

Message from the President

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa
Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh

Please accept my heartiest wishes on the occasion of Vesakhi 2005 and the first Anniversary of our Gurdwara's new premises.

Our Gurdwara is, without doubt, the prize of our long and arduous struggle. The Gurdwara's Management Committee strives to honor this struggle as its primary objective. For our struggle to become worthy and meaningful, the Gurdwara's daily running, its regular activities, programs and functions must strive to serve our community's religious, spiritual and societal needs to the fullest.

From the management perspective, the Committee has strived to provide the best services and facilities possible. From the financial aspect, we have aspired for prudent practices. At the time of writing, the Gurdwara has paid off all outstanding monies due from our renovation and relocation. The mortgage remains as our one and only debt. A fully operational kitchen and a brand new gas fired heating system in the first year of operation is the result of the Sangat's confidence in our service. From the religious perspective, the Gurdwara is bustling with activities for just about every age group.

Our projects for the future will be based on similar principles and require the Sangat's trust and involvement. To further improve on our heating needs, a double door will be installed at the main entrance. All windows in the Gurdwara will be changed to triple-glass energy efficient ones, and the large glass door in the langgar hall will be walled up. There are plans to put up covered walkways in the perimeter of the building so that the sangat can get protection in the events of rain or snow. There are plans to construct a paved entrance to the Gurdwara from the ramp off Route 93. This would mean that cars could enter and exit the premises from the front and back. To make the summer days more conducive, a central air condition will be functional for the entire first floor. To provide the Gurdwara the look of a Sikh place of worship, there are plans to construct fiber glass gold painted domes for placement on top of the building. Four domes on the corners would be matched by a 30-foot diameter dome in the center of the building. Once completed, the building will indeed be a pride of our Sangat.

Parking is always an issue and the management is always looking at ways to provide access to more parking spaces.

There are also plans for the future regarding our religious and spiritual activities. There is a need for a library for our children and youth. It has to be fully equipped with reading material and educational audio-visual aids. There are plans to conduct regular evening Diwans – the first Friday of every month for instance – to allow for the sangat more opportunity to listen to Kirten and Katha, and to do sewa. There are plans to make the Samelan a regular event. We further hope to increase the frequency of Punjabi Classes to twice a week, and conduct Gurbani Paath classes for Sikhs of all ages. The Gurdwara would look towards hiring appropriately qualified instructors on a full time and permanent basis for this purpose once the Gurdwara's financial situation permits it.

Needless to say, none of the above would be achieved without the Sangat's trust, contribution and involvement.

I thank Waheguru for His grace. I thank the Board of Directors for its confidence in me and the entire Committee. I thank Karinder Singh, our Director of Religious Affairs for his sewa. I thank all sewadars of the Youth Committee for creating and running a variety of activities. I thank the Vesakhi Committee for organizing this year's program wherein the leadership of Gurinder Singh is praiseworthy. And I thank the Editorial Board of this Commemorative Issue for all their efforts. Amongst other things, this magazine is an attempt to strengthen ongoing communication with all our members. I hope it will inspire you to provide feedback. Last but not least, I thank every member of the sangat for their hearty donations, time, efforts and energy that makes our Gurdwara run as an effective Guru Ghar.

Jaspal Singh Pabla,

President

Management Committee 2003 - 2008

Gurdwara Nanak Darbar.