

Dear Kwan Jang Nim Cariati and members of the ICTF,

What a quick and busy year it's been for the ICTF in Nova Scotia, Canada! Do jangs and activities from Nova Scotia have been featured on the ICTF website quite frequently so I've decided to let you know a bit more about who we are.

Over the last few years I've observed the ICTF as a growing and very member oriented organization, one in which every do jang/member was actively involved, much like a family. During a trip to Ontario in January 2008, I had the opportunity to meet Kwan Jang Nim Cariati and was most impressed with his vast knowledge of Taekwon-Do as taught by the founder General Choi Hong Hi and also how approachable he was.

In late summer 2009, a friend and colleague was looking for a fresh start for his school in Halifax so I contacted Kwan Jang Nim Cariati to seek advice on my friend's behalf. Once again I was impressed by his genuine concern and professional attitude. Introductions were made and telephone conferences took place with the end result that Mr. Robert LeBlanc and LeBlanc Taekwon-Do became part of the ICTF. At the time, LeBlanc Taekwon-Do had 22 students and within a year they have grown to 2 do jangs and 125 students. Later that year, we at Fall River Taekwon-Do decided to change our affiliation and also joined the ICTF family. Fall River Taekwon-Do has grown from 24 students to a current membership of 80. In January 2010, two more Nova Scotia do jangs, Blue Taekwon-Do and Carr Taekwon-Do, also joined the ICTF. Blue Taekwon-Do currently has 1 location with 25 students and Carr Taekwon-Do has 2 locations with 140 students in total. Both of these schools are currently in the process of adding another school to their organizations. And now, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Muise Taekwon-Do from Yarmouth Nova Scotia: Mr. Randy Muise – Head Instructor - Yarmouth, Mrs. Minna Stewart, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan – Instructor - Shag Harbour, Mr. Jim Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan – Instructor - Weymouth.

The Nova Scotia ICTF (NSICTF) do jangs came from different affiliations or were independent schools but since joining the ICTF we've all drawn on each others strengths by conducting group training, co-hosting seminars and tournaments, sharing ideas and we've become a strong, unified group. This is a new and very enjoyable experience for us and we have the ICTF to thank.

As I said at the start, It has been a busy year but also a very fulfilling one. Mr. LeBlanc and I travelled to Toronto, Ontario in October 2009 to attend a tournament hosted by Kwan Jang Nim Cariati and in April 2010 we attended Instructor's Training and Umpire Course, taught by Grand Master A. Gabbidon, Grand Master R. Parris, Kwan Jang Nim Cariati - VIII Dan, Master C. Stanley - VIII Dan, Master S. Creighton - VII Dan, Master A. Scarsellone - VII Dan and Master R. MacEachern - VII Dan. At both events, we experienced genuine friendliness and completely open sharing of ideas from the Grand Masters, Masters, Instructors and students alike, an attitude I think we've firmly established here in Nova Scotia. We've held two seminars in Halifax instructed by Kwan Jang Nim Cariati, once in January 2010, co-hosted by Fall River Taekwon-Do and LeBlanc Taekwon-Do and again in September 2010 hosted by Fall River Taekwon-Do. Both of these were well-received and enjoyed immensely by students of all ages and belt levels. In June 2010, the first ICTF Provincials for Nova Scotia was held, co-hosted by Carr Taekwon-Do, Blue Taekwon-Do and LeBlanc Taekwon-Do, another fine example of what teamwork can do. And now, we are looking forward to November when LeBlanc Taekwon-Do will be hosting the "Ch'ang-Hon Challenge ICTF Tournament".

As Nova Scotia Provincial Representative, I'd like to thank Kwan Jang Nim Cariati, Master Stanley and all members of the ICTF for their heartfelt welcome and valuable assistance as we made this successful journey to the ICTF. We can only hope to repay this generosity by providing the same welcome to those out there looking to the ICTF.

Yours in Taekwon-Do,  
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