



Multilingual Association of Regina

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2008

NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

Indu Jaiswal

October-December 2008 saw some rather significant events that involved MLAR Board and member heritage language schools.



To highlight a few, certainly the Open House held in Balfour Auditorium on November 22, 2008 has to rank near the top of the list. This was an occasion to celebrate MLAR's 30 years of existence in support of Heritage Language schools and associated cultural activities. It was also an occasion for students and teachers representing several of the language groups to display their talent, colors and culture in the form of a variety of stage appearances. These included displays of flags and colorful dress, and the singing of anthems of their countries of origin. It also included a variety of songs and dances as well as a display of eye-hand coordination.

The Open House was also an occasion for MLAR to recall some of its achievements during the past 30 years and recognize some of the many people who contributed to MLAR's achievements to date. Events and addresses were captured on videotape and plans are to see if the videotape can be made available on SaskTel's Max public channel. If this can be arranged, heritage language schools will be notified of when it is available for viewing.

December 2008 also saw the election of new MLAR Board Members for 2009. The Annual General Meeting was held on December 1st at the South Leisure Centre. Results of elections were as follows:

Re-elected as President	Indu Jaiswal
Elected as Vice President	Raphael Hwang
Re-elected as Board Member	Nasim Ahmed
Newly-elected Board Members	Maskel Minni Faith Ene

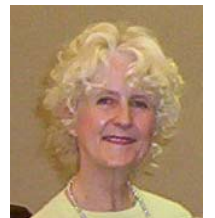
The following Board Members continue for 2009:

Continuing as Treasurer	Ved Arora
Continuing as Secretary	Senthil Damodharan
Continuing as Board Members	Mary Kolitsas Tin Nguyen
Continuing as Past President	Girma Sahlu

I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the following for their past service and dedication: to the right, **Tito Roman** who was Vice President for the past 2 years and was President 2 years prior to that. Please keep in touch with MLAR, your past service was much appreciated.



Cornelia Taschow-Graupe was on the MLAR Board in 2008 but resigned as Director due to an increasing workload. Your past work with MLAR is also much appreciated.



Toshiko Charrier completed her term as of December 2008 and chose not to accept nomination for another term. Toshiko was co-chair of the Professional Development Committee. MLAR thanks her for contributions over the past 2 years.



MLAR Annual General Meeting (AGM) and ELECTIONS December 1, 2008

Indu Jaiswal completed her first 2-year term as President during 2007-2008. On December 1st 2008, she was re-elected as President of MLAR for another 2-year term.



Raphael Hwang completed his 2-year term as a Board Member of MLAR. On December 1st he was elected Vice President for 2 years.



Ved Arora held the office of MLAR Treasurer in 2008 and will serve the 2nd year of his 2-year term in 2009.



Senthil Damodharan held the MLAR office of Secretary in 2008 and will serve the 2nd year of his 2-year term in 2009.



Mary Kolitsas continues as a Board Member. She is a member of the Professional Development and the 2008 Special Project Committees and is involved with the Mini Language Lesson Program.



Nasim Ahmed completed her 2-year term as Board Member and was co-chair of the Professional Development Committee. She was re-elected for another 2-year term.



Tin Nguyen has completed the 1st year on the MLAR Board of Directors and continues to serve his second year for 2009.



Girma Sahlu was President in 2004-2005 and Past President in 2007-2008 and continues to hold the position of MLAR Past President for 2009.



Maskel Minni, Tigrinya/Eritrean school principal was nominated as a new MLAR Board Member and was elected for a two-year term on December 1, 2008.



Faith Ene is involved with the Igbo Language and Cultural school. She was also nominated for a Board Member position and was elected as MLAR Board Member for a 2-year Term on December 1, 2008.



Below are photos taken at MLAR's Annual General Meeting of December 1st, 2008, held at the South Leisure Centre

Left to Right
Ved Arora,
Senthil Damodharan
Indu Jaiswal



Left to Right
Garima Chopra
Rani Bilkhu
Raphael Hwang
Arthur de Leyssac
Nadeem Naz
Eckhard Rubrecht



Left to Right
Nadeem Naz
Eckhard Rubrecht
Kris Rubrecht
Petros Aiginitis
Mary Kolitsas
Nasim Ahmed





Multilingual Association of Regina
30th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Serving Regina's Linguistic and Cultural Community
Supporting Heritage Language Schools



November 22, 2008

Open House

Balfour Collegiate Auditorium 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

12:30 Cake Cutting Ceremony – MLAR Board and Guests

Welcome and Introductions: Master of Ceremonies Indu Jaiswal

1:00 Heritage Language Schools Participating in the Parade of Colors

St Paul's Greek Language School

Regina School of Chinese Studies

German Language School

ICA – Hindi School

Salvador Allende Latinamerican School

Tigrinya/Eritrian School

- O Canada and Greek National Anthem

- Chinese YoYo Demonstration

- German National Anthem

- Flag and Dances

- Flag, Songs and Dances

- Flags, Songs and Dances

Addresses of Congratulations to MLAR on 30th Anniversary:

Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Saskatchewan MLA

Tony Harras, SOHL Board Member, Former President of MLAR

Michael Cassano, President of RMC (Regina Multicultural Council)

Mary Chan, Chinese Language School Principal

Rebecca Ofoju and David Fadare, Yoruba Language School

Ved Arora: Distribution of 30-Year Commemorative Pins

Cake, Donuts and Drinks Available near Auditorium Entrance

A copy of the Program for **MLAR's Open House on November 22nd** is included here to give those who were not able to attend, some idea of what took place as part of MLAR's 30th Anniversary celebration. See last page for the announcement of the **videotaped version** to be available on **Max TV Channel 48** in January and February.

Photos taken at the Open House on November 22



MLAR Board Members and Special Guests



Greek Language School and Greek National Anthem



German Language School and German National Anthem



Regina School of Chinese Studies Yoyo Demonstration



Eritrian School: Flag, Songs and Dances



ICA-Hindi School Flag, Song and Dances



Latinamerican Spanish Group
Flag, songs, Dances

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MLAR has been informed that **Calista Meinert** will be leaving the Heritage Language Program at the end of January 2009. Besides coordinating the German Language Program, Calista also coordinated access to Campbell Collegiate classrooms and facilities for other Language groups using Campbell. She will be replaced by Brooke Larson. MLAR wishes Calista and Brooke the best in their new undertakings, and thank Calista for her years of dedicated Service.

An Early Reminder: The Annual Heritage Language **Teachers' Workshop** will be held on March 13 and 14, 2009 at the Travelodge on South Albert. As announced previously, the main topic will be "Lesson Planning for Effective Classroom Management" facilitated by Dave Gorrie of the Regina Public School System. Plans are to distribute the new Heritage Language Teachers' Daybook to teachers as part of the workshop. Make plans now to attend. More information will follow shortly.

The video of MLAR's Open House Celebration of 30 years of service **will be available on SaskTel's Max TV Channel 48** (on demand) starting on January 12th and will be available until the end of February. This allows viewers to see the video at their convenience as this is a "Community Programming" channel. Viewers access the video by selecting Channel 48 on Max TV, selecting either Events, Just Added, or Your Videos, and then selecting "Multilingual Association of Regina-30th Anniversary".

The Multilingual Association of Regina (MLAR) gratefully acknowledges **funding assistance** from the following:
SaskCulture Inc., Saskatchewan Lotteries, Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages, Saskatchewan Education.

