



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

505 CONSUMERS ROAD, SUITE 206, WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO M2J 4V8
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For immediate release

GUYANA AWARDS COUNCIL (CANADA)
announces
The Honorable Samuel A. Hinds, Prime Minister of Guyana,
as Guest Speaker at Guyana Awards Gala
Saturday, May 23, 2009

A grand celebration of excellence and a memorable evening filled with excellent company, fine food, and great entertainment is promised for the 9th Annual Guyana Awards (Canada) Gala, scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 23, 2009 in the Grand Centennial Ballroom at Inn on the Park, 1095 Leslie Street, Toronto, Ontario. The Gala, held under the patronage of the distinguished Consul General of Guyana, Mr. Danny Doobay, also marks the 43rd Anniversary of Guyana's Independence.

The Guyana Awards Council is honoured to announce that our special invitee and guest speaker for the evening will be The Honourable Samuel A. Hinds, Prime Minister of Guyana. Prime Minister Hinds, 65, has held this post since October 1992, with the exception of nine months in 1997 when he was the President of Guyana. Prior to this, he held various engineering positions during his 25-year tenure with the Bauxite Company in Linden, Guyana. Prime Minister Hinds is a graduate of Queen's College, Guyana, and the University of New Brunswick, Canada, and holds an Honorary Doctorate in Science from that university.

Among the highlights of the Gala evening are an elegant cocktail reception and gourmet dinner; presentation of the prestigious Guyana Awards and Scholarships; and dancing to the popular Victor Shim & The Surefire Band. There will also be numerous door prizes and exciting entertainment.

You are invited to celebrate with the "Who's Who" in the Guyanese and Toronto community, including several dignitaries, government officials, members of the Toronto Diplomatic Corps, past Guyana award recipients and Guyanese business owners and professionals. This premiere event in the Guyanese-Canadian community officially kicks off the annual cross-Canada Guyana Independence celebrations, which includes over 40 activities in five provinces, culminating with the Guyana Festival in Toronto from June 19–21.

The Guyana Awards (Canada) recognizes the contributions of individuals and organizations in the Guyanese community toward the promotion and development of Guyana, Guyanese Heritage and Culture in Canada, as well as the achievement of excellence by distinguished individuals and organizations. Nominations in various categories are currently being processed for final selection by a panel of distinguished judges.

Several monetary National Scholarships will also be awarded to students of Guyanese heritage who are currently enrolled at an accredited Canadian college, university, or vocational-technical school in Canada.

Gala tickets are available at \$100 per person and can also be purchased by tables of ten. Please contact Bert Bacchus at 905-770-3785 or Felicia Kwang, Guyana Consulate at 416-494-6040 Ext. 23, to purchase your tickets.



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The Charity of Choice for 2009 is The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), a world-renowned academic health sciences centre in Toronto, Canada, ranked as one of the top pediatric health-care facilities in the world. SickKids has a long-standing relationship with the Guyanese-Canadian community, having collaborated with several hospitals and not-for-profit organizations in Guyana and with local community groups in Toronto. Through programs such as the Herbie Fund, SickKids has assisted over 60 children from Guyana to improve their medical outcomes, as well as delivering pediatric health care to communities in Guyana.

For further information, please contact:

Danny Doobay, Honorary Consul General of Guyana, 416-494-6040 Ext. 29

Nancy Rickford, Vice-Chair Public Relations, Guyana Awards Council (Canada), 416-449-4453

Sherene Shaw, Chair, Guyana Awards Council (Canada), 416-289-4441

March 16, 2009

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Guyana Awards Gala – May 23, 2009
- Cross-Canada Celebrations – May 23–June 21, 2009
- Guyana Festival – June 19-21, L'Amoreaux Centre, Scarborough, Ontario

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Selected past Award Recipients

- Rampersaud Tiwari – Lifetime Achievement
- Pauline Thomas – Auntie Comesee - Culture
- Dr. Jamal Deen – Academic Excellence
- Vanessa Rambihar – Youth
- Desmond & Joan DeBarros – Community Service (Individual)
- Harry Harakh – Leadership
- Dr. Vernon Singhroy – Special Achievement
- St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association of Toronto
– Community Service (Organization)
- Dwarka Persaud – Business Excellence
- Dr. Roy Rowsell, Ve'ahavta – Exemplary Service Award
- Judge Vibert Lampkin - Lifetime Achievement
- Dr. Bhudendra Doobay - Leadership
- Hon. Ovid Jackson - Special Achievement
- Ken Singh – Business Person
- Basil Punit - Academic Excellence
- Eric Rodrigues - Businessperson
- Ned Blair - Community Service
- Cecil Moore - Lifetime Achievement
- Clive Lloyd - Lifetime Achievement
- Dr Suresh Narine, Special Achievement
- Rohan Khanai - Lifetime Achievement
- Lance Gibbs - Lifetime Achievement
- Alvin Kallicharran - Lifetime Achievement
- Roy Fredericks - Lifetime Achievement (Posthumously)
- Joe Soloman - Lifetime Achievement
- Basil Butcher - Lifetime Achievement
- Councillor Sherene Shaw- Special Achievement
- Norman Sue - Business Person
- Laura Creavalle - Special Achievement
- Ron Fanfair – Media
- Kissoon Naraine - Community Service
- Last Lap Lime - Community Service
- Senior Guyanese Friendship Association
- Guyana Pioneer Fund Raising Group- Community Service
- Peel Guyanese Association - Community Service
- Guyana Christian Charities – Community Service
- Calgary Guyanese Association – Community Service
- Dr. Chris Lakhan - Academic Excellence
- Frank Fernandes - Leadership
- Tricia Punit, Academic Excellence-Youth
- Dr. Hazel Campaign - Lifetime Achievement
- Michael Van Cooten - Media
- Laparkan Trading Limited - Business Excellence
- Guyana Berbice Association- Community Service
- Human Concern International – Community Development