



" I am very grateful to have had a hard-working committee and friends at MSBCA who have stepped up and helped me through this entertaining year. "

From the President's desk

I thought that things would slow down as we approach the end of summer and students prepare to go back to school but this was not the case at MSBCA.

From August 16-19, MSBCA members went camping at Mt. Kidd and to add flavor to the outing, a rafting trip down the Kananaskis River was arranged.

Sitting around the campfire and enjoying activities with friends and family made the weekend very special.

On the following weekend, MSBCA celebrated Malaysia's 50th anniversary of independence by hosting Merdeka Night for members.

The event was co-sponsored by the Malaysian High Commission who donated \$1000 towards the event. Cik Suzillah Mohd Sidek, the 2nd Secretary from the Malaysian High Commission - who represented the ambassador - flew in from Ottawa to attend the function.

The very tasty authentic Malaysian dishes, enthusiastic response from the members to the program and activities made the night grand.

Even the unexpected gesture of Anna and Ah Nga Bong donating a purple Orchid to MSBCA for the occasion was very touching.

The last event of the year was celebrated on September 8 - Volunteer

Appreciation Night. We had an enjoyable evening of good food and found MSBCA idols in Cliff and Jessie Son after a hard competition.

In closing, I would like to thank all volunteers who raised funds for the Children' Scholarship fund, for dancing and for all the activities that you supported throughout the year.

As I end my term as President of MSBCA, I can truly say it's been a very busy but fulfilling year.

I am very grateful to have had a hard-working committee and friends at MSBCA who have stepped up and helped me through this entertaining year.

Daniel

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Editorial — The challenges ahead



*"A club or association
— like any corporate
organization — faces
similar pressures,
challenges and
difficulties even though
their mandates may
differ."*



As yet another MSBCA annual general meeting rolls around the corner, I cannot help but reflect on the general direction and challenges that the club faces.

A club or association — like any corporate organization — faces similar pressures, challenges and difficulties even though their mandates may differ.

As I pen my final editorial, I believe that it is noteworthy to list three critical issues and where the solutions may lie.

First, there is the issue of opposing agendas amongst different groups. This will always exist as it is a by-product of human nature. Different people have different viewpoints, and as such, will have different interests, tastes, likes and dislikes. This is normal and to be expected.

However, if there is no willingness to compromise, this issue has the ability to destroy any organization from within, or worse yet, alienate groups of people to the extent that they decide to leave altogether. And if existing members leave, we need to discover why, and how things can be improved.

Second, there is the issue of continuity or succession. More often than not, one tends

to see the same people volunteering over and over again at club-organized events, or serving in committees. There is a dire need to have other members step up to the plate and participate. The MSBCA is *everyone's* club, and everyone should feel a connection to it, be part of it, contribute to it. Those who have not served in committees before should consider it, if able. If apathy sets in, as a community association, we might as well call it day and "close shop".

Third, and this is closely linked to the above, there's a need to get an increasing number of the younger members involved in the club and its activities. New blood is needed to infuse new ideas, enthusiasm and progressiveness into any association.

It's a little worrisome to see how the average age of most volunteers (e.g. the committee) is about 40 and above. There's also a need to address the recruiting of new members, whether from the founding countries or beyond.

On that note, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed articles, gave constructive comments and supported me during my 2-year tenure as editor. In the words of Albert Einstein, "imagination is more important than knowledge". Period. GH

Merdeka Night—Daniel Sario

As Malaysia celebrated its 50th Anniversary of Independence with extravagance and splendor, MSBCA Calgary decided that we also would have a party on a grand scale to commemorate the occasion.

Our MSBCA Chefs Lily and Julia cooked up a storm and served authentic local Malaysian dishes like Long Beans with fish cake, Kangkong

Belacan, Fish Curry, Sambal Prawns, Udang Masak Kicap and deep fried chicken wings.

Our dessert chefs Jill and Linda served Kueh Lapis, cassava and fruit. A fruitcake decorated in the colors of the Malaysian flag was also served for the occasion.

The evening began with the singing of the Malaysian national anthem,

followed by messages from the president of MSBCA and 2nd Secretary of the Malaysian High Commission, who represented the Ambassador. Following the speeches, dinner was served.

There were door prizes and trivia questions with glamorous gifts that kept the crowd entertained the whole night. Good job everyone!



Camping & Rafting — Photo gallery



Camping & Rafting — Daniel Sario

Most Calgarians take advantage of the natural beauty that we're blessed with in our backyards by going hiking or camping in the mountains. Thanks to Kim Roe who booked camping sites at Mt Kidd from Aug 16 - 19.

The campsite is set in the heart of beautiful Rocky Mountains, amidst clear flowing springs, vast lakes and colossal mountain ranges, providing

a very relaxed atmosphere.

As usual, MSBCA members brought along their cooking utensils and made themselves at home. Even Eric and Jesse, who were curious at how MSBCA campers were enjoying themselves, came out that Saturday evening to have dinner with the campers.

On Saturday afternoon, MSBCA also organized a rafting trip down

the Kananaskis River. We were told to put on wet suits and safety hats, which made some members quite anxious.

What a trip it was.

We paddled into gurgling rapids, turned the boat 180/360 degrees with instructions from our guide, to get the full effect of the ride while enjoying the scenery.



MSBCA Calendar
Sundays: Martial Arts & Tai Chi
(see update on this page)

August:

- 4 - Singapore's National Day celebration
- 16 to 19 - Camping @ Mt. Kidd in Kananaskis Country (please call Kim Roe @ 289-6096 or Jesse Cheah @ 274-3541 to book your spot)
- 25 - Malaysia's Merdeka Day celebration
- 25 - Golf Tournament — cancelled

September:

- 08 - MSBCA picnic @ Bowness Park. Venue may be moved to the Club. Details to be announced.

October:

- 13 - MSBCA AGM Luncheon meeting at the Club. Free for all, starting at 1pm. Please come and support the club.
- 27 - Halloween party. Details to be announced.

November 2007 - January 2008:

- Events to be announced

February 2008:

- 8 - Chinese New Year Dinner @ Regency Palace

Adults' Tai Chi & Kids' Kung-fu Classes

Please note that the last Tai Chi class for adults and Kung-fu class for kids (before breaking for summer) will be held on 17 June. Classes will resume in the Fall on 16 September.

See you then!

MSBCA Editor 2007/2008
(Paid Position)

The successful candidate shall:

- Have strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Have strong command of English and able to compose and write articles for the newsletter.
- Be proficient in organizing and laying out articles in the newsletter
- Attend MSBCA functions to take photographs and prepare articles for the newsletter.
- Be responsible for the advertising space/clients for the newsletter.
- Be responsible for the cost of printing and liaising with the printer.
- Be responsible for mailing out the newsletters to members (as well as folding, labeling and stamps)
- Be responsible for liaising with the webmaster.

Please submit your proposals and expectations to MSBCA secretary Ken Preston.



Marketplace—goods, services & other announcements



**MSBCA Fall 2007 Badminton Schedule
(excludes 28 Sept)**

- 14 Sep to 14 Dec (13 sessions)
- Every Friday night, 8 pm - 10 pm
- Venue: Talisman Centre

Cost:

- \$39/\$65 — single*
- \$117/\$195 — family*

MSBCA 2007 Badminton Tournament

- 28 Sep, \$10 per person
- Prize money for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place

**MSBCA Winter 2008 Badminton Schedule
(excludes 8 Feb & 21 Mar)**

- 11 Jan to 27 June (23 sessions)
- Every Friday night, 8 pm - 10 pm
- Venue: Talisman Centre

Cost:

- \$69/\$115 — single*
- \$207/\$345 — family*

*Note: The lower rates are for players who volunteer to organize for a Sunday fund raising lunch towards badminton. The higher rate still requires players to volunteer for at least 1 MSBCA event e.g. upcoming Casino on Mar 21 & 22.

Clubhouse Rental

Holding a meeting, presentation or social event?

The MSBCA clubhouse features 1000 sq ft of space, a licensed commercial kitchen, state of the art audio and video equipment, plus a seating capacity of 80 people.

Rental Rates & Terms (with immediate effect):

Rental Hours: 9am to midnight

Members (including sound system):

Mon-Fri: \$132

Sat-Sun, Holidays: \$165

Non-members (excluding sound system):

Mon-Fri: \$180

Sat-Sun, Holidays: \$220

An additional \$100 is chargeable for the use of the sound system

Damage Deposit:

Mandatory for ALL (refundable if there is no damage or loss to property):

- Clubhouse rental \$100
- Sound system \$400

With immediate effect, there will be a cleaning surcharge of \$50.00 if the clubhouse is not properly cleaned after each rental. If applicable, this will be deducted from the damage deposit.

For more details, contact:

Eric Ng @ 280.4165

email: deluxe.eric@shaw.ca

Marketplace—goods, services & other announcements

Sunday Martial Arts & Tai Chi Classes (Fall schedule)

Kids' martial arts classes (11.45 am—12.45 pm) and adults' Tai Chi classes (12.45 pm-1.45 pm) every Sunday.

Instructor: Tan Chin Hock
Venue: MSBCA clubhouse

All members are welcome!

Change of address?

If your contact info is not up to date, you may be missing out!

Please contact Ken Preston @ 279.1828 to keep your details current!



Got something to say?

Send your questions, comments or articles to: editor@msbcacalgary.ca

Note: the newsletter is now a monthly publication.

Submissions for the next issue are due by the 15th of each preceding month.

Advertise with us!

Rates per issue:

2.75" x 3.00" — \$15.00
5.50" x 3.00" — \$30.00
Other sizes — enquire

Email: editor@msbcacalgary.ca



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You may renew your membership by mailing your cheque to the MSBCA, attention: Ken Preston.

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