

# NECASE Anniversary Gala 2012



Proud History of NECASE

NECASE Centre Purchase - Dream to Reality

Nepal - The Paradise on Earth



Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE)  
5624 53 AVE NW, Edmonton, AB T6B 3K1

NECASE Anniversary

# Gala

&  
NRN-Canada Convention 2012

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012

Bonnie Doon Community Centre  
9240 - 93 street, Edmonton

NRN-Canada Convention

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

NECASE Gala

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \* NECASE Anniversary Gala Dinner & Cultural performance from Edmonton & Calgary
- \* NRN-Canada Convention & Networking with local politicians & National Delegates
- \* Launch of NECASE Anniversary Booklet
- \* Silent Auction

Ticket Price: \$40/person

Wish you a prosperous Nepali New Year 2069



Organized By  
Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE)

Supported By  
Calgary Nepalese Community Association (CNCA)  
Nepali Community Society of Calgary (NCSC)



**Editorial Committee:**

Arbind Mainali  
Mohanath Acharya  
Binod Rajbhandari  
Prabodh Regmi  
Ved Prakash Sharma  
Santosh GC

**Contributing Writers:**

Rameshwar Adhikari  
Punyasagar Marahatta  
Manita Thapa  
Arbind Mainali  
Suresh Shrestha  
Naba Raj Adhikari  
Kusum Gyawali

**Photo Credits:**

Arbind Mainali  
Mohanath Acharya  
Naba Raj Adhikari  
Rameshwar Adhikari  
Punyasagar Marahatta

**Design, Compiling & Printing:**

Santosh GC  
Dil Thapa  
Anupama Sharma  
RICOH Canada Inc.

**NECASE Anniversary Gala 2012  
Organizing Team**

**Chair:** Mohanath Acharya

**Co-Chair and Advisor:** Arbind Mainali

**Program Coordinator:** Santosh GC

**Other Coordinators:**

**Entertainment:**

Anil Pant

**Entertainment Support:**

Janak Acharya, Kusumakar Sharma

**AV Support:**

Shreeram Sigdel, Jeeva Sharma, Dil Thapa

**Ticket Design & Sale:**

Binod Rajbhandary, Bishal Shrestha

**Sponsor and Advertisement:**

Prabodh Regmi

**Fundraising Support:**

Ved Prakash Sharma, Jaya Jha Corson

**Silent Auction:**

Gayraj Acharya

**External Relation:**

Rameshwar Adhikari

**Life Membership:**

Gautam Singh, Ai Gurung

**Setup & Guest Reception:**

Ichha Nepali, Narayan Pokharel, Deepak Upreti

**Other Logistics:**

Laxman Adhikari



**NECASE Anniversary Gala Organizing Committee Meeting held on NECASE Hall**

## **NECASE Board Members 2012 / 2013**

**President:** Mohanath Acharya

**Vice President:** Dr. Binod Rajbhandari

**Secretary:** Naba Raj Adhikari

**Treasurer:** Shiva Shankar KC

### **Directors:**

**Asset Management:** Sivesh Gautam

**Members Outreach:** Dr. Ai Bdr Gurung

**Cultural Program:** Dr. Janak Acharya

**IT & Communication:** Bishal Shrestha

**Sports & Recreation:** Umanath Gaire

**Fund Raising:** Jaya Corson

**Newcomers, Youth and Senior Engagement:**  
Manita Thapa

**General Auditor:** Deepak Upreti, Yadav Jha

**Advisors:** Dr. Arbind Mainali, Rameshwar Adhikari, Dr. Narayan Pokharel

### **Mailing Address**

Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton  
Post Box 76145, 468 Southgate Mall  
Edmonton, AB, T6H 5Y7  
Canada

Email: [necase@necase.ca](mailto:necase@necase.ca)  
Website: [www.necase.ca](http://www.necase.ca)



NECASE 2011/12 Board & Heritage Committee Meeting in Jackie Parker Park



# Message from the President



On behalf of Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE), I welcome you to the 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and wish you a very Happy and Prosperous Nepalese New Year 2069. For all the delegates, distinguished guests from many parts of the world, and newcomers, I extend a warm welcome in this Beautiful City of Edmonton. Your participation has made this gala extra special!

## **NECASE – An Evolution from Exemplary Volunteerism and Teamwork**

Established in 1999, NECASE carries its prestigious history and has become one of the most vibrant Nepalese communities in North America. This success is founded on visionary leaderships from the past, **unparalleled contribution from hundreds of volunteers**, and wise mentorship from many scholars within the community. As a result, we have been able to preserve, promote and taste Nepalese culture and heritage here in Canada. This gala and our participation in Edmonton Heritage Festival are some examples of volunteerism and teamwork.

Huge efforts such as *Community Centre Establishment Project* showcase our society's unique strength, cohesiveness and teamwork. This is also an example of our collaboration with the City of Edmonton and the Government of Alberta encouraging us to take a bigger role in building Canada's future. The success of this kind gives us a well-earned and well-recognized reputation and a reason for every member of the society to be proud of. I am proud of this outstanding achievement which *has offered us a new direction, new purpose, new hope and new future*. Younger generation of our society, I'm looking at you, as *this new is you*, to give our society the next view.

In recent years, NECASE has experienced exponential growth. The board (the governing body) is making effort to develop systems, processes, policies and guidelines for its operations - to handle the transition from renting to owning, and to support our continuous exponential growth and modern trends in a sustainable manner.

The community like ours can go only as far as its members are willing or motivated to contribute. We are very proud of our founders and past board members for nurturing such a fine society and bringing it to this level. Moving forward, **everybody's fair share** is needed to take this society to the next summit. If we all do our part, all of us will be witnessing many great accomplishments and enjoying them for the years to come.

Our volunteers conduct a variety of programs and activities for

children to adults. I encourage you to participate in, and contribute to the society leadership which has threefold benefit. It provides a networking opportunity with the established community members, offers a safe and unique opportunity for interpersonal development, and adds a great portfolio on your resume if you are starting a career. So, I urge you to serve yourself by serving the community!

Life members and donors, we acknowledge your contribution towards NECASE Centre Development Project. Congratulations for being a lifelong partner of a very active Community where the spirit of volunteerism and teamwork is lively! I appreciate our member's united support, motivation and enthusiasm, which has served as an inspiration to us to embark in the adventurous journey of a very successful and vibrant community building and take it to where our community had been never before. This has become possible **by colliding ideas and synergy of hardworking board members, dedicated volunteers, and knowledgeable advisors**.

Today, NECASE is fortunate to host NRN-Canada 5<sup>th</sup> national convention and NECASE 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala in collaboration with Nepalese Societies of Calgary (CNCA and NCSC). This collaboration has made this gala extra special and showcases a unique example of building bridges among Nepalese communities. I hope this becomes a **collaboration role model** for other Nepalese Societies in Canada and abroad!

The event of this kind, with the festival of our culture and heritage, would not be possible without the dedication of so many people in the community and beyond; the involvement of so many volunteers; the support of so many sponsors; and the participation of so many representatives from other communities. Your generous support has made this event successful and kept the cost down for all participants. Thank you all. I also thank my family for their strong support during my active involvement with NECASE and with this gala.

Our best wishes to you all, for what I hope, to be a very enjoyable evening, and a joyful experience in Alberta's Capital City. Our *community members' synergy* welcomes you again!

Best wishes,

Mohanath Acharya  
President, NECASE  
[necase@necase.ca](mailto:necase@necase.ca)



Ambassador

नेपाली राजदूतावास

ओटावा, क्यानाडा

**Embassy of Nepal**

Ottawa, Canada

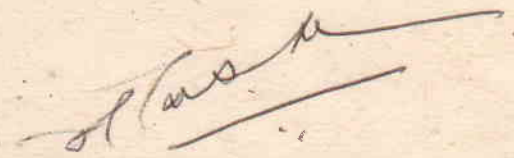
May 02, 2012

Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton, (NECASE)  
Edmonton,  
Alberta, Canada

It gives me immense pleasure to know that Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE) is planning to publish a booklet, 'NECASE Anniversary Gala', featuring various aspects of Nepalese art, culture and heritage, to commemorate the annual convention of the Non-Resident Nepali (NRN)-Canada to be held in May this year at Edmonton.

Personally, I believe that publication of the booklet with the aim of promoting and preserving Nepalese art, culture and tradition in this part of the globe would be a commendable task. Such efforts of the community organizations like NECASE would contribute to further tightening the ties, both physical and emotional, that already exist among the community members. Furthermore, such an initiative of the community is expected to ensure a sense of continued affection for and responsibility to the native land.

Finally, I would like to extend my best wishes for this initiative taken by the community as well as for the success of the general convention of the NRN-Canada at Edmonton.

  
(Bhoj Raj Ghimire, PhD)



Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5K 2B6

## Message from Honourable Alison M. Redford, QC Premier of Alberta

*On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the NRN-Canada National Convention 2012 and the Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton's 13th Anniversary Gala.*

*Alberta is home to people from all over the world. I believe it is our diverse population and vibrant cultural and artistic communities that give our province its strength. As we celebrate and experience Nepalese culture at this national convention and gala, we are also supporting and encouraging others to share their unique cultures, traditions and beliefs.*

*Members of the Nepalese community are active leaders throughout Canadian society—in business, science, sports, and of course, arts and culture. Organizations like the Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton encourage the success of these individuals by connecting and creating a sense of community for people of Nepalese origin who are living in different cities across Canada.*

*Special thanks to the Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton for hosting the convention and congratulations once again for 13 years of preserving and promoting Nepalese language, culture and heritage.*

*Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive conference and gala!*

Alison M. Redford, QC

*May 18 - 20, 2012*

Alberta



**A greeting from MLA Gene Zwozdesky**

It is my pleasure to thank and congratulate everyone who is participating in the Non-Resident Nepalese-Canada National Convention 2012 and Anniversary Gala.

We are fortunate to live in a country that accepts, celebrates and promotes the contributions of people from all over the world. The Nepalese Canadian Society, for example, is an organization with deep roots right across Canada, and it plays an important role in promoting positive community spirit. Bringing together people of Nepalese heritage from across Canada enhances our understanding of the many cultures that comprise Canada's multicultural reality.

This aligns very well with one of our Alberta Government's goals, which is to foster pride in all of our citizens—regardless of our ancestry or cultural background. By promoting inclusiveness in our province and our country, you are helping us reach this goal. Together we can and we will build a better Alberta.

Congratulations and thank you to all of the organizers and volunteers who have devoted their time to making sure that this National Convention and Anniversary Gala is a memorable one. You have accomplished a great deal; and through your dedication, you are helping ensure that Alberta remains the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene Zwozdesky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Gene Zwozdesky  
MLA, Edmonton Mill Creek  
Deputy Chair, Alberta Legislature Committees.





## **Message from His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel**



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, I extend warm welcome to those attending the NRN-Canada National Convention 2012 and NECASE Anniversary Gala.

This convention brings people of Nepalese origin from across Canada together to learn and share with one another. It also helps preserve and promote the Nepalese language, culture and heritage.

Thank you to NECASE for hosting this event in Edmonton. Thank you for your ongoing work to create a vibrant Nepali community in our city. You have helped enhance Edmonton's reputation as a culturally diverse city that celebrates the rich heritage of its citizens.

I hope visitors to Edmonton get a chance to explore some of our many wonderful attractions and enjoy the warm hospitality our city has to offer.

Best wishes for an enjoyable convention and gala.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Mandel'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Mandel  
Mayor

## Message from NRN-Canada President



Non-Resident Nepalis-National Coordination Council-Canada (NRN-Canada) congratulates Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE), on the successful publication of this newsletter during the NRN-Canada Convention and NECASE anniversary gala. This is an excellent medium to provide information about the Nepalese community to the Nepalese Diaspora.

NRN-Canada greatly appreciates NECASE for co-hosting the NRN-Canada's fifth national convention in Edmonton. NRN-Canada also thanks NECASE for becoming the Associate Organizational Member of NRN-Canada. I am glad that we are successful in bringing all the community organizations in Alberta together to collaborate to make this convention a success. Thanks to all the community organizations and their representatives to NRN-Canada, for their hard work and contribution.

This convention brings us together in strengthening the following objectives of NRN-Canada:

- To provide all Canadian NRNs with a sense of Nepali heritage, collectiveness and belonging.
- To provide a collective platform for the preservation and practising of the rich elements of the Nepali cultural heritage.

NRN-Canada also congratulates NECASE for acquisition of their facility. It will be a key resource in conducting various activities to promote and preserve Nepalese culture, tradition and language as well as enhance social harmony and help the community people.

Let us all work together to help the Nepalese Diaspora within NRN's slogan of 'for Nepali, by Nepali'.

Best Regards,

Binod KC, PhD  
President, NRN-Canada

# Proud History of Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton

Rameshwar Adhikari

The journey to establish a vibrant, united, and strong Nepalese Community was started in 1998. I took the responsibility upon myself and organized various meetings of Nepalese living in Edmonton at that time that were few in number. I explained the benefits of having a registered Nepalese Community and all of us were fully convinced and agreed to establish a Nepalese Community in Edmonton. At



that time, there were less than twenty families of Nepalese heritage living in Edmonton and all festivals, gatherings and meetings were mostly held at home. A seven member Ad hoc committee was formed in 1999 under my chairmanship with full support of all Nepalese living in Edmonton and surrounding smaller towns and cities with responsibilities to draft the Society's By Laws and to register with the Alberta Government. Our dream to start a formal registered Nepalese Community were to participate at the Edmonton Heritage Festival, to promote Nepalese culture and traditions, to organize various social and recreational community events, to help new comers and to establish a Nepalese Community Centre in Edmonton.

Our dedicated team of Ad hoc Committee worked very hard to draft the Society's By-Laws with extensive consultations

with other communities, societies and discussion among all Nepalese. The Ad hoc committee unanimously approved Society's By Laws on February 27, 2000. We submitted an application to the Alberta Registries on February 29, 2000 to form a Nepalese Society signed by Mr. Rameshwar Adhikari, Dr. Arbind Mainali, Mrs. Jaya Jha Corson, Mr. Kumar Sharma, Mr. Deegamber Suwal and Dr. Purushottam Raj Sing. The Alberta Government approved our application and By Laws and officially incorporated as "Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton" (short form NECASE) in the province of Alberta on May 23, 2000.

The Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton applied for the first time at the Edmonton Heritage Festival and participated in "Through the Eyes of a Child" at the Children's Corner in 2001. Every member of the Nepalese Community was excited and came out to volunteer and to display the unique Nepalese culture to the Canadian Children. We had a large crowd of Canadian children and parents visit our booth who were eager to learn about Nepalese culture and traditions. We had more than three thousand visitors at the children's corner throughout the three days of the festival. Nepalese volunteers brought the Nepalese handicrafts and cultural items from their home to display at the festival for 3 days and volunteered tirelessly to teach Nepali culture to the visitors through Nepalese arts and craft making, story telling, playing Nepalese games such as Baghchaal, face and hand painting of Nepali temples, etc. The purpose of this exhibition was to



provide fun and interactive learning to children with regards to the society of world cultures that influence our Canadian society.

Being a new and small community it was not an easy task to participate in the Heritage Festival with a fully independent country tent. We collected small loans from the members to cover the participation fees and other costs in 2002 and 2003 Heritage Festival. A feature article about Nepal's Participation at the Heritage Festival was published in Edmonton Journal and Asian Times in 2002. We used our credit cards to pay for the groceries and other equipment to make the heritage festival successful. Nepalese community members came out and volunteered tirelessly morning till night. We also had people from other communities who volunteered at the Nepalese pavilion in 2002. We were able to make a small profit from the Festival in spite of three rainy days in 2002, allowing us to reimburse the loans and expenses after the festival.

The Society members discussed the possibility of starting a Nepali School for kids, publishing a Nepalese Newsletter and starting a website at its Annual General Meeting of January



27, 2002. NECASE organized another historic event: the Edmonton-Calgary joint picnic of July 19, 2003 at the Sylvan Lake. More than 300 people participated from both cities.

There was a rapid growth in people of Nepali origin in Edmonton and surrounding regions post 2003. The size of the

community was roughly about 70 people until 2002 but now there are more than 600 Nepalese living in and around Edmonton, including Sherwood Park, Lacombe, Red Deer, St. Albert and Hinton.

In 2003, we started preparing to apply for the Casino Licence to Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission as part of our major fund raising initiative for the society. It took a while to get all the information and to prepare all necessary documents. We finally applied for the casino licence with the help of other community members from Bosnia, Caribbean Hindu society, and others on March 6, 2003. I had numerous meetings with members from other societies to prepare casino

# Bliss Restaurant

Catering

*Taste of Hyderabad*

*For all your Catering needs.*

9332 - 34 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6E 5X8.  
Phone: 780-438-6116  
Cell: 780-497-0995

---

**Faisal Quadri**  
9316 - 34 AVE , EDMONTON, AB, T6E 5X8  
Direct: 780-497-0995

eligibility documents for the Nepalese community. February 22, 2005 was another historic day in the history of our society. The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission issued Casino Licence for our first ever casino fund raising event on March 28 and 29, 2005. Our Society was able to raise \$84,604.12 from this First Casino fund raising event. This large amount of casino fund opened up the door to various other opportunities and activities for the Nepalese Community in Edmonton.

June 20, 2004 was another historic event for our Society when we started a Nepali Language School for our kids. Total of 12 children registered and started learning Nepali language on June 20, 2004. Parents agreed to take turns in running a one hour long Nepali language class at their homes every Sunday along with serving a healthy snack. All the parents and kids were very excited with this weekly opportunity to bond, learn and play together; and many of our children have benefitted from the language school. Few of them have already graduated successfully being able to read, write and speak in Nepali language.

The Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton started broadcasting every Sunday at 11 AM the Nepali FM radio program in October 2005. This was in collaboration with the University of Alberta based radio station CJSR FM 88.5 in Edmonton. This Nepali Radio Kathmandu program proved to



Nepalese decided to establish a Nepalese Community in Edmonton "Home for all" in 1999

be a unique and unprecedented opportunity to reinforce our objectives.

My house at #78 Lakewood Village used to be the official address of NECASE and storage site for equipment, and

other properties until 2006. You can imagine how it looked like when we returned all items, left over supplies and equipment after the Heritage festival. There was an urgent need to have our own place to run the Nepali School, dance



classes and other programs, to keep Society's properties and to conduct board and subcommittee meetings. June 20, 2006 was another important day in the history of our Society. I signed the lease agreement with CB Richard Ellis Alberta Limited to have our own community space of 800 square feet at suite #308 of the Millbourne Market Mall Tower I. Subsequently, we moved to the new larger space of 1400 sq. ft. in suite #230 of Tower 2 of the same mall in November 2006. Our immediate need was fulfilled, however, we were not completely satisfied. We continued to look for a bigger, better, and separate building in a more family friendly neighbourhood; and found #63 Lakewood Village just beside my own home, which better suited our needs. We moved to this building on June 30, 2007 and continued to rent this space, until the Society purchased and moved into its own building in September 2011.

I carried the responsibility of the President of the Society continuously for 7 long years without a break from 1999 to 2007. The AGM held on May 18, 2007 elected Mr. Rabi Chitrakar. Mr. Chitrakar, a long term board member of the Society, was elected as the new President. However, his tenure was short lived because of his need to move away from Edmonton due to career reasons. The Society was at a critical juncture at this time and without a President for

several months. A second AGM was held on August 18, 2007 when Dr. Arbind Mainali accepted to take on the



responsibilities of the President of NECASE. He continued for two years in this position until May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009, when Dr. Narayan Pokhrel took over the mantle of President for the next two years and guided it with his experience until May 2011. Since May 2011 until now the Society has been in the able leadership of Mr. Mohanath Acharya, who has taken the Society to new heights with his tireless work ethics.

The board meeting held on November 04, 2006 discussed the long term business plan of the Society and use of the Casino funds. Different options were discussed in this meeting and in the days thereafter, including buying a building or a piece of land. The board made a historic decision on May 06, 2007 to invest \$50,000.00 from Casino Account into Guaranteed Income Certificate earmarked for future use to buy a property for the Society. With these savings from the Casino fund since 2005, other fund raising efforts, donation contributions from many NECASE members, matching grant support from the Alberta Government (\$161,175.00), support of society members and very hard work from the past boards and the building purchase committee under the leadership of Mr. Mohanath Acharyas, we were able to purchase our own building on September 30, 2011.

NECASE was started with zero dollars in account in 1999. At the end of year 1999, our audited total revenue was \$166.50 and total expenses were \$103.50. Today the yearly

expense of NECASE is around \$50,000. NECASE started renting a community centre in 2006 and today it has its own building with zero mortgage. It started with home meetings and the first ever participation in Heritage festival, and now it has innumerable programmes and activities in its calendar. This shows the rapid growth and success in its programmes and involvement of the community. NECASE is undoubtedly one of the most successful volunteering organizations in North America and in the world, which has set an example for the rest of the Nepalese around the world and other communities to follow. All of the programmes of NECASE are purely run by the Hundreds of its dedicated Volunteers.

It is my pleasure to mention the names of the executives and Directors who served in the NECASE Board from 1999 to 2011, which are: Shree Pandit Tirtha Ram Jha, Mr. Rameshwar Adhikari, Dr. Arbind Mainali, Dr. Narayan Pokharel, Mr. Mohanath Acharya, Mrs. Jaya Jha Corson, Mr. Deegamber Suwal, Dr. Purushottam Raj Singh, Mr. Kumar Sharma, Mr. Sandesh Regmi, Mr. Rabindra Thanju, Mrs. Keshari Chitrakar, Mr. Rajendra Gurung, Mr. Sharad Chitrakar, Dr. Suresh Pradhan, Mr. Rabi Chitrakar, Mr. Amrit Shrestha, Mrs. Alpana Pradhan, Mr. Nava Raj Pokharel, Mr. Ram Prasad Kafle, Dr. Ved Prakash Sharma, Dr. Shreeram



Sigdel, Mrs. Pinky Shrestha, Mrs. Anju Thanju, Dr. Ai Bahadur Gurung, Mr. Gautam Narayan Singh, Dr. Kusumakar Sharma, Mrs. Sobi Rajbhandari, Mrs. Laxmi Gurung, Mr.



community. All new and old members of the Nepalese community are proud of NECASE and its inspirational history, which will continue to grow with our continuous volunteering efforts and readiness to serve the community. Let's continue our culture and tradition of this glorious history!!!

Shubhash Wasti, Mr. Rabindra Shrestha, Mr. Laxman Adhikari, Dr. Rajendra Subedi, Dr. Prajwal Regmi, Mr. Bhuwan Kharal, Dr. Remant Bahadur K.C., Mr. Govind Timilsina, Dr. Janak Acharya, Mr. Ichchha Nepali, Mr. Saurav Sharma, Mrs. Manju Khadka, Mr. Prakash Poudyal, Mr. Dipendra Pandey, Mr. Padam Bhandari, Dr. Prem Bahadur Bhandari, Dr. Binod Rajbhandari, Mr. Yadhav Sapkota, Mr. Sunil Neupane, Ms. Moti Mukhiya Sunwar, Mrs. Lalita Sharma, Mr. Krishna Hari Bhandari, Mr. Santosh G.C., Mr. Badri Bhattari, Mr. Hrishikesh Adhikari, Mrs. Rashmi Kafle, Mr. Jeeva Sharma, Mr. Shiva Shankar K.C., Mr. Anil Pant, Mr. Naba Raj Adhikari, Mr. Surendra Mishra, Mr. Dataram Aryal, Mrs. Sarojani Singh, Mr. Deepak Upreti, Mr. Prabodh Raj Regmi, Mr. Punya Sagar Marahattha and Mr. Om Mani Pokharel. I salute all of you.

There are many other NECASE members who have contributed in bringing NECASE to the present stage, who coordinated various programs, taught in Nepali School and dance classes, provided assistance to our newcomers to make them feel at home in a new land, and volunteered at various community events throughout the years. All of the past and current Presidents, past and current Board of Directors and other many dedicated volunteers added one brick on top of another brick and because of their dedication, hard work and commitment to serve the community, we all can share the pride of our success. Today, NECASE is a symbol of volunteerism. Hundreds of its members are ready to provide their valuable time and skills at any time to serve the



**Faisal Quadri**

**Director: O & H CONSTRUCTION**  
**9316 - 34 AVE , EDMONTON, AB, T6E 5X8**  
**Direct: 780-497-0995**

# NECASE Centre Purchase – Dream to Reality

Arbind Mainali

In late 2011 the Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE) successfully purchased a property and established the first NEPALESE Community Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada with the help of the Community members, the City of Edmonton and the Alberta Government.

## Early Years

Since the establishment of NECASE in 1999, the founding members were well aware that a Cultural Centre would provide a focal point for the Nepalese community in Edmonton. It seemed like a distant dream, then, that such a Cultural Centre could be housed in a building owned and operated by NECASE. The Community knew it could be done since other sister Community groups owned and operated their own buildings. The community certainly had little experience about the path or the journey how to get there. However, there was no doubt in any member's mind that building a community centre had to be one of the primary visions for the Society which was being established



at that time. It was indeed a visionary move when the Society founders included this as one of the Objectives of the Society. NECASE never forgot about this in subsequent years as the Nepalese community in Edmonton went through its slow growth in its first five to seven years and a boom following that.

## Growth and Need

NECASE focused the next decade very much on engaging its membership in its programs and fostering a culture of

**AMNOR**  
Group Inc.  
Adding value to your assets

#201, 2327 Ellwood Drive, Edmonton, AB T6X 0I6  
P. 780.490.6776 F. 780.469.2096 C. 780.498.2610  
harry@amnorgroup.com :www.amnorgroup.com

The advertisement features a large, modern commercial building with a prominent 'SIGNAGE' sign above the entrance. The building has a red and white color scheme. Several cars are parked in front of the building. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds.



participation. As participation increased, programs that were conducted in the living rooms and basements of families needed to move to a more appropriate space. Around the latter part of 2006 NECASE was able to find affordable rental space at the Millbourne Mall.

After about a year in this facility, NECASE moved to a building at the Lakewood Condominium Community hall. This building had a hall that was suitable for smaller gatherings. NECASE was able to finance these rental expenses including the program expenses using the funds it earned every 18 months operating Casinos under a licence granted by the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC). All this time NECASE was also saving portions of the Casino earnings in the bank towards purchase of a building. All this time, the large surge in the population of Nepali speaking residents in Edmonton was taxing the resources available at this facility.

### In Search of Building Options

It became obvious over the years that rented facilities had their limitations. NECASE was starting to examine the logistics of a building purchase. It became quickly obvious that NECASE was staring at a vast maze. The secret was to come out at the right end with the prize.



Ideally, a large hall sufficient to hold a Dasain party for around 300 people, several mid size rooms for office space and small classes and plenty of storage space in an attractive part of town with plenty of parking and ready access would be the facility suitable for NECASE community. This would also run up a tab of over a million dollars, if available. The need, however, was quite



NECASE receiving cheque from minister Gene Zozdesky with MLAs Carl Benito and Naresh Bhardwaj

different. Most of NECASE functions took place over the weekend for a few hours. There was a need to store assets accumulated over the years for use inside NECASE Centre and during Heritage Festivals. A building with a small hall and a few multi-use rooms for classes and meetings with space for storage was adequate for regular use. Such a facility could cost much less than a large property and would incur a smaller operating cost. Any large event could be held at rented facilities such as community or banquet halls, as needed. This certainly made the building project seem like it was within reach.

Working within the realms of a small budget, establishing a community centre building could be approached in several ways. Option one was to buy a larger parcel of land further away from the City that could be developed in the future into a Nepali village. The second option was to buy a smaller parcel of land closer to the City suitable for a community building to be constructed in the future. The third option was to buy whatever facility that was affordable within the City so that the Society could accumulate equity, even if the facility was not the most ideal for current use. The land options would involve immediate investment with likely future returns. The city property would involve immediate investment and immediate use. Doing nothing was no option as it was counter to NECASE's Objective.

### Financing the Building

Extensive market assessment showed that a developable land outside the City could be in the order of half a million dollars or more within a 50 km radius from the City. An ideal

property like a church facility was over a million dollars. Building options within the City were also several. Buying a residence and converting it to a community Centre was not an option as the City would not approve a development permit to establish a community Centre within a residential area. The cost could run anywhere from half a million dollars and upwards. The next option was to purchase a commercial bay within a large commercial building. There were several available in central South Edmonton in the area that was of interest to NECASE, with ready access from the freeway and central to where most community members lived. These facilities, some already developed, and some new developments started in the range of \$350,000 for an 1800 sq ft bay (the size of the property NECASE currently purchased). \$350,000 is a lot of money for a small community organization like NECASE.

Over the last decade NECASE had accumulated \$120,000 from its Casino earnings. NECASE needed to find the rest of the money through other sources. Since the establishment of NECASE, the founding President of NECASE, Rameshwar Adhikari, had invested his time and effort in developing relations with MLAs in South Edmonton. It was now time to call on their support. The Alberta Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) provides grant to communities like NECASE for up to a maximum of \$125,000. It was decided at the 2009 AGM that NECASE would approach banks to finance the remaining fund.

Banks were ready to finance some of the funds, but, wanted to grant a loan for a 10 year amortization and also expect hefty application fees and above market handsome interest rates. The short amortization resulted in large monthly payments. Financial model showed that the project may have been within the realms of possibility but at the risk of severe financial burden to future Boards and community members requiring extreme fiscal discipline. The community had a tough decision to make. However, this option was ruled out as soon as AGLC rejected NECASE's financing plan. The project was shelved.

In 2010, the Board appointed Mohanath Acharya as the building Committee chair and tasked him to find a way to purchase the building. The only chance the building project had was if an alternate funding source could be identified. Mohanath proposed,



NECASE Centre showing entrance and truck unloading in the background

what seemed like then, an optimistic plan. Raise funds from NECASE community members. A optimistic estimate showed there could be a possibility of raising \$40,000 from members. With the help of bank loan the project was thought to be more palatable and financially possible. As the fund raising campaign started, within a short time \$20,000 was raised. Mohanath's plan had worked beautifully! The building committee proposed a brilliant plan following the successful fundraising efforts. It was proposed that the original Casino savings of \$120,000 could be combined with the \$20,000 in donations from the community and about another \$25,000 in the cash account accumulated over the years from membership dues and other event profits, a total of around \$165,000. This was then used to apply for a special consideration of a matching grant of \$165,000 from the Government of Alberta. If the Government approved this, there would be no need for external financing, such as a mortgage, and the building would be entirely community owned.



NECASE volunteers constructing storage shelves inside the new NECASE Centre

## In Closing

Needless to say, the financing plan made it a minimum risk project. The challenging part was to sell the project to the Government of Alberta that it was a solid project and deserved an exemption to the Grant limit of \$120,000. Huge efforts were made to provide the application and supporting reports showing the depth of the Society's programs and the solid short term and the long term financial plan for purchasing, owning and operating the building. Extensive consultations were made with MLAs and City Councillors. NECASE was very fortunate to get support from MLAs Gene Zozdesky, Naresh Bhardwaj and Carl Benito and Councillors Amarjeet Sohi and Kerry Diott. The grant was approved and the building was purchased in late 2011. The move to the new facility happened right away and the building now has already started to operate as a true NECASE Centre.

## And the Dream Continues

Very often NECASE has been asked "When will we get our ideal

building?" The answer is very simple. We will get a larger facility when we need it, when we can afford it and when we can justify its best use. We will need the building as our program overgrows the current facility. We have worked hard to build equity. The task to afford this facility has already begun by raising funds and working on developing a financing plan. It will be difficult in the future years to save Casino earnings as we will be using this to operate the current facility and programs. We will seek more innovative financing plan to afford a facility in the future that is expected to have a capital cost over one million dollars and an operating cost in the tens of thousand dollars. In five to ten years, the current growth rate would certainly make it easy to justify its best use and we will be ready.

*Arbind Mainali is a long time NECASE member and currently resides in Edmonton. He participated in the building purchase project.*



# JAY'S TRAVEL LTD.

**FOR ALL YOUR WORLDWIDE TRAVEL NEEDS  
BEST SERVICE WITH DISCOUNTED PRICES**

**\* AIR TICKETS \* CRUISE \* VACATION PACKAGE**  
**\* TOUR \* HOTEL \* CAR**



**Authorised Agent For :-**  
**Lufthansa, Qatar, Emirates, Gulf Airways, Jet Airways, Kuwait**  
**Air Canada, West Jet, Eva Airways, China Airline, Air China, Singapore Airline,**



**3655-99 STREET EDMONTON ALBERTA, CANADA T6E 6K5**  
**TEL: (780) 461-6666**  
**FAX: (780) 450-8683**  
**anil@incentre.net**  
**www.jaystravel.ca**



# NECASE: Programs and Activities at A Glance

Naba Raj Adhikari

The Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton (NECASE) with a current membership of around 600 offers different programs and organizes series of social events throughout the year that has well defined schedule and well defined objectives conducted primarily by its member volunteers. The following sections give the overview of the programs and activities currently being offered and organized by NECASE.

## Sports

NECASE has been offering year round sports for all ages. This includes outdoor soccer for adults, youth and kids starting in the spring and ending in the fall season. The kids and youths soccer practice continues indoor during winter months in the City of Edmonton's rented Gym halls. Recently, NECASE has started renting Gym halls and offering badminton for the whole family of different

age groups. Volleyball continues throughout the year indoor and outdoor. As a result of NECASE'S effort and hard work of the players we have been able to win many cups and medals in different competitions including the games in the Western Canada Regional Nepalese Sports (WCRNS).

## Celebrations of Festivals



NECASE organizes dinner events to celebrate important festivals of different cultures and religions through the help of community volunteers every year. *Dashain* and *Tihar* are the main Hindu festivals being celebrated by receiving *Tika* from elders and participating in the *Deusi-Bhailo* celebrations respectively. *Tej* is another important festival being organized

and celebrated amongst women. Celebration of Nepali New Year, *Lhosar* (Buddhist New Year), *SaraswatiPooja*, Christmas and New Year celebration are among other festivals being celebrated by Nepali Community in Edmonton and organized by NECASE.



## Nepali Pavilion at Edmonton Heritage Festival

Edmonton Heritage Festival is a showcase of Canada's vibrant multicultural heritage being celebrated since 1976. This is celebrated during three-day of the first long weekend of

NECASE has been showcasing "Nepal Pavilion" in the Festival since 2002. We have been promoting Nepalese culture and heritage through cultural performance, arts & crafts and serving foods the Pavilion. Through support of the Nepalese Embassy in Canada, NECASE has also promoted Nepal at the



August in the William Hawrelak Park, Edmonton featuring more than 60 pavilions representing over eighty-five cultures from around the world. Over 300,000 people witness this multinational cultural showcase.

Nepal Info Centre in the Pavilion in 2011. Hundreds of volunteers tirelessly work during the festival for its success.



**Contact: Baba Shakya**  
**Himalayan Travels N Tours**  
**10 Frost King Lane**  
**Etobicoke, On M9W 0A4**  
**Ph # 416-679-9129**  
**Mobile: 416-732-0461**

**TICO registration number: 50012913**  
**E-Mail: Baba @himalayan-travels.com**  
**Website: www.himalayan-travels.com**

## Assistance to Newcomers

One of the important objectives of NECASE is to provide help to new immigrants and NECASE sees its value. NECASE developed a Newcomers Welcome Kit – A Guide for Newcomers - in 2008 and is updated each year. The Kit provides new immigrants the most relevant and practical information for the initial settlement in Edmonton. This document is posted on the NECASE website (<http://necase.ca>). NECASE also provides newcomers help to find apartments, furniture and airport pick-up through its energetic community volunteers, when needed. NECASE also organizes newcomer's orientation on career planning and settlement sessions and has been a great place for networking.

## Fundraising and Community Assistance

NECASE conducts fundraising drives to support of its capital, operating and programs expenses. NECASE has been granted license from the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission

(AGLC) to conduct Charitable Casino events in the City every alternate year and earn funds to cover its operational expenses and support cultural program and activities. It also occasionally organizes food drives for Edmonton Food Bank, blood donations, collects donations from its members and also provides support from its own fund to victims of catastrophic disasters in Canada and around the world. NECASE has provided some supports to victims of Japan Earthquake and Slave Lake Fire victims through Canadian Red-Cross in 2011.

## Social Gatherings

Apart from the cultural and religious celebrations, NECASE organizes different occasional social gatherings including potluck lunch, summer picnic and BBQ every year. NECASE also been actively involved and organizes joint summer picnic between Nepali friends living in the two neighbouring cities - Edmonton and Calgary. This provides members great networking opportunity.



## Nepali Language Class



Nepali Language Class for kids has been operational since 2004. This is one of the effective and self-sustained programs of NECASE. Few batches of kids have successfully graduated from the program. This program has contributed significantly in maintaining the Nepali Language among new generation kids and youths. The class is held in NECASE Centre every Sunday morning. With the rapidly increasing Nepali

population in the city, more kids are expected to participate and benefit from the program.

## Dance Class

Cultural Dance class offers kids and youths an opportunity to learn Nepali dances and the culture. This is a self-sustained program run and organized mainly by the parents of interested kids



and community volunteers. This program has produced many great dancers in the community and is quite popular. These dancers have since then been performing in the Edmonton Heritage Festival and other cultural programs. The training classes took place in the NECASE rented facility

**BMO**  **Bank of Montreal**

A member of BMO  Financial Group



**MONA DUGGAL**  
**780.232-8294**

Fast FREE Mortgage Approval,  
Professional Service and Better  
Rate Options Call TODAY!!!



**Your Mortgage Specialist**

® Registered trademark of Bank of Montreal. ™ Registered trademark of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by Loyalty Management Group Canada Inc. and Bank of Montreal. \*\*Subject to meeting BMO Credit approval

in the past and will continue in the NECASE Centre in the future competently through newly formed NECASE Cultural Centre (NCC).

## Literary Gatherings

NECASE has organized a *Sahitya Bhela* (literary gathering) in Jan 2012, a literary gathering, for the first time in Edmonton. Many poets of different ages read their Nepali poems. The program added a nice flavour to the community activities and was a great start. NECASE is planning to organise such *Bhela* through the NCC in the future on a wider scale.



## Volunteer Appreciation and Member Recognition

Volunteerism has been the primary driver for the success of NECASE programs and activities and has become the nerves of the society. NECASE celebrates a special “Volunteer Appreciation Day” every year to recognize the volunteering spirit of the members formally and awards appreciation certificates to the volunteers. NECASE has recently started appreciating star volunteers in different ways including recognising them by awarding them an appreciation plaque in special events. It also takes any opportunity it finds to



from dental examination, dental hygiene tips, toothbrush, and toothpaste for free and

nominate members for to other levels of recognitions and awards within the Province.

NECASE also recognizes its life members by awarding life membership plaque during special events. NECASE also recognizes contribution of the active members of the Society who have served in the executive Board in the past and conducts farewell events for them when they move to the other city.

## Radio Kathmandu

NECASE through its volunteers broadcasts Radio Kathmandu, a community FM Radio through CJSR Radio @88.5 (<http://www.cjsr.ualberta.ca/>), from 11 AM to 12 PM every Sunday. The program hosts conduct the program both in English and Nepali languages and help bring together the community members and share its music and culture with Edmontonians at large.



## Dental Hygiene Camps

In collaboration with the Department of Dentistry, University of Alberta, NECASE has started organizing free dental hygiene camps for kids under 12 years of age since 2011. Through this program community members benefit





was very popular. As needed, NECASE also hosts dignitaries from within Canada and abroad. NECASE organized a Meet & Greet and Potluck Program during the Nepalese Ambassador's visit in June 2011. Similarly, recognition event was also organized for select Alberta Provincial and Municipal politicians in 2011 following the successful purchase of the NECASE Building. These programs are well attended by the community members.

### Open University in Nepal Initiatives

referrals to University dentistry as required. The camp is one of the well participated programs of the Society.

### Collaboration with Other Organizations

NECASE always takes any opportunity to foster relationship with other like-minded organizations inside or outside Canada. NECASE is an organisational member of NRN-Canada, a non-profit representative organization for the people of Nepalese origin living in Canada registered with the Government of Canada. The General Secretary represents NECASE in the National Coordination Council of NRN-Canada to advocate the Society's interest and to ensure the flow of information to its members. NECASE recently organized an interaction program with President of NRN-Canada in 2011 and is also hosting NRN-Canada's 5th National Convention in Edmonton from May 19-20, 2012 with the support from the Nepalese Community Society of Calgary (NCSC) and Calgary Nepalese Community Association (CNCA).

The NECASE 13th Anniversary Gala is an example of collaboration where NCSC and CNCA are also participating and performing in dances.

NECASE was also engaged in promoting Nepal during Edmonton Heritage Festival 2011. The Nepalese Embassy in Canada was very supportive of this event and provided promotional material. Active NECASE volunteers worked for three days in Nepal Info Centre under Nepal Pavilion to talk about Nepal and provide information. The Info Centre

NECASE has been an active player in the current initiative of NRN-Canada and others to establish an Open University in Nepal (OUN) with the aim to provide access to distance education to all, particularly the underprivileged, in Nepal. The Athabasca University, one of the largest Universities for Distance Learning in Alberta and Canada, has played a key role in the OUN Project. NECASE has played a key role in helping NRN-Canada to establish a contact with Athabasca University and as a conduit for providing support of the Nepalese Diaspora in Edmonton and Alberta at large. Recently, NECASE joined NRN-Canada to collect 20 laptop computers donated by the Athabasca University to OUN initiatives.

**"No One Should Gamble With Your Home"....**

**Remember: Experience counts For Quality And Professional Advise**

**RE/MAX**  
Outstanding Agents.  
Outstanding Results.



**Call Any Time : Mike Chhetri, Broker**

**RE/MAX**  
Legacy Realty

Member of Toronto Real Estate Board  
Direct : 416-725-5185  
Pager: 1-888-973-6290  
mke@topproducer.com  
www.EverestHomes.Ca

Not Intend To Satisfy Buyer and Seller. Curiosity Under Contract.

# Newcomers' Expectation from NECASE

Kusum Gyawali

"Hello Mohanath ji ! One of my friend's families is moving from Toronto to Edmonton next month. They need to book an apartment nearby downtown, who can help them?"

"Yes, off course, we do. NECASE 's active member volunteers live in downtown. One of them will help, please note his cell number."

I noted down a couple of names and called them, we can arrange an apartment for my friend. Newcomers are the neediest community who really want help. Newcomer requirements are multidimensional. Although, they can do much stuff by themselves but they need proper information, guidance and effective counseling. NECASE has dedicated volunteer executives with whom we can expect more. Newcomer pickup from the airport, room booking and Job searching are the key area of newcomer's expectations from NECASE. There are five major expectation areas towards Nepalese community, which I am going to write in brief.

1. We, newcomers, need excellent mentors or guides who can help us for proper orientation towards long-term and short-term settlement goals. On top of that, newcomers need personalized counseling and reliable friends whom they can talk about their problems. NECASE has well organized information package for newcomer in "Newcomer Kit" on its website. In addition, NECASE provides settlement advice through "Orientation for Newcomer Program". Nevertheless, personal counseling is far better idea to deliver such information.

2. Initially, Newcomers need a proof of address. It starts from bank statement. Help on at least in opening bank account, and in getting a proof of address is expected from NECASE. After obtaining a proof of address, SIN card application processing can begin which will give temporary SIN number. Then, the job search process can commence. Currently, NECASE members are

providing such services at personal level, which is really wonderful service. If we start the same service at organizational level and document that in our websites or in publications, that will be a milestone achievement of NECASE.

3. Newcomers don't know which area is going to be suitable for them because they do not know what they will be doing in the immediate future. For example they are unknown about where are they going to go to school, take classes or potential job location. Therefore, finding basement-like temporary resident prior to moving into a permanent one is a suitable option for newcomers. Once they sign contract for resident, they can not leave it for at least six months. If NECASE members (not only executives) can arrange such accommodations, that will increase wonderful connection and NECASE can later get ample commitment from a handful of newcomer volunteers to serve our society.

4. Special mentoring and networking for job search are newcomer's other vital needs that is expected from NECASE. A piece of advice from the locally established person in the same profession will go a long way during the newcomer's settlement and job search process. For example, a newcomer accountant needs advice from the NECASE member who is

**YETI GOURMET**  
Nepalese & East Indian cuisine

Jaya Jha Corson  
3003 30 Avenue  
Beaumont, AB T4X 1T9  
Ph/Fax: 780 929 9398  
Cell: 780 264 2807

**YETI GOURMET**

**NOW AVAILABLE FOR BIRTHDAY PARTIES!!!!!!**  
Children 5 years and up can eat for \$7.00 and adults can eat a vegetarian buffet for \$8.50 or a non-vegetarian buffet for \$9.50. \$60.00 for decorations plus birthday cake. \$100.00 for decorations, birthday cake, and loot bags.

**Exclusive Nepali Food Catering since 2004**  
we do vegan food, gluten free food, msg free food, and we could also dairy free.  
We do outdoor Catering.

established in accounting profession, who can tell about useful NAIT courses or integration program or possible connection to potential employer. A suitable mentor's advice provides a good guidance to newcomers. NECASE organizes cultural events and social gatherings within the community, which are not only for the sake of cultural and religious gathering, but also offer good networking opportunities for newcomers.

**5.** This is the right time to make volunteer for society. If society is contributing towards newcomer's job connection or resident finding or airport pickup, NECASE can make them committed to contribute their volunteer time later on when other needy newcomers arrive in the community. It can be like a "Parma"(पार्म) in rural area in Nepal. NECASE organize Dental Camps for Kids, this is solely dedicated to newcomer but we, newcomers, have more expectations from the society.

These are not "unfeasible" task for NECASE. It is just an integration of personal level effort to an organizational framework. Furthermore, it is an accumulation of small available time slots from a large number of individual community people to

## TRAVEL DE CANADA INC.

Wishes you a very **HAPPY NEW YEAR B.S. 2069**

(Travel De Canada Inc. is a registered travel agency in Canada, **TICO# 50019725**)

We deal with Special Air Fares, Travel & Package Tours to Nepal & other countries

<p style="margin: 0;">Anupama Ghimire Business Manager</p>		
 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #00b050; margin: 0;">Travel De' Canada, INC.</p> <p style="font-style: italic; color: #00b050; margin: 0;">"Connecting Worldwide"</p>		
<p><b>Canada</b></p> <p>1058 A, Albion Road, Suit #200 Toronto, ON M9V1A7</p> <p><b>Tel:</b> 416.907.4388, 613.777.0079 <b>Cell:</b> 416.907.2167 <b>E-mail:</b> anupama.travelde@gmail.com toronto@traveldesociety.com <b>Url:</b> www.traveldeusa.com</p>	<p><b>Nepal</b></p> <p>(Next to Hotel Marshyangdi) Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal</p> <p><b>Tel:</b> +977 1 4700792, 4701847, 4700939 <b>E-mail:</b> info@traveldesociety.com <b>Url:</b> www.traveldesociety.com</p>	
<b>CHEAP TICKET TO NEPAL</b>		

do unique big project at organizational level. It is purely a management work. Management is not the name of doing task at a personal level. It is a system making continuous process, which perpetually operates to get job done by mass collaboration from community volunteers under the direction of community leadership.

At NECASE, we do have resources, we do have manpower, we do have volunteer commitment with big heart to help others. When NECASE members tried to get donation, they collected thousands of dollar.

NECASE has immense potential, isn't it? I mean, we have "everything" required to do a lot more. For example, we have community radio name "Radio Kathmandu", but there is a potential for a significant improvement to develop it as an unmatched integrated information hub for newcomer community.

In conclusion, it can be said that if NECASE asked for little volunteering time from individual Nepalese, people will definitely provide their leisure time generously for the Nepalese community's well being.

# Nepal - The Paradise on Earth

Manita Thapa

Nepal, landlocked country between India and China, is a gorgeous country in Southern Asia. Eight of the world's highest peaks including the Mt. Everest lie in Nepal. Lumbini, the birth place of Gautam Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, also lies in Nepal. Nepal has some of the world's most diverse, breathtaking landscapes ranging from the impressive high-altitude plains to soul touching flora and fauna. The shimmering beauty of antique, artistic and exotic temples in the Kathmandu valley to the fertile plains of the Terai in the country's south has always been a popular attraction to the visitors of Nepal. The country's spectacular views, provided by the glory of Mother Nature, ensures a life thrilling experience that has privileged visitors leaving with a vision of paradise on earth.

Nepal is a unique country that is rich in its culture and heritage. Geographically and historically, Nepal is well known as a country of rich diversity. A land of eternal fascination, ancient history, cultural richness in which the visitors are captivated not only by its superb scenery, but also by its holiness and spiritual significance. For many centuries, the Himalayas became renowned hiding place for ancient sages to

meditate. Many famous texts on religion, philosophy, medicine, yoga, literature and mathematics were written in the Himalayas there.

Without a doubt this country is an assortment of culture and diversity. With the vast diversity of different ethnic groups, there is also diversity of 92 languages and customs where Nepali is the official language spoken. In spite of more than 100 castes and ethnic group that reside here, we can find the harmony between every ethnic group and religion which has identified Nepal as the country of "Unity in Diversity".

For the Nepalese, Nepal is not only the 'Abode of Snow', but also the abode of the Gods and Goddesses they worship. Traditional beliefs and rituals are an important part of Nepalese life. Nepal is the only country with the Living Goddess, "Kumari", where the religion is the way of life. Visitors wanting to experience Nepal's spiritual culture can enjoy many colourful festivals throughout the year. The exquisite landscapes and vibrant communities allow the life stunning unique element to add up value in one's life.

A unique example of geographical, cultural and ethnic diversity, and a natural beauty, Nepal is considered as a sought-after tourist destination in the world. If you want to experience the paradise on earth, Nepal should be in your travel diary.





# NRN-Canada — Introduction, Programs, and Activities

## Introduction

Non-Resident Nepalis-National Coordination Council (NRN-Canada), also known as National Coordination Council of Nepalese in Canada, is the national organization of Canadian residents of Nepali origin who are Non-Residents of Nepal.

## Vision

NRN-Canada's vision is to: Unite Each and every people of Nepali origin resident in Canada under NRN-Canada.

## Mission

NRN-Canada's mission is to: NRN-Canada shall advance the common interests of all Non-Resident Nepalis in Canada regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, profession or educational qualifications towards building a closer, prosperous and tolerant world.

## Goals

NRN-Canada has set its goals as 'UNITE':

**UNIVOCALLY COMMUNICATE** to the Nepali Diaspora in Canada through regional committees, monthly updates, website, social media etc., and connect for a collective voice of once a Nepali, always a Nepali, and a collective platform for the preservation and practising of the rich elements of the Nepali cultural heritage.

**NETWORK** with various Nepali associations and Nepali communities for knowledge and information sharing, and in garnering support in establishing a Nepali Cultural Center in the Greater Toronto Area; keep close relations with the Nepalese Embassy in strengthening Canada-Nepal relations and in the creation of a Consulate Office in Calgary; and keep close ties with the Canadian Government in lobbying for a Canadian Embassy in Nepal.

**INTEGRATE** Nepali immigrants in Canada through advocacy to organizations who provide immigration and settlement services, and also through the Professional Mentorship program.

**TEAM UP** with charitable and non-profit organizations that are working for Nepal and advocate for contribution towards disaster response in Nepal and national development in Nepal, and also provide its own development support through the Model Village development program.



**EFFECTIVELY LIAISE** with NRNA-ICC to attain the objectives of the global NRN movement such as dual citizenship, support for NRN investment funds and also provide support for Open University and Nepal Library Foundation projects.

## Membership

NRN-Canada is a national organization whose members are eligible individuals, Nepali associations, and other organizations that share a mutual respect and have common interests and values. The membership shall consist of Members, Registered Members, Life Members, Honorary Life Members, and Associate Members. The membership fee for Registered Member, Life Member and Associate Organizational Member are \$10, \$100 and \$25 respectively. Membership has been rapidly increasing in the past six years and NRN-Canada has member representation from East to

LOOKING TO SELL OR BUY A PROPERTY, JUST CALL ME, I WILL DO THE REST




**Together we will execute a plan that will fulfill your dreams of home ownership**

**NISHI CHADHA**

nishic@remax.net  
www.nishichadha.com  
**780.278.7695**

NO OBLIGATION  
FREE HOME EVALUATION

RE/MAX  
Outstanding Service  
Quality Results

Children's Miracle Network  
Hospitals

Remax River City  
#301, 10171 Saskatchewan Drive  
Edmonton, AB T6E 4R5  
1-780-278-7695 (C), 1-780-439-7000 (O)  
Each office independently owned and operated

Your neighborhood specialist

This is not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale

West and all over Canada, and recently from the communities in Northwest Territories, Victoria, Halifax, and Lethbridge.

Most of the Nepalese Community associations have taken Associate Organizational Membership and this has helped in the collaboration efforts.

## Governance

NRN-Canada consists of a National Coordination Council (NCC), which administers and manages all the affairs of NRN-Canada. The NCC consists of elected representatives from all Provinces and Territories of Canada as provided by the Constitution or the By-Laws.

NRN-Canada also consists of three types of committees:

- Executive Committee
- Regional Committee
- Standing or Ad Hoc Committee

“Executive Committee” is the Committee elected by the members of the NCC to run the day to day affairs of NRN-Canada. It may also include NCC members appointed by the NCC as needed. The Executive Committee will be chaired by the NCC/NRN-Canada President.

“Regional Committee” is the Committee comprised of NCC members from that region, representatives from the local Nepalese community associations in the region or from the local Nepali communities, if such a community association does not exist locally, and may also include regional agencies and organizations that are associated members of the NRN-Canada. The Regional Committee will be chaired by the NRN-Canada Vice President representing the region.

NRN-Canada has created the following Regional Committees:

- Alberta and BC Regional Committee
- Saskatchewan and Manitoba Regional Committee
- Ontario North Regional Committee
- Ontario South Regional Committee
- Quebec, Atlantic and Territories Regional Committee

The Regional Committee will formulate its own plans and programs, and activities in the region in coordination with the NCC in accordance with the NRN-Canada policy guidelines.

“Standing or Ad Hoc Committee” is the Committee of persons who are appointed by the NCC from time to time to serve thereon to carry out special tasks assigned by the General Assembly and/or the NCC.

## Programs

### Professional Mentorship Program

The goal of the program is to provide assistance in fulfilling some special needs of newly arrived Nepalis who have chosen Canada as their new home. Any professional interested in mentoring service can apply formally through the national/ state/ city mentoring coordinator to participate in the program by paying a nominal registration fee.

A professional mentoring program is now up and running in Canada, with a national network of professionals that will comprise the following components:

Professional Mentorship Committee (nominated by NRN-Canada NCC board):

- National Mentorship Coordinator
- Registrar
- Members: representing various cities of Canada

For further information, please contact:

Registrar, NRN-Canada Professional Mentoring Program  
Email: [nrncanadamentoring@gmail.com](mailto:nrncanadamentoring@gmail.com)

### Model Village Development Program

Mehentada Model Village is one of the flagship projects (<http://blog.nrn-canada.org/programs/model-village-through-community-mobilization/>) of NRN-Canada, which was initiated to help in reducing drinking water and sanitation



related problems after the diarrhea epidemic in the western region of Nepal in 2009. Mahentada is one of the Village Development Committee (VDC) in Surkhet District of Western Nepal (10 Km East of Chhinchu Bazar- a popular business hub) that was hit hard by 2009 diarrhea epidemic. Most of the people in this VDC are marginalized and disadvantage groups. Among them, Ward No. 2 is the optimum representative of the area for project initiation from many prospects, such as sanitation, health and unemployment. Most male members of the families go outside, particularly in India, for seasonal jobs to support the livelihood of their family. NRN-Canada also expects to extend the scope of work in education, health, income generation and livelihood activities in the area in future.

Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO) Nepal works closely with the local community and relevant government line agencies. Mehentada Water User Group is the key community-based organization for community mobilization and direct implementation on the ground. ENPHO has technical staff based in Surkhet, and staff from Kathmandu visits the project area from time to time. ENPHO has been organizing focus group interaction programs in the Model Village.

NRN-Canada approached similar organizations to contribute to this initiative. Helping Hands of Hope Foundation is one of such collaborating partners contributing specifically for water filters. In addition to training of local skilled workers, this organization has contributed in distributing seventy-five Bio-sand filters in the targeted village.




**Expressing their views on action plan in the Model Village community interaction**

If you are interested to donate for this program, please contact NRN-Canada.

### **Youth Internship Program**

The internship program is designed to conduct a Nepal-based field research in the areas of environment, education, and health. Selected candidate will be awarded \$1500 for conducting the research. The award money will go towards defraying some parts of travel expense related to the internship program.

This year's internship program will be based in Kathmandu and Mehentada VDC in Surkhet district, Nepal. NRN-Canada, in collaboration with Kathmandu-based Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO) and Environment Development Society, based in Surkhet, is currently developing a 'Model Village Development Initiative' geared towards working with the local community of Mahentada for building sustainable education and health systems. The internship program will be an important research component of this initiative with the intent of providing relevant resources helpful for pushing the collaborative initiative



**PIBIR**  
Laboratories Inc.  
www.pbr.ca

9960-67 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB  
Canada T6E 0P5  
**Tel: 780-450-3957**  
Fax: 780-450-3960  
Email: pbr@pbr.ca

PBR is a GLP compliant and accredited laboratory in compliance with international quality standard (ISO17025) and operating since 1984. We specialize in bioanalytical services and contract research applicable to food safety, water quality, product safety and efficacy, environmental health and bioremediation of toxic contaminants.

*We are proud of our association with Enviro-Test Laboratories. Our best wishes for their continued success.*

Ram D. Mehta, Ph.D. P.Biol.  
President/CEO

forward. The selected candidate should spend a minimum of 2 weeks with Kathmandu-based ENPHO and supporting organizations and a minimum of 1 week in Mahentada VDC for field research.

### **Collaboration Programs with NRNA**

Non-Resident Nepali association (NRNA) International Coordination Council (ICC) with the support of NRN-NCCs including NRN-Canada is working hard to make the difference in the lives of NRNs around the world. Two such initiatives are presented below:

#### **Open University Initiative**

The initiative for Open University of Nepal (OUN) is a joint effort between NRNA-ICC and NCCs including NRN-Canada, Canada Foundation For Nepal (CFFN), Government of Nepal (GoN) and Athabasca University to establish an Open University in Nepal. Other national and international agencies and philanthropic contributors will be its partners. The OUN will be established through an appropriate legislative instrument in Nepal.

OUN is proposed with a vision for an institutional solution to closing the existing knowledge and higher education gaps and in providing internationally-accredited quality education in Nepal. The aim is to bring higher education directly to the homes and communities of especially disadvantaged population so that people need not travel to the cities and foreign countries to access higher education. The aim is also to offer programs that can catalyze local economies by bringing appropriate knowledge and skills to the local communities. Its services are to be universally accessible to urban and rural populations, international students, and also to the NRNs engaged in foreign employment.

The proposed university will be an autonomous, public, and a non-profit institution for which the funding will be sought from Nepal, international donor agencies, and philanthropic organizations and individuals. Nepal Government will also make basic financial and in-kind contributions. The Diaspora will continue to support the university even after its inception.

The academic programs will be implemented in phase-wise manner, expanding from pilot programs in selected areas to eventually the whole country. Currently, the program has a funding pledge of \$135,000 from NRNs and it also received a funding of \$21,000 from Government of Alberta via Athabasca University for an initial study of the pedagogical process. However, only a small fraction of the pledges from the Diaspora have been actually been collected into the OUN account.

Subsequently, the OUN will need additional resources for the development of the institution. Then it will run the institution with funding from an international donors' consortium for a fixed number of years. The institution will be made sustainable within a reasonable time-frame through Nepal's internal as well as

Diaspora resources supplemented by tuition fees, endowments, and the income generated from various program offerings made in the national and international markets.

A wireless internet network and a number of local resource centers will be established and managed in collaboration with partner organizations in the target areas for effective implementation of the OUN programs.

Athabasca University recently at a ceremony in Edmonton donated twenty laptop computers to NRN-Canada for the



**REMEDY**  
licensed chai bar

**ZEE**  
remedycafe1@gmail.com

8631 - 109 ST,  
EDMONTON, AB, T6G 1E8  
**780.433.3096**

101A, 10279 - JASPER AVENUE,  
EDMONTON, AB, T5J 1X8  
**780.757.7720**

WWW.REMEDYCAFE.CA





**Donation of laptops from Athabasca University to OUNI**

OUN Initiative.

Please visit the following website for details:

<http://test2.cfn.ca/oun/>

**Nepal Library Foundation**

The Nepal Library Foundation (NLF) exists to promote literacy in Nepal. Their mandate is to support library development and work towards a national library system.

NLF is a Canadian registered charity, and the foundation was established and run by a committed group of volunteers based in Vancouver, British Columbia. Two of the Board members are Nepali born. NLF is adopted by NRNA and it has appointed the NLF as the agent through which libraries in Nepal are supported, and are supporting 22 public libraries in Nepal. It has been a major source of funding and donations. Please support this charity and for details please visit the website: <http://www.nepallibrary.org/>





**Vivek Ahuja**  
**Your Mortgage Specialist (Former Asst. Branch Manager, BMO)**  
 Cell# (780) 232 2573 Tel# (780) 408 0707  
 Fax# (780) 408 0708 E-mail: [vivek.ahuja@bmo.com](mailto:vivek.ahuja@bmo.com)





Your neighbourhood mortgage specialist, offering friendly and professional advice on all your residential purchase and refinancing mortgage needs.

**Ask me about some of the following special programs\* BMO Bank of Montreal has to offer:**

- ◆ New To Canada Program (both Permanent Residents and those on Work Permit)\*
- ◆ No Income verification for self-employed clients with 10% down payment
- ◆ Own a 2nd home with as little as 5% down payment\*
- ◆ Cash back mortgages\*
- ◆ Financing on residential lots\*
- ◆ Builder and self-built mortgages(completion and progress draws)\*
- ◆ Purchase plus improvement program\*
- ◆ 30-years amortization on rental properties\*
- ◆ Equity take out/ Refinance\*

<sup>TM</sup> Registered trademark of AIR MILES International Holdings N.V. Used under license by Loyalty Management Group Canada Inc. and Bank of Montreal. <sup>®</sup>Registered trademark of Bank of Montreal. BMO Bank of Montreal is a marketing name used by Bank of Montreal. \*Applicable to residential mortgages only. Subject to meeting BMO Bank of Montreal credit criteria. Some conditions may apply. All information and special rates subject to change without notice. Limited time offer.

## Financial Support

NRN-Canada has been supporting various causes in Canada and Nepal. Over \$10,000 was raised and contributed to NRNA's Koshi Flood Response Fund in 2008. A nation-wide appeal in late 2010/early 2011 raised over \$14,000 towards supporting treatment of Deepika Parajuli, a 10 year old daughter of a Nepali family, suffering from a number of diagnosed and undiagnosed illnesses since a few days after her birth in Canada. A grant of \$1,000 was contributed to Nun's Welfare Foundation of Nepal to reciprocate the unflinching support and encouragement to NRN-Canada by popular singer Ani Choying Dolma. Over \$7000 has been provided to ENPHO for Model Village, about \$1200 for Bagaicha Kaski School and \$4000 to NRNA Charity Project.

## Other Notable Activities

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NRN-Canada and NRN NCC of USA**

A MoU was signed between USA and Canada NCC's to work together to ensure a balanced and fair representation of both NCC's in electing the regional officers for NRNA. To this effect the two NCC's will cooperate with each other to have the position of Regional Coordinator (RC) alternate between

the two NCCs every two years. The Deputy Regional Coordinator (DRC) shall be elected from the NCC that does not send the Regional Coordinator for that term. This is a positive step in bringing harmony in Americas.

### **Facilitating National and International Networking of Nepali Diaspora**

Annual national conferences were organized in Toronto (2008), Calgary (2009), Montreal (2010), Ottawa (2011), and currently in Edmonton (2012) hosted by community-based Nepalese associations, thus providing significant national level networking space for the members of the Nepali Diaspora in Canada and bringing them closer to one another in their passions and relations. Members of the Nepali Diaspora in Canada also officially participated and supported the Global NRN Conference in 2009, 2011 and co-hosted the Regional Conference in Houston, Texas in 2010. NRN Day 2010 was celebrated in Toronto.

### **Conclusion**

NRN-Canada has come a long way in six years and it still has to go a long way. It needs to attract more members, launch new programs and activities beneficial to the Nepali Diaspora, and conduct any collaborative efforts to unite us all for a collective voice in Canada and in Nepal.



**zaiKa**  
INDIAN BISTRO BAR **NOW OPEN**

dine in and take out •  
lunch and dinner buffet •  
catering for corporate  
and personal events •  
ask about our delivery •

**The Art of Taste**

780 462 8722  
2303 ELLWOOD DRIVE  
ELLERSLIE CROSSROADS  
EDMONTON

MENU @ [WWW.ZAIKABISTRO.COM](http://WWW.ZAIKABISTRO.COM)

# Architecture and World Heritage Sites in Kathmandu Valley

Suresh Shrestha

The Kathmandu valley contains a wealth of palaces, temples, monasteries and buildings with different architectural styles. Centuries old architectures in Kathmandu valley are breathtaking and many community areas in the valley are like open museums. By facilitating further entwinement of the physical forms of dwellings and settlements with the culture, Nepalese architecture has uniquely influenced the locals' mental and physical comfort. Providing more details of the architecture present in Kathmandu valley, this article concludes with a brief description of the World Heritage Sites located there.

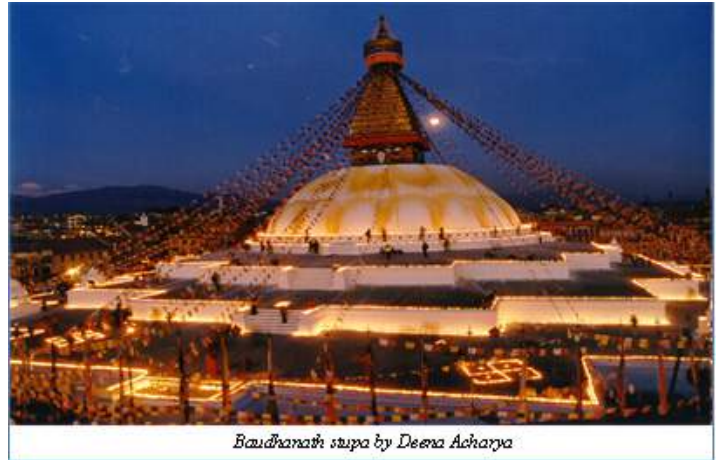
## Architecture



*Changu Narayan Temple by Deena Acharya*

Architecturally speaking, we witness the presence of two different architectural patterns in Nepal. The oval shape is predominant in western Nepal and the rectangular in the east. Buildings from the pre-modernization period are two storied and made from stone with wooden frame-works for doors, windows and ceilings. Wooden roof trusses are also prominent with the roof being covered by thatch. Mud is mostly used for plastering walls and floors.

The wood carvings with floral and geometrical designs reflecting various divinities, nature, animals and birds are beautiful and enchanting. The mystical symbols represent



*Boudhanath stupa by Deena Acharya*

enigmatic meanings and superstitions for the locals. The architecture is characterized by elaborately carved on doors, pillars, lintels, struts, beams, windows in monasteries, temples, palaces and private houses distinguishing the features in valley architecture.

This rich architecture flourished during the Malla period (1482-1768 AD). Many foreign tourists had an opportunity to observe the promising architectural heritage of the valley after Nepal was opened to Christian missions in 1951 for secular purpose. In particular, the woodwork received a lot of appreciation from many of these foreign visitors, with one of the most famous examples being the Changu-Narayan Temple and Kasthamandapa.

The location, orientation and layouts of towns, villages and temples have traditionally been determined by ancient architectural manuals called *Vastu-Sastras* (knowledge for the design of buildings and temples). The *Vastu-Sastras* gave directions for the placement of villages, towns and buildings through a mystic diagram based upon environmental positioning and the planetary system.

In the early 1970, when the development and future growth of the valley was

Buying/Selling House in Calgary?



**Look no further!!**

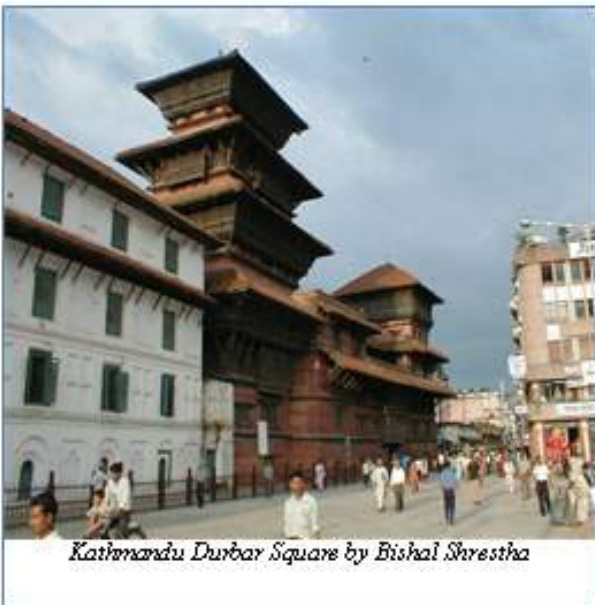
For reliable & friendly service & for all your real estate needs

Contact: DORJE LAMA  
Cell : 403 860 1682

inevitable and there was a very distinct possibility of the destruction of old historic sites and monument zones, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) funded a planning office in Nepal. For this special task, Carl Pruscha, the famous architect from Austria, was selected to lead this project. Pruscha was concentrating in the subject of conservation for the historic structures. To guide and steer future ambitious projects away from the destruction of traditional architectural heritage, the UNDP prepared a master plan for the Government of Nepal titled "Master plan for the conservation of the cultural heritage in the Kathmandu Valley" (1981). In 1979 the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee approved Nepal's request to place seven sites in Kathmandu valley in the World Heritage List so that they could be preserved for the benefit of the future.

In addition to this, with the objectives of reviving and restoring the artistic heritage of the people of the Kathmandu Valley, His majesty's Government of Nepal and the Federal Republic of Germany co-operated in 1974 in launching the Bhaktapur Development Project. This project had undertaken many renovation and restoration activities of important buildings and monuments of Bhaktapur.

### **World Heritage Sites**



*Kathmandu Durbar Square by Bishal Shrestha*

The World Heritage Sites represent the architectural, religious and cultural life of Kathmandu Valley.

**Kathmandu Durbar Square:** The main attractions in this site are the houses of the Kumari (Living Goddess), the Kal Bhairab (furious valour god), and the Hanuman (red monkey god) as well as Goddess Taleju temple.

**Patan Durbar Square:** The main attractions in this site are Krishna temple, the Jagat Narayan temple, the Kumbheshwor temple, Mahaboudha, Rudra Varna Mahavir, and the Ashokan Stupas.

**Bhaktapur Durbar Square:** Situated 14 kilometres away from the capital, the palace with fifty-five windows, the Nyatapole temple, the lion gate, the golden gate, the Pashupati and the Dattatreya temple reflect beautiful Newari architecture.



*Nyatapole temple in Bhaktapur*

**Pashupatinath temple:** Pashupatinath temple is popular among the Hindu worshippers and believers.



*Pashupatinath temple*

**Changu Narayan temple:** This temple is a very old architectural masterpiece believed to be the most ancient

Vishnu God temple in all of Kathmandu Valley.

**Swayambhunath stupa:** According to legend, the origin of the Kathmandu valley and city begins with Swayambhunath stupa.



*Swayambhunath stupa*

**Boudhanath stupa:** It is among the largest stupas in South Asia. This stupa became the central point of Tibetan

Buddhism in Nepal. A hundred and eight miniature images of Buddha proclaim to be the main attractions of this stupa.

**Lumbini:** Siddhartha Gautama, the Lord Buddha, was born in 623 BC at this location. This place has served as a famous pilgrimage centre. Lumbini has never been a part of India but was located within the Bharatvarsha that was almost one and half of current India.

**Sagarmatha National Park:** It is a world renowned park visited by many mountaineers and tourists due to the existence of Mount Everest. Rare plants and herbs along with animal life including the snow leopards and lesser pandas are attractions. The world famous Sherpa in mountaineering also live in this area.

**Royal Chitwan National Park:** Situated at the foot hills of the Himalayas, this park has very rich flora and fauna. The famous single-horned Asiatic rhinoceros and the Bengal tiger are preserved in this area.

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



**Century 21**

SIGNATURE REALTY  
Independently Owned and Operated.

**AMIT DUGGAL**

Broker/Owner

**780.485.2100**

[amit.duggal@century21.ca](mailto:amit.duggal@century21.ca)

**Residential & Commercial**

**Call for:**

**FREE HOME EVALUATION**

**FREE HOME BUYING CONSULTATION**

# Patan: A city of fine arts

Punya S Marahatta

One of the six world heritage sites in Nepal's Kathmandu Valley is Patan Durbar Square. Patan is one of three major cities in present day Kathmandu Valley. It dates back to the early days of Nepal's history when Kirat kings ruled Nepal from Patan for more than 1200 years before they were defeated by the Licchivi dynasty around the sixth century.

The name Patan itself refers to art and architecture and is related to the story of Lalit Pattan. Similarly, the story of *Machhendranath*, a Hindu and Buddhist god, is also linked with the destiny of the city. Above all, stories engraved in stone and metal engravings point to Patan as a historically significant city. *Kirtipataka*, the title of a seventeenth century writing on Patan refers to the city, its people and its rulers.



In the following excerpt, Kirkpatrick, spelling some of the names differently, describes Patan's physical location and lists the various names that were used to refer to the city.

*The city of next importance in the valley of Nepaul is Patn, which occupies a rising spot of ground situated about two miles to the south east of Khatmanda, and close to the confluence of the Munnokra, Fookacha, and Bhagmutty rivers... Patn is called as Yulloo-daissi by the Newars, and it is likewise occasionally distinguished from Deopataun (celebrated for its temple of Pussputnath by the appellations of Luttit-Patn and Loll-Patn, both of which, it is supposed to have derived from the name of its founder,*

*who was a favorite, and Purdhan, or minister, of one of the ancient princes of this country. It is nearer than Khatmanda, and boasts also containing some very handsome edifices.*

*An Account of the Kingdom Nepaul, W. J. Kirkpatrick (1793)*

Sylvan also describes Patan's beauty and historical significance.

*There is a fantastic Patan Durbar. The environment is lively in this Durbar Square because of various colorful timber carving. ...several free standing columns are existent everywhere made of white stones. There are bronze sculptures over the top of such columns. Several circular pillars and beautiful temples are found in the chowks in Patan. Several animal features like lion, goat, and some imaginary animals like Griffon are placed at the entrance of such temples and other edifices. ... Patan was designed according to the form of Buddhist Chakra as said by the Buddhists in Patan.*

*Le Nepal: Etude Historique d'un Royaume Hindu, Sylvain Lévi (1905)*

Patan's survival through time and evolution from different ruling dynasties made additions to and left their mark on the city. There is a Patuko palace from the Kirat period, eight Mani edifices and several biharas, bahals and bahils from the Licchivi period, and several religious temples from the Malla period. Patan also has several architectural elements from the Rana period, which were probably added after the great earthquake of 1934 AD.



## Krishna Mandir: A glory of all times

Dedicated to the charismatic Hindu god Krishna, Krishna Mandir (temple) in Patan Durbar Square has always stood tall, firm and appealing, not only to me but to all visitors from around the globe. What makes it so special? Is it its form or material or the myths associated with it? I would say all of the above. The temple was built in 1637 AD by King Siddhi Narsingh Malla. It stands different due to its architectural style. Tiwari (2009) writes about Krishna Mandir:

*This Indian-looking temple in stone..... is a rather unusual temple....making a total of 21 gajurs (pinnacle of Hindu Temples usually gold or copper gilded) ...the cupolas in the terraces seem to have been drawn from Islamic architectural vocabulary and the tracery stonework indicates the use of Rajasthani craftsmen.*

*Temples of the Nepal Valley. Sudarshan Raj Tiwari (2009)*

Unlike traditional Nepali structures that were usually constructed with brick-mud and had tiered roofs, the Krishna Mandir is made out of dark stone. There are carvings of the great Hindu epic of Mahabharata throughout the temple. The architecture of the Krishna Mandir is described by the Spiny Bablar Museum on their internet website as:

*“Its architecture successfully blends two styles: the solidly formed southern Gupta sikhara form and the open multi-storied style of Moghul. The craftsmanship of the stone carvers can be seen in the intricate images of gods and the perforated stone screen railings of the passages. There is an open passage on the ground floor and*

*it is empty inside. A narrow and low passage leads to the center of the first floor. The first floor is the main area of worship where a large hall holds an image of Krishna with two consorts, Radha and Rukmani, all beautifully carved out of black stone. The flooring also contains images of the ten incarnations of Vishnu. The second floor contains an image of Shiva. The small fourth floor contains no images now; however, the people say that there was formerly a statue of Avalokitesvara. Such placement, perhaps, acted as an example to the harmonious blend of Hinduism and Buddhism in*



**Free Consultation at Your Home or Your Work - Evenings & Weekends included - for RESP, RRSP, TFSA and Other Investment Needs.**

**Ramzi Kobagi, B.com**

Ph: 780 - 488 - 3828

[ramzi.kobagi@investorsgroup.com](mailto:ramzi.kobagi@investorsgroup.com)



**Plan to succeed.**

**Whatever your plans, our personalized approach to financial planning can help make them a reality.**

Let me help you provide for the people you care about... now and over time.

Get advice. Contact me and get started today.

**The Plan**  
**Investors Group**

®Trademark owned by IGM Financial Inc. and licensed to its subsidiary corporations. Investment products and services are offered through Investors Group Financial Services Inc. (in Québec, a Financial Services Firm) and Investors Group Securities Inc. (in Québec, a firm in Financial Planning). Investors Group Securities Inc. is a member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund.

MPT016 (10/2011)

Nepal. The shrine is the destination of great crowds of worshippers each year at the time of, Krishnastami, Lord Krishna's birthday, when the temple is beautifully lighted by thousands of oil lamps. It is not possible for non-Hindus to enter the temple, but a great deal of beauty of the temple can be seen from the courtyard.”

Spiny Bablar Museum (2007)

Krishna Mandir is the centre of attraction not only in Durbar Square but in all of Patan city. One can sit on the raised platform of the temple and observe local life full of humans and pigeons. The red brick floor that stretches in front of the platform is a popular spot for different performers. One can find tourists and locals interacting in front of this temple throughout the year. I would say that a visit to Patan must start with Krishna Mandir.

### A place to be!

Patan is indeed a place to be. Patan has several tourist attractions such as Patan Museum in Durbar square, Mahabouddha (Terracotta temple of 1000 Buddhas), Hiranyabarna Mahabihara (the Golden Temple), and Sundhara (“golden water conduit”). The people, culture and activities on the streets make Patan a

very lively city. Patan is a city of artists and artisans. One can find numerous artist workshops in the inner streets of the city and buy popular items such as Buddha sculptures made in various metals, Thangka paintings and stone sculptures.

Nepal is considered to be the country of the Himalayas but it is also home to rich Hindu and Buddhist cultures. Patan is the best place to see and experience all of these attractions; you can see the Himalayas through your windows, Hindu and Buddhist gods guard you, and you have the opportunity to participate in cultural rituals 365 days a year, including eating

typical Nepali spicy food. I have not heard of anyone regretting their visit to Patan, it is a real place to be!!



### Let Ricoh help manage your document printing costs

Ricoh is a leading provider of document solutions, our fully integrated hardware and software products help businesses share information efficiently and effectively by enabling customers to control the input, management and output of documents.

PRODUCTS	SOLUTIONS	SERVICES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Multifunction</li> <li>✓ Printers</li> <li>✓ Production Printing</li> <li>✓ Facsimile and more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Capture and Distribution</li> <li>✓ Storage and Management</li> <li>✓ Output and Security</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Managed Document Services</li> <li>✓ Network Services</li> <li>✓ Professional Services</li> </ul>

**There are many reasons why companies choose to partner with RICOH, including our state-of-the-art technology and the strength of our people and support structure. Ultimately, however, customers stay with Ricoh for our commitment to helping their businesses succeed.**

## RICOH

### Ricoh Multi Function Units:

#### Ricoh Aficio MP C5502

- Color Digital Imaging System
- Exceptional color, remarkable productivity



### All Inclusive Low Operating Cost Printers:



Contact Anu Sharma's team today to find out how you can reduce your document related costs!

Cory Petersen: 780-884-2725

Michael Henry: 780-700-6770

Robert Puff: 780-964-1586

Mark Wong: 780-934-8588

Cathrine Juneau: 780-690-6044

Chris Schmidt: 780-665-2924

Anu Sharma

Branch Manager

Ricoh Canada Inc-Edmonton Branch

Tel: 780-665-2927



## NECASE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS CALENDAR

SN	Programs & Events	Date	Location
1	NRN Canada Convention & NECASE Gala 2012	May 19-20, 2012	Bonnie Doon Community Center, 9240-93 street
2	Summer Picnic	Jun 23, 2012	TBD
3	Heritage Festival	Aug 4-6, 2012	Hawrelak Park
4	Volunteer Appreciation - Heritage	Aug 18, 2012	NECASE Hall
5	Newcomeers Orientation	TBD	NECASE Hall
6	Casino 2012	Sep 1-2, 2012	7055 Argyll Road, Casino
7	Teej	Sep 15, 2012	NECASE Hall
8	Dashain Program	Oct 27, 2012	TBD
9	Tihar	Nov 11, 2012	TBD
10	Christmas Party	Dec 25, 2012	NECASE Hall
11	Saraswati Pooja	Feb 17, 2013	NECASE Hall
12	Loshar	Jan 30, 2013	TBD
13	Potlucks and Camping	TBD	TBD
14	Farewell Activities	As needed	TBD
15	Nepali New Year	Apr 13, 2013	TBD
16	Soccer	Every Friday	Duggan Field
17	Badminton	Sep-May	Various
18	Volleyball	May-Oct	Downtown
19	Dance Class & Practice	Every Sunday	NECASE Hall
20	Nepali Language Class	Sep - Jun	NECASE Hall
21	Radio Kathmandu	Every Sunday	University of Alberta

**Note:**

- 1) Some programs may vary depending on situations.
- 2) TBD -To be determine



## Life Members of NECASE

### S No. Name

- 1 Dr. Ai Bahadur Gurung
- 2 Mr. Anil Pant
- 3 Dr. Arbind Mainali
- 4 Mr. Bil Gurung
- 5 Mrs. Bimala Pokharel
- 6 Dr. Binod Rajbhandari
- 7 Dr. Chunu Mainali
- 8 Mr. Dataram Aryal
- 9 Dr. Deepak Nath Ojha
- 10 Mr. Deepak Raman Upret
- 11 Mrs. Dev Kumari Acharya
- 12 Mrs. Ganga Devi Adhikari
- 13 Mr. Gautam Narayan Sing
- 14 Dr. Gayraj Acharya
- 15 Mrs. Helen Adhikari
- 16 Mr. Ichchha B. Nepali
- 17 Dr. Janak Acharya

### S No. Name

- 18 Mrs. Jaya Jha Corson
- 19 Mrs. Jyotsana Adhikari
- 20 Mr. Kumar Sharma
- 21 Mr. Kusumakar Sharma
- 22 Mr. Lakshman Shrestha
- 23 Mr. Laxman Adhikari
- 24 Mrs. Laxmi Gurung
- 25 Mrs. Madhu Acharya
- 26 Mrs. Manju Pant Uprety
- 27 Mr. Mohanath Acharya
- 28 Mr. Naba Raj Adhikari
- 29 Dr. Narayan Pokharel
- 30 Mr. Praful B. Shrestha
- 31 Mr. Prakash Poudyal
- 32 Mr. Prem Chandra Gurung
- 33 Mr. Ram Kumar Sah
- 34 Mr. Rameshwar Adhikari

### S No. Name

- 35 Mr. Sandesh Regmi
- 36 Mr. Santosh G.C.
- 37 Mr. Saroj Acharya
- 38 Mr. Sashwat Adhikari
- 39 Mrs. Satya Mainali
- 40 Mr. Sharad C. Karmacharya
- 41 Mr. Shiva Shankar KC
- 42 Mr. Shubhash Wasti
- 43 Mrs. Smriti Pant
- 44 Mr. Sulabha Adhikari
- 45 Mr. Surendra Mishra
- 46 Mr. Suresh Joshee
- 47 Mr. Sushil Mainali
- 48 Mr. Umanath Gaire
- 49 Dr. Ved Prakash Sharma



## Thank You

to everyone who participated and  
volunteered in the  
NECASE Anniversary Gala 2012.

– NECASE

**Own your DREAM HOME  
with your own FLEXIBLE FINANCIAL PLAN**

# The Link

## ECO URBANIZATION

"Eco-friendly home" is an achievement for the urbanization, to achieve one goal - to create a home which is 'friendly' to its inhabitants and sympathetic to the environment in which we live. Our Project incorporates a range of eco-friendly products and concepts.

### Its main features include:

1. Solar electricity provision - for streetlights
2. Rain water recharging for water conservation
3. Proper garbage disposal system for waste reduction
4. Use of UV protection stickers
5. Use of concrete lightweight blocks in place of bricks - for reduction of carbon monoxide emission and conservation of clay.

BOOKING OPEN FOR NEW PLOTS



**Brihat Investments Pvt. Ltd.**

TCH Tower IV, Silapaila, Kathmandu

Phone : 977-1-4033303, 4033304

Fax: 977-1-4033305

Email : [info@brihatinvestments.com](mailto:info@brihatinvestments.com)  
Web : [www.brihatinvestments.com](http://www.brihatinvestments.com)



READY TO MOVE IN



---

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

---

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

---

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

---

MANAGED DOCUMENT SERVICES

---

# AT RICOH, WE GO BEYOND THE PRINTED PAGE.

For a company to prosper in today's information-rich society, intelligence must be at the heart of its business plan.

That's why Ricoh offers a host of enterprise-wide solutions, each geared toward the intelligent handling of your bottom line drivers.

**Don't buy a machine that prints paper. Buy a solution that lets you talk to the world.**

**BUY INTELLIGENCE.**

**RICOH**

Anu Sharma  
tel: 780-665-2927  
anu.sharma@ricoh.ca

**RICOH.CA**