



Casa de Macau Cultural and Recreational Centre in Ontario

4168 Finch Ave East PH39, Scarborough, Ontario, M1S 5H6, CANADA

www.casademacau.ca

Newsletter No. 6/2024

18/9/2024

Dear members,

How time flies. It is hard to believe that we are seeing leaves gradually turning red and the fall season is upon us. We trust that you had a great summer with your family and friends. We are pleased to share some important topics with you:

1. **6th Ministerial Conference for Economic and Trade Co-operation:** On April 20, Jose Cordeiro travelled to Macau to attend the 6th Ministerial Conference for Economic and Trade Cooperation between P.R. of China and Portuguese-speaking countries. It was a 3 day event and delegations from 10 different countries (P. R. of China, Angola, Brasil, Cabo Verde, Guiné-Bissau, Guiné-Equatorial, Moçambique, Portugal, S.Tomé e Príncipe and Timor-Leste) travelled to Macau, led by their high ranking government officials. The conference focused on the expansion of trade opportunities between the aforementioned countries as well as the developing collaboration in other sectors, such as, health, agriculture, communication, education, energy, infrastructure and monetization. This was the second time that all the Casas have been invited to attend this conference, however, this time, only 3 Casas were in attendance. They were Casa de Macau (Toronto), Casa de Macau (Rio de Janeiro) and Casa de Macau (USA). Jose had the privilege of being appointed by the organizing committee to represent all of the Casas at the Opening Ceremony, and during the conference he was honoured to be seated with the other VIPs. All costs related to the trip were covered by the Macau Government.
2. **Dr. Pedro Krupenski Visit:** On May 12, Fundação Oriente Advisor, Dr. Pedro Krupenski, visited Toronto to meet with the local Macanese institutions. His purpose was to visit Fundação Oriente establishments, meet with the Boards and most importantly with the Casa members. A reception was organized for Dr. Krupenski at our clubhouse during which he had the opportunity to chat with the participants of our activities and enjoy the delicious refreshments prepared by our members. Dr. Krupenski was truly impressed with Fundação Oriente funded kitchen renovations. Since our Casa has not received any other funding for several years, we submitted a request that Fundação Oriente re-evaluate our situation in the hopes of reinstating the past subsidies. Our annual 2025 budget has been prepared and sent to Fundação Oriente.
3. **Articles of Incorporation Amendment:** On August 17, a meeting was held to vote on the amendment of our Articles of Incorporation (formally Constitution). After more than a year of preparation and feedback from members, many of the resolutions previously presented to the members in the summer of 2023 were eliminated. The remaining 3 resolutions proposed by the Board were all passed by a large margin of votes. Although the number of members present at the meeting was low, we were pleased to receive a substantial number of proxies confirming our members' commitment to the mission of our Casa.
4. **Portuguese online course:** By the deadline of July 31, we received 2 applications for this coming school year. The Board is coordinating with Fundação Oriente in relation to the subsidy that the students will be receiving.
5. **Encontro 2024:** Our Casa will be well represented in Macau by 71 members and their companions at the 2024 Encontro (Nov 30 - Dec 6). There has been a change from the previous Encontro in regards to the distribution of the subsidy allocation. According to the e-mail received from Conselho das Comunidades Macaenses (CCM), the subsidy is distributed to the attendees during the Encontro upon presentation of their travel ticket receipt. To comply with CCM's change of subsidy process, the Board revoked the Bylaw # 9/2019 which required members to have at



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least 3 years' membership, as a condition to receive the subsidy. CCM also announced that there will be a Macanese cuisine competition during the Encontro. We were requested to do an internal competition among our Encontro participants and the winner would then represent Casa de Macau (Toronto) in the Final competition in Macau. Unfortunately, at this time, we did not receive any registration from our travellers.

6. **Three Resolutions of the Articles of Incorporation Approved:** After this approval, we established some important internal documents and procedures to improve the operation of our Casa. The Board approved the following 3 By-laws:
 - By-law 3/2024 - New date for Fiscal Year;
 - By-law 4/2024 - Election Procedure of the Board of Directors;
 - By-law 5/2024 - Interim Board.
7. **Cancellation of Christmas Celebration 2024:** Due to a large number of our members participating at the Encontro 2024, and many who do not plan to return to Toronto before mid-December, the Board decided to cancel this year's Christmas Celebration. We apologize for this cancellation, especially to those who will not be travelling to Macau.
8. **Social and Entertainment program:** Our October Thursday Socials will continue as planned. There will be no social events in November and December and our Ping-Pong, Taichi and Karaoke programs will be deferred until further notice as the coordinators of these events will be attending the Encontro.
9. **A Warm Welcome to Our New Full Members**
 - Francisco Fernandes (brother of our member Filomena Fernandes)
 - Raquel Ferreira Rodrigues (daughter of Filipe Rodrigues)
 - Mario, Liza, Inez and Zelia Roza
10. **Wedding Announcement:** We are pleased to announce the wedding of Dennis R. Abbas and Julietta Fung on August 9, 2024 at the Richmond Hill Civic Centre. Dennis is a member of our Casa since 2016 and Julietta is currently with Lusitano San Francisco. They look forward to being active participants in both Casas in the future.





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11. **Remembrance Mass**: We will continue to have our Remembrance Mass in tribute to our past members and relatives. Date to be announced in due course.
12. **New Articles of Incorporation, the 4 Bylaws and the 4th Quarter event chart**: Please refer to the attachments in this Newsletter.
13. **Recent photos of our events this year**: To view photos/videos of our recent events, please visit: <http://www.casademacau.ca>, click the “Gallery” tab for photos and “Videos” for video.

Regards,

The Board of Directors