

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
**GUJARAT PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF
CANADA**



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DIWALI EVENT NEWSLETTER

Gujarat Public Affairs Council of Canada (GPAC) is a premier not-for-profit organization which was formed with the vision of "Together we will achieve a better and prosperous future; economically, culturally and socially.

To celebrate the festival of Diwali and Hindu New Year, GPAC planned a extravagant event with live music entertainment, Bollywood dances, raffle draws, speeches by Chief Guests at EST Banquet Hall in Etobicoke on November 16th, 2019 from 6pm.



The Annual New Year & Diwali Gala Night

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Her Excellency Consul General of India (Toronto), Mrs. Apoorva Srivastava and His worship Mayor of Brampton, Patrickbhai Brown were event's Guest of Honor. Infrastructure Minister of Alberta, Prasad Panda, MP and former Minister Kirsty Duncan also attended the event. His highness Premier Doug Ford , MPP Deepak Anand, His worship Mayor of Toronto, John Tory and Mayor of Ahmedabad, Mrs. Bijal Patel sent their letter of Appreciation to GPAC. Former Gujarat Gaurav Awardees and Board Members as well as all Advisory Council members were in attendance

Event started with Deep Pragatya, followed by National Anthems of Canada and India. Dhaval Vediya, President of GPAC addressed the 575+ audience at the spectacular venue. The guest were welcomed by Diwali specialties like Mathiya/Fafda (Deep foods) & Penda/Kajukatri. President's speech reiterated that GPAC is an umbrella organization for 430,000 Gujaratis in GTA and we all should unite to make it even stronger.

He also introduced 6 new female members and also 5 new members who signed up. Dhaval thanked "Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce - CIBC" who was the lead Sponsor for this event. Thanks to all 35 sponsors who made this event special, there was a scroll on 4 different screens. CGI, Apoorvaji addressed the audience and provided some additional information about the programs led by CGI and govt. of India. Mayor Patrickbhai also addressed the audience & informed about his Gujarat connection and welcomed GPAC to Brampton

- 1) INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY**
- 2) PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER FOUNDATION
ENDORSEMENT AND DONATIONS (VIJAY PANDYA,
EX-DIRECTOR)**
- 3) REDUCTION OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC (LED BY
PM SHRI NARENDRA MODI)**

Directors' Involvement:

Bhupendra Raval, Nayan Brahmbhatt, Bhavik Parikh & Jitendra Vyas were on the stage for felicitation, connecting with the community, coordination and overall leadership. Event committee comprised of Jignesh Patel Secretary, Event Chair- Rajesh Shah, Rajesh Brahmbhatt (VP) and Rajnikant Patel who led the event execution



Dancers Rutvi & Suhangi Brahmbhatt



Event was emcee'd by Jaimin and Hiral who made the entire event very interactive. Bollywood Tunes orchestra entertained the crowd of 575+ people with their awesome music and singing by Sunil Patel.

There were Bollywood dance performances which was enjoyed by the crowd to the fullest. There were 7 raffle prizes, first prize was Apple watch

EST banquet hall served starters, appetizers, sumptuous dinner followed by desserts. Then the dance floor was opened for all, so the community danced on the tunes of live orchestra and had so much fun.

Media team was felicitated by the Board. The event was supported and advertised by all the media channels – Gujarat Weekly, Gujarat Abroad, Swadesh & Gujarat Newslane. Superb Videography and photography was done by Paras Parikh and his team.

We have begun promoting GPAC as the umbrella organization for Gujaratis on social media with weekly to bi-weekly posts bringing in more likes and shares. We are trying to get more advertisements and articles in Gujarati media. Please help us to promote GPAC in your social circles by liking our Facebook page and following us on Twitter.

A student seminar/student database repository in December will have the potential of bringing in information from students coming to Canada. We will plan for a business meeting early next year.

ANECDOTAL FEEDBACK FROM THE EVENT

There was feedback regarding Audio system effectiveness for the last 3-4 rows which we have taken a note, informed Sunil Patel and will ensure better audio going forward. We added 2 more speakers right before the event but it did not help. We apologize for any inconvenience.

"Congratulations, It was very good event"

- Lalitbhai Thaker (Member and Media)

"Congratulations Job well done, Great efforts by entire committee, Keep up good work.

Best regards"

- Haresh Mehta (Advisor)



Volunteers Tanishka Dave and Sunny Patel pictured with Dhaval Vediya and Pranav Patel

"Dear President & Directors, Kindly allow me to congratulate all of you for such a wonderful & one of the most successful event ever; I must applaud your strategic planning and dedicated hard work. Each and every guest recognized your positive team work. Today you have achieved a great milestone. We are highly obliged for all your endeavours. Best wishes always."

Yours truly

Pranav Patel (Patron)

"Congratulations to Entire Team of GPAC for hard work. Great decision by committee not to keep / serve the hard drink in the event to maintain the discipline and cultural heritage"

- Bhavesh Bhatt (Ex President)

Dhavalbhai. It was very well managed event. I can see lots of hard work. Kudos to whole team. "

- Bharatbhai Chavda (Advisor)

"Thank you It was very nice program with all your and GPAC committee members hard work." - Tony Panchal (Advisor)



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VOLUNTEER EFFORT

Special Thank You to all those who have given their time and energy in the needed capacity to assist in the creation of this event. The volunteers include:

Tanishka Dave, Nimit Vediya, Kush Shastri, Nishant Patel, Sunny Patel, Rutvi Brahmbhatt, Suhangi Brahmbhatt, Hemang Brahmbhatt, Sarvil Barot, Hiral Shah, Devanshi Shah, Devarsh Shah, Jeenal Shah, Yashas Mehta, and Aaryan Brahmbhatt.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy."
- Rabindranath Tagore



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