



Agarwals Based in Canada
A Registered Non-Profit Organization

ABOUT US

We in Canada

Agarwals Based in Canada (ABC) is a community organization. Although it has been in existence since 1997, it was formally incorporated in 2001 as a *Not-For-Profit* entity with the goals of promoting social, cultural, spiritual and economic growth of Agarwals in Canada so as to build a prosperous and successful community. Currently, our membership comprises of over 350 families living in GTA and has been growing steadily every year.

“Agarwal” is a generic term that refers to people, originally from India, whose beliefs and lifestyle generally conform to “vaish” values. Vaish culture is based on the principles of *non-violence, honesty, compassion, justice and family values*. Consequently, Vaish culture is defined primarily by a “saatvic” lifestyle that embraces simplicity and truthfulness.

Our Objectives

The key objectives of ABC include:

- Supporting key charitable endeavors of Canada’s mainstream society, such as Terry Fox Run, United Way, Food Banks; etc.;
- Recognizing and encouraging role models through community events;
- Networking and building friendships; and
- Counseling and helping newcomers to Canada to integrate and to succeed.

Our Activities

ABC organizes several activities throughout the year. Following are some of our activities that receive relatively wider participation from, and support of, our community:

- Fund raising for Terry Fox Foundation, Food Banks, and funds established to deal with natural calamities.
- Cultural, social, and religious events such as:
 - **Diwali:** Our annual celebration of “*festival of lights*” is over five hours long; is held in fall; and is attended by nearly 500 people of all ages. Highlights of this event include:
 - Cultural, musical and dance programmes;



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- Youth recognition awards;
- North Indian ethnic multi-course dinner buffet.
- **Holi:** Our celebration of “*festival of colours*” is four hours long; is held in March; and is attended by nearly 200 people to welcome spring.
- **Members’ Appreciation Day:** This “*lunch-n-learn*” programme is held in January and is attended by over 150 people. Members attending this programme look forward keenly to the useful and insightful presentations by external experts on varied topics such as investment, insurance, health, property, etc.
- **Annual summer picnic:** A full summer day attended by over 200 people filled with lots of sports and recreational activities and of course variety of food.
- **Terry Fox Run:** ABC members, families and friends congregate each year at Meadowvale Community Town Center, Mississauga to participate in a 5 km or 10 km walk. We have been supporting the Terry Fox Foundation for several years by raising funds.