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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's election time for the "Federation - FPCBP"

É tempo de eleições para a FPCBP

Once again, the time for election is fast approaching and March 2, Wednesday, is the day. As we look back to the beginning of our mandate, 2004-05, the days, weeks and months went by sometimes very quickly.

In fact, the great motivation of the Board was the reason for the goals in our program to be achieved with dignity and great success, and we would like to think that all the events that took place throughout the year brought satisfaction not only to our members but also to the Luso-Canadian Community at large. Our "Newsletter" was the vehicle needed and used to bring the affairs of the FPCBP to all members and to most of the similar luso organizations throughout the world and also to the different levels of governments in Canada and in Portugal. Our Newsletter has reached all corners and by now our Organization is known worldwide.



Leo Pereira, FPCBP President

new dimension as a community organization of national level.

We have to be ready to accept the new reality and responsibility, and that is what is expected from a Community Leader Organization.

Um dos assuntos que exigiu grande atenção da presente Direcção, foi exactamente o querer atender à recomendação da última assembleia geral em relação à "Canadá-Portugal Câmara de Comércio e Indústria", recomendação essa que pedia fosse encontrada a melhor solução para a integração desta



Present Board of FPCBP

With the adoption and integration of the Portugal Canada Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the FPCBP is broadening its activities and objectives.

It is my conviction that the new reality, the FPCBP and PCCCI, brings not only a great opportunity, but also the motivation to move forward at a faster pace and into a

Organização na FPCBP.

Este tema ocupou-nos muitas horas de estudo e discussão e não se pouparam esforços para ouvir os que mais e melhor nos podiam elucidar, incluindo os advogados membros da FPCBP que sempre se

(continuação na página 2)



Members present at the General Meeting, January 27, 2005

(continuação da página 1)

dispuseram e proporcionaram o melhor acompanhamento.

Tendo em consideração as limitações financeiras da "Federation - FPCBP" que nos impedia apresentar um estudo e recomendação legal formal por um advogado especialista nesta matéria, porque o custo seria na ordem de milhares de dólares, decidimos dentro da máxima legalidade possível, levar as nossas conclusões e recomendações aos membros para a respectiva aprovação, o que aconteceu em Assembleia Geral Extraordinária e que teve lugar no dia 27 de Janeiro passado.

Em nosso entender, a FPCBP acaba de dar o primeiro passo para a solução deste "momentoso problema" que de certa maneira tem sido a grande preocupação nos últimos dois anos de vida da FPCBP.

O caminho está aberto, a consolidação do processo é jornada longa, mas com a planificação certa e acção condizente, não temos dúvidas que o futuro da FPCBP-PCCCI será de grande brilhantismo. Não esqueçamos todavia, que tudo depende de nós membros, da nossa atitude de co-opeção e desejo sincero de fazer mudar o rumo dos acontecimentos em benefício da FPCBP.

The coming election represents a great challenge for us members of the FPCBP/PCCCI. The task that lies ahead will require courage, effort and commitment of the new board, that most importantly

needs to be a cohesive, balanced and committed team.

I ask all members to be actively supportive of the new board being elected and those that can help, to lend a hand and cooperate in accepting a position as director. For those that never served on the board as directors of the FPCBP, I urge you to accept and do so and I guarantee that the feeling and the pleasure that you will experience for serving the great Portuguese-Canadian Community is a reward that no one can afford to miss. As the mandate comes to an end, I would like to express my gratitude to all Members of the present Board for all the good work and for the opportunity to be the leader of such an exceptional group. Nothing can take away our good memories.

To the board being elected, my good wishes for a successful mandate, and to all members of the FPCBP, my sincere appreciation for your trust and support.

Also, last but not least, a sincere thanks to the luso-canadian media, newspapers, radio and television for the precious help in conveying to the public the messages, programs and events of the "Federation" – FPCBP, throughout the year.

I am very happy that I was able to serve the Portuguese-Canadian Community once more.

Thank you. Obrigado.

Leo Pereira

O essencial acerca de Seguro de Vida

Existe consenso acerca da necessidade de seguro de vida. O mesmo já não poderemos dizer acerca das seguintes questões:

- *Que tipo de apolice se deve ter ?*
- *Quando compra-la ?*

Um seguro de vida cria segurança financeira para a família. Se houver uma morte prematura, pode ser usado para:

- *pagar as despesas do funeral e outras dívidas que haja*
- *ter um rendimento para a família*
- *ter a certeza que a família tem recursos para manter um nível de vida confortável.*

Por outro lado, existem apolices que em vida :

- *criam poupanças que podem ser levantadas para satisfazer necessidades financeiras imediatas ou para complementar o rendimento quando reformado.*

Dependendo da forma como olha para o seguro de vida, e sempre um activo que deve fazer parte do plano financeiro, pois disponibiliza fundos quando eles são mais necessários. A melhor maneira de comprar um seguro de vida a um preço razoável e compra-lo quando lhe parece que não precisa dele: isto é, quando é jovem e saudável. Contudo, são poucas as situações, mas acontecem, em que é tarde para o comprar.

Deve rever a sua apolice de vida com o seu consultor financeiro anualmente ou quando houver alterações substanciais na sua vida, tais como o nascimento de um bebé, alteração do estado civil. A compra de uma residência ou de uma casa de férias, novo emprego ou iniciar uma empresa, são também circunstâncias que obrigam a rever a sua protecção.

Aldina Costa

Expanding MRI services in Ontario

The McGuinty government is ensuring Ontarians have shorter wait times for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) services by opening more MRI machines across the province, expanding the hours of operation of existing MRI machines, and replacing older MRIs with new, more efficient machines that deliver

more exams faster. As a result of investments this fiscal year, an extra 40,000 (or 14.5 per cent more) MRI exams will be delivered by the end of 2004-05. These investments alone will result in 53,461 more exams in 2005-06, a nearly 20 per cent increase in MRI procedures since the government came into office.



McGuinty Government helps lowest-paid workers

Nearly 200,000 Ontarians will receive a pay raise tomorrow when the McGuinty government increases the minimum wage for the second time in two years, Labour Minister Chris Bentley announced today.

"We are providing Ontario's lowest-paid and most vulnerable workers with the second increase in the minimum wage – after it had been frozen for nine years," said Bentley. "With the increase, we are providing an opportunity for all to benefit from Ontario's economic prosperity."

On February 1, 2005, the general minimum wage will increase to \$7.45 per hour, and there will be annual increases in each of the next two years until it reaches \$8 per hour in February 2007. Last February, the rate was raised from \$6.85 to \$7.15.

Other minimum wage rates will also increase tomorrow. The minimum wage for:

- Students under 18 years old and employed for not more than 28 hours a week or employed during a school holiday will increase from \$6.70 to \$6.95 per hour
- Liquor servers will increase from \$6.20 to \$6.50 per hour
- Hunting and fishing guides currently paid a minimum of \$35.75 for less than five consecutive hours in a day and \$71.50 for five or more hours in a day (whether or not the hours are consecutive) will also increase to \$37.25 and \$74.50 respectively.

"This is part of the McGuinty government's plan to strengthen our greatest competitive advantage – our people," said Bentley.

Improving access to Cancer treatment

The McGuinty government is improving access to cancer treatment for patients by investing \$38.45 million to replace and upgrade radiation therapy equipment throughout the province.

Princess Margaret Hospital is being allocated more than \$18.4 million for the following radiation equipment purchases this year:

"What my Portuguese Heritage means to me"

As part of its commitment to the Trillium-funded, Portuguese History and Heritage Project, the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business & Professionals is pleased to announce the running of its 2nd annual Essay Contest. This year, we hope to receive over 1000 submissions and award over \$10,000.

The contest will run from March 1, 2005 to May 15, 2005 and is open to all Ontario

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students of Luso-Canadian descent in grades 8 to 12. Entries will be based on the topic "What my Portuguese heritage means to me". Please visit our website www.portugueseheritage.ca for complete contest rules. We are seeking sponsors to cover the costs of the prizes and a publication of worthy entries.

Please contact the office if you are interested in supporting this innovative FPCBP initiative.

Doors are opening for Luso-Canadian youth



Students awarded June 2004

In conjunction with Project Diploma, the FPCBP is pleased to announce its participation in developing the OPEN DOORS program. OPEN DOORS is a forum linking members of the private, public and non-profit sectors with Portuguese-Canadian youth. These employers will offer internships, summer, full and part-time jobs and volunteer placements to senior secondary school and college and university students. Leading up to the program's launch there will be a complimentary series of career-related workshops.

The program will deploy with two simultaneous and complimentary facets: a yearly Career Fair and an internet-based resource. The first Career Fair is scheduled for Saturday April 9, 2005 at Toronto's City Hall. At that time, exhibitors will be prepared to offer potential candidates positions in their organizations and/or inform attendees of their own youth hiring strategies; we can provide information and help on securing government support via a subsidy for Summer Career placements.

The internet-based resource (the program's permanent home), will be launched at the Career Fair and will serve as a Job Bank where employers will be able to advertise job postings and as a resource tool for students (promoting future events, providing advice, and more).

MasterKey is OPEN DOORS' online mentoring program in which mentors simply answer questions from Luso-Canadian youth that are interested in their field via email. These mentors will help unlock a myriad of doors of possibility for our community's leaders of tomorrow. Please contact the office if you are interested. If you or your organization are interested in participating in the OPEN DOORS program on any level please call our office at 416-537-8874. There is a March 11, 2005 deadline for those wishing to have a booth space at the Career Fair (booth spaces are free of charge). Let's not merely describe the results of an education to our youth, but rather show them with first-hand experience! Thank you.

**To advertise in this newsletter,
please contact the FPCBP office at (416) 537-8874**

Masters Candidates



Melissa Azevedo

Law, Osgoode Hall Law School (York U)

After receiving her Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University

of Toronto, Melissa is now pursuing her Bachelor of Laws (LLB) Program from York University's Osgoode Hall Law School. Her current work, providing legal assistance to new Canadians, has resulted in a desire to specialize in immigration law. Her goal is to continue to assist those who have recently arrived in Canada and find themselves in a position of economic strain. She also has had extensive experience working with the disabled by striving to increase public accessibility in their daily lives.

Susy Oliveira



Fine Arts, University of Waterloo

After graduating from the Ontario College of Applied Art and Design in 2000 with an Honours degree

in drawing and painting, Susy is currently pursuing a Masters of Fine Arts at the University of Waterloo. She hopes to one day pass on her love of art to others. Teaching is a central part of her philosophy as an artist and she is excited that her current studies will include a teaching component.

Undergraduates



Nuno Lopes

Commerce, Ryerson University

Nuno is presently at Ryerson University completing his Bachelor of Commerce in

Information Technology Management. He is majoring in Systems Development and Implementation and will minor in E-Business. Nuno has worked for various IT companies as an analyst, consultant and technician. He is looking forward to a dynamic and challenging career in IT.

Lara Favas



Business Administration, Wilfrid Laurier University

Lara is in her third year at Wilfrid Laurier University and working towards an Honours

Bachelor of Business Administration. She is specializing in Accounting and will minor in Business French. Lara is currently on the Scholarship Committee at the Portuguese Cultural Centre of Mississauga and is a staff accountant at BDO Dunwoody LLP. Lara hopes to pursue an accounting designation before moving on to law school.

Alan Lourenço

Business Administration, Schulich School of Business (York U)

Alan is a second-year student pursuing an Honours Bachelor of Business



Administration at York University's prestigious Schulich School of Business. He is a past President of DECA (a North American business, leadership and career development organisation) and has volunteered at St. Francis Table and as a secondary school tutor.

Armeno Jose Furtado Simas



Fine and Performing Arts, Concordia University

Armeno is in the third year of his Fine Arts/Studio Arts major. He is pursuing his

Bachelors of Fine Arts and has had many exhibitions in the Montreal area. Armeno received his D.C.S. from Dawson College in 2002 and is excited about his career in the arts. He is active in his local church and is a dancer in the Estrelas do Atlantico folklore group.

Luis Miguel Mendes



Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Toronto

Luis Miguel is finishing his Honours Bachelor of Arts at the University of Toronto's exclusive

Peace & Conflict Studies program. He has worked in an IT capacity for various



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companies on a part-time basis and dedicates his free time entirely to community work. Luis Miguel volunteers for Project Diploma, Amnesty International and the Portuguese Canadian National Congress. He is a director of the Davenport Liberal Association and is the UTPA's current President.

Darlene Rites



Political Science, University of Toronto

Darlene is a second-year student pursuing an Honours Bachelors of Arts degree with a double major in Political Science and Ethics, Society and Law at the University of Toronto. She is a volunteer for the St. Christopher House's "Meals on 2 Wheels" and "Friendly Visitors" programs and has been a catechism teacher and tutor. Darlene eventually plans to study Human Rights Law.

Jenny Lourenço



Biology and English, University of Toronto

Jenny is finishing her Honours Bachelor of Science with a specialization in Biology and an English minor.

She has been a teacher's assistant and a peer counsellor, and is currently an intern at the Region of Peel Environmental Health Unit. Jenny's career goals are to pursue a post-graduate degree in a field related to epidemiology.

Richard Lourenço



Mechatronics Engineering, University of Waterloo

Richard is a second-year student enrolled at the University of Waterloo's Mechatronics Engineering Honours Co-op program. He was the chief programmer on Mississauga's first ever F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Team and has been a tutor and Campus Day volunteer. Richard is looking forward to an exciting and successful career in the engineering field.

Tania Unção



Education and Sociology, York University

Tania is completing an Honours Degree in the Faculty of Arts at York University, where she is enrolled in the Sociology and Faculty of Education Concurrent Program. In the past, she has tutored and taught catechism. She is currently YUPA's Outreach Coordinator. Tania would like to continue her studies by pursuing a post-graduate degree specializing in Deaf Education.

Kelly Henriques



Paralegal Studies Humber College

Kelly graduated from York University in 2001 with an Honours Bachelor of Arts Degree in

Philosophy. She is currently enrolled in her third and final year in the Paralegal Program at Humber College. Future plans include attending law school next year.

High School Students

Fabio Abreu



Dante Alighieri Academy

Fabio is presently completing his grade twelve high school diploma and will be applying to various universities where he aspires to study marketing and business management. Fabio has engaged in various volunteer opportunities that vary from his participation in traditional cultural festivals and groups to serving as a team leader for different initiatives within his high school. Fabio holds a strong passion and desire to continue his volunteer efforts in the Portuguese-Canadian community, primarily within the realm of promoting higher education.

Stevie Pereira Baltazar



Chaminade College School

Stevie is currently completing his high school diploma at Chaminade College, specializing in math, science and technology related programs. Through his current studies within the fields of chemistry and biology, Stevie aspires to pursue a degree in biochemistry at the University of

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Contacte a Federação de Empresários e Profissionais Luso-Canadianos (416) 537-8874.

Nota: Informações para FPCBP membros custo mínimo. Informações a não membros custo obrigatório

Pedidos de informação somente por escrito.

(continued from page 5)

Toronto in the fall. He has leadership roles in various organizations both within and outside of his school community.

Stefanie De Jesus



Loretto Abbey Catholic Secondary School

Stefanie is currently in her final year of high school and aspires to attend a post-secondary institution where she intends to pursue an undergraduate degree in the field of Biological and Medical Services. Stefanie holds a strong passion and determination to advocate human rights, primarily those relating to accessibility to medical attention. Her volunteer efforts extend from her involvement in her high school Portuguese

Association to various placements in different hospitals throughout the GTA.

Christine Moura



Dante Alighieri Academy

Christine is presently completing her final year of high school and aspires to pursue a post-secondary degree in the field

of Biology. Her volunteerism within the Portuguese-Canadian community has been extensive and is a testament to her strong commitment to maintaining and promoting her roots within Canadian society. She has also demonstrated leadership within volunteer organizations, such as Variety Village and Villa Colombo, in which she has worked with special needs individuals.

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Speech of FPCBP scholarship recipient Susana Miranda

Good evening members of the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals, honoured guests, friends and family. It is my pleasure to be here today to accept this scholarship and thank the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals, and their generous sponsors, on behalf of all the recipients of these awards.

As students who are striving to succeed, whether we are high school students, undergraduate students, professional students or graduate students, we all have to make intellectual and emotional commitments, commitments of our time, and financial commitments in order to achieve our goals. We do not only strive independently. It is through the support and understanding of our family and friends that we are able to forge ahead and realize our potential.

These scholarships from the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals represent much needed support from the Portuguese Canadian community as well. The financial support lessens some of the stress we face in worrying about how to make ends meet while pursuing our education. However, the public recognition that we are receiving tonight also adds to the emotional support and validation we often require in the face of the hard work and sacrifices we all make. This aid from the Federation is immensely valuable in assisting us to achieve academically and pursue successful careers.

This award also represents a recognition of the value of education in the Portuguese Canadian community. It is wonderful that the Federation has brought together such an admirable group of young Portuguese-

Canadians who are and will continue to enrich the life of our community and Canadian society. I think we all can agree that it is a pleasure to celebrate in the achievements of each individual. I hope that the recipients of these awards can take this opportunity to forge new relationships amongst each other and in the Portuguese-Canadian community that will last many years.

We thank the Federation for bringing us together tonight, with our family and friends and other supporters, and for the Federation's important work in seeking out and recognizing students who have made and have the potential to make important contributions to society: as doctors, professors, engineers, business professionals, teachers, lawyers, other important professions, and generally as active citizens. Again, we thank the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals and their sponsors for this scholarship. I will make every effort to fulfill your confidence in our abilities.



Susana Miranda delivering her speech

Agradecemos à Federação e os seus patrocinadores por estas bolsas de estudos. Nos fazemos todos os possíveis para merecer a vossa confiança. Obrigada.

Annual General Meeting - Assembleia Geral

(Called As per Article IV, Section Three, Sub-sections a), b) and c) of the FPCBP By-Laws)

The Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, March 2nd 2005 at 6:30 pm. If at 6:30 p.m. there is no quorum (10% of Total Membership as stated in Article IV, Section Three, Sub-Section d) of our By-Laws) the meeting will pro-

ceed at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the St.Helen's Parish Hall, 1680 Dundas St. West. Toronto, Ontario.

All members are reminded that in order to be eligible to vote at a General Meeting they must ensure that their membership fees are paid in full. Should further information be required, feel free to contact our office at 416-537-8874 or visit the Federation's website at www.fpcbp.com.

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00pm to 6:00pm

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