



# THE LINK

National Newcomers Council of Canada  
[www.newcomersclubcanada.com](http://www.newcomersclubcanada.com)

Summer Issue - 2003

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## Friendship

by Dinah Maria Mulock Craik, was shared by the Ottawa Newcomer's Club in their June newsletter.

Oh, the comfort,  
The inexpressible comfort  
of feeling safe with a  
person,  
Having neither to weigh  
thoughts, nor measure  
words-  
But pouring them all right  
out - just as they are,  
Chaff and grain together-  
Certain that a faithful hand  
will take them and sift them,  
Keep what is worth keeping,  
And with a breath of  
kindness, blow the rest  
away.

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# National Newcomers Council of Canada Annual General Meeting

**Hosted by the Newcomers Club of Toronto at the  
Donalda Club  
Saturday, October 18, 2003**

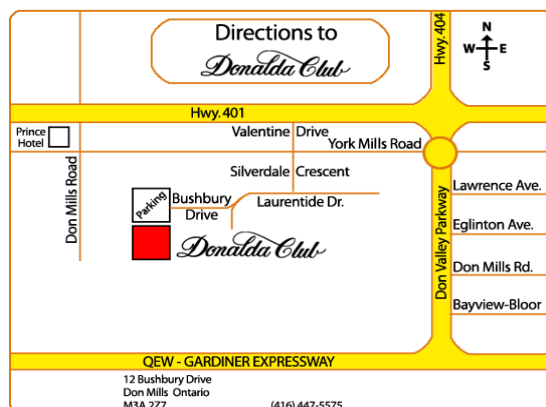
The Newcomers Club of Toronto extends an invitation to all Canadian Newcomers and Alumnae Clubs to the 26<sup>th</sup> National AGM meeting at the Donalda Club, a country club easily accessible from downtown Toronto, Highway 401, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 404. Parking is plentiful and free.

The AGM is an opportunity for Newcomer members from across Canada to share and exchange ideas. We would like each club to bring a copy of its newsletter, and to describe at least one new activity or idea it has initiated within the last year.

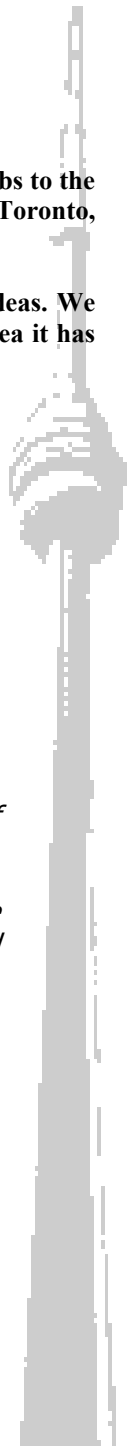
**Registration: 8:30 am**  
**Presidents Meeting: 9:00 am**  
**Annual General Meeting: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

- Pot luck dinner for out-of-town delegates on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Billeting for out-of-town delegates
- Guest Speaker: Sally Armstrong

*We are very pleased to announce that Sally Armstrong, the human rights activist, documentary filmmaker and award-winning author, has agreed to speak to us. Ms. Armstrong is a dynamic speaker best known as the journalist who exposed the plight of women in Afghanistan who were forced by the Taliban to give up their jobs and studies. She has covered stories about women and girls in zones of conflict all over the world. From Bosnia and Somalia to Rwanda and Afghanistan her eyewitness reports have earned her many awards including the Amnesty International Media Award in 2000 and again in 2002.*



**The Donalda Club  
12 Bushbury Drive  
Don Mills, Ontario  
(416) 447-5575**






## REPORTS FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE

*Hello Everyone,*

*Well, I have had a busy year on the executive this year and we are busy getting ready for the AGM in October. I hope to see many of you at the meeting. Maybe some clubs could sponsor a member to help offset the cost of travel to attend the AGM.*

*Also included in this Link are some guidelines about insurance for Newcomer Clubs. Most of my emails have been questions about this subject so I hope this report helps. We were very fortunate to have Inga Kruse from British Colombia on our executive this year and she worked very hard to put this report together. Her knowledge on this subject is tremendous.*

*I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as President and am looking forward to passing the gavel on. I would also like to thank the all ladies on my executive for all the hard work and support. We had a great team. See you in October.*

*Yours in friendship,  
Sandy* 

Hello Newcomers and Alumnae,

As summer is coming to an end, plans are well under way for the AGM in Toronto in October.

This will be my last message to you as an Executive on National Council. The past five years have been special for me. Starting as Alumnae Representative and progressing to President and now as Past President, I have enjoyed being on the Executive helping with planning and running of the National Council. My most pleasant memories are of meeting so many new friends from one coast of Canada to the other.

Thanks so much to all who served on the Executive during this time for your encouragement and support. Newcomers is a wonderful organization, providing fellowship and activities for so many. Like all organizations it requires members to be on committees and plan for its direction. I would urge you to become involved with the National

**Hello Everyone,**

**Thanks to all the clubs who sent in their renewal application and fees for the 2003- 2004 membership year. If there are any clubs who have not registered, please fill in the renewal form and web site permission form and forward to me as soon as possible. (A copy of these forms can be down loaded from our web site under the Spring issue of our newsletter, The Link)**

**Just a reminder, that we have moved the membership renewal date to the end of June of each year. This gives our newsletter editor, the Registrar/Treasurer and our web site coordinator time to collect and process the data on your new, incoming executive or contacts for your club. This will ensure that when the Registry goes to print for Fall distribution, the contact information is up-to-date for any potential, new members looking to join Newcomers in your city or town.**

**I trust that you have all had an enjoyable summer and are anxious to return to the many activities available in your clubs. By the way, how about a visit to Toronto this Fall? As you are aware our annual general meeting is being hosted by Toronto this year. A great place to visit, lots to see and do, and what an opportunity to meet new friends who share a common interest. Get a group together and come join us, we would love to see you!!!!**

**Yours in friendship,**

**Donna  
Registrar/Treasurer**

Hello Everyone,

Although it has been quiet of late, we have had a number of inquiries throughout the year regarding the formation of new alumnae clubs. I have enjoyed talking or communicating with you so if you need further information about forming a club please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you to all those who replied to the earlier survey, the general consensus was that all alumnae clubs should welcome former members back to their fold. This should be done regardless of their lapsed membership, however a possible penalty should be assessed.

I certainly hope that your clubs will be well represented at the NNCC AGM in Toronto. I look forward to meeting you there.



**We would like the web site to be another cross-country link between all Newcomers and Alumnae clubs in Canada. If you have information to share please do not hesitate to contact me and I will gladly post it on the web to let other clubs know what's going on in your part of the country.**

**For those of you who are hesitant of posting your own e-mail address as a contact why not consider getting a hot-mail address for your club only. That way personal e-mail addresses are not compromised. Something to think about.**

**Sincerely,**

**Louise  
Web Site Coordinator**



**Hello Newcomers,**

**I sit here enjoying the last of the "dog days" of summer; hot days, warm evenings, picnics in the park and a bountiful garden, mosquitoes as large as dogs, thunder storms and, of course, the fresh memory of the blackout that crippled us all.**

**I am leafing through newsletters that you have sent me and I am again impressed by the many imaginative, creative, friendly and organized people we have in Newcomer's Clubs all across our glorious country. Thank you for sharing your newsletters with me.**

**Linda  
Newsletter Editor** 

# REGIONAL NEWS



## EASTERN

*I hope everyone had a great summer, even if it was rainy and muggy. We did have some very hot days in the Atlantic.*

*Our Alumnae in Truro had a very busy spring. We entertained the Newcomers Club at a Dessert party and welcomed 17 graduates to the Alumnae. Then in June we had a lobster/steak night.*

*Our big event with the newcomers club was walking all night (12 hours) in support of breast cancer. What a great night. Our groups raised approximately \$1500.00 with an overall amount raised being \$125,000. We had a great time.*

*In April, I helped form a new club in Moncton, New Brunswick. They had a very good turn out.*

*I am looking forward to the annual Meeting in Toronto in October. If you have never attended you should give it some thought - a wonderful way to make new friends and renew "old friendships".*

*Your in friendship,*

*Beryl Keilty  
Eastern Liaison*



## CENTRAL

Hello Everyone,

Be sure to mark your calendars for the National AGM -- October 17-18. Toronto Newcomers are the hosts. It is a special year for Toronto Newcomers who are celebrating their fortieth anniversary. Let's help celebrate their success by having as many Newcomers clubs together as possible. There will be a pot-luck supper on Friday night and the AGM will be on Saturday. Billeting is available with Toronto members. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Darlene Smith-Ferguson  
Central Liaison

**I really liked the motto used by the Kingston Newcomers Club....Ed**

**There are no strangers here,  
Only friends we have yet to meet...**



WESTERN

A timely harvest recipe from **Regina Newcomers Club:**

**Gazpacho Soup**

3 lbs. (6 cups) fresh tomatoes, blanched, peeled & cut  
1 onion, cut into chunks  
1/2 cup green pepper chunks  
1/2 cup cucumber chunks



Puree in a blender or food processor, then add

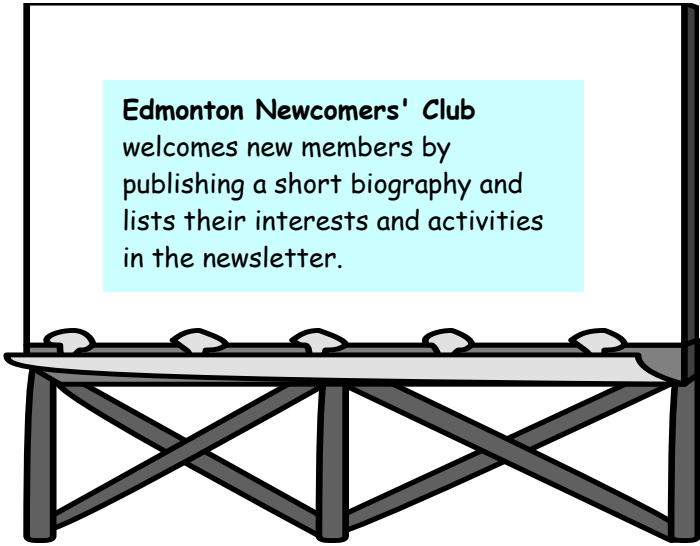
2 cups tomato juice  
1/2 tsp. Cumin

1 clove of minced garlic  
1 tsp. each salt & pepper

Cover and chill well. Before serving, stir in 1/4 cup olive oil & 1/4 cup white wine vinegar. Serve cold.

Garnish:                    1/2 cup finely chopped green onion  
                                  1/2 cup finely chopped green pepper  
                                  1/2 cup croutons

**Calgary Nu-Grads** have a Big Sister Program for members who do not have transportation. They don't want any members to miss out on the meetings because they can't get there!





## **Important Notice Regarding: Insurance for Clubs and Privacy Legislation**

Dear President:

The National Newcomers Council of Canada serves as a resource for the local Newcomers Clubs in Canada. Our executive works to provide guidelines, support and ideas through the "Link" Newsletter and by working with local liaison people in the West, Central and Eastern parts of our country. Our organization is growing, and we are following up diligently to ensure that local Newcomers Clubs maintain their membership to help make our organization strong. Our web site is getting increasing use and more people are able to access your local club via the national site.

From time to time issues arise where there is a common need expressed by many newcomers clubs. It is the responsibility of the NNCC Executive to provide what assistance we can. Two of those major issues are insurance and the new federal legislation regarding Privacy of Information (PIPED). This letter will provide your local club with some suggested guidelines on these issues.

### **Insurance and Liability – who is to blame?**

We have received numerous inquiries regarding insurance. Although the national executive does not have specific responsibility we must point out that your individual club should have a position on insurance and it should be communicated to your members.

Your club likely has a number of insurance related exposures such as:

- ✓ Gatherings at member's homes.
- ✓ Outings organized by your club (sport, touring, restaurants etc)
- ✓ Off site activities (Calgary Stampede, Casino tours, promotional events at malls etc)
- ✓ Food service or organization

**All of these activities can lead to potential injury of a member and legal action naming the club! We have already been notified of legal action in at least three locations and clubs are being named in the case.**

That doesn't mean clubs can't protect themselves and their members for this type of thing. You can deal with any potential issues easily and quickly.

*Simple guidelines and strategies for clubs of all sizes:*

1. Contact an insurance broker in your community who handles Commercial insurance and meet with him/her to discuss the nature of your club. Request quotations from at least two or three insurers for liability insurance. The broker will be able to advise you of the nature of insurance and amount you are likely to need. Then it would be up to the club to decide if the premium is within your budget.

2. If your executive elects not to purchase the insurance, you can still protect your club by following the general suggestions on the last page of this letter.
3. If you are participating in an event and you are able to purchase event liability through the organizers for that day/weekend or whatever it is.... Make sure you buy it. This is the most cost effective way of ensuring your activities are covered.
4. If you are renting a vehicle, bus or booking a tour, ensure that the insurance arrangements are made.

### **Federal Privacy Legislation.... Do our clubs have to comply?**

The answer is not really. Why should we worry about it then?

The new federal legislation on personal information and privacy is primarily meant to protect commercial entities from misusing information people provide to them.

Social and nonprofit clubs are, for the most part, exempt. That doesn't mean we can't be judicious in our handling of member information, or that a policy shouldn't be part of your local operations.

On the attached page you will find some recommendations for easy things you can do to be seen to protect member names, addresses and phone numbers.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you have not renewed your membership in the National Council of Newcomers Clubs, please do so. It is important that member clubs receive important information and are able to access the national council as a resource.

Thank you,

Sandy York,  
President,  
National Newcomer Council of Canada

## Suggestions:

1. On your club enrollment form, think about printing wording to the following effect:

“By signing this enrollment form you agree to hold the \_\_\_\_\_ Newcomers Club, its executive and members harmless for any injury or other grievance arising out of the normal course of social events held by or organized for members of this club.”

And

“The \_\_\_\_\_ Newcomers Club collects your name, address, telephone number and other pertinent information for the sole purposes of notifying you of club events, sending you a newsletter and providing a roster of names and contact information to only paid members of our club. We do not sell, disseminate or otherwise provide your name and information to other entity. By signing this enrollment form and paying your membership dues you agree to the above use of your personal information”

2. When planning an event that may involve signing up to take a tour or participate in some non standard activities you could have a sign up sheet with the following wording:

“Members signing up to participate in this event do so at their own risk and by signature acknowledge that they acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ Newcomers Club waives all responsibility for personal injury or accident.”

3. On the bottom of your roster print the following:

“This roster is not to be used for commercial purposes. This listing is for the personal use of paid members of the \_\_\_\_\_ Newcomers Club”

4. If you have no insurance arrangements to compensate members for injuries sustained while attending newcomers events, mention it at the first and last meetings of the year. Remind them of the wording on the enrollment form.
5. Make sure the location of your monthly and other regular meetings carries premise liability and that the walkways and accesses to your meetings are well tended.
6. When a member is hosting an event at their house they likely carry homeowners, condominium or apartment insurance. Events should not be held in the home if the person does not carry such insurance.

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**AGM REGISTRATION FORM**  
**National Newcomers' Council of Canada**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003**  
**Toronto, Ontario**

Please complete this form and return with your cheque (payable to "National Newcomers' Council of Canada") before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 to

**Donna Carignan**  
**32 Armitage Place,**  
**Brampton, ON L6W 4M6**

Name of Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the members that will be attending - if the delegate is an executive, please name position. If there are more than 4 delegates, please list them on the back.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

Cost per delegate (non-refundable): \$35.00 (includes lunch)

Number of out-of-town delegates attending Friday Evening Social/Dinner: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Billeting Questionnaire**

Do you wish to be billeted? Yes  No

If yes, number in your party? \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Smoker: Yes  No  Pet Allergies: Yes  No

Are you willing to share a room? Yes  No

Do you wish to be with someone in particular? \_\_\_\_\_

