



Hindu Temple of Ottawa-Carleton, Inc.
4835 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1X 1G6

September 30, 2013

We started to build the Hindu Temple of Ottawa- Carleton (the “Temple”) in 1984, primarily to provide the ritual and spiritual needs of the Hindu community (about 10,000 people) in the National Capital Region.

Over the last 28 years this area has extended to Western Quebec, Eastern Ontario up to Kingston and upper New York State.

During this period, the role of the temple also has expanded in many other activities as listed below:

1. The temple has become an educational center.

- a. Brahma Vidya activities: It includes reading from Bhagvat Gita and Upanishads every Sunday.**

Temple has a website for scriptures. This website is accessed by people from at least 40 different countries

- b. Visit to the temple to learn Hinduism:**

Every year for the last 15 years, we had visitors to the temple from schools, Universities, Churches, teachers, Scouts/Cubs, RCMP and other groups to learn about Hinduism. This has brought much better understanding of Hinduism among people of other faiths. The total number of visitors has been between 2000- 3000 people every year.

- c. Health seminars:**

In February 2012, the temple started monthly seminars on health issues focusing mainly on the concept of “**healthy living**” and prevention of disease. By the end of October 2013, we had 20 such seminars on various topics. (List attached).. We plan to expand this further so that a much larger section of the community can benefit from this. This is open to all.

- d. Yoga Classes.**

The temple has been conducting Yoga classes every Sunday for a number of years. This is open to all.

- e. Sunday classes for children about history, music and classical dances**

The temple has been running classes for children every Sunday for the last 15 years until 2 years ago. We are in the process of looking for teachers, who can take greater interest and develop this program once again.



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2. Participation in the activities of the City of Ottawa such as:

- a. CRIC - Capital Regional Interfaith Council. This organization was created to bring better understanding and harmony amongst the various religions. One of the founding members of this activity was one of the VP of this temple.
- b. WCRP- World Conference on Religion for Peace.
- c. DOORS Open : The temple has participated in this activity every year from the beginning
- d. SCAC – Spiritual Care Advisory Committee of the Ottawa Hospital. The temple provides spiritual care to all patients in most of the hospitals in the city.
- e. Advisory committee of the RCMP on security matters. A Member of the Hindu community is on this committee.
- f. Blood Bank- Red Cross to promote blood donation.
- g. Shepherd's of Good Hope; Temple has been preparing and serving food once a month
- h. Food supplies are sent to Shepherd's of Good Hope on a regular basis

3. Seniors and youth.

The temple has a standing committee to attend to the needs of the seniors and youth.

4. Guide the Hindu community

- a. at the time of funerals needs
- b. and other emergencies

Unique features of the temple:

- Not a regional temple. It serves the needs of all the Hindus
- Concept of trustees (1275 trustees of this temple by September 30, 2013) who have contributed almost 90% of the total funds raised by this temple.
- Composition of the Board representing the various sectors of the Hindu community.
- Brahma Vidya activity every Sunday. This is also available on the Website
- Sanskrit classes.
- Sunday hosting by various regional groups.
- Clean and serene atmosphere at the temple.
- Transparency (books are open to everybody; information is circulated via newsletter and also placed on the bulletin board).