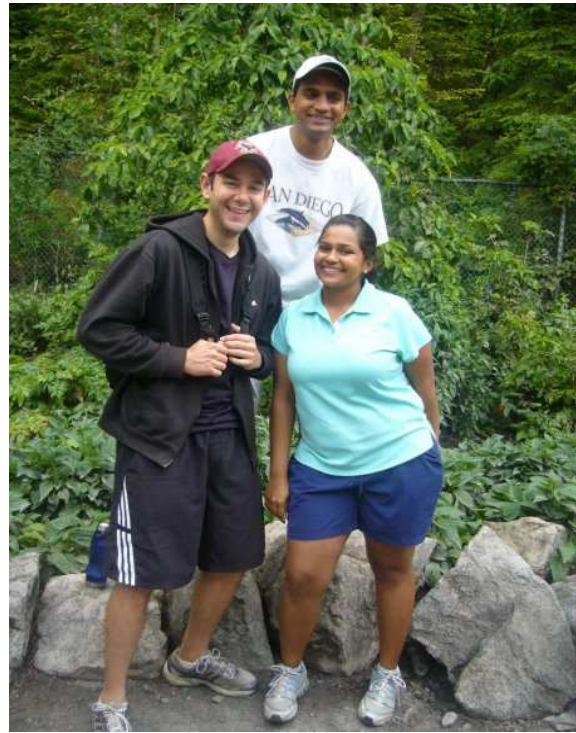
In the spirit of the games we planned our first event of the year downtown amidst all the festivities. Skating at Robson Square was a big hit for tourists and locals so we decided to join in the fun. The turnout was great and the atmosphere of the whole place was unbelievable and the experience was amazing to say the least.

We all love a good laugh once in a while so for our next event we headed down to Yuk Yuk's Comedy Club. We had a good turnout with some of our regulars showing up as well as a few new faces which is always nice. Some of us cried and others laughed, but all and all, it was a great show. We went away with smiling faces and sore tummies.

The movie industry was buzzing with James Cameron's new movie Avatar, so we decided to do something low key and check out what the hype was all about, we were in AWE!! After the movie we headed for some late night sushi to discuss our views and emotions regarding the film.

Within our Y.G.O.A committee we would like to think that we are pretty health conscious, well in between eating unhealthy foods and pigging out we figured it may be important to flex our muscles and do some physical activity. Therefore, our next two events were indoor rock climbing and the grouse grind both of which proved to be fun but exhausting. We all love a good challenge, so both events were a complete success.

Since our last few activities had us on our feet the whole time we decided to check out another 3D movie. We were all pretty excited to go watch Despicable Me. It was an animation movie that



was great for kids and adults and the guys and girls loved it.



It was the last week of July and summer was in full swing. We've decided to go see and experience a different culture and community so we headed to the annual Caribbean Festival in

North Vancouver. A small group of us attended but we all had a wonderful time, we danced, shopped and tried all the different types of food. It was really nice to learn about one of our many diverse cultures in Vancouver.

We are always trying to get people involved in the Y.G.O.A and we encourage new young people to contact us and join our group. We hope that the rest of the year will bring more excitement and fun as well as new members. If anyone is interested in joining our group please feel free to contact one of the executive members for more information or check out the youth link on our G.O.A website. We have some wonderful activities in mind to finish of the year like rafting, bowling, volunteering and many more. We hope to see our group and our community grow.

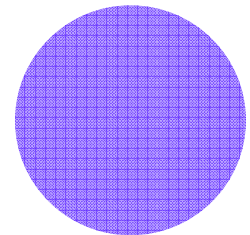
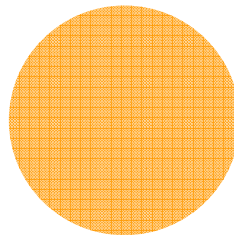
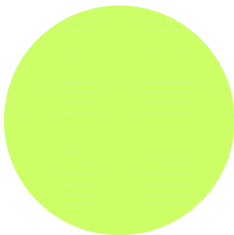
### Y.G.O.A Sub-Committee

To get involved please contact any of the committee members listed below, email to [yvrgoayouth@gmail.com](mailto:yvrgoayouth@gmail.com) or join the facebook group Y-GOA.

Cory Correia: 604 518 9781

Vanessa Sequeira: 604 721 8591

Alyssa D`Lima: 778 928 1304





## Weekend in Calgary

By Alyssa D'Lima

The Calgary trip earlier this summer was quite a success. Approximately 30 people from G.O.A. Vancouver attended. The drive there itself - although long and at times tedious - was a breathtaking experience that once again reminded us that we truly do live in "Beautiful British Columbia... the best place on Earth".

The night of our arrival was filled with food, karaoke, and just all-round fun. On Saturday a lot went on and the day was pretty crazy. It started off with us getting eaten alive by mosquitoes. We then were beaten by two very talented Edmonton & Calgary teams but eventually turned the day around by winning an intense game of tug-of-war.

Although we lost all of our soccer games that day, as far as I recall, the mood amongst us was generally light-hearted. And if nothing else, it seems we had just as much fun out there, as the Albertans seem to take soccer a lot more seriously than we do.

The last day of our stay was definitely our time to shine. Sunday's badminton tournament was a huge success as we walked away with the women's doubles trophy which went to Sharlene and Edwina Lobo, as well as the mixed doubles trophy which went to Sharlene and Darryl Lobo. The dinner/dance that followed was equally awesome as we shone on the dance floor as well. From line dancing, to jiving, to waltzing and more... We sure put our best feet forward! The Calgarians were very impressed with our enthusiasm and dancing prowess.

We are very thankful to the G.O.A. Calgary for hosting a wonderful weekend, and we will definitely give them a weekend they'll never forget when they come to Vancouver next time around.





## Outstanding Achievements

### Our Very Own Global Positioning Superstar

By Sean Toscano

The University of Victoria's "Engineering Design Project" is a mandatory course offered to fourth-year students pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering. Students enrolled in this course are required to invent a technological product using the knowledge they've gained through the four years of their degree. At the end of the 3-month term, the students' projects are displayed to faculty members, researchers, local media, and members of the community and prizes are awarded to the best projects.

In the final semester of my Bachelor of Engineering degree at UVic, I designed and developed a prototype for a "Real-time Indoor Positioning System for Mobile Devices". The prototype involved the use of a Smartphone like a Blackberry, iPhone or Nokia N95 to allow people to find their way inside a building, in layman's terms: an indoor GPS.

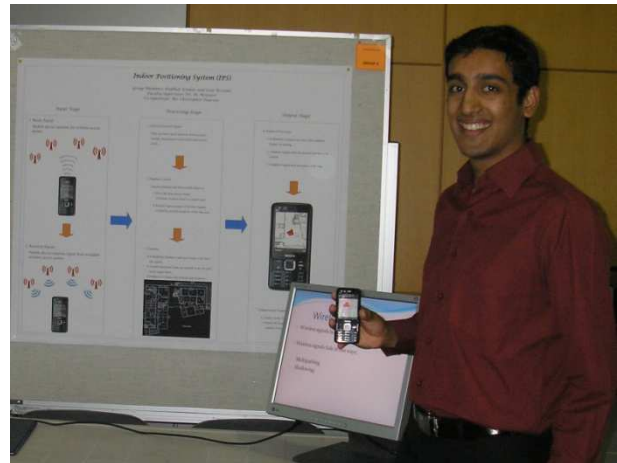
The application would make use of the existing wireless network inside the building to show the user their exact location on a map of the building and would also speak the location to the user using the phone's speaker system.

The applications of such a product are widespread, especially in an era of ubiquitous Wi-Fi access and wireless networks. The product could be used in shopping malls, hospitals, and other large buildings. In addition it could help visually-impaired people navigate through large complex buildings and allow emergency personnel to locate you during an emergency.

I was presented with the Award for Innovation and Commercialization Potential by the

Innovation and Development Corporation (UVic's Technology Transfer Office) and an Innovation Excellence Award by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

*Talk about going out with a bang!*



Since then I've graduated with a degree in Computer Engineering and am currently working for the University of Victoria as a Software Developer specializing in Web Application Development. I am also a freelance Web Developer and have started my own web design business. For more information regarding my work please feel free to take a look at my website at [www.seantoscano.com](http://www.seantoscano.com)

#### Editor's Note:

In addition to winning awards Sean has been working on the G.O.A Committee as our very own Webmaster for the past 5 years ☺



## Just Another Day At the World Scrabble Championships

By Dielle Saldanha

Last November, I had the opportunity to represent Canada at two prestigious Scrabble tournaments in Malaysia, The World Scrabble Championships and The Causeway Scrabble Challenge. It was an honour to be able to compete in these tournaments with many of the worlds` best Scrabble players. As part of a seven player Canadian contingent for the World tournament and a 5 player team for the Causeway Challenge I flew to Malaysia to the Zon Regency Hotel in Johor Bahru where the tournaments were held.

These were my first experiences competing against such a high level of play and unfortunately my results were not as great as I was secretly hoping and I finished in the bottom quarter of both events. However, I was able to beat the reigning World Scrabble Champion in the Causeway Scrabble Challenge, which was an unbelievable achievement for me.

In addition to being part of such a huge tournament and gaining the exposure that I did I had an amazing time. It was a wonderful experience to be able to reconnect with old friends and make new ones from over 40 different countries around the world. I also had the opportunity to sample delicious local food and exotic fruits at various restaurants and stalls around the city.

Despite the fact that I did not do as well as I`d hoped it was a big moment for me and I hope to go back again next year to represent Canada on the World Scrabble stage and come home with a much better result 😊





## Final Tidbits of Information

### Membership Information

**sign  
UP  
today!**

Membership Rates	
Regular/ Associate Member	\$15.00
Senior (65 years and older)	\$6.00
Student (18 years and older and enrolled in full time post secondary institution)	\$6.00
Residents outside the GVRD	\$6.00

For those individuals that are interested in signing up for a membership with our G.O.A Vancouver listed above are our rates. Being a member of our association offers many benefits including lower ticket prices to our year round events including the New Year's Eve Gala, access to an entire community of friends, chances to get involved on a social level, opportunities to volunteer within the community and much much more.

We would love to have new members within our organization to join in the fun and festivities. Please print out a membership form at <http://www.goavancouver.com/docs/memberappform.pdf> and fill out the necessary details.

Please mail the completed form along with a cheque made out to:

Goan Overseas Association  
P.O. Box 97064,  
Main P.O. Richmond,  
BC V6Y 4H4

**\*\*Existing Members that have not paid membership dues for the year, please get them in as soon as possible so we can update our membership lists. If we do not receive dues we will assume that individuals are no longer interested in being members of the association.**

### Please Send Us Your Stories or Announcements

If anyone has an interesting story or article or want to share with the community any special achievements of themselves or others please send us your write-ups. We would love to share with everyone what people in our community are up to and what successes or interesting adventures they have been involved in.

So if any of you would like to see your stories in our upcoming newsletters/brochures, posted on the website or distributed via emails please send them to:

Jaclyn D'Rozario - [director1@goavancouver.com](mailto:director1@goavancouver.com).  
We would love to hear from you 😊

Thank you for taking the time to read through our newsletter. We do hope you have enjoyed some of the stories and content. Please feel free to contact any executive member with questions regarding the committee, events or stories mentioned in this newsletter!