



**Casa de Macau no Canadá (Toronto)**  
**Cultural and Recreational Centre in Ontario**  
4168 Finch Ave East PH39, Scarborough, Ont., M1S 5H6

May 13, 2021

## FIRST NEWSLETTER TO CASA MEMBERS

Dear fellow members,

Members of Slate A would like to take this opportunity to say “Thank You” for your support in the May 8 EGM election. We would also like to congratulate the candidates of Slate B for their participation and showing their enthusiasm to support Casa activities.

Although this was an unprecedented election in our Casa, the number of mail-in ballots was impressive, as the Committee received 179 out of 203 voting members (88.17%), compared to 92 voting members including proxies from the last AGM held on Feb. 22, 2020 at the clubhouse. The result of this election was very meaningful to us. A winning percentage of 88.82% is very significant, as it represents a large number of members who have shown their support and enthusiasm, and the message is clear: WE TRUST YOU. Now it is our responsibility to reciprocate that trust. We understand this year's election process went through 5 attempts to have a new Board elected, which was rather unusual. While the mail-in ballot process took time and cost, it was worth it, as we believe it was the most democratic, open and precise election in our Casa's history. The Campaign Program of both Slates with all candidates' background were sent to all members who have had sufficient time to read them carefully, even encouraging members with health or travel issues to cast their vote for the slate that they felt more appropriate to guide the direction of the Casa.

We would like to thank the outgoing Board for their tireless effort to keep Casa alive for close to 1 1/2 years of extended duty, as well as the Election Committee formed by Susana da Costa, Irene Legay, Monica Alves, Barbara Baptista and Andrew Brander for their commitment in this difficult pandemic season.

Meanwhile, at the first new Board meeting completed on May 12, an internal election was held, and we announce the following Members of the Board:

President:	José Cordeiro
1st Vice-President:	Telma Brito
2nd Vice-President:	Micaela Howell
Secretary:	Ivone Carion
Treasurer:	José (Zito) Rodrigues

We added the following Committees to support our Club's operations:

- Clubhouse Management Committee: Tony Gutterres and Susana da Costa
- Social & Recreational Committee: Telma Brito and Micaela Howell
- Cozinham (Culinary) Committee: José Rodrigues and Virginia Sanchez
- Accounting/Bookkeeping Assistant: Cristina Cordeiro

It is a privilege and an honour for the new Board and its respective Committees to serve you and we promise that we will work with transparency, accountability, effectiveness and equitability. We will complete, as much as possible, all the programs that were presented in our Campaign Platform. Due to the pandemic, the Board is closely monitoring the Ontario and Toronto Health protocols regarding usage and occupancy of indoor facilities. Once the Board feels it is safe to do so, we will reopen the Casa clubhouse and gradually resume all activities for your enjoyment, meanwhile taking as much precautionary measures as are required.

Although the new Board was elected to work on your behalf, we wish to emphasize the importance of unity among members with no divisiveness. Our Board officers welcome your comments, input, and constructive suggestions, as our goal is to serve you by providing friendly, fun and good environmental events. We also decided to email newsletters or updates periodically to our members so they are kept aware of Casa's progress.

So, right after our internal election, the Board planned and approved the following, some of which will be carried out during the next 3 months:

1. Members who paid their 2020 membership fee are exempt from paying the 2021 renewal fee;
2. "2021 Summer Surprise" to all members. Tentative delivery time is the period between "Dia de Macau" and Canada Day;
3. To seek Bursary information and funding from Fundação Oriente for Casa's full-time members who are full-time university students;
4. Approve online activities/games during pandemic.

Before we end, the Board encourages all members to keep safe from the pandemic as it is still active in our province.

The Board,

José Cordeiro, Telma Brito, Micaela Howell, Ivone Carion and José (Zito) Rodrigues