

Upcoming Events



Annual General Meeting
March 8th, 2006

**Home Builders'
Association info session**
March 29th, 2006

FPCBP Mission Statement

To promote business activity, foster professionalism, develop networking opportunities, enhance political visibility, encourage academic excellence and, as the representative voice, advocate the prominence of our members within and outside the Portuguese Canadian Business and Professional community.

President's Message

Dear members,

In March 2005, the current Board of Directors felt honoured to accept the challenge of leading one of the most enduring and active organizations in our community. Throughout 25 years of service in the community, the FPCBP has experienced many successes and we congratulate the founding members and subsequent boards for their vision and continuous commitment to our community.



FPCBP Board of Directors with Guest of Honour, Premier Dalton McGuinty at the FPCBP Excellence Awards Gala.

It gives me great pleasure to thank everyone who participated in our events, contributed to our causes and supported our efforts to continue fostering our mission of building awareness and promoting our visibility in the business and professional community.

I'm pleased to report that throughout 2005 and the beginning of 2006 the FPCBP has organized and participated in a wide variety of events:

- **May 2005** – Luncheon with Ontario's Finance Minister, Greg Sorbara at the Old Mill with the participation of over 120 community members.

- **June 2005** – Portuguese Heritage and History Month Celebrations with the Essay Contest Awards Ceremony, at the University of Toronto's Hart House, with Dr. Marie Boutrogianni, Ontario's Minister of Citizenship and Immigration as the keynote speaker. \$10,000 in prizes was awarded to Elementary and High School Students. Mayor David Miller also pro-

claimed June 10 as "Portugal Day" and the month of June as "Portuguese History and Heritage Month."

- **June 2005** – Networking Event at Acqua Restaurant to launch our Member-get-a-Member Campaign, with 17 new members joining the FPCBP at that event.

- **July 2005** – Golf Tournament that was completely sold out and raised over \$20,000 for our organization.

- **September 2005** – BBQ with Keynote speaker Len Crispino, President of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. We also commemorated the FPCBP's recent membership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

• **October 2005** – Dinner with the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing.

• **October 2005** – Information Session on abcGTA Project from Maytree Foundation. This event was organized in collaboration with the Portuguese Canadian National Congress.

• **November 2005** – 24th Annual Scholarship Dinner with Guest Speaker, Wendy Mesley of the CBC. \$54,000 was awarded in scholarships to 24 exceptional Portuguese-Canadian students.

• **December 2005** – Christmas Cheer event in which close to 100 FPCBP Members participated.

• **February 2006** – Canada meets Europe: an event organized in partnership with the European Union Chamber of Commerce in Toronto.

• **February 2006** – 2006 FPCBP Business Excellence Awards and the launch of the

25th Anniversary Celebrations.

In addition to these events, we are proud to mention the following FPCBP successes over the 2005/06 year:

- secured over \$65,000 in Corporate Sponsorships for the 2005/06 year;

- produced and mailed quarterly newsletter;

- collected and organized Federation archives;

- increased the membership by 50%;

- applied for a Trillium Grant;

- supported Councillor Cesar Palacio's bid for a friendship agreement between Lisbon and Toronto;

- regularly participated at the European Union Chamber of Commerce in Toronto meetings;

- hired and trained a new Executive Assistant; and

- we are currently redesigning the website.

These accomplishments were only possible due to the efforts of an extraordinary group of individuals that I had the privilege of working with throughout the year – to the Board my sincere gratitude. Also, to our sponsors, members and friends – thank you for your support; and may we continue to pursue the original goals together and celebrate our achievements by planning an even greater future.

“Business Excellence Awards 2006” da FPCBP

Decorreu com pompa e circunstância a noite de convívio e entrega de prémios da FPCBP, no Pearson Convention Centre, em Mississauga. Uma recepção elegante, com gente atractiva e dialogante, bem disposta, e na expectativa de um convívio feliz e revigorante. Tudo aconteceu como o previsto. Como manda o protocolo, o convidado de honra da noite da FPCBP, The Honourable Premier do Ontario, Dalton McGuinty, chegou à hora certa, 19h00 em ponto. Esperemos que sirva de exemplo...

Simpático, extrovertido, caminhou e conversou com toda a gente que se encontrava na recepção do Pearson C. Centre, e participou alegremente nas “milhentas” sessões de fotografia que lhe foram “impostas”. Na sua entrada para o salão de festas, Dalton McGuinty, sempre acompanhado da sua mulher, e dos responsáveis da FPCBP, Ana Bailão, Avelino Fonseca e Cristina Marques, entre outros, voltou a cumprimentar e a dialogar mesa-a-mesa, com todo o à-vontade e simplicidade.

A bonita Teresa Roncon, foi a apresentadora da noite. Depois das habituais boas vindas, e da entoação dos hinos do Canadá e de Portugal, pela potente voz

de Isabel Sinde, Teresa chamou ao palco a Presidente da FPCBP Ana Bailão que, emocionada e feliz, lembrou a caminhada da Federação desde o dia em que Laura Bulger, Fernando Costa, Vasco D'Ávilez, César de Morais, Germano Gonçalves, Delkar Maia, Alberto Pereira, Octávio Sampaio, John F. Santos e Armindo Silva a fundaram, há 25 anos. Saudou todos os Presidentes do passado até aos dias de hoje, Frank Alvarez, Ermídio Alves, Luís Arruda, David Costa, Fernando Costa, Ricardo Castro-Lopo, Raimundo Favas, Almiro Fonseca, Luís Louro Jr., João Neves, Nellie Pedro, Leo Pereira, Joe Pinto, Arnaldo Santos, John Santos, Armindo Silva, Charles de Sousa e Carlos Teixeira (a maioria presente no jantar), recordando o ano em que a FPCBP comemora 25 anos de existência e a solicitar o empenho de todos nos festejos agora iniciados. Ana Bailão agradeceu a honrosa presença do Premier Dalton McGuinty, e fez o elogio dos premiados da noite. A Advogada Cidália Faria, membro da Direcção da FPCBP e Assistente do Ministério da Corôa do Ontário (Attorney General), fez com classe a apresentação do convidado de honra, o Premier Dalton McGuinty.

Thank you to the 2005 FPCBP Sponsors

Gold



Silver



Bronze



continued on page 3



Alguns dos antigos Presidentes da FPCBP marcaram a sua presença no evento

continued from page 2

Muito aplaudido, Dalton McGuinty dirigiu a palavra aos presentes com um ar visivelmente feliz. Com graça, Dalton McGuinty iniciou o seu discurso, em português:

“Boa noite. É um prazer estar hoje aqui convosco”. Não optando pelo discurso directamente político que geralmente marca estas ocasiões, Dalton McGuinty preferiu, sem decorrer muito aos seus apontamentos, falar dos valores familiares que sempre aprendeu com os seus pais e restantes (nove) irmãos, para poder fazer uma ligação justa à comunidade portuguesa. Para Dalton McGuinty, não foram muitos os portugueses milionários que vieram para o Canadá, mas sim, pessoas honestas e trabalhadoras, portadoras de valores e costumes que tentaram fazer deste país um segundo lar e onde buscaram uma melhor vida e a perspectiva de um melhor futuro. O primeiro ministro do Ontário não quis deixar passar a oportunidade sem mencionar os quatro galardoados, um deles – Peter Fonseca – deputado do seu governo e um dos « mais dedicados que já conheceu, demonstrando que não só gosta e sabe vencer maratonas desportivas, como também é um vencedor das maratonas políticas.

Armando Silva, co-fundador e primeiro Presidente da FPCBP, entregou a Dalton McGuinty uma bonita prenda, agradecendo-lhe a presença na festa. Armando Silva, em nome de todos os seus companheiros na FPCBP debruçou-se sobre a razão da existência da Federação, elogiou o esforço de todos na caminhada de 25 anos, e incitou Clubes e Associações Portuguesas a apoiar os jovens luso-canadianos a trilharem a caminhada política. – “Mário Silva, Peter Fonseca e, por uns meses, Martinho Silva, é muito pouco. São precisos muitos mais para que a Comunidade Portuguesa tenha a visibilidade que merece!”, afirmou Armando Silva. – “Vamos comemorar os 25 anos da FPBCP com muita unidade, para sermos mais fortes e mais capazes de engrandecer a Comunidade, o Ontário e o Canadá!”, finalizou Armando Silva. Para uma Comunidade que iniciou a caminhada com o distribuidor de encomendas e correio, Pedro da Silva, em 1693, é realmente demasiado pouco...

Todo os profissionais do Pearson Convention Centre estavam a postos e prontos para servir o jantar. Um jantar delicioso, bem servido, com esmero e rapidez. Ao piano, o consagrado e talentoso Fernando Tavares, com música ambiente.



The Honourable Premier Dalton McGuinty

Depois da refeição, Teresa Roncon fez a chamada dos premiados, sempre antecedida de uma breve biografia dos distinguidos, em vídeo, com narrativa na voz do Charles de Sousa. Primeiro, o Advogado Orlando da Silva, natural de Kitchener, anterior sócio de uma grande firma de advogados na Bay Street, e fundador -com outros três advogados- da Portuguese Canadian Lawyers Association. É actualmente chefe do Departamento de Litígios Comerciais do Ministry of the Attorney General-Crown Law-Civil. Orlando da Silva mostrou-se agradado e surpreendido com a distinção (Professional Excellence Award), agradeceu à Federação a sua escolha. Lembrou um pouco do seu passado, de

continued on page 4

toda a sua paixão pela carreira que escolheu, e dos serviços já prestados. Orlando é casado com Adrienne e pai de uma linda menina de 6 anos de idade, a Candace.

De seguida, foi chamado o MPP Peter Fonseca, distinguido com o prémio "New Generation Award". Peter Fonseca, um atleta de gabarito no campo do atletis-



Os Homenageados da noite nas quatro categorias dos prémios.

mo, maratonista Olímpico com as cores do Canadá, é formado em Educação pela Universidade de Windsor. Foi eleito para a Assembleia Legislativa do Ontário, em 2003, por Mississauga East. É Assistente Parlamentar do Ministro para a Promoção da Saúde, Desportos e Atividades Recreativas. É um entusiasta da educação física, procurando por todos os meios ao seu alcance, promover o exercício físico para que a população do Ontário seja mais saudável, física, espiritual, e mentalmente.

No seu discurso de agradecimento, Peter lembrou um pouco a sua carreira desportiva, os seus anseios políticos, e o desejo para que a Comunidade seja mais forte.

Peter Fonseca é casado com a também ex-atleta Christina, e recentemente pai de dois gémeos, Sebastian e Alexander, que são o encanto da família.

O prémio "Civic Commitment Award" foi entregue ao conhecido sindicalista e activo membro da Comunidade, António Dionísio. Tony Dionísio é o Business Manager da UWU, Local 183, desde 1996. A Local 183 é a maior Local da indústria da construção civil da América do Norte, com mais de 30 mil membros.

Mesmo assim, Tony Dionísio encontra tempo e espaço para dedicar-se a grandes actividades sociais, fazendo parte de inúmeras comissões de apoio a vítimas de desastres naturais, no Canadá, Itália, Polónia, Portugal, Turquia, Índia e São Salvador, e organizador de vários acontecimentos para angariação de fundos para centros de saúde e de caridade, programas de doenças mentais e outros, de ajuda à Caritas, e a organizações de deficientes físicos.

Tony Dionísio iniciou e está envolvido na fundação da sede da Sociedade dos Deficientes Físicos Portugueses; fundou na Local 183 a "Antonio Dionisio/Local 183 Scholarship Trust", e a "Local 183 Charitable Trust Fund", entre outros.



Dr. José Ferreira, Dra. Maria Amélia Paiva, Cidália Faria, Armindo Silva, Avelino Fonseca, Cristina Marques

Tony Dionísio tem ainda tempo para fazer parte de vários projectos do Ontário, tais como "Toronto Waterfront Renewal Board", "Ontario Smart Growth Panel", e da "Toronto's Olympic Bid Board of Directors".

Tony Dionísio agradeceu o prémio, mencionando que não se dedica ao bem

fazer na esperança de ser distinguido, mas sim com o propósito de ajudar, de contribuir para a melhoria das condições do seu semelhante. Tony Dionísio, natural da Pinhoa, emigrou para o Canadá em 1963.

Por fim, foi distinguida a simpática mulher de negócios Fátima Cabral, com o prémio "Business Excellence Award". Fátima Cabral, natural de Santa Maria, Açores, é co-fundadora e presidente da Pink Elephant Inc., uma companhia de serviços tecnológicos, que é consagrada em todo o mundo. Fátima Cabral e o seu parceiro de negócios e marido, David Ratcliffe, desde 1991, são pais de dois filhos, e residem em Oakville. A firma IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL) é pioneira e reconhecida como revolucionária na América do Norte e, Fátima Cabral, também reconhecida como a força-motriz da empresa. Recebeu vários prémios através dos anos, entre eles, o "Ontario Global Traders Award" atribuído pelo Governo do Ontário, o "PROFIT's Top 100 Fastest Growing Companies In Canada" e, também, 5 prémios da Câmara de Comércio de Burlington.

Fátima Cabral, mulher de garra e com sentido de humor apurado, demonstrou o seu segredo de sucesso ao lado do marido, ao afirmar: -"O meu sucesso em trabalhar junto do meu marido, todos os dias, e sem problemas, é que... eu tenho sempre razão!"

Em suma, quatro pessoas distinguidas, cada uma com os seus méritos próprios, cada uma merecedora da distinção. Começaram da melhor maneira as comemorações do 25º. Aniversário da FPCBP. A Cônsul-Geral de Portugal, Dra. Maria Amélia Paiva, fez um discurso brilhante,

de agradecimento, de elogio aos passados dirigentes da FPCBP, e de incentivo aos dirigentes actuais, para que a Federação mantenha o ideal e que possa dar cada vez mais e melhor aos portugueses e aos luso-descendentes. Portugal e o Canadá precisam, cada vez mais, dos serviços da FPCBP.

Jeff Bartja, Vice-Presidente Distrital do Scotiabank, o banco que foi o patrocinador principal da noite, enalteceu a organização pelo excelente trabalho realizado e prometeu que o ScotiaBank iria continuar a apoiar a FPCBP e a Comunidade

Entre os muitos convidados presentes, descortinámos, Alan Tonks, Mário Silva, Tony Ruprecht, Cesar Palacio, Martinho Silva, Peter Ferreira e César de Moraes, para além dos muitos comerciantes, industriais, empresários e profissionais, e suas famílias, que deram um brilho especial ao acontecimento. Foi sorteado um valioso colar, oferta de Louro Jewellers Inc, entregue na altura por Luís Louro.

Fim-de-festa com os habituais “bate-papos”, e ainda, a voz magnífica de Liz Rodrigues, na interpretação de três belos temas, e música para dançar com o con-

Tudo bem. O lançamento dos festejos para a comemoração dos 25 anos da FPCBP, em 2006, não poderiam ter um começo melhor. Ana Bailão, e seus companheiros de Direcção, têm bons motivos para se sentirem de bem com a suas consciência. A Assembleia Geral para eleições na FPCBP está à porta. Cuidados e caldos de galinha nunca fizeram mal a ninguém...

Parabéns, a todos!

*Article courtesy of
The Portuguese Post*

Renewing our democracy

Elections certainly give us the opportunity to take a closer look at our democratic system of government and how it is serving those for whom it was developed. The people of Canada have traditionally participated significantly in the electoral process although in recent years those numbers have been declining. The question at hand is, of course, what might we do to reverse this trend. How do we engage more Canadians in their democratic system of government?

There are a multitude of alternatives that might be considered in terms of renewing our democracy. This could mean adopting a different electoral system and there are several possibilities including proportional representation, the single transferable vote or the mixed member proportional system. Each of these different systems aims to better reflect the voting intentions of the electorate while at the same time encouraging greater voter participation.

It is imperative that we as a country begin a full and meaningful national debate on the issue of democratic renewal and electoral reform. There are many who have argued for some time that our current “first past the post” system of electing representatives is now obsolete and that it fails to serve Canadians effectively. Whether this is the case or not is something that should be determined by all Canadians.

Similarly, if we are to ensure a healthy and vibrant democratic system we should also move quickly to encourage greater participation by younger Canadians in the democratic process. We can move towards this objective by encouraging through our education system a better understanding of the country in which we all live. By engaging young people in our schools and within our communities we can develop a culture of participation that will follow these future voters into adulthood and our democracy will be better served by their commitment.

It is also essential that we work vigorously to encourage more women to enter the political process. Despite efforts in the past to have more women participate in our public sector the representation is still very much below any acceptable level of participation. We should achieve this objective by not only encouraging women to seek public office but also by ensuring any barriers to their participation are removed.

All of these objectives, encouraging greater voter participation from the general population, more involvement by young people and bringing more women into the system all serve the same end. They make our democratic system healthier, more representative and more effective. It is work we must begin now and it is work that is extremely important.

By Mario Silva, MP Davenport



**ESPECIALIZADOS EM PRODUTOS ALIMENTARES,
INCLUINDO PEIXE FRESCO, VINDO DE PORTUGAL**

Tel.: 416-533-3591/2 • Fax.: 416-533-3485
1411 Dufferin Street, Toronto, ON M6H 4C7
Email: sales@fermafoods.com

bcpbank

A Community Bank for a
Community Business

www.bank**bcp**.com | 1.866.77my**bcp**

Corporate Tax Tips & Traps

1) Beware of Unpaid Amounts

A taxpayer (debtor) is allowed a deduction for an expense incurred to earn income from business or property. The deduction is taken in the year incurred, whether or not the amount is actually paid in that year. Where the taxpayer rendering the services (creditor) computes taxable income using the cash method, the income is only recognized when payment is received, providing an indefinite deferral. Tax legislation limits this deferral to two years. Specifically, if the debtor and creditor do not deal with each other at arm's length and the expense in question is not paid by the end of the debtor's second taxation year following that in which it was incurred, the debtor must include the unpaid amount in computing taxable income for the third taxation year following the year in which the expense was incurred. There is no provision allowing the re-deduction of the expense in the year of payment.

In order to avoid the income inclusion in the third year, the debtor and creditor can jointly elect (in prescribed form) to treat the expense as if it had been repaid on the first day of the third taxation year and to have been replaced by a loan of equal value from the creditor to the debtor.

The above rules do not apply to expenses relating to an individual's wages, salaries or other remuneration. These amounts must be paid within 180 days after the year-end of the business in order to be deductible in that year.

2) Owner-Manager Remuneration

As an owner-manager of your corporation, you must consider what mix of salary, dividend and/or bonus you should receive from the corporation. There are a number of points to consider when making this determination. In most cases it is advantageous to pay yourself a bonus at year-end in order to reduce the company's taxable income to the amount eligible for the small business deduction (SBD). This amount is generally \$300,000, but must be shared among associated companies. Paying out a bonus is often preferred to paying a regular salary, since the company does not have to pay out the bonus until 179 days after the company's year-end, whereas salaries are paid on a current basis. Please note that the bonus is subject to withholding tax (payable to the Receiver General) and must be remitted in respect of the period in which the bonus is paid out.

In determining what the ideal remuneration package is for the owner-manager, the following factors should be considered:

- The overall personal and corporate taxes payable.
- RRSP and pension contribution requirements (note that dividend income is not "earned income" for purposes of calculating your RRSP contribution room).
- The availability of corporate investment tax credits, manufacturing and processing credits, etc.
- Corporate and individual cash flow requirements.
- Payroll costs associated with the remuneration (CPP, EI, WCB, EHT, etc.)



3) Income Splitting with Family Members

There are ways to split corporate income among family members who are subject to lower marginal tax rates. One common strategy is to pay family members a salary for services they render to the corporation. The corporation receives a deduction for the salaries paid and the family member pays tax on the salary at lower marginal tax rates (assuming no other significant sources of income). The salaries paid must be reasonable in order to be deductible by the corporation. Generally, they should be representative of an amount that would be paid to a non-related party for similar services.

Another income splitting strategy involves paying dividends to family members (spouses and non-minor children) who own dividend-paying shares in the company. An individual who does not earn income from any other sources can receive up to \$34,000 of dividend income without paying any income tax. Please note that dividends paid to children who are under the age of 18 will be subject to "kiddie tax" at the highest marginal tax rate. Therefore, you should avoid paying dividends to minor children.

4) Be Cautious with Shareholder Loans

Generally, where a corporation has lent money to a shareholder and that shareholder does not repay the loan within one year after the taxation year it is incurred, the full amount of the loan will be included in the shareholder's income. There are certain situations in which this treatment is not applicable, such as when the loan is issued to the shareholder in his/her capacity as employee of the company, and the loan was used by the shareholder to purchase additional previously unissued shares of the corporation. Usually, these types of loans must be offered to all employees of the corporation in order for the shareholder loan rules not to apply. In addition, the shareholder and the corporation must have entered into "bona fide" repayment arrangements at the time the loan is issued.

In short, where the shareholder loan does not meet the specific exemption criteria, it should be repaid by the shareholder within one year after it is incurred.

By Silvia Jacinto

McGuinty government invests in apprenticeship training

Support for college training labs will help grow the number of apprentices and strengthen economic growth and prosperity

As the provincial government heads into the third year of its mandate, it is renewing its focus on strengthening Ontario's economy. Part of the government's economic plan is to increase its investment in apprenticeships and training for people to work in the skilled trades. We know that a strong skilled trades sector is important to economic growth and prosperity. The government is working to ensure that we have the skilled workers we need to compete in a global marketplace and replace the large number of workers reaching retirement age. The Ontario government aims to increase the number of new apprentices so that by the year 2008 there will be 26,000 new apprentices trained every year. In order to achieve this goal, it is investing \$10 million this year to help apprentice-training labs at Ontario colleges purchase up-to-date equipment and train more apprentices to the high standards set by industry.

The importance of funding in apprenticeships can not be overstated, however, without interested people, especially young people, simply funding more apprenticeship spots would not be enough. This is why the second aspect of the Ontario government's Apprenticeship and Training initiative is to recruit and encourage young people to consider apprenticeships as career paths. The government will launch a 30-second television ad that shows apprentices contributing to different sectors of the economy. The ad also reminds employers of the Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit that provides refundable tax credits on a portion of the salaries and wages paid to eligible apprentices.

There are many different ways for young people to participate in apprenticeships. Perhaps the easiest way is to sign up for the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). OYAP is a school-to-work program which allows students to earn credits toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma while registering as an apprentice in a skilled trade. Students also have the opportunity to access apprenticeships while studying at college in Ontario. Many colleges have a CO-OP program which allows student to work towards their college degree while working as an apprentice in a skilled trade.

In addition to those apprenticeship programs focused on high school and college students, the government has also developed training opportunities for at risk youth who have left high school without graduating or who face other employment barriers. This program will focus on pre-apprenticeship training in five key skilled trades: Brick and Stone Masonry, Construction Craft worker, General Carpenter and Cook Assistant.

By investing in apprenticeship training, we are strengthening our greatest competitive advantage – our people. We need more parents and teachers to recognize the potential of careers in the skilled trades and to encourage young people to pursue apprenticeship training.

By Peter Fonseca, MPP Mississauga East



GAS & DIESEL

JACINTO'S Car Wash



Soft Cloth Tunnel Wash

24 Hour Coin Wash

2010 Dundas St. W. (West of Lansdowne) • 416-531-8134

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

Tel: (416) 537-8874 • Fax: (416) 537-9706 • Email: info@fpcbp.com

Bank vice-president Ana Bailão once cleaned offices

She wants other Portuguese young people to dream big

Ana Bailão knows a thing or two about glass ceilings. Years ago she was cleaning them; now she's breaking through them.

Arriving from Portugal at 15, Bailão landed a part-time gig as a cleaner in a downtown Toronto office, emptying wastebaskets and cleaning windows.

She could barely string together a sentence in English, but unlike many of her Portuguese classmates, she was determined to go to university and needed to earn tuition. She found inspiration in the Portuguese professionals sprouting up around her.

Tonight, when the federation she now heads honours four distinguished members of the Portuguese community, she's hoping youth hear the same message she once did: Anything is possible.

"This event is important, especially for young Portuguese Canadians, because it shows them that they can do it, too," Bailão said. It's a powerful message in a community that still struggles with academic underachievement and political under-representation.

Bailão went on to earn a degree, assist the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon, work at city hall with former councillor Mario Silva, and even run a tight but unsuccessful race for the Davenport seat in the 2003 municipal election.

Today, at 29, she is a vice-president at bcpbank, which is owned by a Portuguese company and serves the city's west end. And she is president of the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals, a non-profit group that promotes business activity and encourages academic excellence.

Tonight's gala is "also about reaching out to the mainstream community, to showcase people who are examples of the many success stories we have," Bailão said, sipping a latte in a bustling bakery in Portugal Village, near Dundas St. W. and Ossington Ave. As she spoke, customers were ordering bicas (Portuguese espressos) and pasteis de nata (cream pastries),

keeping the cash register ringing.

"We have good businesses and good services that should be promoted outside the Portuguese community. We need to reach out; we don't want our community to stay in a (cultural) ghetto," she said.

Although the Portuguese have been coming to Canada's east coast to fish since the 16th century, the first real wave arrived only after Portugal and Canada signed labour contracts in the early 1950s that made this country a popular place to seek work.

Starting in 1953 and continuing for three decades, thousands left the dictatorial regime of António de Oliveira Salazar for a shot at a better life.

Ana Bailão, 29, is president of the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals, which is honouring four community members at a gala tonight. "This event is important, especially for young Portuguese Canadians, because it shows them that they can do it, too."

Today, there are an estimated 500,000 Portuguese descendants in Canada - about two-thirds in the GTA. Toronto has always been the heart of that community, with about 180,000 people - many still living in the colourful pocket known as Portugal Village or Little Portugal.

A string of Portuguese-owned businesses and homes lining the west-end neighbourhood are testament to how the community has thrived economically.

But it still faces unique challenges. Despite the "great strides" made, Bailão said political apathy, academic underachievement and lack of political representation remain key areas that must be tackled.

After all, she pointed out, it was only in 2004 that the first Portuguese MP was

elected (Mario Silva), and the high-school dropout rate among Portuguese Canadian youth remains distressingly high.

"We're starting to accomplish things, and you're seeing more people succeeding in various areas," said Bailão, the second female president in the federation's 25-year history.

"We're getting more involved and we're getting into more prominent positions, but there's still work that needs to be done. We need to motivate our community and make them understand that it's important for them to participate ...and it's important that they go out and vote and that their kids stay in school."

Academic underachievement is an issue that has long dogged the community. A 1993 study by the Toronto public school board showed that Portuguese students were dropping out at a rate of more than 40 per cent. In 1994, the provincial Royal Commission on Learning identified problems with student achievement among Toronto's Portuguese, black and Hispanic populations. And a report released this January by York University sociologist Michael Ornstein found that 33 per cent of Portuguese had not completed high school - twice the average for European groups.

An earlier report by Ornstein had noted that many children of Portuguese immigrants were doing the same low-skilled jobs as their parents.

It's tough to pinpoint, when it comes to the political arena and the classroom, why the Portuguese haven't flourished the way others have from nearby southern European countries, which are culturally similar. But Bailão gives it a shot.

"The bulk of our immigrants came when Portugal was still under a dictatorship - there was a lot of poverty, people weren't used to voting in a democratic process and the level of education was very low," she said.

"The mentality was to work hard: to work toward having a home and putting food on your table. They came for a better life, which meant having to work."

continued on page 9



continued from page 8

It's also been tough, she says, to get government support for addressing the academic issue because the Portuguese are not a "visible minority" and simply get overlooked.

Suspensions also linger within the community that schools still tend to stream Portuguese students into lower levels, as they did in the past.

The stereotypes that prompted Armino Silva to co-found the federation still haunt the community. "Everywhere I went, people would say to me, 'My cleaning lady is a Portuguese,'" recalled

Silva, a successful insurance broker. "I don't have a problem with the Portuguese working in cleaning or construction, but when the community comes to be defined as such, then it's a problem."

Breaking those stereotypes remains a priority, Bailão said, pointing out that today's community not only includes the Portuguese construction worker who does back-breaking labour but also the Portuguese company owner he works for and the Portuguese doctor who eases his pain.

And key to shattering those stereotypes is bolstering education. The federation has awarded scholarships to high-school and university students since the beginning, doling out \$250,000 in just the past five years, said Bailão, herself a former recipient.

Maria Amélia de Paiva, the newly appointed consul general of Portugal in Toronto, praised the federation's "fantastic work" in an interview yesterday. "It shows the strengths and the capacities of the Portuguese community in several different areas," Paiva said, referring to tonight's honourees and countless others who are examples of the leaps the community has made.

"There is action taking place and great strides are being accomplished, and (tonight's) dinner is an example of that," Bailão said. "It's proof we are succeeding."

*Article courtesy of the Toronto Star
written by Isabel Teotonio, February 18, 2006 issue*

Convívio de Natal da Federação de Empresários e Profissionais Luso-Canadianos

Decorreu no Restaurante Cataplana o encontro de Natal da FPCBP. A informalidade do encontro proporcionou aos Associados da Federação uma oportunidade de convívio num ambiente agradável e de boa disposição. Ana Bailão e os restantes membros do Board presentes, estavam visivelmente satisfeitos com mais esta iniciativa, e por constatarem a presença em tão grande número de Associados.

O encontro proporcionou aos associados da Federação uma oportunidade para a troca de ideias sobre assuntos em geral bem como a oportunidade de se reverem caras amigas nesta quadra festiva.

Parabéns e que 2006 traga a todos o que mais desejam.



Ricardo Viveiros, Cidália Faria, John Peter Ferreira, Arnaldo Santos, Paul Silva, Pedro Pinto no evento da FPCBP

TRICAN
MASONRY CONTRACTORS INC.
Tel.: 905.278.7800 | Fax.: 905.278.7855
305 Iroquois Ave. Mississauga, ON L5G 1M8

Marbles of PORTUGAL
IMPORT & EXPORT CO. LTD
WHOLESALE & RETAILER

UPPER CANADA
marble & granite

Importadores de vários Mármore e Granitos de toda parte do mundo.
Para mais informações telefone para
T. 416-534-5155 • F. 416-532-0072
VISITE O NOSSO SHOWROOM
11 Dublin Street Toronto, ON M6H 1J4
www.marbles-of-portugal.com • info@marbles-of-portugal.com

“Canada Meets Europa-EU Diplomatic Lounge”, em Toronto

A Câmara do Comércio da União Europeia de Toronto e o Hotel Delta Chelsea, em colaboração com a Delegação da Comissão Europeia do Canadá em Ottawa, organizaram no passado dia 2 de Fevereiro, um encontro no Hotel Delta Chelsea, intitulado “Canada Meets Europe – EU Diplomatic Lounge”, onde estiveram em exposição, fotografias, pinturas, e de-

mos promover a Comunidade empresarial aqui no Canadá, pudémos mostrar, hoje e aqui, às outras comunidades europeias - primeiro ao Canadá, depois a todas as outras Comunidades canadianas -, que temos uma Comunidade que é representativa nesta sociedade, e acho que conseguimos demonstrar isso mesmo.

mensais, de promoção às Comunidades e seus valores. Vamos a ver se no próximo ano iremos contribuir mais uma vez para a expansão da Comunidade Portuguesa e de Portugal. É para isso que trabalhamos e que aqui estamos.

T.P.P.: Se algum português, ou de outra etnia, quiser investir na Europa, pode conseguir informações junto da Federação?

A.B.: Pode e deve! Nós temos contactos com todas as Câmaras de Comércio locais e da Europa. E também com a Comissão Europeia, que contribuiu para este encontro. Embora tenhamos poucos voluntários a trabalhar na FPCBP, podem contar connosco para todas e quaisquer informações, e encaminhamentos. Precisamos de mais membros e, logicamente, mais voluntários para melhor servirmos os que nos procuram. Juntem-se a nós para sermos mais fortes e úteis!

Tivémos o prazer de ouvir vários grupos das muitas etnias presentes, entre eles, a nossa Lusa-Can Tuna que, com a simpatia que todos lhe reconhecemos, explicaram as suas raízes, a razão do nascimento das Tunas, e os temas que interpretaram. Muito bem, para quem se encontrava num ambiente alheio à língua de Camões. Estes jovens da Luso-Can Tuna merecem-nos todo o respeito e felicitações.

Neste encontro “Canada Meets Europe – EU Diplomatic Lounge”, estiveram presentes muitos membros das Câmaras de Comércio locais, Embaixadores, Cônsules, e outros membros dos Corpos Diplomáticos, tal como líderes de corporações multinacionais, políticos, e elementos da Arte e da vida Académica.

By Nilton Vicente, The Portuguese Post



Elizabeth Mendes, Michael Sebastião, Ana Bailão no evento “Canada Meets Europe – EU Diplomatic Lounge”

senhos a carvão de vários países europeus, tal como a sua música, o seu sabor, e a sua gente. Portugal esteve representado pela FPCBP e pela a Luso-Can Tuna.

Na ocasião, falámos com a Presidente da FPCBP, Ana Bailão que, entusiasmada com o encontro, nos disse:

Ana Bailão: Acho tudo muito bom. É um evento para promover a nossa cultura, pudémos promover o nosso País, pudé-

T.P.P.: Tudo isto vai repetir-se nos próximos anos?

A.B.: Bom, este certame já acontece há vários anos, é uma iniciativa do Hotel. Só ultimamente é que a Câmara do Comércio da União Europeia e também a FPCBP se têm integrado mais nesta iniciativa. Este acontecimento é o mais importante do género, mas a FPCBP e a Câmara do Comércio da União Europeia têm promovido outros acontecimentos, alguns



SWISS CHALET
ROTISSERIE & GRILL



Joe Amorim
Franchise Operating Associate



Long live the grill.™

590 Keele St. • Toronto
T. 416.760.7893

3737 Rutherford Rd. • Vaughan
T. 905.264.4017



MONTEPIO GERAL

Representative Office

Prestamos os seguintes serviços:
 Serviço de informação diária sobre: Câmbios, CAD/EURO & USD/EURO •
 Conta emigrante • Contas domésticas • Crédito • Execução de
 pagamentos em Portugal a fornecedores e credores • Investimentos em
 Portuga • Produtos Mutualistas • Administração de propriedades • Apoio a
 operações de Comércio Externo

Tel: (416) 588-7776 | Fax: (416) 588-0030
 CHAMADAS FORA DA AREA: 1-888-633-1570

1286 Dundas Street West Toronto, Ontario M6J 1X7

Toronto and the Census

Census Day in Canada is Tuesday, May 16, 2006. More than 32.5 million people in Canada will 'count themselves in' as part of Canada's national census when questionnaires are delivered. Some 12.7 million households and all agricultural operations will begin to receive census questionnaires May 2nd. Seventy per cent of deliveries will occur by mail and 30 per cent of forms will be delivered by census enumerators.

Many federal and provincial programs including the Employment Insurance Act, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Canada Pension Plan, Official Languages Act, Old Age Security and Child Tax Benefit use census information. Census data are also used in calculating transfer payments from the federal government to the provinces and territories, and from the provincial/territorial governments to municipalities.

Census data are vital to Toronto for:

- determining the needs of the various communities in the city
- planning public services such as health care, transportation, fire and police protection, subsidized housing, education, day care and employment and training programs

- developing policies related to growth management, parks, transportation, economic development, and municipal infrastructure

- determining municipal boundary, annexation, amalgamation and electoral areas

- planning future developments.

It is important for residents to know that:

- Statistics Canada is required by law to conduct a census every five years

- by law, each household must provide the information requested in the census and by the same law Statistics Canada must protect the confidentiality of personal information provided

- all information collected by Statistics Canada is private and confidential and will only be used for statistical analysis

- no other government institution – not even the RCMP or the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency – has the right to access information given in confidence to Statistics Canada

- accurate statistics are important to de-

termine the needs of the various communities in Toronto and directly affects the types of services that will be provided in those areas, like education, day care, transportation and health care

- poor participation rates means that we are not accurately telling Toronto's story – about our diversity, our people and our communities – this information is important to develop programs and deliver services that cater to the changing needs of the city

- help is available by calling the Census Help Line at 1-877-594-2006. The helpline can also provide assistance in 44 languages

- census questionnaires can be completed online at www.census2006.ca.

For more information on the census or on how you can complete your census questionnaire online, please visit the 2006 Census website at www.census2006.ca or call 1-877-594-2006.

On Tuesday, May 16, 2006 'count Toronto in.' Fill out your census form.

Courtesy of Statistics Canada

Social Functions Corporate Functions



The Pearson Convention Center is Toronto's newest and most sumptuous venue for successful corporate events or fashionable social affairs. Close to Pearson International Airport, in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, the 60,000 square-foot Pearson Convention Center is equipped with the latest in hi-tech facilities and telecommunications services, in a setting rich with a timeless elegance of design, exquisite amenities and good old-fashioned comfort.

Offering a full range of rooms to comfortably host every kind of group - from intimate gatherings for fewer than a dozen guests, all the way up to spectacular live shows with an audience of two thousand - the Pearson Convention Center is a superb environment that will fully adapt to your needs and your vision, to make your event a perfect and memorable success.

Your Success is our Success!

2638 Steeles Avenue East, Brampton
Tel: 905.494.0444 • Fax: 905.494.0344
www.pearsonconventioncenter.com





722 College Street, Toronto, ON M6G 1C4
Tel.: 416-588-4663 • Tel.: 416-588-7329

www.themodclub.com

Bill 206: Revising the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System Act



A key issue of concern identified in the OCC's 2006 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission is Bill 206: Revising the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement Systems (OMERS) Act.

The OCC and its members are extremely concerned with the proposed language in Bill 206 and the financial implications of such a Bill on property taxpayers. The OCC has urged the province to conduct a proper due diligence review of the possible cost implications, and then reassess the merits of this current draft.

It is discomfoting that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, using actuarial estimates provided by OMERS, predicts a potential cost impact to municipalities in the neighbourhood of \$380 million a year – the equivalent of about a 3 per cent property tax hike. The OCC has argued that Ontario businesses are facing a number of challenges to keep their businesses competitive. Adding another cost of this magnitude will not contribute to their competitiveness.

The OCC has expressed concern that this Bill is proceeding too quickly, given the size of this fund (\$36 billion), the importance it plays in the Ontario economy and the wide ranging opposition to this bill among a truly broad range of stakeholders. A formal submission, urging the Ontario Government to conduct an extensive and comprehensive due-diligence exercise in order to fully assess the proposed governance structure and cost implications of Bill 206 will be circulated to OCC members and be made available on the www.occ.on.ca.

City Council appointments

At a special meeting on January 31, 2006, Toronto City Council appointed two Councillors to fill vacant seats until the term of Council expires November 30, 2006. Martin Silva was appointed to Ward 20 (Trinity-Spadina) and Paul Ainslie was appointed to Ward 41 (Scarborough-Rouge River).

Both seats became vacant late last year when Olivia Chow and Bas Balkissoon resigned from City Council. Chow was elected in Trinity-Spadina following the recent federal election; Balkissoon won a provincial by-election last fall in the riding

of Scarborough-Rouge River. A total of 56 candidates indicated an interest to fill the vacancies. Candidates were given an opportunity to address Council and answer questions.

Martin Silva served three terms with the former Metro Council; Paul Ainslie has been the Executive Assistant to Toronto Budget Chief David Soknacki for the past five years.

By Francine Antonio



Sergio Ruivo
Chartered Accountant

- Contabilidade Comercial • Assistência com Planos de Negócios
- Consultoria de Gestão

- Financial Statements & Attest Function
- Business Plans & Financing Proposals
- Management Consulting

1278 Dundas Street West Suite 600 Toronto, Ontario M6J 1X7
Cell: 416-897-2972 | Office: 416-850-8305
Fax: 416-633-7402 | E-mail: sergio.ruivo@sympatico.ca

"Get The Professional Edge"



Make the most of your dreams™

Past Presidents

Frank Alvarez
Ermidio Alves
Luis Arruda
David Costa
Fernando Costa
Ricardo Castro-Lopo
Raimundo Favas
Almiro Fonseca
Louis Louro, Jr.
João Neves
Nellie Pedro
Leo Pereira
Joe Pinto
Arnaldo Santos
John Santos
Armando Silva
Charles Sousa
Carlos Teixeira

Founders

Laura Bulger
Fernando Costa
Vasco D'Avillez
Cesar de Morais
Germano Gonçalves
Delkar Maia
Alberto Pereira
Octavio Sampaio
John F. Santos
Armando Silva

2005 Board of Directors



Kelly Da Fonseca; Cristina Marques (Vice President); Fernando Clotildes (Secretary); Pedro Pinto; Francine Antonio; Cidalia Faria; Ana Bailão (President); Julio DeJesus; Silvia Jacinto (Treasurer); Avelino Fonseca; John Peter Ferreira (Absent: Aldina Costa)

New Members

Mary Lou De Jesus
Azevedo & Nelson, Barristers & Solicitors

Ana Patrick
Forum Magazine & Media Group

Sean Patrick
Forum Magazine & Media Group

Trio Roofing Systems Inc.
Joel Vieira, Owner (Corporate membership)

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



CAPELAS

C.C.

CONSTRUCTION

Carlos Botelho

CAPELAS HOMES LTD.

CHL

CUSTOM QUALITY BUILT

construtor de casas novas • empreiteiro de carpintaria (framing)
casas por encomenda (custom made) 50x150 aproximadamente
Tel.: 905.7923.600 | Fax.: 905.792.3626
14202 Hurontario St., R.R.1 Inglewood, ON L0N 1K0

Membership Application



**FEDERATION OF
PORTUGUESE
CANADIAN
BUSINESS &
PROFESSIONALS**

Federação de Empresas e Profissionais Luso-Canadianos

☐ Referred by:

722 College Street, Suite 301, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6G 1C4

Tel: (416) 537-8874 • Fax: (416) 537-9706 • E-Mail: info@fpcbp.com • Website: www.fpcbp.com

☐ Yes, please sign me up for an FPCBP membership

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please sign me up for 1 year Membership:

☐ \$120.00 (+ \$8.40 GST) Individual Membership

☐ \$500.00 (+ \$35.00 GST) Corporate Membership
(max 5 people)

☐ \$48.00 (+ \$3.36 GST) Student Membership

NOTE: Membership rates already include 7% GST. GST #871906392

Method of Payment

☐ Payment Enclosed (make cheque payable to FPCBP)

☐ Visa #: _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Please fill in this area completely

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Please describe the type of business:

Office Use Only

Board approval

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please mail your application to: Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals
722 College Street, Suite 301, Toronto, ON M6G 1C4 • For further information, please contact FPCBP at 416-537-8874**



Os nossos escritórios estão em plena comunidade e encontram-se mais bem equipados, para melhor servirmos as necessidades de todos, em termos de **Seguros e Investimentos.**

Visite-nos nas nossas instalações, para uma consulta gratuita sobre o seu futuro financeiro.



Manahara Menezes - Fernando Oliveira - Carminda Ferreira - José Carlos Freire

UMA EQUIPA QUE PROTEGE E TOMA CONTA DO SEU FUTURO

Serviços e Produtos Financeiros - Fundos de Investimento - RESP's e RRSP's
Seguros de: Acidentes, Doenças Críticas, Problemas dentários, Invalidez,
 Vida, Hipotecas e Viagens - Planeamento Financeiro - Benefícios em Grupo
 Contabilidade e Income Tax (Impostos de Rendimento)
 Consultoria de Informática - Internet - Redes

Para nos conhecer melhor, visite-nos em www.fsoinc.ca

FSO Financial Services of Ontario
 A Division of FSO Investments Inc.
 1304 Dundas St. West
 Toronto, ON M6J 1Y1
 Tel. 416 530-1515 - Fax. 416-533-9140
 Toll Free. 1-866-429-1515
 email: fso@fsoinc.ca
www.fsoinc.ca

Representamos:

