

GUYANA CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (CANADA) INC.

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough, ON M1V 4Z6 -- Tel. No. 416-293-8622

Website: <http://www.gcccanada.org> Email: gcccaninc@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GuyanaChristianCharities>

Registration No. 89096-5643-RR0001



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Love of Humanity

"Sister H", a member of Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc., does missionary work in Guyana with L.I.F.T Street Prison and Community Outreaches in Canada and Guyana (Guyana Missions). Members of L.I.F.T have been doing charitable work for the last 30 years.

"Sister H" spends approximately four to six (4-6) months yearly in Guyana. Her missionary work entails working with communities in Georgetown, East and West Coast and other areas throughout Guyana including the mental hospital. She is able to achieve this with the help of GCC, CWC (a successful outreach in Canal #1) and with volunteers in a Community Church.



GCC supports some of her charitable undertakings, so she is able to bring Christmas cheer to the needy, feed the homeless, make life cheerful for the mentally ill and assist those with special needs. We are able to assist with toys, gifts, children and adult clothing, personal hygiene necessities, wheelchairs, crutches, bikes, tricycles, strollers, pots, walkers, lawnmowers, TVs, games, etc. and some special requests.

While many are not aware of the impact of her work, the beneficiaries and their families are living proof of "Sister H" love for humanity with her many charitable ventures. "Sister H" is always ready to help the less fortunate in her homeland and in Canada. She is willing to pray with you to give you hope -- That unconditional love for humanity makes "Sister H" a 'Special Person'

OUR MISSION

*Guyana Christian
Charities
(Canada) Inc.
is a volunteer,
non-profit charitable
organization, registered in
Canada, dedicated to providing
aid and assistance to
Guyanese
organizations, individuals
and others in need*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Sincere greetings to all of our readers!

I hope that you are all doing well. Thankfully the worse seems to be over after all we have been through with the pandemic and I hope that you and your families are finally getting back to some normalcy.

As you know, three (3) years have passed since the pandemic began which prevented us from holding our yearly events. I am pleased to announce that we held our Fall Dance in September, which went off without a hitch. The feedback was positive with some saying it was one of the best ever. There was a lot of uncertainty during the planning stages but we managed to pull the event off smoothly. It could not have been done without the help and persistence of everyone who helped to plan this event including our volunteers. Without you all, Guyana Christian Charities would not be able to continue to assist so many who need our help. Thank you for all that you do.

I would also like to thank those who supported the event. I wish we could have gone for another hour as some of you folks were still on the floor even after the band stopped playing.

To our various contributors, thank you for all of your support. Your kindness is much appreciated and we are eternally grateful for every single donation.

Our Bake Sale was held on October 16th and I hope you all were able to attend this event.

All the very best for the upcoming Christmas Holidays and New Year to you and your family!

Sincerely,
Dexter Gonsalves

Dexter Gonsalves
President

PACKING & SHIPPING UPDATE

Kumar Singh

Guyana Christian Charities Canada Inc. (CCG) continues to receive and pack donations of used articles from a wide group of donors, including donors from outside of the Metro Toronto area. Our volunteers travel for miles to collect, load and bring these donations to the sorting and packing location at century 21 where our dedicated volunteers would sort, pack and allocate the donations according to the needs and requests from a wide range of the less fortunate people of Guyana. After weeks and months of this activity and after enough boxes and items to fill a 40ft. container was ready they would be transported to the shipper and loaded into the container for shipment.

On May 25th, 2022, a 40ft. container with 1,040 pieces valued at over \$50,000. was shipped to Guyana on board the vessel ZIM LEO/31/S. The cost of the shipment was obtained from the proceeds of GCC fund-raising activities which are supported by the Guyanese diaspora and friends in Toronto. Thanks to all who continue to support our efforts and mandate.

This shipment consisted of men's, women's and children's clothing, bikes, wheelchairs, food items, books, eyeglasses, school supplies, crutches, walkers, canes, medical supplies, TV's and kitchen utensils. With the continued help from Food For The Poor and John Fernandes and staff, the donations were delivered to over 61 organizations, hospitals and individuals across Guyana.

Thanks to all who made this possible and please continue your support to enable us to meet our goals and objectives to provide and assist the Guyanese organizations, individuals and others in need. If you have items to donate, kindly call one of the persons listed below to arrange a pick-up.

Anne-Marie Reigber	-	416-755-6958
Winston Gittens	-	416-771-2064
Dexter Gonsalves	-	416-293-8622
Kumar Singh	-	416-498-9962

Thank you for your generous support, KEEP SAFE, BEST WISHES, and HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOR 2023.



Together we make a difference

A team is more than a collection of people. It is a process of give and take.
A team is more than a collection of people. It is a process of give and take.



A big "Thank You"
to the volunteers
of
Fairstone Pickering
for their
Community Service
To GCC
in decorating the hall
for their recent Fall
dance.

"No one can save the world, but we can all do
some good while we're here." — Marty Rubin



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HATS
OFF



1856 1-Cent Magenta Stamp from British Guiana Stamp

Maker: British Guiana
Original Price: 1c*
Worth Today: \$9.5 Million*



.....to our **Members, Volunteers, Supporters** including **Packers, Donors, Stallholders** (including those who cooked and baked) & especially those have who have been with our organization for many...many...years and assisted in various ways.

GCC is most grateful for all that you have done whether it was for a short or long time. We could not complete our mission with your help and supportthat is you.

Folks – we look forward to your continued support and involvement. YES...WE NEED YOU especially after the great surge of COVID, whereby we were not able to have our events for almost three (3) years.

If life throws lemons at you, make lemonade out of it. Never let any situation makes you bitter, but better. I pray that you have the strength and the energy you need to make the best out of this situation. Keep cool!

Discovered in a basement in 1873 by a Scottish schoolboy amongst his uncle's stamp collection, it made its way through several hands before reaching Arthur Hind in 1922 who reportedly outbid three kings for the price of **\$36,000**. It has since increased in value substantially, causing stamp collectors across the globe to dust off their old stamps and have them appraised.

The **British Guiana 1c magenta** is regarded by many philatelists as the world's most famous rare stamp. It was issued in limited numbers in British Guiana (now Guyana) in 1856, and only one specimen is now known to exist. It is the only major postage stamp ever issued that is not represented in Britain's Royal Philatelic Collection

With its **US\$9,480,000 sale on 17 June 2014** to Stuart Weitzman, this item broke the world record for a single stamp auction price each of the last four times it has been sold. The stamp was auctioned again on 8 June 2021 for the price of \$8,307,000. Beginning November 8, 2021, individuals are able to purchase fractional ownership of the stamp from Stanley Gibbons.



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choice for auspicious occasions everywhere!**





Telbits

**Thank You Letters
& Extracts of Appreciation from
Letters of Assistance**

**Thank you
Peter & Denise**



GCC would like to extend belated congratulations to Denise and Peter Lee on their 50th wedding anniversary, which occurred two years ago but was only recently celebrated in July of this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Denise and Peter for their kindness and thoughtfulness in requesting donations to the GCC – Bernard Gonsalves Memorial Fund in lieu of gifts, and to all of their families and friends who together raised over \$3,810 towards this fund.

Denise and Peter have always been staunch supporters of GCC: they helped in the start-up of the Food Stall and continue to support it yearly as part of our annual Bake Sale; they also support many of GCC's yearly functions, including generous donations of hampers as door prizes for our past Valentine Dances. Their continued support is very much valued and appreciated, not only by GCC but also by the family members of the late Bernard Gonsalves (GCC President --2002-09). Thank You!

**New
Developments**

Chris Fernandes

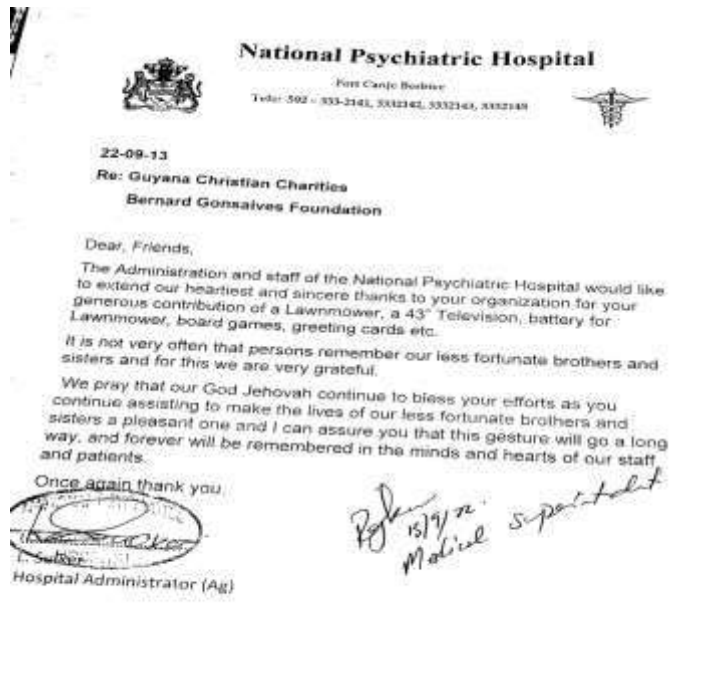


My two retirement projects are Saints and Mercy both of which receive tremendous support from the GCC and College Association without which we would be under far greater pressure to survive.

Thanks for the personal congratulations. Even though the only one being recent was the presentation by the President of the Stanley Greaves piece earlier this year. My two National awards were several years ago. The first being by the Jagdeo administration and later the CCH in the early years of the Granger administration. No need to change anything but thought I would put it in perspective for your information.

- In education, there is likely to be a lot of new developments which we are hoping to influence.
- At the hospital at the end of this year we will be relocating our Resident Care Home from Kitty to St Paul's Pastoral Center owned by the Bishop and just past Plaisance.
- We will also be moving our Nursing School from the Hospital Compound to Kitty, so we can increase the numbers of nurses being trained. That will free up real estate at the Hospital for expanded accommodation there as well.

We could never thank you folks enough for your continued support year after year even in these very difficult times. Thanks again to you all.



Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ: It is with heartfelt gratitude that.....extend thank you to all on Sundry who in some way give so that others can be happy. The school things are so much appreciated. Thank you all. May God continue to give you guys the strength, courage and power to continue giving in love. Blessings and more blessings family. This is your sister in christ,Norma .

On behalf of the communities we serve, I would like to thank GCC. We are sooooo grateful. God bless, keep up the good work. Peace and luv.....
Sis H:

During the Month of October I received nine (9) packages of assorted materials. We are indeed grateful for the contents. The clothing have already been distributed to the needy. May you all have a merry Christmas even though the Covid pandemic makes life a bit difficult. A hearty thank you to the hard working staff. Stay safe and well. Looking forward to hearing from you soon. Better still, hearing from you. *Fr Raymond Coxall*
..Church of the Transfiguration. Mandela Avenue:

"You do not write your life with words...You write it with actions. What you think is not important. It is only important what you do." — Patrick Ness

Historian & Educator Sister Mary Noel Menezes



Below are excerpts from various articles published in Guyana. However, we would be remiss not to mention Sister Noel's connection with Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.

From our inception in 1987 Sister Noel was always supportive and was extremely gracious to GCC for the help given to the Boy's Orphanage and the start-up of the Mercy Boy' Home ... and her guidance regarding helping these institutions, as well as the Mercy Hospital. We were always honored and happy to see Sister Noel on the occasions that she visited Canada. May she rest in peace. Amen.

"One of Guyana's greatest historians and educators, Sister Mary Noel Menezes, affectionately called "Sister Menezes" has passed away on August 31, 2022. She was 92 years old and in the 75th year of religious life.

Sr. Menezes (born in 1930) was a Roman Catholic nun belonging to the Order of the Sisters of Mercy. She entered the sisters of Mercy community in Dallas, Pennsylvania, USA in 1947 and took her vows as a Religious Sister in 1950.

Sr. Menezes was a historian and former University of Guyana lecturer. She was involved with the University of Guyana from 1967 to her death in 2022, as a lecturer, head of department, full professor, and as professor emeritus.

She made a significant contribution to Guyana as professor of history at the University of Guyana for 23 years. In 1973 she not only transformed the History Department into one of the best in the Caribbean at the time but also initiated the university's first Master's Degree Program – a Master of Arts in Guyanese and West Indian History. She served as the Chief Co-ordinator of this program for 17 years, from its inception to her retirement in 1990.

Sr. Menezes, who held a PhD in history from the University of London for her ground-breaking dissertation "British policy towards Guyanese Amerindians in the 19th century", spent most of her academic life at the University of Guyana. Sr. Menezes's pioneered work in Indigenous and Portuguese history.

She produced four books on these two subjects, namely, **British Policy Towards the Amerindians in British Guiana, 1803-1873** (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1977); **The Amerindians in Guyana 1803-1873. A Documentary History** (London: Frank Cass and Co. Ltd., 1979); **Scenes from the History of the Portuguese in Guyana** (London: The Author, 1986); and **The Portuguese of Guyana: A Study in Culture and Conflict** (Gujarat: The Anand Press, 1992).

In 2017, at the age of 87, she launched her new book entitled '**Guyana and the Wider World**', which featured a collection of her essays and addresses.

Two other of her numerous publications are particularly cherished by students. Her book, *The Amerindians and the Europeans* is one of the most informative sources of knowledge for this popular theme in the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) Caribbean History syllabus. Secondly, her *Guide to Historical Research*, later revised

with a new title, *How To Do Better Research*, continues to be an invaluable guide especially to university students in all disciplines on research methodology.

A passionate and charismatic teacher, Sr. Menezes trained a new generation of professional Guyanese historians and public figures. These include former President David Granger, Dr. James Rose, Dr. David Chanderbali, Mr. Tota Mangar, Ms. Cecelia McAlmont, Dr. Basdeo Mangru, Dr. Marguerite Chase-Garvey and Dr. Kimani Nehusi.

In addition to her prolific historical research, Sr. Menezes was also well known for her work at St John Bosco Orphanage, for boys aged three to sixteen (3 to 16) in Plaisance which she ran from 1968 to 2003.


In 2000, she founded the Mercy Boys' Home in Georgetown for boys 16 and over, to help them transition to adult life.

She also served on the council of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital from 1985 to 2002.

Over the years, Sr. Menezes received several honorary doctorates from universities all over the world, including the University of the West Indies in 2005.

She was awarded the Golden Arrow of Achievement by the Guyanese government in 1982, and in 2015 was inducted into the Order of Roraima.

A true national treasure, Sr. Menezes, will be remembered not only for her mountainous contribution to Guyanese history but also through her teachings and love for her students and 'Bosco boys'.

 Guyana's History You thought you knew	
Q:	Which group of indigenous groups first inhabited Guyana?
A:	The first indigenous groups to inhabit Guyana were the Carib (Galibi or Kalinago), Arawak (Taino), Warrau, Wayana and Akawai.
Q:	How many indigenous peoples are there in Guyana?
A:	Indigenous Peoples in Guyana are home to nine distinct Indigenous peoples - Lokono (Arawak), Akawaio (Kapon), Arecuna (Pemon), Macusi, Warrau, Wapisiana, Wai Wai, Patamona and Kalina (Carib).
Q:	Where did Guyana's first inhabitants live?
A:	The large meeting house in Masakenari – a remote WaiWai village in Guyana. (James Broscombe) It is generally believed that Guyana's first inhabitants, the Amerindians, originally entered the territory of what is now known as Guyana about 11,000 years ago. Initially they lived on the low, swampy coastland region. The Amerindians settled mostly in the forested regions of Guyana, and as such they maintained a primitive lifestyle of hunting and fishing. Consequently, they developed very strong jungle survival skills

The Orinduik Falls in Guyana One of Guyana's many falls



WITH SYMPATHY
Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord

Members would like to express their sympathy to the families of members, volunteers, donors, supporters and friends of GCC, who have passed and were not listed in our last newsletter.

Bernard Babb (UK)
Bertie (Bert) Bacchus
Lions Roland Carryl
Joseph (Neil) Castanheiro
Vernon (Bonny) Chung
Maria (Nair) Bahadur
Vivian D'Andrade
Anita Da Silva (Vanier)
David Da Silva
John Simon De Freitas (Madeira)

Jerome De Souza
Peter Fredericks (Guyana)
Yvonne Kwok (Vanier)
Daphine "Elsie" McWatt
Sister Mary Noel Menezes (Guyana)
Sydney Norman
Roland Pereira
John Philips
Brigette Sadler
Gustav (Gus) Seide
Lynette Sue

The families of our deceased brothers and sisters thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy.

Sincere thanks to those who listed Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc. to receive donations in lieu of flowers.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Wish List

We are in need of your assistance

Trolleys and Toaster	Heavy Duty Blender & Processor
Hair - Dryer & Cutting Machines	Colored sheets
Mattresses & Sleeping bags	Mattress covers (rubber)
Industrial mop and buckets	Gardening Tools
Clothing -- children, teenagers (boys and girls) & adults	Crutches, wheel chairs, bikes
School supplies & Permanent Markers	Pampers and/or Depends or substitute
Bats & balls, footballs, Rackets & balls	Footwear
Board games - Monopoly, cards, dominoes, other games	Knitting thread - assorted colors
Embroidery thread (red, pink, yellow, green, blue, black, brown, mauve)	Fabric & oil paint (red, blue, yellow, white), & artist brush
Fabric for sewing (Tetrex white, blue, red, white, pink, yellow, green plaid & figured)	TV (in good condition)
Beds	Canned food: peas, channa



Christmas will soon be here.

Christmas is celebrated on December 25 and is both a sacred religious holiday and a worldwide cultural and commercial phenomenon. For two millennia, people around the world have been observing it with traditions and practices that are both religious and secular in nature. Christians celebrate Christmas Day as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, a spiritual leader whose teachings form the basis of their religion. Popular customs include exchanging gifts, decorating Christmas trees, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends and, of course, waiting for Santa Claus to arrive.

Many Blessings for Christmas and the New Year!

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Upcoming Events

Come Join us and EnjoyOur yearly Events

GCC will have to decide what dates are available for all Upcoming Events for 2023 and will notify you accordingly. Thanks for your continued support at these events!

LOOK

You
will be
notified
when these
are
confirmed

Valentine Dinner & Dance
Saturday, February 2023 @ 7.30 p.m.
St. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall
231 Milner Avenue, Scarborough, ON
(Entrance on Milner Ave. - north of Hwy)

Spring Dance
Saturday, May 2023 @ 7.30 p.m.
Chestnut Hill Developments
Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering
(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds.)
South of Highway 2

Fall Dance
Saturday, September 2023 @ 7.30 p.m.
Chestnut Hill Developments
Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering
(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds.)
South of Highway 2

Secure your Tickets for these dances early

Rahana Khan	416-540-5255
Mike Gonsalves	416-420-0565
Dexter Gonsalves	905-428-3883
Dennis Choy	905-839-0434
Laureen Knight	289-314-6888
Winston Gittens	416-771-2064
Pam Da Silva	647-774-1805

or.... any GCC Member or....
email: gcccaninc@gmail.com



**Annual
Bake & Food Sale**
Free Admission
SUNDAY OCTOBER 2023
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Chestnut Hill Developments
Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Road Pickering
(Between Liverpool & Brock Rds.)
South of Highway 2

New Donors ← Please contact: **Pam Da Silva 647-774-1805**



Give a Helping Hand

THREE EASY WAYS YOU CAN HELP
Guyana Christian Charities

1. PRAY FOR OUR CONTINUED SURVIVAL;
2. Volunteer with ONE of our many AREAS of NEED;
3. SUPPORT US financially -- OUR ORGANIZATION DEPENDS ON YOUR GENEROSITY.

☒ **YES! I WANT TO HELP**

☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other

☐ **GENERAL** ☐ **GCC-BERNARD GONSALVES MEMORIAL FUND**
☐ **IN MEMORY** ☐ **St. JOSEPH MERCY HOSPITAL FUND**
☐ **TRIBUTE**

Name _____

Address _____

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email: _____ Phone: _____

Receipts are issued for donations of \$20 and over

Your donation of **\$10.00 or more** is tax-deductible. A receipt will be mailed, **if so requested**. CHARITABLE NO. 89096-5643-RR0001.

Please send your cheque & email with this form to:

Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.
805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

Donations may also be made through our **Website**:

<http://www.gcccanada.org> (through **CanadaHelps.org**)

NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST

- ☐ I would like to be on your Newsletter Mailing ☐ email List
☐ My address has been changed

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

email: _____ Phone: _____

Mail form to: **Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.**

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

COULD YOU HELP GCC?

- ☐ Yes, I wish to become a member of your organization
☐ Yes, I would like to join the **YOUTH COMMITTEE**
☐ Yes, I wish to assist with donation of **ITEMS/SUPPLIES**
☐ Yes, I would like to help with the:
☐ **BAKE & FOOD SALE** ☐ **PACKING** for shipments
☐ **DANCES** ☐ **TRANSPORTING** donated items

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

email _____ Phone _____

Mail form to: **Guyana Christian Charities (Canada) Inc.**

805 Middlefield Road, Unit 5, Scarborough ON M1V 4Z6

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT



Definition of time.

Slow when you wait. Fast when you are late. Short when you are happy. Long when you feel bored deadily when you are sad Endless when you are in pain. Everytime is determined by your feelings and your psychological conditions and not by clocks.
SO HAVE A NICE TIME ALWAYS.

CALL US TO ADVERTISE

We publish two newsletters each year
(February and **October**)

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416-754-4181



Do you know.....

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