



**CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE OF GREATER TORONTO**

大多倫多中華文化中心

Report of the Board of Directors  
and  
Financial Statements for the  
year ended October 31, 2000

## REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

*Dr Ming-Tat Cheung*

Three years have passed since the official opening of the Centre. We have been working hard to search for a way to augment the visibility of CCC. After three years, we may have finally found a cornerstone for our future direction. A recent series of events focused on our youth has captivated the attention of the community. The “Millennium Youth Conference,” “Outstanding Youth Achievement Awards” and “Searching for Your Roots” programs have generated tremendous interest among both Chinese Canadian youths and the community at large. “Searching for Your Roots” has been particularly successful in part due to the documentary-style coverage provided by Fairchild TV. In 2001, therefore, the CCC has enjoyed renewed respect and a significant amount of positive publicity. We hope these youth oriented programs will continue to be one of the mainstays of our future curriculum.

The TV coverage of this year’s fundraising gala, the Imperial Ball, further enhanced CCC’s profile within the community. Many directors, notably Ms Irene So, Mr John Man and Mr Alan Lam contributed magnificent efforts and demonstrated superb talents and abilities in organizing the Gala. Mr Peter Yeung, our treasurer, was once again a critical component of our success by effectively managing CCC’s finances. Mrs Lena Wong devoted endless hours to administering our regular and special programs.

The hiring of an Executive Director has proven to be a wise and rewarding move. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Stephen Siu for his invaluable efforts throughout the last year.

I would also like to say farewell to some of our retiring directors who have served us with great loyalty. I am sure they will continue to support CCC as both general members and as our special friends. I would like to thank all of our continuing directors and staff, each of whom has played a central role in this last year’s success.

Looking into the future, I see unlimited potential for CCC to serve the community. Not only can we be the heart and soul of the community, but we can also take the initiative to become an institution with the ability to bridge the gap of cultural differences and to orchestrate the meeting of the East and the West throughout the year.

Of course, we have not forgotten about Phase II. Fundraising will continue to be the biggest challenge. However, armed with the experience we gained from Phase I, we are confident that the commitment and support of the community will help us bring this goal to fruition. Let us work together again to build the most comprehensive Chinese Cultural Centre in North America.

## **REPORT OF THE FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE**

*Mrs Irene So, Chairman*

Since the official opening of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto in 1998, the centre has become a focal point of the community and a frequently visited place for the Chinese as well as the non-Chinese population living in the Greater Toronto area.

Over the year, we have organized many fundraising activities, including the Imperial Ball, Hong Kong Day at Woodbine Racetrack, the film premiere “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.” Moreover, other businesses, cultural and social functions, like Chinese Canadian Entrepreneur Business Conference, Health Awareness Day, The Great Sedan Chair Race and Chinese Canadian Youth Millennium Conference also have fundraising component. They are all well received by participants and help our bottom line as well. The centre has become a place to celebrate Chinese Culture, to teach our youth about their heritage, and to share the above with Toronto’s multi-cultural society.

The success of the Chinese Cultural Centre has depended tremendously upon the support of the three levels of government, the business sector, individual philanthropists and the community at large. We could not have a good score card without the support of various corporations such as HSBC Bank Canada which contributed \$250,000 to CCC earlier this year, and major donors like Dr K.K. Leung, Dr Annie Kit-wah Leung, Mrs Lena Wong and Mr Dennis Cheng.

In spite of the present success, the centre is still at a growing stage. We have yet to achieve the targets of our second phase of building a multipurpose hall and a Chinese school. To make the complex the most complete and outstanding Chinese Cultural Centre in North America, we rely heavily on the continuing financial and spiritual support of the community.

# REPORT FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

*Mrs Lena Wong, Chair*

2000–2001 proved to be a successful and exciting year for the program department. Many new challenges kept us on the go. I would like to thank our fellow Directors for their great ideas and support. I must thank our Executor Director, Mr. Stephen Siu for his undivided attention to all our programs and of course my heartfelt thanks to our staff members for their dedication.

Programs cannot be run without sponsorships. I am most grateful to our many sponsors, who have supported us and showed great faith in our projects.

We are greatly indebted to all our volunteers. We have approximately 200 active volunteers helping us in running special events, as well as operations. Over 8000 hours were contributed to the Centre this year. A Volunteer and Staff Recognition Dinner were held last December.

The cores of the Centre's programs in the last fiscal year included:

## **Chinese Cultural Courses**

Between September 2000 and June 2001, we have coordinated a total of 164 courses with an enrolment of about 2000 students. Apart from the original established courses, this year, we have managed to introduce a variety of Chinese Musical Instrument Courses like *Erhu*, *Dizi* and *Zheng* as planned. Other new courses included Picture Mounting, Arts and Crafts for Children, Phonics and "How to Build a Personal Computer."

## **Children's Courses & Programs**

Chinese-Language Summer Camp for students aged between 4 and 15 was held in July and August 2000. Apart from the widely used Cantonese dialect, this camp introduced to student with some basic knowledge of Mandarin, therefore, the camp provided training in both dialects. Other programs provided by the camp were Chinese Art and Culture and Kung Fu for Children.

We organized a Chinese Culture Camp for children adopted from China. The FCC Toronto Chinese Cultural Camp was held last August and again in March 2001. This eight-week camp's programs included Mandarin lessons and Chinese arts and crafts. The camp was successful in providing knowledge of Chinese culture to Canadian families who adopted kids from China.

CCC introduced its own Arts Camp for children aged between 9 and 12 during the March Break. It was well received.

## **Programs for Young People**

The China Study Tour was definitely one of the most memorable experiences for all our participants. This youth group spent three weeks in China. Apart from sightseeing, they studied the career areas of international business, culture and arts and attended intensive Mandarin language training. The trip gave them the opportunity to further appreciate Chinese culture. They visited major Chinese cities such as

Beijing, Xi'an, Hangzhou and Shanghai. The students were interviewed by Fairchild TV and CFMT upon their return to have their stories retold. Many of them have become active volunteers in our Centre.

The Chinese Canadian Youth Millennium Conference as a great success. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Yvonne Chiu for her dedicated support. The purpose of this conference was to help Chinese Canadian youths understand their cultural heritage and to discuss the challenges of the future. This conference is partly funded by City of Toronto's Millennium project. This event was the effort of a group of devoted young people who worked diligently under the supervision of Dr Ming Tat Cheung, Mrs Yvonne Chiu, Mr Stephen Siu and myself. This one-day conference also provided an opportunity for "interaction" between our community leaders and the young people. To recognize the outstanding achievement of Chinese Canadian youth and to promote greater understanding of their contributions to Canada, CCC launched the Youth Achievement Awards 2000 at the same time. Besides the Youth of the Year Award, there were four other categories presented. They were Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Leadership and Community Services and Athletics. With the overwhelming response we received, it was decided that we should make this an annual event. The participants had joint sessions with delegates attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Chinese Cultural Organizations Conference.

"Searching for our Roots" was a special event in conjunction with the Imperial Ball. Led by Dr Ming Tat Cheung and Mrs Doris Cheung, four youths and Fairchild TV crew went to Guangdong Province, China to film this memorable and exciting trip. Four episodes were televised. This journey proved to be educational and a great opportunity in promoting our Centre.

### **Community Festivals and Celebrations**

The Mid-Autumn Harvest Moon Festival was held on September 19, 2000. Over 800 people attended. As usual, this event was organized in conjunction with the Great Sedan Chair Race. Eight teams participated and created a lot of fun and excitement. Festival celebrations included art and crafts station, exhibitions, performances and demonstration of arts and story-telling. Special thanks to the Toronto Arts Council for their on-going support.

Chinese New Year Celebrations – a special event was held at the ROM on January 19, our program attracted a crowd of almost 5000 people, setting an all-time record high for Friday night at the ROM. This event was covered by CTV, City TV, Global TV, CFMT and Toronto Star. Our Chinese New Year celebration was held at the Centre on January 27, featuring a mini-concert by famous Chinese musicians including George Gao and Fan Sheng-I. Over 400 people attended. Our Chinese New Year Dinner was held on February 2, at Golden Regency Restaurant.

### **Dr Hin-Shiu Hung Art Gallery Exhibitions**

After the Silk Road Exhibition in June of 2000. Arts Week 2000 "Creative Edge" exhibition was held in September, featuring oil painting, wood sculptures and prints by five Scarborough artists. The Canadian Chinese Visual Artists Exhibition "Interaction" was held in December 2000. This exhibition displayed art pieces by nine renowned artists. Their artworks were greatly admired by the public. Other than the two above-mentioned events, there were over 10 exhibitions organized by other artists.

### **Special Group Tours**

In the past 12 months, over 15 organizations brought approximately 500 people to the Centre. These group tours will serve as a fine tool in promoting our Centre as well as the Chinese culture.

## REPORT OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

*Mr Vincent Wan and Mr. Tony Wong  
Co-Chairman*

The Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto is one of the most technologically advanced centers in North America. The Information Technology committee is charged with the responsibility of technological requirements of the Centre.

The Centre and about forty community organizations formed a partnership to develop a Chinese Volunteer-on-Line web site for the Chinese community. The web site is developed to house promotional information from participating organizations. A central event calendar will be listing all events of the Chinese community. Volunteer requirements of each event will be listed. The public can register to volunteer for events on line. Phase I of this project involves designing a generic web page for all member organizations. Each organization can update the content of their web page on-line. There is also a community events calendar listing all events organized by each member organization. The design and implementation for Phase I is now complete and the web site is posted in the Centre's website ([www.cccgt.org](http://www.cccgt.org)) for staff and general public input and comment. Phase II involves the development of a database to accept and collate volunteers' on-line registration information and automatically forward the information to appropriate organizations. Phase II is on going and the projected finish date will be end of December 2001.

During the past year, the committee has completed acquisition of new equipment and upgrading of existing equipment for the Centre, a new file *server* is purchased and the migration is successfully completed. The new server, with dual processor, larger memory and bigger hard disk, is improving the service for our growing office needs. The old server is now being converted to house the Volunteer on Line project. A grant provided by the Royal Bank was used to purchase three new workstations for the library catalogue system and the migration was successfully completed. The CCC website, [www.cccgt.org](http://www.cccgt.org), has been revamped to make accessing of information easier.

The committee is composed of volunteers from the IT section of the Federation of Chinese Canadian Professionals and the Chinese Canadian Information Processing Professionals. We would like to take this opportunity to thank these volunteers for helping the committee in all the design and implementation work in the projects undertaken by the committee in the past year.

## THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*Stephen Siu*

The *Culture Workprint* endorsed recently by the City Council points out that in promoting culture, “the challenges are great, but the opportunities are huge.” It says that Canada’s cultural diversity is our greatest asset, linking us to the stories and dreams of every culture in the world.

However, Toronto is asset rich but cash poor. The City of Toronto spends \$11 per person per year on culture, while New York City spends \$63, and Vancouver spends \$21.

It is against this background that the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto (CCC) is operated. We have to deal with our budgetary limits all the time. We need to identify new funding sources when we are developing every new project or program, maintaining some of our current activities, or embarking on something great like the Centre’s Phase II development.

Many thanks to the Directors of the Board of the Chinese Cultural Centre for giving me the opportunity to share their dream and their challenges in the past year. With our eyes set on the future, we see an image of CCC that is instrumental in bridging the East and West, significant in promoting racial harmony and mutual understanding, and constructive in nurturing Toronto “the Creative City.”

During the last 12 months, CCC has made some notable achievements:

We have focused more on the younger generation by launching the Chinese Canadian Youth Millennium Conference, Youth Achievement Awards 2000, and the “Searching for Our Roots” trip to China. Our “China Study Tour” and “Cultural Program for Families with Children from China” have drawn positive media comments. The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Chinese Cultural Organizations Conference hosted by CCC also adopted the theme “Tribute to Our Youth.”

We have reached out to various communities. The Chinese New Year Festival jointly organized with the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) set an all-time-high attendance record of 5,000 people for a Friday night event at ROM. We worked with ethnic communities to present the Canadian Multi-Cultural Silk Road Festival and the Culture Fest. CCC’s Canadian Go Chess Open attracted hundreds of participants from across Canada and from the United States as well.

To encourage more art exchanges in the evolution of the unique Canadian multi-culturalism, we presented the “Interaction – Canadian Chinese Visual Artists Exhibition,” introducing nine Toronto-based Chinese Canadian artists to the Canadian art scene.

Targeting at the growing number of Mandarin-speaking immigrants, CCC worked with local entrepreneur groups and business associations with Hong Kong, Taiwan and China background to present the “Chinese Canadian Entrepreneur Business Conference 2000,” helping the new comers to become successful entrepreneurs in Canada.

We gave support to various organizations such as the Toronto Chinese Writers Association, Ontario Inter-Collegiate Chinese Debate Alliance, “Toronto Hakka Heritage & Culture Conference” and “Chinese Literary Contest for the Youth” in organizing their cultural events.

Our doors are always open. We bring school groups into the centre, and create tours, family events, summer camps and festivals. We run lectures and classes – from early morning Tai Chi to Chinese-language course before nightfall. The usage rate of our facilities has increased over the past months. The Centre has become a visiting spot for many high-level delegations from China. We enjoyed excellent media coverage. For the Chinese print media alone, CCC is covered at an average of 30 to 40 times every month.

We could not have made such achievement without the financial support of various corporations and major donors, and the guidance of our President Dr Ming Tat Cheung and his dedicated Executive Committee, the Fund-raising Committee led by Mrs Irene So, the Program Committee led by Mrs Lena Wong, the Library Committee headed by John Man, the Information Technology Committee headed by Tony Wong, and the Marketing & Public Relations Committee headed by Ms Loretta Lam.

Toronto’s urban success doesn’t mean the city is successful culturally. There should be something more than jobs, school, day care and a quick lunch on the run. Our Phase II cultural complex will definitely help enhance Toronto’s competitiveness and add a cultural touch to our fast-paced urban lives.