

St Patrick's College Jaffna Alumni Association Ontario, Canada
Annual General Meeting 2002 Minutes

The above meeting was held on 22nd September 2002, at Eastown Banquet Hall & Restaurant, 2648 Eglinton Ave East, Scarborough, Ontario with the meeting commencing at 7pm and Mr. R.L. Xavier leading the prayers.

President Mr. Manuel Jesudasan, welcomed the members, and presided over the meeting. In his welcome address he commented that the outgoing committee had done a great job over the last year, and the spirit of teamwork was present and the association was able to donate \$10,000.00 to our old school. Mr. Jesudasan further commented that he acted as figurehead, while the committee members pulled together and did all the leg work to make it a successful year. He also appreciated that more young Patricians were present at this year's annual general meeting compared to previous years.

The General Secretary, Mr. Anthony Luckshman, read the minutes and the years' events for 2001-2002. The minutes were adopted by Mr. Manuel Sebastianpillai and seconded by Mr. Raymond Santiago.

Mr. Gerrard Simonpillai, the treasure presented the 2001-2002 annual statement of accounts. Mr. Stanley Selvakumar raised the question of who will be responsible for the liabilities of Mr. Jesudasan. Mr. Jesudasan explained to the members that the total receivables and payables are the same amount and he will be responsible. In the event of any default of payment by the debtors he will consider the receivables as a donation to the association. Mr. Jesudasan further stated that the association is not responsible for any receivables or payables, he will take total responsibility for both payables & receivables

Many questions and suggestions were raised and pointed out in regards to the funds that were remitted towards St. Patrick's College Jaffna. Some of these questions were whether these will be used for the day-to-day expenses of the school or whether it will be used on a capital project. X. R Xavier suggested to replace 100 years old furniture with the funds. Mr. Manual Sebastianpillai suggested to renovate the "Long's Building" which should be salvaged before any other options. Mr. Anton Phillip proposed that this money could be used to renovate couple of classrooms in Fr. Long's building and request the school to place a plaque in honour of the Canadian Association. Mr. Morrison Saverimuttu and Mr. Sebastianpillai suggested to use the funds to renovate the Fr. Long's building. After several minutes of discussion it was left to the committee to come up with a proposal. Mr. X.R Francis proposed to let the school make the decision how to use the funds depending on their urgency. Mr. Saverimuttu seconded this proposal. President requested Mr. John Edirmanasinghe the current secretary to forward e-mail to the Bursar of St. Patrick's college Jaffna regarding the associations decision.

Mr. Lukshman took this opportunity to thank the President Mr. Jesudasan on behalf of the association for not only heading the association but also for taking part in cultural events organised by the committee. Mr Albert Santiapillai was called upon by Mr

Lucksman to present a plaque on behalf of the association to Mr. Jesudasan for his time and effort.

It was time to elect the new committee members and Mr. Sathiajeevan Aloysius proposed Rev. Francis Xavier to be a temporary chairman to elect the committee. Mr. R.L. Xavier seconded this. Rev. Fr. Xavier thanked the outgoing committee and called for a recess before the new committee was elected.

Mr. R.L.Xavier proposed the election of Mr. Manuel Jesudasan for the position of President, and Mr. Albert Ratnasingham seconded this. The members decided unanimously that Mr. Jesudasan would be president for another term of office. Mr. Jesudasan accepted the position willingly and thanked the general body for the trust and confidence they placed in him.

Mr. Gerrard Simonpillai proposed Mr. John Edirmanasinghe as the general secretary and Mr. R.L. Xavier seconded this. Mr. Manuel Sebastianpillai was proposed as vice-president by Mr. Simonpillai and was seconded by Mr. Aloysius. Mr. Stanley Jayakumar was proposed as Treasurer by Mr. Santiago and seconded by Mr. Albert Santiapillai. Mr. Anthony Luckshman was proposed and seconded respectively by Mr. Gerrard Simonpillai and Mr. Raymond Santiago for the position of Asst. Secretary. Mr. Morrison Saverimuttu and Mr. Raymond Santiago respectively proposed and seconded Mr. S.J Selvanayagam for the position of Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Stanley Selvakumar was elected as auditor.

The following committee members were elected in the following order:

1. Mr. Raymond Rajabalan.
2. Mr. V. Vigneshwaran
3. Mr. Julius James
4. Mr. Raymond Santiago
5. Mr. Morrison Saverimuttu
6. Mr. Anton S. Phillip
7. Mr. Robert Stanislaus
8. Mr. Gregory Bonaventure
9. Mr. Albert Santiapillai
10. Mr. Wilfred Gnanapragasam

After the election of committee members Mr. X. R. Xavier proposed the election of 3 more secretaries for the events of 1. Cultural 2. Social 3. Sports. Mr. Manuel Sebastianpillai, Rev. Fr. Francis Xavier and the President Mr. Manuel Jesudasan pointed the fact that constitution will have to be amended to accommodate this suggestion, which would be a tedious procedure. The President further suggested that the existing committee members could be assigned some of the above duties during their term of office. Mr. Anthony Lukshman suggested it would be too much to have 3 secretarial positions within the same committee and to elect one more member as sports secretary

along with the general secretary. Since the constitution only allows for ten members Mr. Anton Phillip suggested that he would step down from his position of committee member and this would open the position for a sports secretary to be elected. Mr. Jesudasan was not in favour of this suggestion and at the end Mr. X.R. Xavier withdrew his proposal and on Mr. Lukshman's recommendation Mr. Julius James who is an existing member of the committee was proposed as sports secretary.

Mr. Raymond Santiago suggested that our softball cricket team has been the champion for the last 5 years in the Jaffna Schools sports tournament and first in the March past contest this year and they should be honoured at our of gathering. The president and the committee members agreed for this.

Mr. R. L Xavier came up with the question of what are chances of forming a Federation of SPC Alumni Association, are we focus towards it? Mr. Jesudasan explained to the committee that the creation of federation might be for two purposes;

(1). To inform our old school in advance how much we could donate collectively every year. He further pointed out this idea of how much & towards what purpose are not certain & clear. Without certainty & clear objectivity it is not clear about formation of a federation.

(2). Second purpose may be to build up our fellowship through a Federation. This fellowship is currently maintained by InterSector and was suggested to keep up the identity through the InterSector.

Rev. Xavier also pointed out that legality & objectivity are involved in formation of a federation and unless we are clear of these facts it's too early to debate on this issue.

Mr. X. R Xavier suggested Mr. Jesudasan that he would have actively participated in the Cultural Show and why he was not informed. Mr. Luckshman pointed out the email was sent to all the members including Mr. X. R Xavier regarding this event and he should have contacted the committee if he was interested in participating in the event.

The adjournment of the meeting was proposed by Mr. Anton Philip and seconded by R. L. Xavier

30th September 2002