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NEWSLETTER FOR BIA
MEMBERS AND THEIR STAFF

AREA
IMPROVEMENT
BUSINESS

ALBION ISLINGTON
SQUARE

www.albionislingtonsquare.com

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Thought for
the Day

*When you
were born,
you cried and
the world
rejoiced,
live your life
in such a way
so that when
you die ,
the world cries
and you
rejoice.*

Message from the Chairman

Hope you all had a good , safe, profitable summer!!

The Board of Management of Albion Islington Square BIA is appreciative to all the vendors, sponsors, community agencies, volunteers and above all the supporters of the BIA without whom the **Suhaag and Albion Islington Square "Bollywood Spice" an IIFA BUZZ events** would not have been accomplished.

The Board members worked tirelessly to make this happen... **Mr. Shamsher Singh, Mr. Shaan Bola, Ms. Seema Sudhir, Mr. Prakash Khatri, Councilor Vincent Crisanti, Mr. Santokh Shah, Mr. Ronnie Ramsawak, Ms. Grace Awang, Mr. Amrit Suhaag, Mr. Mohammad Asgar, Mr. Nabeel Haque, Mr. Harpreet Brar and Mr. Francois Carvello.**

Based on the estimation by the Toronto Police and the City of Toronto's By-Law officers, the 5th Annual Fusion of Taste festival attracted over **30,000 visitors** the whole day. **47 vendors** participated at the festival, showcasing and promoting their good and services.

All our events ie. **Press Launch, Outdoor Movie Night, Fundraising Dinner and 5th Annual Fusion of Taste Festival** were broadly covered and advertised by **CP 24, CTV, CBS, City TV, Etobicoke Guardian and its special insert, Asian Television Network (ATN) The Hindustan Times newspaper, Punjabi Lehran, Goan Da Punjab, Cina Radio, Rangla Punjab, Band Baja, bill boards, 300 posters, 10,000 Flyers, Toronto Star, Metro, Voice Weekly, The Grid, Filmi Café, Bollywood Film Fare, and Punjabi Lehran.**

Weather was incredible!!!

There was something for all ages. We look forward for an enhanced and better-quality event in 2012.

If you would like to help us or give suggestions please contact the BIA office—416-743-3267
We would love to get your input...

Till then KEEP SMILING!!!

Shamsher Singh
Chair
Albion Islington Square BIA
(416-409-4412)





Tax and Water Relief Programs

Did you know the City offers a program to low income seniors and low in-

come persons with a disability to defer or cancel property tax increases and reduce your water rate? Find out if you qualify for any of the Tax and Water Relief Program and apply by August 31, 2011.

http://www.toronto.ca/taxes/property_tax/index.htm

Or call 311

Property Tax Rebates

Property Tax Rebate Program for Vacant Commercial and Industrial Buildings

You may qualify for a vacancy tax rebate, if your commercial or industrial building was entirely or partially vacant during the taxation year and you meet the eligibility criteria, as outlined in Section 331 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*.

The deadline date:

Tax Rebate Programs:

Vacant Unit Application: 2011 Taxation Year
2011 for Vacant Unit Rebate Deadline: February 29, 2012
Registered Charities Application: 2011 Taxation Year
Charity rebate application will be available in the fall.
Deadline: February 29, 2012



Eligibility Criteria :

For an applicant to be eligible for a rebate, the property must have a building that must satisfy the conditions described in category 1, 2 or 3 below:

Category 1 - Commercial and/or industrial buildings that are entirely vacant: The entire building must be unused for at least 90 consecutive days

Category 2 - Commercial buildings that are partially vacant: The vacant portion of the building must be unused for at least 90 consecutive days and; The vacant portion of the building must be clearly delineated or physically separated from the used portions of the building; and The building must be either: Capable of being leased for immediate occupancy; or Undergoing or in need of repairs, renovations, or construction that prevented it from being available for lease for immediate occupation; or Unfit for Occupation

Category 3 - Industrial buildings that are partially vacant: The portion of the building must be unused for at least 90 consecutive days; and The portion of the building must be clearly delineated or physically separated from the used portions of the building.

For more information visit :

http://www.toronto.ca/taxes/property_tax/rebate_vacant.htm ; or call 311

Free Seminars

The Art of Cold Calling	Sept. 8	North York Civic Centre
Franchising	Sept. 14	Scar.Civic Centre
Business Plan That Works	Sept. 16	Toronto City Hall
Financing Solutions	Sept. 21	North York Civic Centre
Marketing and Branding	Oct. 4	Toronto City Hall
Managing your Cash Flow	Oct. 6	North York Civic Centre

For more info: www.enterprisetoronto.com

Call for booking: 416-395-7416

Accessibility, Please!

The Ontarians With Disability Act 2005— Your Compliance Needed By January 1, 2012!

Standards that have become law

Of five accessibility standards that have been set out only the Customer Service Standard has so far become law, as of January 2008.

Public sector organization had to meet the requirement of this standard by January 1, 2010, and private sector and non profit organizations must follow suit by January 1, 2012.

Requirement of the Customer Service Standard (for businesses with fewer than 20 employees)

On order to comply with the Customer Service Standard, all businesses or organizations that provide goods or services to the public or to other third parties in Ontario are legally required to:

1. Establish policies, practices and procedures on providing goods or services to people with disabilities.
2. Set a policy on allowing people to use their own personal assistive devices to access the organization's goods and use the organizations

services

3. Use reasonable efforts to ensure that the organizations polices, practices and procedures are consistent with the core principles of independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity.

4. Communicate with a person with a disability in a manner that takes into account his or her disability.

5. Train staff volunteers, contractors and any other people who interact with public or other third parties on the organizations behalf on a number of topics as outlined in the customer services standard.

6. Train staff, volunteers, contractors and any other people who are involved in developing the organizations polices, practices and procedure on the provision of goods or services on a number of topics as outlined in the customer services Standard.

7. Allow people with disabilities to be accompanied by their guide dog or service animal in those area of the premise that are open to the public, unless the animal is excluded by another law. If a service animal is

excluded by law, use other measures to provide service to the person with a disability.

8. permit people with disabilities who use a support person to bring that person with them while accessing goods or services in premises open to the public or third parties.

9. where admission fees are charged, provide notice ahead of time on what admission, if any, would be charged for a support person of a person with a disability.

10. Provide notice when facilities of services that people with disabilities rely on to access or use the organizations goods or services are temporarily disrupted.

11. Establish a process for people to provide feedback on how the organization provide goods or services to people with disabilities and how the organization will respond to any feedback and take action on any complaints. Make the information about the organizations feedback process readily available to the public

More info: www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/accessibility/

Scooting Away Illegal Vendors

This can make a BIA business owner quite angry—seeing an illegal vendor who has set up a cart on a BIA sidewalk, selling food, sunglasses, jewellery or some other item. After all, why should an “intruder” have the benefit of sales without paying rent or property taxes? Usually they don’t have a legal permit to vend there, even though they might flash you something that looks legit.

If you want to be sure call 311 the Toronto Access Number. If you have spotted a so called legal license. Let 311, know and they can verify for you., and they’ll send an official to deal with the offender.



Shamsher Singh Chair BIA, officially opens Bollywood Spice events to the media



Media at the press launch



Performance by Nritya Kala Mandir



Nabeel Haque, Legal Advisor BIA— Emcee

Bollywood Under The Stars Movie Night - June 4, 2011



Winner of 2 tickets to IIFA awards show



40 ft inflatable screen

Bollywood Spice Fundraising Dinner—June 10, 2011



Mayor Rob Ford with Tiger Jeet Singh Sr. and Tiger Jeet Singh Jr.



Egyptian Belly Dancers

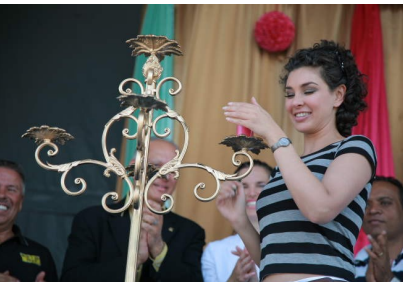


Some of the guests having fun

5th Annual Fusion of Taste Festival—June 18, 2011



Manak –E from UK performing at the Festival



Bollywood/Hollywood star Lisa Ray special guest of honour, officially opening the festival



Shiamak Davar Students performing at the festival



Amazing crowd enjoying the scintillating performances

This newsletter is also produced electronically and can be found at www.albionislingtonsquare.com;
For comments/information/suggestions contact BIA office—925 Albion Road Suite 100, Etobicoke, On M9V 1A6;
Tel: 416-743-3267; Fax: 416-743-7190; Email: albion.islington.bia@gmail.com