



**[FMmandir] Sanatan Mandir Update # 15**

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From: "FMmandir@yahoogroups.ca" <FMmandir@yahoogroups.ca>

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**Dhanyatmans,**

**The days of Navratri and Diwali are over.....we should now be fully charged with the worship of Devi, Mahamaya - the synonym of power, energy, wealth, health and so on.....our Fort McMurray was also blessed with couple of Holy Swamijis in this period.**

**Sanatan Mandir also received Lakshmi Devi's blessings in abundance. The Executive Committee is ready for the Sharad and Shishir Ritus with full devotion to serve you better.....please join us to make our KarmaBhumi, a wonderful place to live-in.**

**Here is the latest from the Executive Committee's desk....**

**AGM and CRA Registration**

**As published earlier, we had our additional general body meeting on Nov.20<sup>th</sup> for the approval of Special Resolution (incorporation of non-profit clause in the constitution) as required by CRA. The amended constitution was filed and registered in Alberta Registry and then forwarded to Revenue Canada. The feedback from CRA is encouraging and hopefully, there are no more hurdles in our way.....**

**We also took the opportunity during the AGM to highlight our achievement so far...**

**The Special Resolution and AGM presentation is available in Mandir Website ([FortMcmurrayMandir.com](http://FortMcmurrayMandir.com))**

**Land**

**The MLL application for the Land Lease (20Acre) on Tower road is under process. Various additional requirements for the lease application was also completed. The processing time is expected to be 8-10 months.**

**The Second application for a lot (10Acre) near Vista Ridge (25Km from**

Downtown) is in the final stage of submission - thanks to the volunteer grant received from various Oil Companies! The expenses for each application is around \$9,500/-.

### Temporary Mandir

Couple of proposals were received and the Executive Committee is finalizing one of such site as the potential place for Mandir on a temporary basis. Further information will be made available as soon as we are ready.

### Past Events:

#### Interfaith Conference

As published before, SMCS participated and presented a paper on 'Sustaining Peace and Tolerance in Society on a Hindu perspective' in the Interfaith Conference held in Fort McMurray. This is the first time in Fort McMurray that a Hindu Religious organization presenting a paper in the World Religious Council. The synopsis of the presentation is available in our website ([www.fortmcmurraymandir.com](http://www.fortmcmurraymandir.com))

#### Chinmaya Gyana Yagna

The first ever Gyana Yagna, promoted by SMCS was a success as it evoked interest and provided an avenue for those, who wanted to pursue the quest for vedantic knowledge. Thanks to Calgary Chinmaya group and a few dedicated Fort McMurrites for organizing and sponsoring the event for the benefit of hindu community.

### Upcoming Events:

#### **'Shishira Parva' – A cultural Fund Raiser Program – Dec.16<sup>th</sup>**

As we are near to the North pole, we have no option than to enjoy winter as Lord Shiva in Kailash...Let us celebrate the arrival of Shishiram with pomp and gaiety....the next Fund Raiser Cultural program with local talent will be on Dece.16<sup>th</sup> at Keyano College (6.30-8.30PM).

If anybody wants to perform their talent, please contact Chitra Udayshanker (780 743 6356).

## **Makara Sankranthi Festival – January 8th**

Inspired by the success of the Ganesh Pooja from the West, South Indians are sponsoring 'Makara Sankranthi Festival' on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2011. This will be celebrated with 'Swami Ayyappa' Pooja from 5-9pm at Father Mercredi School, Thickwood.

Those who wants to sponsor the Pooja may please contact Hariharan Nair ( 780 714 9650 )

As per the Solar Calendar, this month is auspicious. On January 14<sup>th</sup>, Sun begins the northward journey, marking the beginning of the "uttaraayaNa puNyakaalam" - That is "Makara Sankranthi" - which is celebrated when the Sun enters the sign of "Makara", (Capricorn) from Cancer. This is the time when 'Makara Jyothi', the celestial light, appears on the horizon of Sabarimala Hills in Kerala.

As per Mahabharath, Bhishma Pithama, with his boon to choose the time of his death, waited on the bed of arrows to depart from this world till the "uttaraayaNa punyakaalam" has arrived. It is believed that one escapes the cycle of repeated birth and death, (Moksha) on this day.

Let Lord Surya with his dazzling chariot, thousands of spokes, magnificent wheels and driven by seven horses (seven colours of the spectrum) fill our lives with light. May this light help us to get rid of our internal darkness, showing the path of self realisation

## **Soup Kitchen**

Alongwith Cultural and Spiritual programs, we also have to do SEVA (Maanava Seva = Madhava Seva). Without appreciation from the community where we live, we may not progress.

SMCS Executive Committee is requesting volunteers to register for helping in the Sopa Kitchen for Seniors and homeless. The Salvation Army is running the Soup Kitchen in Downtown on Saturday/Sunday and statutory holidays. You may join our team any day with prior information. Typical time for the voluntary work (cleaning, cooking, serving etc.) will be 11am to 1PM. If you are interested in this noble work to signify the image of Sanatan Mandir and also to support/sustain the volunteer grant

**program from Oil Companies, please contact Vish Warriar (780 791 5944).**

**The first of such seva will be on this Saturday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**With the blessings from Swami Ayyappan,**

**On behalf of Sanatan Mandir Executive Committee**

**Vish Warriar,  
President**

**Shiv Sharrna/Vasanth/Davesh/Satish/Laxmikant/Sanjiv/RK Gupta/Jay/Atul and Chitra**

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