

## Welcome Address – June 02, 2012

**Rev. Fathers , Distinguished Invitees, Esteemed members of the extended Patrician Family , Friends and Well-Wishers of Patricians – Very Good Evening and a very warm Welcome to our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!!**

Tonight we have gathered as one family to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of St.Patrick's College Jaffna Alumni Association – Ontario. It's my great privilege and a distinct pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as President of this wonderful Alumni Association. Allow me to tender my gratitude to each and every one of you for finding time to be with us today. It takes a lot of sacrifice to set aside time out of your busy schedules and come over to such a function.

We have travelled a long way – Celebrating 25 years of service to the fellow Patricians in North America and our Alma mater in Jaffna is indeed a great accomplishment. Tonight as Patricians we proudly and joyfully celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year milestone.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm truly delighted to see so many members of the extended Patrician family gathered under one roof tonight. And I'm sure you feel the same. This Gala Night that marks the Silver Anniversary of our Alumni Association is certainly a moment of great joy. We take great pride in promoting Patrician Fellowship and at the same time helping our Alma Mater in Jaffna in every possible way we can.

Some of us left the portals of St. Patrick's College couple of decades ago and others left not so long ago, but we all share the same timeless Patrician Spirit. I can proudly state that Patricians, who made Canada their adopted new home, continue to help our noble College **achieve new heights as one of the top-performing educational** institutions in South Asia. I firmly believe that our greatest satisfaction for being members of this association should be derived from the knowledge that we are contributing to make a difference in the life of current and future generation of our Alma Mater in Jaffna.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend **our gratitude and appreciation to all the Past Committee Members** of our Alumni Association for their dedicated service and commitment that kept the flame of Patrician Spirit big and bright in this part of the world. Over the years, Patricians from all walks of life helped our Association to be vibrant and strong. This 25<sup>th</sup> year celebration would not have been possible without the untiring efforts of many Patricians and their friends and other well-wishers, who have helped us in various ways.

Ladies and Gentlemen, without further delay, once again, I welcome you to this great celebration. We have many exciting and interesting programmes in our Agenda tonight.

Enjoy the Gala Night as members of great Patrician family.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, My dear Fellow Patricians, I wish you all a Happy Silver Anniversary!!!

Let us pledge our **continued support** to vigorously advance the **aspirations and objectives** of our Alumni Association.

Long Live St.Patrick's College Jaffna Alumni Association Ontario!!!

Thank you and have a wonderful evening.

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