

The Central Ontario Chinese Cultural Centre (COCCC) is a non-profit, charitable organization founded in 1973, and incorporated in 1980. COCCC is a chapter of the Chinese Canadian National Council (CCNC).

The objectives of the COCCC are:

- 1. To promote the Chinese culture, language and heritage
- 2. To promote goodwill and mutual understanding among different cultures
- 3. To provide culture-related programs and services that meet the needs of our members and the community at large
- 4. To support the Chinese Language School, in collaboration with the Waterloo Region District School Board.

The Centre is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors, elected by its members. Programs, services and special events are conducted by a group of dedicated volunteers. Revenue comes mainly from fund raising activities, supplemented by donations and membership fees.

COCCC offers special programs to members and non-members.

These include:

- Chinese Folk Dancing
- Lion Dance Program
- Dragon Dance Program
- Line Dancing
- Ballroom Dancing
- Adult Mandarin Class (Beginners and Intermediate)
- Chinese Painting
- Chinese Calligraphy
- Tai Chi Class
- Paper folding art and crafts
- Ping Pong

COCCC would like to expand and offer many special services to the Chinese community of Kitchener-Waterloo area.

Some of the services include:

- Home visits and support program for senior members
- New immigrant support programs and services
- Canadian citizenship course
- Translation service

The centre has a collection of Chinese CDs, books and magazines available on loan. Facilities at the Centre are for the use of members during opening hours. COCCC hosts several social activities and events for our members during the year.

One of the fund raising activities that our volunteers perform is the twice a month running of charitable bingo sessions. COCCC joins many other local charitable clubs and organizations to raise important operating funds in this manner.

COCCC hosts two annual events during Chinese New Year. We present a Chinese New Year Festival that features traditional food, cultural performances and demonstrations, exhibits, children's arts and crafts, and the participation of many community based organizations. This Festival is open, free to the general public. Our other special celebration is our Chinese New Year Gala which features traditional food, a cultural showcase and a dance.

COCCC volunteers and performers make a significant contribution and have a huge presence in many special events throughout the community, during Chinese New Year.

We also participate in the annual K-W Multicultural Festival showcasing our cultural performers and our traditional food.

COCCC's nurturing support of the students, volunteers and administration of the KW Chinese School has enabled KW Chinese School to flourish and grow to become a shining example of hard work and success and as one of the largest heritage language schools in our region.

As we approach our 40<sup>th</sup> year of community service, we also reflect proudly on our significant community centred contributions and accomplishments which have included important fund raising activities:

- For the Grand River General Hospital at Freeport
- For the Grand River General Hospital Cancer Care Centre
- For the St. Mary's General Hospital Cardiac Care Centre
- For international disaster relief

With your support and assistance, our community efforts will continue to expand and grow.

## **Central Ontario Chinese Cultural Centre**