Introduction

October 31, 2012

Daughters Day Committee

The Speaker: Hon. members, it is indeed a great pleasure for me to introduce to all of you in the Assembly today members of the Daughters Day Committee who are seated in the Speaker's gallery. Established in mid-2011, Daughters Day is the initiative of a group of volunteer individuals and more than 40 diverse community organizations who are all dedicated to celebrating the lives, the contributions, and the achievements of all daughters in our society.

I will ask the following individuals to rise as I call their names and to remain standing until all have been introduced and then we can greet them all very warmly as one: chairperson and former citizenship judge Gurcharan Singh Bhatia; vice-chairperson and former economist with the Alberta government Charan Khehra; Ratna Basappa, Indo-Canadian Women's Association; Sonia Bitar, former citizenship judge; Satya Das, principal at Cambridge Strategies; Jim Gurnett, who is a former MLA and executive director of the Mennonite Centre and is technically a visitor with us – welcome, Jim – Dr. Zohra Husaini, Indo-Canadian Women's Association; Trina Joshi, a journalist; Paula Kirman, a freelance writer, photographer, and musician; Poushali Mitra, a worker in the human services sector; Christina Nsaliwa, Edmonton Immigrant Services Association; Didar Singh Pannu, former superintendent of schools; Shaykh Sheikh, religious minister for the Muslim community; and Miriam Thomas, president of the Indo-Canadian Women's Association. Hon. members, let's welcome and thank them all.

Legislative
Assembly
of Alberta

Introduction

April 23, 2014

2013 Daughters Day Award Recipients

Hon. Dave Hancock, Premier (MLA, Edmonton-Whitemud): Mr. Speaker, it's indeed my pleasure today to introduce 10 guests who are here seated in your gallery. Nine of them are the 2013 Daughters Day award recipients, and they're accompanied by the Daughters Day chairperson. Daughters Day is the initiative of the International Association of Citizens for a Civil Society, a registered not-for-profit society in Alberta supported by more than 40 diverse community organizations. Daughters Day celebrates the lives and contributions and achievements of daughters. With us today is the cofounder of Daughters Day and its current chairperson, Charan Khehra. Now, I might say with some note that I had the pleasure and privilege of running in an election against Charan several elections ago. As is the case in Edmonton-Whitemud, it's always a friendly affair, and after the affair is over, we get to work together in the best interests of the community.

With him today are the 2013 Daughters Day award recipients: Rebecca Fitzsimmons, who opened a licensed preschool in Savanna and is implementing the food for thought school breakfast nutrition program; April Lam, a gifted young athlete representing Alberta in the 2013 Canada Summer Games and in the 2014 national Special Olympics in swimming; Shawnay McRorie, a recipient of the John Humphrey youth human rights award, committed to working with young children and adults living with disabilities; Christina Nsaliwa, a strong advocate of human services and inspirational mentor for women; Andrea Payne and Corissa Tymafichuk, grade 11 students from Paul Kane high school in St. Albert with a lifetime mission to help survivors of human trafficking and who organized a city-wide community walk, raising $5,000; Laura Smith, an ESL instructor, motivated and instructed over 600 individuals, improving their level of proficiency in English; Linda Winski, a social justice advocate, opened her home to the community, providing friendship, hospitality, prayer, and a listening ear; and April Wiberg, a proud member of the Mikisew Cree First Nation and a founding member of Edmonton Stolen Sisters Awareness Walk, was not able to join us today.

Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all of my Legislature colleagues to honour the presence of these award winners with the usual warm welcome.

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