

## President's Report to the 2017 Annual General Meeting

Welcome to all in attendance at our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AGM.

We have had a good year in 2016/17, with a membership of 72 couples, and a resurgence in beginner dance classes.

Currently we have 25 couples taking beginner lessons in 3 different classes.

Intermediate is down to single class of 5 couples, but I'm sure some of the beginners can make the jump up to intermediate next fall.

I'd like to thank our instructors, Don and Helen Truong, Rey and Suzanna Montemeyor for their devotion to the club and to dance. Thanks to Julianne Pohlner, who is helping out with Don's large beginner class as a volunteer.

## Regarding Monday night Sequence and Thursday night Formation Groups

### Sequence Group

The Sequence Group is an intermediate level group born out of the Monday night sequence lessons taught by Alec Ip and Christine Rail.

They started performing out in the community in April 2015 and since then have provided entertainment at 16 different places – some of them more than once. In addition, they have 4 more upcoming events confirmed and 2 more pending.

There are a total of 8 or 9 couples who make up the team, and at any one performance there are usually at least 5 couples available.

The group volunteer their time, transportation and accumulate their own wardrobe of matching skirts, colourful shirts, bow ties and suspenders to enhance their look as a group and to help mark certain seasons and special days.

Alec and Christine generously donate their time to the Monday night lessons and to the leadership of this group. Thank you!

### Formation Group

The Formation Group is an advanced level group led by Allen and Winnie Ho.

They performed 3 times in 2016 and have one event coming up next month.

This group is currently made up of 6 couples and work very hard every Thursday night to meticulously coordinate every step.

They originally were preparing to perform here this evening, but due to unforeseen circumstances, had to postpone to the fall.

They also buy their own elaborate wardrobes from Latin dresses to ballroom gowns, and for the men, from colourful bow ties and fun suspenders to tux-like shirts and vests.

Allen and Winnie generously donate their time to the Thursday night lessons and to the leadership of this group. Thank you!

Both of these groups devote hours of practice and leadership. They have brought entertainment to seniors, enjoyment to other service club events, and interest to our own Ballroom Dance Club. Thanks to Marsha for coordinating these events.

Friday night practise is held every week, open to all members. Alec and Christine run this as well. Hard to find any couple as devoted to dance as these two. The club is lucky to have them. Thanks!

### Special Thanks:

Thanks to the school board for the continued use of Gregory Hogan, Lake Road and Sacred Heart schools. On occasion we've made use of Grace United Church for additional practices. Thanks to Peter Chan for continuing to coordinate with the school boards.

We conduct 11 dances per year, using the Polish hall, Camlachie and the Legion for most of our dances, with most being here. I think 9 of the next 11 will be at the Legion. This was based on feedback that Camlachie was too far to travel. So far the attendance numbers didn't seem to bear too much truth to that. There will be a listing of future dances on the program, on the web, and on other sheets. Please put them into your calendars. Again, our dances are not as well attended as we would like, with some exceptions, such as Christmas and tonight. We look forward to some feedback as to what the membership would like.

We have great advertising thanks to Rick McAlpine, a great website thanks to Ken Little, great music thanks to Rob Bergenhus. Alec Ip, our VP looks after keeping up with our GMail account, and all the correspondence, an endless job. Our secretary Lindee Lu Cole, and social director Rosemary Dayman do great work. Special thanks to our treasurer, Ric Huras, who will come up next with his report.

We get additional support from Shell Canada's community service fund, financially to help us with equipment costs, storage is provided by Store-N-Save in Point Edward where we keep our supplies and equipment. This is greatly appreciated, so please continue to support our sponsors.

George Vero

SBDC President