



# GOAN ARCHIVES CANADA INC. **2009-2013**

Tracing our roots...

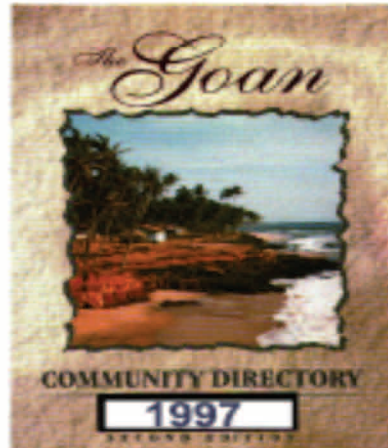




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*Printer of the Goan Directories below*



## **GOAN VOICE CANADA** **[www.goanvoice.ca](http://www.goanvoice.ca)**



Goan Voice Canada has been online since 2002  
linking the Goan Community in Canada with their  
homeland, Goa.



The Goan Voice Canada website  
is the only online archive of events  
& news on the Community. All our  
bi-weekly issues dating from 2002  
can be viewed at:

[http://www.goanvoice.ca/archives.  
htm](http://www.goanvoice.ca/archives.htm) and can be accessed using  
GOOGLE. Just type Goan Voice  
Canada Archives in your browser  
followed by a name or subject.

**Contact: John J. D'Souza - Email: [jjds@goanvoice.ca](mailto:jjds@goanvoice.ca)**



# Of CONTENTS

## OUR MISSION

The Goan Archives' mission is to assemble, preserve, organize, and store publications and documents generated and authored by the Goan community and groups in Canada over the last 40 plus years. The intent is to facilitate the study and understanding of our unique community by scholars and researchers in the future.

Further details can be found at: <http://sites.google.com/site/goanarchivescanada/home>.

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Editorial — Message from the Chair	page 2
Founding Members and Committee	page 3
PAMA — Where the Goan Archives are located	page 4
Muriel Lucas interviews chairperson Cecil D'Cruz	page 8
Family Day at PAMA	page 10
Tracing our roots in Canada (Videos by Uvy Lopes)	page 11
Goan Archives workshop	page 12
List of Contributors (pie chart of funds donated)	page 14
Achievements — Highlights from inception to present	page 16
Acknowledgements	page 21
Letters of Appreciation	page 22
Thoughts of a supporter — By Armand Rodrigues	page 27

**ABOUT THE COVER:** The cover design tries to capture the essence of the Goan landscape to create a nostalgic feeling of "back home". The back cover graphically portrays the inherent international psyche of the Goan personality.

The Goan community has truly migrated to every continent of the world while always maintaining roots in Goa.

# EDITORIAL

## Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Goan Archives Canada (GAC) committee members, I am proud to present our 2nd edition as a report for your perusal.

In view of the enthusiastic reception of the first edition of our brochure, we decided that the second edition should not be replicated, but, should instead be revised and expanded to enhance the usefulness of this new publication as a reference tool. This Report will no doubt inspire its readers to venture beyond their personal experience and to gain an appreciation of the richness of our vibrant heritage.

I wish to thank and acknowledge all our supporters who assisted us through their contributions contained herein. They not only gave freely of their time but also shared their personal interest and friendship. It was this pervasive spirit of enthusiastic co-operation that enabled this 2nd edition Report to be published.

Of equal importance are the contributions of my committee members. I thank them for their forbearance and dedication, ever since inception. Without them, our vision would not be a reality. What started out as a cursory glance at saving our heritage for posterity, became an exploration that went on intensively for the better part of four and a half years. It presently continues sporadically, awaiting the involvement of our youth in GAC to keep this important endeavour going.

As we look forward, we are optimistic that we will reach our goals. Our target is to ensure that all our supporters are well informed that their contributions have been well documented and archived in acid free boxes, and will remain in a safe environment with our recipients, Peel Arts, Museum & Archives, (PAMA), in Brampton. We wish to convey our grateful thanks to our Archivists at (PAMA), namely, Mr. Brian Gilchrist, Ms. Diane Allengame, and Mr. Kyle Neill, for their kind and dedicated support in assisting us to house our valuable resources.

You may have noted our recent initiatives to add to our collection and to provide an internet website to facilitate this activity. Hence, we encourage you to visit our website <https://sites.google.com/site/goanarchivescanada> and to continue to feed this vital source with more content as we strive to continue to document and save our heritage for generations to come.

I also wish to acknowledge the Toronto East Goan Seniors Association (TEGSA) Executive committee members, who were our joint partners and collaborators in obtaining the New Horizons Grant for Seniors Program and the Ontario Trillium Grant which helped to make this GAC project possible.

Special thanks to Dr. Colin Saldanha for his loyal support, Ms. Zulema D'Souza, Mr. Armand Rodrigues, Mr. Carl Thorpe, Mr. Giles Noronha (deceased), and to all our donors and sponsors, without whom, all our achievements would not have been possible.

Finally, thanks to Mr. Louis Gomes-Pereira and Mr. Lazarus Pereira for their time and efforts in compiling this reference report.

In closing, it is my pleasure to pass the baton on to an extremely capable team of our youth, who have the ability and dedication to ensure that the legacy we created will continue to grow in the years to come. We have not "locked the door" but merely "left the door ajar", as we stand by our logo, "Tracing our Roots" for posterity.

I hope you enjoy this second edition as much as you did the first.

With best wishes,

Cecil D'Cruz  
President and Chair  
Goan Archives Canada Inc.



## The Founding Members

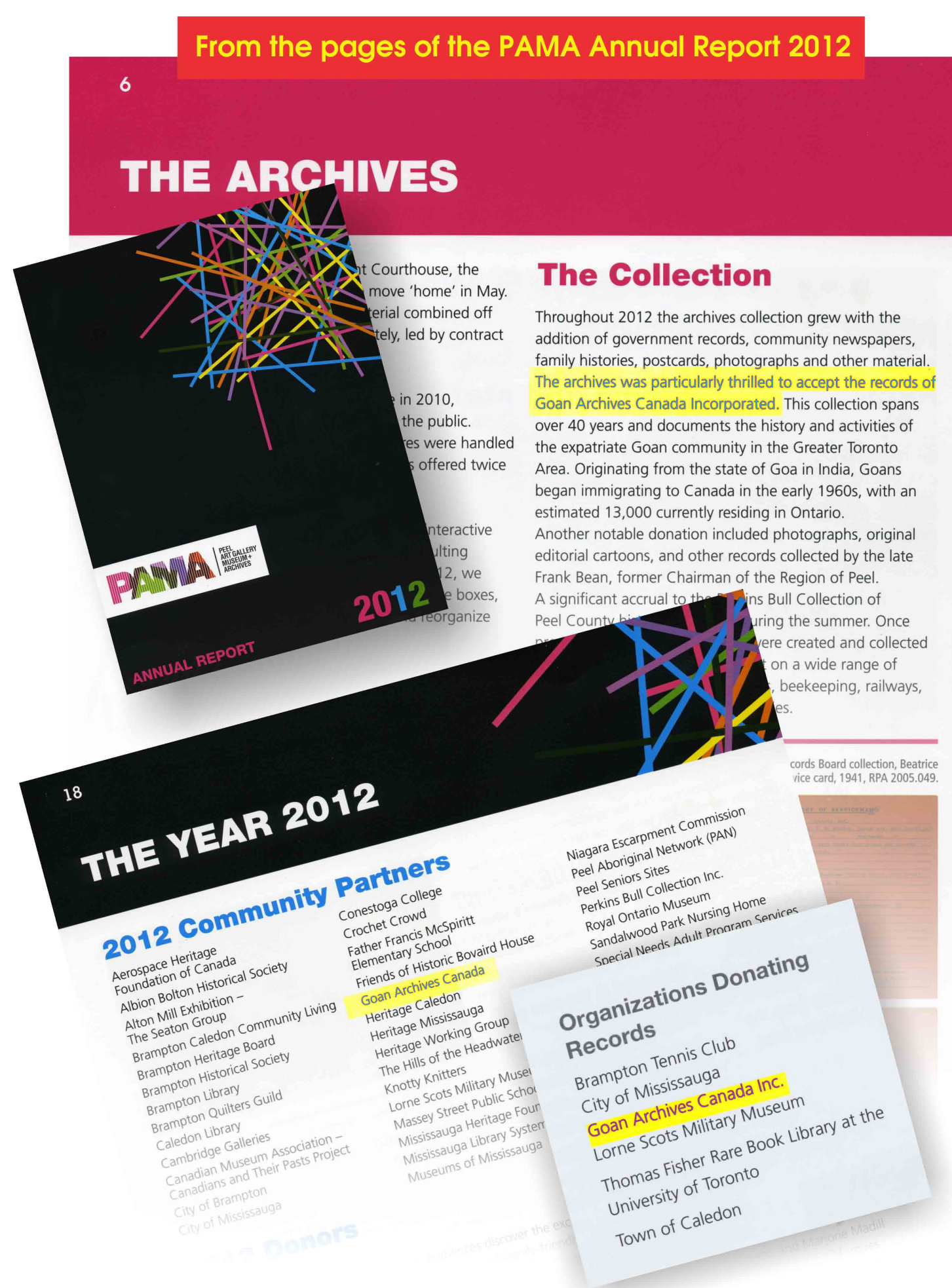
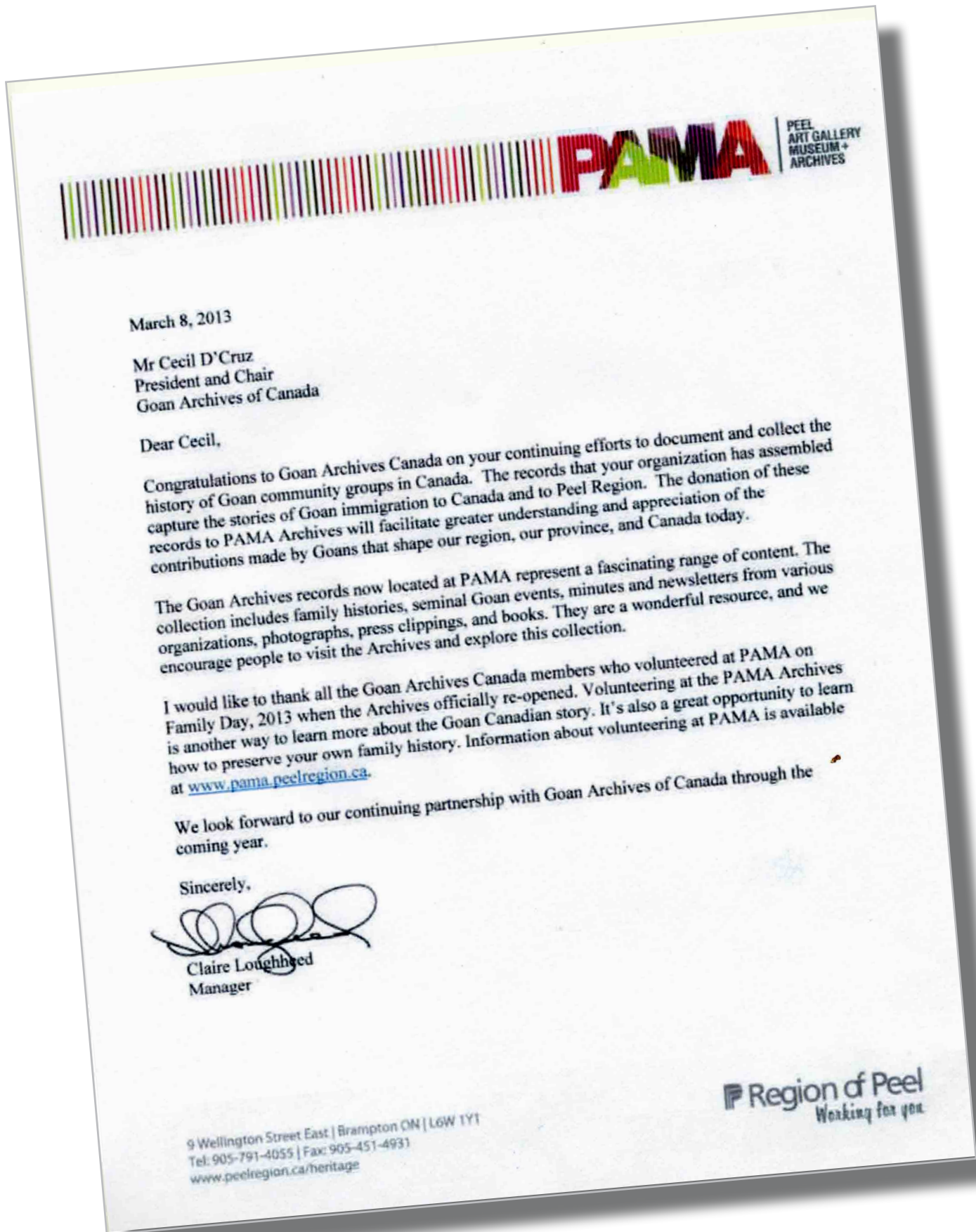


Left to Right  
Cecil D'Cruz, Lazarus Pereira, Uvy Lopes, Claude Gomes, and John J. D'Souza  
meet to initiate Goan Archives Project

## The Committee



Front row, left to right: Muriel Lucas, Cecil D'Cruz, Claude Gomes.  
Standing left to right: John D'Souza, Maurice Pinto, Uvy Lopes & Lazarus Pereira





**Goan Archives Canada Inc.**  
**Collection from the Canadian Goan Community**  
**Donated to**  
**The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA)**  
**September 2012**



<http://www.pama.peelregion.ca/en/aboutpama.asp>  
<https://sites.google.com/site/goanarchivescanada/>

Donor archiving items handed over to Goan Archives Canada Inc. were sorted, listed and assigned to one of the twelve acid free boxes above in a controlled environment for storage.

Detailed list of contents in each box can be viewed or down loaded from our web page:

<https://sites.google.com/site/goanarchivescanada/home/peel-heritage-archives-d>

Books by Goan authors (safe keeping) box # 12 will be put on display at PAMA Reference Library for public viewing when premises are ready. These books may be borrowed by a Loan Agreement with GAC (Goan Archives Canada Inc.) approval prior to release on a temporary basis from the facility.

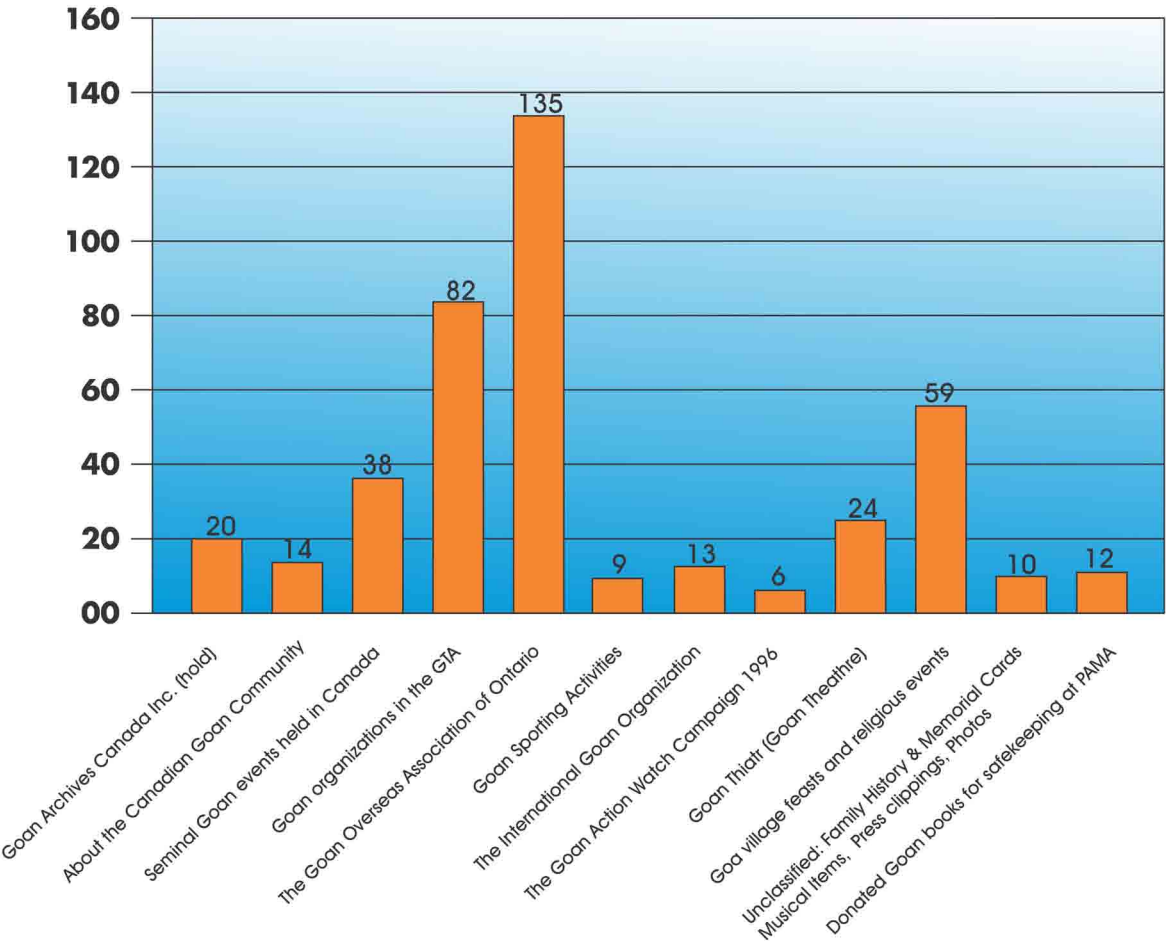
All other items will be scanned, digitalized and placed on the PAMA site for viewing by general public for a nominal charge. This project will be undertaken shortly on their new premises.



**The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) 2012 donations**

BOX#	TITLE
1	Goan Archives Canada Inc. Documentation
2	About the Canadian Goan Community
3	Seminal Goan events held in Canada
4	Goan organizations in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
5	The Goan Overseas Association of Ontario
6	Goan Sporting Activities
7	The International Goan Organization
8	The Goan Action Watch Campaign 1996
9	Goan Thiatr (Goan Theathre)
10	Goa village feasts and religious events
11	Unclassified: Family History & Memorial Cards Musical Items, Press clippings, Photos
12	Donated Goan books for safekeeping at PAMA

**GOAN ARCHIVES CANADA**  
**Items in each of the 12 boxes for Peel Heritage Collection**





## GOAN ARCHIVES CANADA INC. Interview on the release of the Phase I Report 2010



Muriel Lucas interviews Cecil D'Cruz

1. ML: Cecil, as Chairperson of the Goan Archives Steering Committee, you must be pleased with the results of the phase 1 report, so far.

CD: Yes, I am. We have been working quite hard over the last six months and I am glad it's done.

2. ML: Before we get into the report, first, tell us about the cover, the Logo and in particular what does it signify.

CD: The Logo is meant to convey the idea of safeguarding our Goan heritage, in this case. If positive steps are not taken to conserve our written or oral history, it will be lost in time, and we will be all the poorer.

3. ML: And the ribbon of images around the Logo – any special significance.

CD: These are the covers of seminal publications, or Logos of Goan organizations active in this country over the last four decades. It is by no means comprehensive – we just picked out the more attractive covers.

4. ML: In summary, what are the results of Phase 1. What did you set out to do and what was actually achieved?

CD: Phase 1 was essentially an information gathering effort. We wanted to see what was out there and in danger of being lost, as we are an ageing community. More than 80% of donated items came from individuals. Apart from the International Goan Organization, and the 55 PGA, I cannot honestly say that we received tangible support from the mainstream Goan organizations.

5. ML: Why is That?

CD: Personally, I think that Goan organizations, like businesses and political parties are focused on the short term. They think in terms of tenure of office – two years. Most of their energy seems to be taken up in organizing social events and ensuring that dance tickets are sold with an eye on the bottom line. Perhaps this is what their members want, but I would have expected more foresight and co-operation from our Goan organizations

6. ML: Let's move on and look at what you have collected. More than 450 items from 40 or so Goan organizations to date. – That's quite a lot from a small community of less than 10,000 would you say.

CD: As you can see, no one item dominates. Books seem to be on the low side, but we have more than 40 on hand. The chart speaks for itself.

7. ML: What will happen to the collection eventually.

CD: They will have to be placed in some National Archive. We still have some work to do. We had made some initial enquiries to the Archive of Peel. They were quite receptive, but at present they are undergoing massive \$11 million expansion to be completed in 2011. I think this would be a suitable place for a repository.

8. ML: Will the Goan public have access to these items?

CD: These items are in the public domain. They will be stored in bankers' boxes and accessed by making an information request and subject to the same conditions as the general public.

9. ML: But, before they get buried, - where and how will the Goan public be able to view these collections.

CD: Muriel, most of the items in the Archives are printed material, which most Goan households received in the mail, or were handed out at events. It should come as no surprise as to what is in the Archives. We have to thank a few people with foresight and a sense of community for retaining these items. If by some miracle the long-awaited dream of a Goan Centre materializes, we will be the first in line donating books to their Library expenses. These are not that high – but Goan Archives Canada is not in the business of fundraising. This has to come from community organizations.

10. ML: What about the next Phase?

CD: The Archives will still be open for receiving new items. We think we have gleaned more than 90% of items from Goan organizations and may be more selective henceforth. It is in the personal memoirs and family history section, where we could always do with new material. This will help building a genealogy base for the future. The problem of placing archived material on-line is a matter of funding, from Goan organizations or family endowments. Until this is in place, Phase II will be on the backburner.

11. ML: Cecil, you have given the Goan public much to think about. Let's hope Phase II will soon be burning bright for all concerned.

Thank You Cecil.

This interview can also be accessed on this link:

[http://www.goanvoice.ca/2010/issue10/goanarchives\\_interview.htm](http://www.goanvoice.ca/2010/issue10/goanarchives_interview.htm)

**GOAN VOICE**  
www.goanvoice.ca



## Family Day at PAMA



**February 18th 2013**, Goan Archives Canada Inc. were offered by PAMA, to stage a cultural component to compliment the Archives contribution on the opening day, February 18th 2013, with a traditional Goan cultural dance, dress fashion show and lancers dance performances. Due to time limit constraints and logistics, it was not feasible to showcase C.L.R. G.O.A. and T.E.G.S.A. Unfortunately, it had to be called off for a future date, should another occasion arise, where we can video and record our cultural heritage for posterity to be placed with our material at PAMA. Letters of apology were sent out to our three sister participating organizations expressing our disappointment.

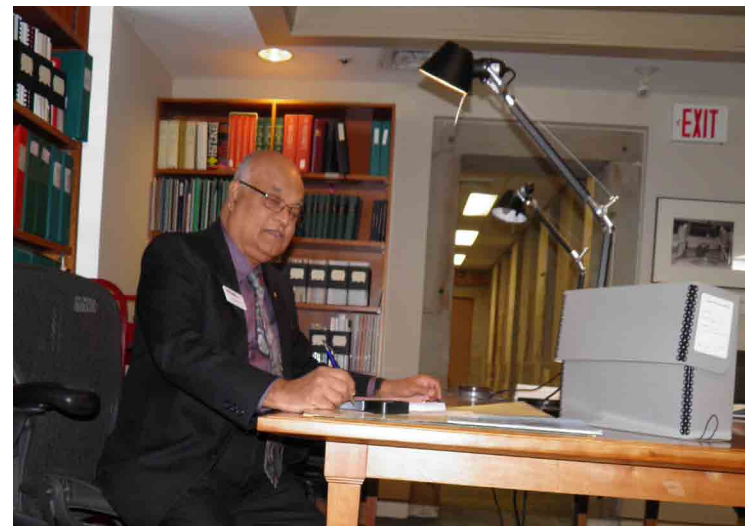


Photo by Mr. Darryl De Guerra

Family Day ( Public Holiday) in Ontario was the opening of the "ARCHIVES" component of PEEL ART GALLERY, MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES, complex in Brampton, Ontario. Goan Archives Canada were invited to participate in the display of their donated material housed with PAMA. Mr. Cecil D'Cruz, President and Mr. Maurice Pinto, members of Goan Archives Canada Inc., volunteered to man the section at the Reading Room location, which was opened to the public. February 18th, being a Family Day, parents with children were able to view the artefacts on display and realize the contribution of new immigrants to the Canadian Mosaic.



Photo by Mrs. Rachel Pinto



## Tracing our Goan Roots in Canada

(Goan Archives Videos by Uvy Lopes)

The Goan Archives videos can be seen on the **YouTube** Website:

Tracing our Goan Roots in Canada

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uo62aj8u7Gk>

Goan Archives Steering Committee's 2009/2010 Part 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eY0-uENzQ-I>

Goan Archives Steering Committee's 2009/2010 Part 2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2qxEcUNZg>

Goan Community Canada - 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8abFkli01U>

Goan Archives Canada Passage Project Feb 2011 Uvy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P79FrVTLc9Q>

Journey into Hope - Maurice J. Pinto June 18th, 2012

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVmSAPgkgO8&feature=plcp>

Goan Archives Canada - Lancers @ Roy Thompson's - Uvy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3aJovdAkA8w>

Goan Archives Canada - Lancers(5Acts) @ TEGSA's Xmas Dance, Dec 2005 - Uvy.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvX2s32f2oE>

Goan Archives Canada Lancers(5Acts) @ TEGSA 2005 Uvy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuxoC5FujGw>

## Goan Seniors do the heavy lifting- sorting & classifying collection Goan Archives Workshop Feb 26, 2011

### Background

Since its inception in 2009 Goan Archives Canada (GACC) amassed more than 500 items from appeals to the Goan public and two open houses, one on Nov 11, 2009 in the East End, and one at Square One Mississauga in Jan 2010.

GAC was faced with the task of sorting and classifying the collection for the archives.

The problem was getting a weekend workspace. This seemed impossible until Vivien Fernandes came to the rescue and used her connections with the Square One Older Adult Centre to let GAC use their small boardroom on a Saturday morning.

### The Workshop

Vivien then went on to recruit volunteers from the **Goan Cultural Group** who meet at the Square One Older Adult Centre. The team included her sisters, Tina Walker & Joan Rebello, Joyce and Pliny Noronha, Blance Monteiro, Stafford Laurente, and Dominic De Souza. Taskmaster was John J. D'Souza of GAC.

The group was organized into three teams:

**The Sorting team** – Ex-school teachers Joyce & Stafford assisted by Joan. Their task was involved going to each item, assigning a category, and the box in which it was to be archived.

**The Data Entry team** – Pliny, Blanche, & Vivien. Their task was to take the items from the sorting team and manually record them for entry in a database.

**The Packing team** – Tina & Dominic

Their first task was to assemble and place items in one of 12 banker boxes. (These were temporary, later to be replaced "acid free boxes")

**The Photo team** of Uvy Lopes and Maurice Pinto who dropped in at the start to take a few photos and offer encouragement.

### Special thanks to

**Dominic De Souza** for bringing the van and for bringing and carting away items.

**Vivien Fernandes** for getting the OAC Board Room.

The three sisters **Vivien, Tina, & Joan** who spent time Friday evening with the shopping for snacks and lunch and came early to make preparations.



Aerotours

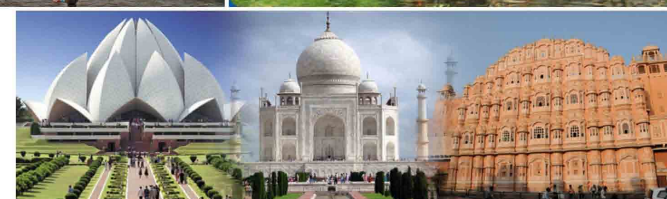
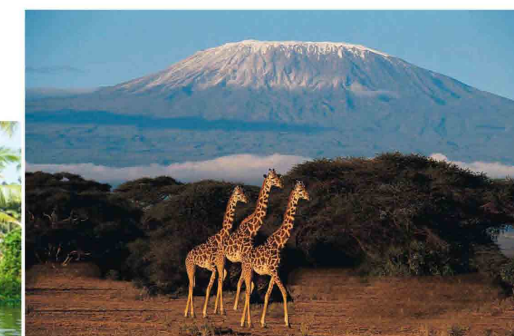
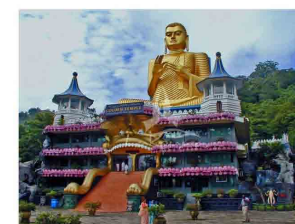


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Email [aerotours@hotmail.ca](mailto:aerotours@hotmail.ca) Website: [www.aerosafaris.com](http://www.aerosafaris.com)

### Goan Cultural Group

Square One Older Adult Centre  
100 City Centre Drive,  
P.O. Box 2214,  
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 2C9  
[http://www.sq1oac.com/index\\_files/P  
age350.htm](http://www.sq1oac.com/index_files/Page350.htm)  
Located in Square One  
Shopping Centre

A Centre, operated by and for  
Mississauga's Older Adult Residents who are 50+  
years of age, which provides social, health,  
educational and recreational opportunities to  
enhance their quality of life.

The Goan Cultural Group (GCG) founded in 2008, is  
an opportunity for the many Goan Seniors in the  
West GTA to meet on a regular basis and join in  
activities such as Truque, Line Dancing, Konkani  
Conversation, and socializing.

The GCG meets Wednesdays 6:30pm - 9:00pm

For more information contact:  
Saby Carvalho (905) 281 1213 or  
Thelma D'Souza (905) 828 9243

*Our Thanks to*



...for being our Partners in Progress

Maurice & Rachel Pinto  
Cecil & Gracie D'Cruz  
Giles & Lynette Noronha  
Zulema De Souza

Dr. Colin Saldanha

Placido & Olga Madeira  
Andrew & Philomena Telles  
Anonymous  
Bernard & Flavia Dos Remedios  
Peter & Violet Azavedo  
Anonymous  
Blanche De Souza  
Charles & Zita D'Cruz  
Claude & Amy Gomes  
Darryl De Guerra  
Domingos & Mila Mendes  
Dominic & Louella Misquitta  
Edwin & Yvette Da Costa  
Elias & Barbara Diniz  
Elsie & Hilary Fernandes  
Francis & Lucy Fernandes  
Francis & Cybele Noronha  
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Inter-Connections Canada Inc  
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Lazarus & Celine Pereira  
Mabel Menezes  
Muriel & Patrick Lucas  
Phil & Elaine Dias  
Priya & Richard Dias  
Regina (Gina) Fonseca  
Rita Lobo  
Roque Barreto  
Sal Rocha  
Sharon & Paul LaPointe  
Stafford & Bella Laurente  
Theresa De Souza  
Terence & Yukiko Pinto  
Tina Walker  
Tolentina & Tony Fernandes.  
Tony & Marfie Fernandes  
Uvy & Mira Lopes  
Vivien & Tony Fernandes  
John Sui  
Doris, David & Carl DaSilva  
Rita & Nelson McCrossan  
Mozina & Gary Noronha

Funds Donated By Contributors  
And Committee Members  
Years 2010/2011

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## GOAN ARCHIVES CANADA INC., 2009-2013

**August 7th, 2009:** The Goan Archives Canada, Inc. was founded by Mr. Cecil D'Cruz, Mr. John D'Souza, Mr. Claude Gomes, Mr. Uvy Lopes and Mr. Lazarus Pereira. A year later, on August 23, 2010, it was registered in Ontario as a non-profit organization, referred to hereafter as GAC. The purpose of GAC is to collect material from Goan organizations and individuals (which document the history of important landmarks in the Goan Community in Canada), and to archive them, thus preserving them for posterity.

The main GAC project, "Tracing our Roots" is now a reality with the archiving of Goan heritage records at the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives, (PAMA) in 2012.

**September 14th, 2009:** Ms. Muriel Lucas and Mr. Maurice Pinto joined the founding group as committee members, bringing with them their experience, talent and new ideas.



Ms. Muriel Lucas & Mr. Maurice Pinto seated on the right



**November 11th, 2009:** The first official Open House was launched at the Holy Rosary Church Hall in Scarborough, Ontario. Mr Ben Antao, a Goan author, donated his books and articles to be added to the collection. Thanks to Ms. Bridget D'Souza, Ms. Dora Noronha and Andrew Telles for assisting at this Open House (see Goan Voice Canada newsletter dated 21 Nov. 2009, issue # 24).

**January 20th, 2010:** The second Open House was held at the Older Adult Centre, (OAC), at Square One, in Mississauga, Ontario. The event was organized by Mr. John D'Souza, with the aid of GAC committee members and with Ms. Tina Walker and Ms. Vivien Fernandes assisting at the front desk (see Goan Voice Canada newsletter dated 30 Jan. 2010, issue # 03).



2nd from left (light grey jacket) is Senator Salma Ataullahjan, and the gentleman on the far right is Mr. Jeff Trinh

**August 27th, 2010:** Through Ms. Zulema D'Souza, GAC members were introduced to the "Ties That Bind" launch which explored the history of Chinese-Canadians and which was funded by the federal government. The GAC objective became to emulate this achievement, with a focus on capturing the oral history of Goan seniors, recording their experiences in Canada and placing them in the University of Toronto Library. In this regard, GAC made initial contacts, but sadly, lacked funding to continue further.

**September 9th, 2010:** Maurice Pinto arranged for the GAC committee members to meet with Dr. Colin Saldanha, at his health centre in Mississauga, Ontario. This meeting culminated with Dr. Saldanha becoming the main GAC sponsor.



Dr. Saldanha, Mrs. Zulema 'Souza & Mr. Cecil D'Cruz

**September 29th, 2010:** Mrs. Zulema D'Souza, attended and organized GAC members to meet with Mr. Carl Thorpe and Ms. Julia Lum of the Historical Society of Canada, Ontario. The committee gained valuable experience and insight which helped us obtain future financial grants.



Ms. Julia Lum, Mr. Uvy Lopes, Mrs. Zulema D'Souza, Mr. Carl Thorpe, Mr. Claude Gomes, Mr. Cecil D'Cruz & Ms. Muriel Lucas

**October 15th, 2010:** GAC applied for the Multi-cultural grant, with supporting letters from the Historical Society of Ontario, 55 Plus Goan Seniors Association (55PGA), Toronto East Goan Seniors Association (TEGSA), Celaz Printing and Shooting Stars & Images. Unfortunately, the application was not successful due to a lack of an ethno-cultural mix and interaction with other groups, these being the main criteria for the grant.

**November 18th, 2010:** Mr. Maurice Pinto introduced GAC committee members, Mr. Cecil D'Cruz, Mr. Uvy Lopes and Ms. Muriel Lucas to Mr. Dominic Misquitta who was his protégé and a staunch supporter of GAC. Mr. Misquitta, the business owner of "Smart Tech Auto Service" in Mississauga, Ontario gave the GAC members a tour of his facility and the members commended him on his entrepreneurial spirit in this land of opportunity.



The GAC committee with Mr. Dominic Misquitta



The GAC committee with Ms. Diane Allengame & Mr. Brian Gilchrist

**December 13th, 2010:** First successful meeting with archivists, Ms. Diane Allengame and Mr. Brian Gilchrist, from the former Peel Heritage Complex, now known as PEEL ART GALLERY, MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES (PAMA), in their multi-million dollar complex in Brampton. The storage of the Goan heritage collection at this facility is a major accomplishment, achieved initially without any community financial support and zero financing from government.

In the eyes of the management of PAMA, this is a feat unequalled by any other ethnic organization in Ontario. They extended their full-fledged support towards the GAC endeavour since they regarded the approximately 450 items that were collected from more than 40 Goan organizations, as a priceless treasure. One of the primary GAC requirements was to sign a "Deed of Gift" legal document, which transfers ownership of the records to the Regional Municipality of Peel. This led to a final meeting with the full complement of GAC staff members present. At this time, GAC met with the new Archivist Mr. Kyle Neill and with Ms. Diane Allengame.

**February 26th, 2011:** Through the diligent efforts of Mr. John D'Souza, his team of volunteers and workshop projects at the OAC at Square One, Mississauga, the collected items were sorted, boxed and made for transfer to PAMA.



GAC with Ms. Tina Walker

**June 4th, 2011:** At the 55PGA Goa Fest, GAC hosted an information booth to impart and hand out information to the public in attendance at this event.

**June 18th, 2011:** Mr. John J. D'Souza of GAC did the set up for an information booth at the Thiatr (Goan Concert) organized by Lourdino Rodrigues.

**June 26th, 2011:** GAC attended TEGSA'S "Taste of Goa" event, held at Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School, in Midland, Ontario. Holy Mass began at 11:00 a.m. followed by a welcome speech and a "Meet and Greet" of those present. It was supported by Vendors' stalls selling delicious Goan delites, followed by a variety show and a medley of Konkani, Indian and Portuguese songs.

**November 2nd, 2011:** Through kind courtesy of John and Marian Lopes, some of the GAC-PAMA meetings were held at their premise's meeting room and were attended by PAMA archivist, Mr. Brian Gilchrist. The final meeting with Mr. Gilchrist detailed how to handle the many aspects to ensure a smooth transition of the GAC collection. There were many specific requirements to be completed before the collection could be finally housed at PAMA, including the requirement to store the collection in **acid free boxes**, which are quite costly.



GAC with Mr. Brian Gilchrist



With Mr. Kyle Neill & Ms. Diane Allengame

Following this, Mr. Cecil D'Cruz, Mr. Uvy Lopes, Mr. Maurice Pinto and Ms. Muriel Lucas, met again with both Archivists, Ms. Diane Allengame and Mr. Kyle Neill, to finally sign our legal contract to house our

collection at PAMA October 3rd 2012. We are happy to report that these items have now been successfully archived in Acid Free Boxes at PAMA in Brampton.

**February 21st, 2012:** One of the highlights of the GAC member’s term was a Meet and Greet “PASSAGES PROJECT” held at the Bayleaf Restaurant, Mississauga.



Ms. Denyse Churchill

More than 50 members of the Goan community attended and participated in relating their stories via interviews conducted by Ms. Denyse Churchill, from PAMA. The interviews centred on a 250 word description of an item of special interest to the participant, along with a supporting photograph taken by Ms. Churchill which can be viewed on the PAMA website. Members of the Goan community still have the opportunity to contribute an article of their choice “online” to be preserved for posterity under the “Passages” Project.



Dr. Colin Saldanha

This event was also attended by our guest and primary benefactor, Dr. Colin Saldanha and his wife Sheila. Dr. Colin addressed the gathering and articulated a strong and clear message to a resounding applause (read speech on pg.26 for details).

**July 2012:** In collaboration with TEGSA as co-partners, GAC received two grants, an Ontario Trillium Grant of \$1100 and the other for \$4600 from the New Horizon Seniors program, which helped carry out our mission statement as posted on our website.

**October 3rd, 2012:** Mr. Cecil D’Cruz, Mr. Uvy Lopes, Mr. Maurice Pinto and Ms. Muriel Lucas met with the archivists, Ms. Diane Allengame and Mr. Kyle Neill, to sign the legal contract to house the collection at PAMA. The GAC committee is happy to report that the collected items have now been successfully archived in acid free boxes at PAMA, in Brampton.

**October 20th, 2012:** Mr. Nick DeMello and Mr. Thomas Francis, held a luncheon event at Konkani Delite, Mississauga, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the expulsion of “Uganda Asians” by dictator General Idi Amin of the East African country of Uganda. Members of GAC (namely Maurice Pinto, Muriel Lucas and Uvy Lopes) supported the luncheon and displayed the GAC banner at this historical event.

Also invited to the event was Mr. Mike Molloy, President of the Canadian Immigration Historical Society, Ottawa. Mr. Molloy was one of the Immigration Officers sent to Uganda in 1972 to expedite, under a 90-day deadline, the processing of the expellees wishing to migrate to Canada. A sizable number of the expellees were Goans. Details of this event are documented by Mr. Roger St. Vincent in his diary “The Seven Crested Cranes”. Mr. Maurice Pinto who was on the first flight of expellees arriving in Canada has donated a copy of this book to the GAC. This book is of significant historical importance both personally to Mr. Pinto and culturally to all Goans. The book is now archived in the Goan Archives Canada collection with PAMA in Brampton for posterity.



Mr. Eric De Souza & Mr. Michael Molloy



GAC with Mr. Michael Molloy

**February 18, 2013:** On Family Day (a Statutory Holiday in Ontario), the “ARCHIVES” component of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives was opened. GAC members were invited to participate in the display of their donated material (read page 10 for details).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Ms. Melanie D’Lima** in assisting us in getting registered as a non-profit organization.

**Mr. Anthony Saldanha** C.G.A for checking our accounting records and doing the GAC Financial Statements gratis covering the years from 2009 to the present 2013.

**Mr. Louis Gomes Pereira** for designing this 2nd edition of GAC Reference Report.

**Mr. Eddie Fernandes** (editor) Goan Voice UK for his support and displaying the newsletter annual messages and other articles and pictures on the site.

# Letters Of APPRECIATION

March 24th. 2013

Mr. Cecil D'Cruz  
Chairman,  
Goan Archives Canada Inc.

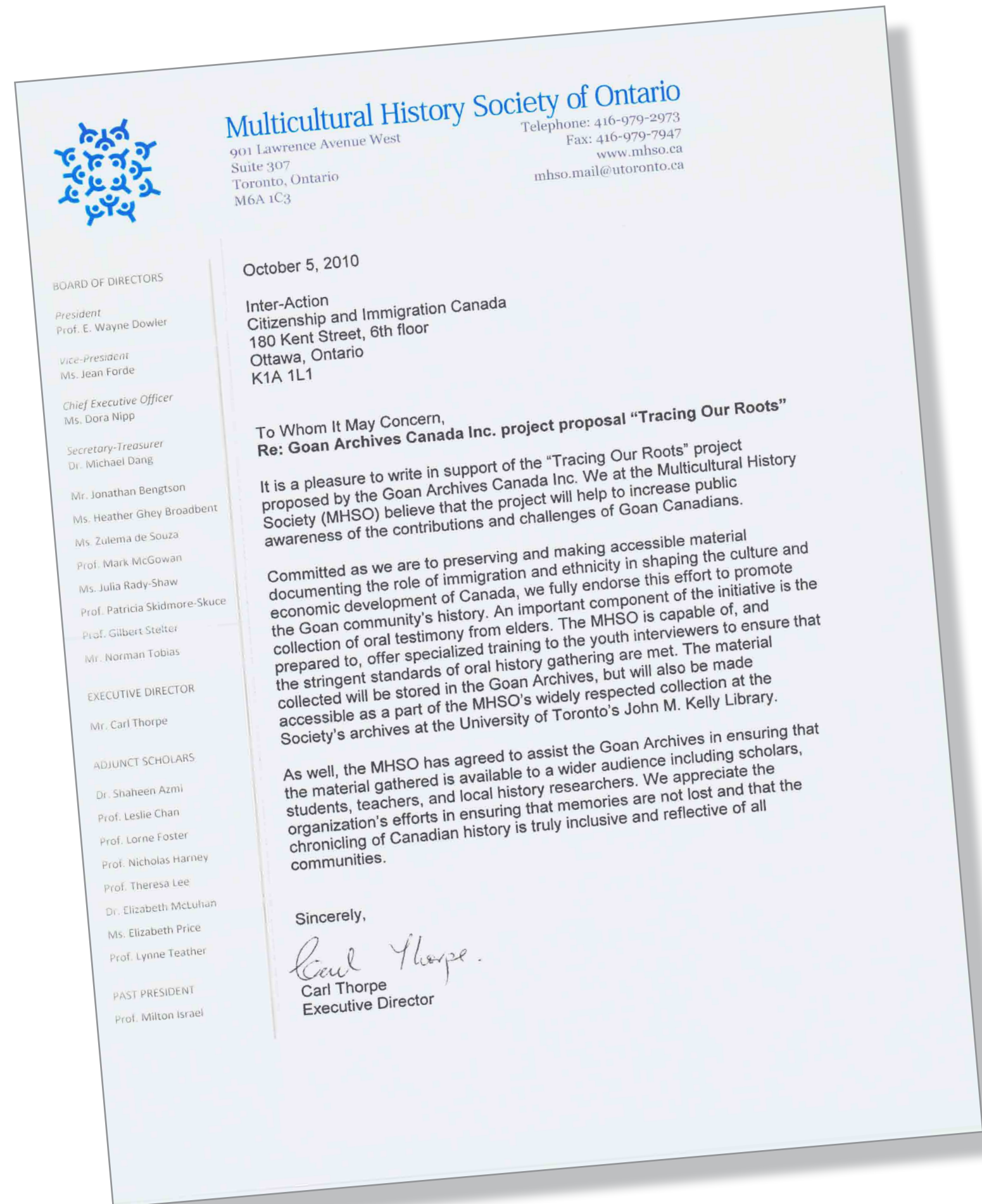
Dear Cecil,

I would like to express, on behalf of my family, our great appreciation of the dedicated work which you, Mr. Uvy Lopes, Mr. Maurice Pinto and the rest of your committee members, have put in to create and preserve a History of the Goan Community in Canada. I am quite certain that at some time in the future, a young member of our Community will be working on a project which requires research and will find that the records that you and your team have so painstakingly assembled, of great value.

I had the opportunity of speaking with Mr. Michael Molloy, who was closely involved with the 1972 Uganda Exodus, in October 2012, and he told me how impressed he was of the fine work done in the creation of the Goan Archives Canada project.

With Best Wishes,

Eric De Souza.





The Canadian Immigration Historical Society  
La Société Historique De L'Immigration Canadienne  
C.P. / P.O. Box 9502, Station T, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3V2 (613) 733-1074  
8 December 2012

Mr. Cecil D'Cruz  
Chairman  
Goan Archives Canada

Dear Mr. D'Cruz,

As you know I had the pleasure of meeting with many of the Goan community in October on the occasion of a talk marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ugandan Asian Refugee Movement.

I was a member of the team sent to Kampala by Prime Minister Trudeau in the fall of 1972 to select for resettlement in Canada Asian Ugandans being expelled by the regime of President Idi Amin. If I recall correctly approximately 500 Goan families came to Canada at that time and it has been a source of pride for me to see how well those people and their descendants have done since their arrival here.

I was particularly impressed to witness the fine work that has gone into the creation of the Goan Archives Canada project. The Canadian Immigration Historical Society is dedicated to stimulating interest in and furthering the appreciation and understanding of the influence of immigration on Canada's development and position in the world. The Goan Archive Canada project should serve as an example to other Canadian communities.

To the volunteers who have made the Archive a reality I would like to extend our congratulations for their initiative and their sense of responsibility in preserving the history of the Goan Community not only for Canadian Goans but for the benefit of all Canadians.

Michael Molloy  
President  
Canadian Immigration Historical Society



May 1st 2013.

The Chairman,  
Mr Cecil D'Cruz  
Goan Archives Canada Inc.

Congratulations to you and your steering committee for taking the initiative in 2009, to archive our community's contribution to Canada instead of ignoring it.

Our early pioneers from the Goan community started migrating to this great country from all over the World in the late sixties when the immigration policies were becoming more liberal.

We cannot know who we are without knowing where we came from and the difficulties we had to endure. Each one of us, have our own personal story to tell. By recording the events, that brought us to these shores in the first place is of importance because of transcending our comfort zone into the unknown and surmounting our challenges.

This recording can be achieved either orally or by the written word which makes part of "HIS - STORY". to be preserved for posterity, in a secure and environmentally friendly facility. You have done a yeoman's job by partnering with a credible organisation like "The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives"-PAMA in Brampton.

The Region of Peel, is rapidly changing it's demographics because of various immigrant groups and especially of the South Asians in Canada, this will have an impact on scholars, historians and social planners for accessible research material.

Goan Archives Canada has been acclaimed to be the first South Asian Group to have archived their religious, historical and cultural contribution to Canada and to be considered "Trailblazers" for other groups to emulate with their digitized material.

My grand children and great grand children will someday want to know my migratory travel and what made me leave my ancestral home in Goa, India and seek domiciled Canadian citizenship and for them acquiring it here by birthright without knowing where their ancestors have come from.

Almost forty years ago, Canada accepted 6000 Ugandan Asians expelled by the Ugandan Dictator Gen. Idi Amin of whom I was one, because of ethnic cleansing.

I documented my arrival in Canada from Day 1, knowing fully well that I would one day write "My Memoirs" for my grand children.

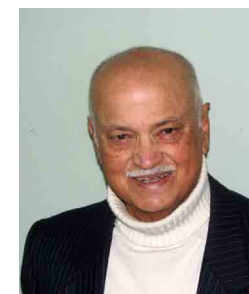
In 2009, Having miraculously recovered from a near death experience, due to a medical mishap and a two and a half year hospital stay, I felt compelled to conclude my memoirs "MY JOURNEY INTO HOPE". Fortunately I found a niche for it in the donated material to the Goan Archives Canada, which was formed specifically for the purpose and was recently exhibited at the PAMA opening on February 18th, 2013 to the general public.

The path to the future is an extension of the road we have travelled and I have travelled that path.

Thanks to you and your far-sighted committee for making it happen.

"I HAVE TOLD MY STORY" and you have archived it.

Maurice J. Pinto





**GOAN ARCHIVES CANADA INC.  
Passages Project-Bayleaf Restaurant  
February 21st, 2011**

Guest of Honour - Dr Colin Saldanha's quoted speech at the "PASSAGES PROJECT " initiated by PAMA (See Page 20 in "Achievements")

*"I would like to compliment the leaders gathered here for their initiative in organizing and promoting the Goan Archives of Canada.*

*I am delighted to see that you have been able to raise a reasonable amount of funds for this worthy project. It is true, however, that you always need more for ambitious projects such as this. I am confident that the Goan community will support you in this worthwhile endeavour. I am particularly pleased to see that there is collaboration between the Goan Archives Canada and Peel Heritage. Collaboration of this kind will go a long way in enhancing the quality of our history. I understand that you are the first South Asian group to be heading in this direction, attempting to preserve one's heritage. It is important that we embark on this project, because if we were to work as individuals, not much can be achieved.*

*Our Goan History is rich, we should be proud of it and we must have the resolve to ensure that we pass this on to our younger generation and to the Canadian community at large.*

*I think it is commendable to do things within our own community, however, we have come of age as Canadians that we need to go out and champion other Canadian social justice issues, in doing so always providing a Goan value oriented perspective to all our undertakings and initiatives.*

*I want to challenge each one of you, as community leaders, to be engaged in Canadian society and speak to the preservation of our history and the strengthening of our religious, social and cultural values.*

*As Goans, we must be engaged and productive citizens of Canada and the World.*

*I wish you well and God bless."*

## THOUGHTS OF A SUPPORTER



BY ARMAND RODRIGUES

*As we inch inexorably forward in the declining years of our lives, a backward glance will reveal a milestone that may not have received the fitting recognition it should have garnered. Cecil D'Cruz and his team took the commendable initiative of spearheading the formation of the GOAN ARCHIVES PROJECT, in 2009. An impressive collection of seminal material has been gathered over the last few years, and constitutes a valuable resource for posterity. It would be an understatement to say that we, Goans at large, can be complacent or indifferent to a worthy cause such as this, without giving deliberate thought to its noble objectives.*

*As an unabashed pack-rat myself, I have tended to "save" and hoard printed material of all descriptions, for years. Some inner urge compels me to save and accumulate things without a second thought as to why I do so. Even if a wayward nut, screw, bolt or nail crosses my path, you can be certain that it will be added to my growing collection. After sober reflection one could only realize that, devoid of any rationale, such a habit was not conducive at all to de-cluttering.*

*For me, the Goan Archives Project made its debut at an opportune time. It was quite a relief to "offload" a fair amount of my printed- matter collection, on to the promising shoulders of this entity, expressly in the interests of the greater good.*

*It is a sad commentary of our times that the younger generation of today seem to be preoccupied with contending priorities and pay scant attention to the small but significant contribution that, we, their forbears, have made to the fabric of this our beloved country of adoption. We know from history that one day they or their progeny will waken up to and discover a treasure trove in the Goan Archives of Canada. It is precisely for such an "eureka" moment that the efforts of the GAP committee today will pay dividends in the future.*

*Only time will tell how this repository plays out as a searchable resource.*

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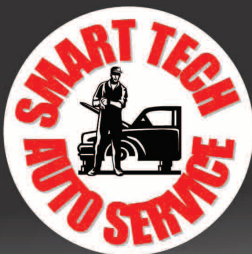
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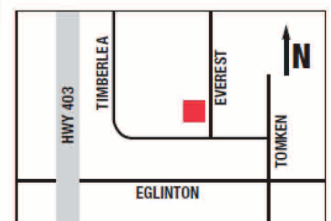


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