

SIWEC Newsletter

Sikh Welfare Council, Singapore

September 2010



Welcome to the new SIWEC newsletter!

We are very excited to bring to you this new quarterly newsletter that would allow us to connect with you more frequently. The primary goal of our newsletter will be to engage and share with you recent & forthcoming events as well as to hear from you on how you may want to get involved in our activities.

We have been considering this for some time now and have been contemplating on the best way to reach out to the community at large - as it seems that casual communication is unable to keep everyone informed about what is going on. We finally decided to keep it in an electronic format so that we could post this in our web site and send it out via emails. This way, if you find something you would like to share with others you can simply forward the newsletter to them.

The newsletter will be released on a quarterly basis - with this being the first. You will receive the newsletter via an email when each new newsletter is put on the website. We are also working in parallel to revamp the SIWEC website to improve service delivery and we hope to get this done soon. This first issue of the newsletter focuses on: recent activities, "What's Happening" in the next three months and sharing the changes in the "Food on the Table program".

This is your newsletter and we look forward to your valuable feedback and recommendations on it. Please suggest topics to be covered in future issues.

What We Do

The Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) is a charity with an IPC status ("Institutions of a Public Character"), which formulates overall policies in respect of welfare services in Singapore.

SIWEC OBJECTIVES & INITIATIVES

To carry out and manage welfare schemes in the form of relief, financial assistance, health, education, housing or any other help.

These objectives are achieved via these initiatives:

- Formulating and implementing welfare policies;
- Working with government and non-government agencies on welfare-related matters.

SUPPORT SERVICES

- Family Support, Financial Assistance & Counselling
- Hospital Visits Programme
- Family Bereavement Assistance
- Prison and Drug Addicts Counselling & Rehabilitation

In This Issue

- **Launch of the online SIWEC newsletter**
 - **Recent Activities**
- 
- **What's Happening (upcoming)**
 - **Other News: Food On The Table**

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Flag Day

When: June 19, 7am – 9pm

Where: Island-wide



More than 700 volunteers took part in this highly successful island-wide Flag Day event. Volunteers were recruited from various institutions as well as via word of mouth, social media (FaceBook), etc.



We are pleased to report that \$55,753.55 was collected in the form of donations for the event. With an operational cost of \$3,274.44, \$52,326 was raised for SIWEC. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all volunteers for their invaluable help and contribution.

Charity Lunch

When: July 24, 11:45am – 3pm

Where: Yantra, Tanglin Mall

The Sikh Welfare Council held a fund-raising fashion luncheon 'Aa Dekhen Zaraa', which means, 'Come, let's see', to raise money for its various programmes and activities. Member of parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC Inderjit Singh, was the Guest of Honour.



This charity lunch helped to raise \$13,675.84. Special thanks goes to Mr. Inderjit Singh, as well as to notable contributors including Ms. Puran Kaur, Mr. Gurdip Usma, Mrs. Gill, Jinders, Cpt. Baldev, Mr. Lakhbir Singh and not forgetting all the volunteers who helped make the event such a success.

Other Activities

It is heartening to note that the community is getting together in various ways to assist SIWEC in its fund-raising efforts. Besides the Flag Day and Charity Lunch, contributions also came from the following:

- SKA Ladies Wing Walk – raised \$25,000
- Istri Sat Sang fund raising - \$25,000
- Welfare Days @ Gurdwaras
- Guru Harkrishan Day Sewa

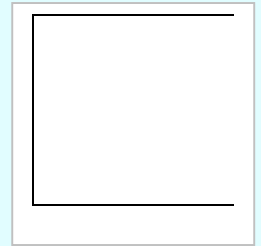


Mr. Inderjit Singh presenting a cheque to Mr. Gurdip Singh Usma for SIWEC's fund-raising event.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? Upcoming Activities

Singapore Racial Harmony Marathon

When: October 9 and 10
Start: Sri Guru Singh Sabha, 6pm (Oct 9)
Finish: Gurdwara Katong, 10am (Oct 10)
Organisers: Sikh Welfare Council & MCYS (IRCC)



About the Marathon

The Racial and Religious Harmony Marathon Relay aims to use sports to spread the message of racial and religious harmony among the various communities in Singapore.

The event is jointly organised by the Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) and The Ministry of Community Development: Youth and Sports (MCYS).

The participation for the event is to include from all communities in Singapore and various institutions and we are hoping for a higher turnout this year.

The overnight run will begin at Sri Guru Singh Sabha at Wilkie Road and end at Gurdwara Katong at Wilkinson Road. The route is shown in the map below. For details, please contact SIWEC.



For more information about the route, please call SIWEC.

Changing The Food Rations Scheme To Monthly NTUC FairPrice Food Vouchers



As SIWEC continues to work towards improving in meeting the community needs, a number of the existing programs are been reviewed by SIWEC committee on how the services can be further enhanced in terms of being more efficient and effective.

One of the services that has been reviewed is the "Food on the Table" scheme. The current Food for the Table scheme has been running for many years where arrangements are made to deliver dry food ration every 2 months to recipients.

From the feedback from the recipients of the scheme and also the ground checks made by SIWEC committee member it appears that whilst the recipients' basic dietary needs are taken care of, but however each of the recipients has different needs.

After extensive evaluation and deliberation, the SIWEC committee has decided to provide the recipients of the "Food for the Table" with NTUC FairPrice Food Vouchers instead of dry food ration. These NTUC FairPrice Food Vouchers are restricted to purchases of control items so as to ensure that purchases are made only for "appropriate and allowed" items. For the recipients, it would mean that they have a wider choice of items to select from and to purchase the quantity required and when needed.

The vouchers will be issued to the recipients on monthly basis where recipients can collect from the SIWEC office. For recipients with special needs, arrangements have been made to ensure that dry food ration will be continued to be delivered to them as before by the volunteers and welfare officers.

Other than this being more efficient and it is hoped that this will also increase the interaction between the recipients and SIWEC and hence allow SIWEC continue to better understanding the needs of the recipients SIWEC Committee will continue to monitor this very closely and refine the scheme further if required ensuring that the main objective of the 'Food on the Table' is achieved.



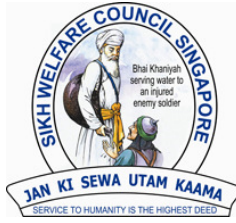
NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you are in crisis and need help urgently, call our 24-hour Hotline Number for assistance.

6299 9234

Sikh Welfare Council ~ Over a decade of serving the community's welfare needs.





SIWEC MC Members

S. Jagjit Singh Sekhon	Chairman
S. Gurdip Singh Usma	Vice Chairman
S. Amarjit Singh Wasan	Secretary
S. Jaspreet Singh Chabra	Assistant Secretary
S. Inderpal Singh	Treasurer
S. Balbeer Singh Mangat	Asst Treasurer
S. Dinesh Singh	Committee Member
S. Sarjit Kaur Gill	Committee Member
S. Manmohan Singh	Committee Member
S. Kawal Pal Singh	Committee Member
S. Surindar Singh	Committee Member

SIWEC Secretariat

Indrejit Kaur	Senior Welfare Officer
Ranjit Singh	Welfare Officer
Jyoti Singh	Administrative Officer

Correspondence

Sikh Welfare Council

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SKA building (level 4)
Singapore 217646.

How You Can Help

The Sikh Welfare Council is a Volunteer Welfare Organisation (VWO) that depends on the community for volunteers as well as the funds necessary to carry out its various assistance programmes.

We are presently assisting more than 60 deserving families on a regular basis so that they can tide over difficult times. Obviously, this requires a great deal of resources on the part of SIWEC. We would therefore like to appeal to the community at large to help us help the less fortunate. You can do this in various way, including:

- Giving a one-off donation (e.g. cheques, bank drafts, etc).
- Making a GIRO application to provide a monthly (recurring) donation. Please contact us for a GIRO Form.
- Making a Bequest (Will)
- Giving a Memorial Donation - *a thoughtful way to remember a loved one while giving support to others.*
- Volunteering your time and participating in our activities.

Give a Hand
To The Needy



Know someone who can benefit from this newsletter?
Please help to forward this newsletter.