

**Message for the 30th Anniversary
of
The Sri Lankan Association of Manitoba on February 4, 2014**

TO: THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SRI LANKAN ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA - (SLAM)

From: Castus Peiris
Founding member of the Sri Lankan Association of Manitoba

Dear beloved members,

As the first President and one of the primary founding members of the **Sri Lankan Association of Manitoba (SLAM)**, it is my privilege and honour to have this opportunity to proudly **congratulate** all current and past members of SLAM for 30 wonderful years.

SLAM had a humble beginning. Our first inaugural meeting of SLAM was held on February 4, 1984 in a theatre hall at The University of Winnipeg. A small group of us gathered together to create an Association with the intention of preserving our Sri Lankan heritage. Today you are celebrating successful 30 years. Congratulations!

For the continued prosperity and growth of SLAM, I believe it is pertinent that you focus on the main themes outlined as guidelines in the by-laws of SLAM. Topics such as 'Managing Talents, Managing the new Demographic Developments, the Changes in Becoming a Learning Organization, Managing Work-Life Balance and Managing Change and Cultural Transformation'. All such topics can assist with our cultural integration into Canada.

The importance of preserving our cultural heritage escalates with each passing decade. I encourage you to practice Sri Lankan traditions and beliefs while embracing the Canadian culture and heritage as well. You are quite fortunate to live in such a diverse and multicultural country. Be proud of your Sri Lankan heritage and uphold our customs so as to enrich the lives of generations to come.

Along with my family, I wish The Sri Lankan Association of Manitoba all the best. I am looking forward to celebrating many more years of SLAM with you.

Sincerely,



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Castus L. Peiris
January 28, 2014