

WINNIPEG GUYANESE – DEREK DABEE- MAKES HISTORY IN CITY 2010 ELECTION



Derek Dabee

By Sharmela Sukdeo-Rambally

Wednesday Oct. 27th, 2010 will be a day that newly elected Winnipeg School Trustee (Seven Oaks School Division) will never forget, nor will his fellow Guyanese and Canadians.

As a long-time community advocate and well known volunteer, Derek Dabee's leadership and hard work has resulted in the building of two community centers, several tennis courts, two cricket fields, a hockey rink and basketball courts.

Derek is also a founding member of the vibrant Guyanese Association of Manitoba Inc.

With encouragement from Kamta Roy Singh - President of the Guyanese Association - and other community leaders, Mr. Dabee decided to take the plunge and ran for a seat on the School Board. With Derek's win, beating out three other candidates, he made history as the first Guyanese /West Indian to be elected on a Manitoba School Board.

Derek Dabee grew up in Vigilance, East Coast Demerara, Guyana. He attended Friendship Govt School, Central Demerara and Hindu College. In 1973 Derek enrolled at the University of Manitoba. He also studied at the University of Winnipeg. Married to Sandy Dabee, they have two grown children.

Always active in politics in Winnipeg, Derek had an unsuccessful run for a seat in the Manitoba Provincial Legislature back in 2006.

Derek Dabee, along with the nine member Seven Oaks Board of Trustees govern the fastest growing School District in the province with a budget 102 million dollars.

On election night, campaign manager and prominent businessman Kamta Roy Singh and President of the Manitoba Guyanese Association said that "Derek Dabee's dedication to community services and his election is a big win for Winnipeg."