

GET AN APPLICATION AND THE TICKET FOR BOAT CRUISE TO SHOW!!!!

Good evening boys and girls, ladies and gentlemen,

The World Lebanese Cultural Union- WLCU- is an independent non-governmental organisation associated with the department of Public Information and consultative status for economic and social council of the United Nations. WLCU was founded in Mexico City in 1959. Today WLCU has a worldwide presence and more than 357 legally registered chapters in 50 major cities. WLCU is a non profit and a non-political organization.

Our main objectives are :

- 1- to preserve Lebanese culture, heritage, identity and homeland as an independent democratic country, which promotes human rights, freedom and justice
- 2- Encourage and promote the cultural, social, touristic and economic activities between the world and Lebanon
- 3- Connect and unite descendants of Lebanese origin and friends of Lebanon into one worldwide organization.
- 4- Contribute positively and be role model citizens, through our local chapters and clubs
- 5- Actively contribute to charitable organizations in our local communities and Lebanon

The goals for the WLCU for the next couple of years are:

1. To increase the number of members associated with the WLCU
2. To target the youth of our Lebanese community. Yes believe it or not, we need you...you are our future generation and you will be our next leaders whether you are here in Canada, or in Lebanon.

We know that you all belong to a church or a specific religious community; however what we are aiming to do is to gather all our youth under one umbrella called the WLCU.

You might be asking what's in it for me?

Well, we want to introduce our boys and girls to each other; we would like the circle to get bigger and for you to start to network together. We want to make sure our youth understand our Lebanese heritage and culture, and we want you to preserve it. Sooner or later we are going to pass the torch to you and you will be asked to continue to promote our beliefs, culture and our pride of being Lebanese. Lebanese across the world are proud to say that they belong to a great organization called the WLCU.

We always hear: because of my parents we had to attend the church party or any other social, or cultural event, like today for example. Therefore we decided to create and organize events aimed to have you meet other Lebanese youth without having your parents. You like sports, music and dance....you like social networking and facebooking and twitter.....and we listened to you....

Networking between our youth is the most important purpose for us. Meeting boys and girls of your age, socializing together, playing sports games or even going and partying is the ultimate ambition.

Therefore we are planning many social gathering for you. Like a boat cruise for high school and university students taking place on the 3rd of June and I do have the tickets with me....Lebanese night at a night club early July, sports games for high school students, Remembrance Day and Independence Day. Here I would like to highlight a very powerful event which will be taking place at the Queen's Park downtown Toronto on the 22nd of November which is the "Raising of the Lebanese Flag"...Thank you to Elie Gideon for making this event a reality. The Prime Minister and other dignitaries will be invited to come and celebrate this worthwhile event. A reception will follow this occasion which will be communicated with you in couple of months.

However, during those events planned for you, we WANT YOU to take the initiative of starting a conversation with someone new, get to know each other, take interest in each other and find a way to get together again. So communication is the key, and we are recognizing the fact that we need to stay connected.

We have placed application forms on your tables for your convenience. We would like you to fill out those forms with the most updated information including your e-mail.

We are planning on sending a quarterly communication bulletin to all members to inform you about our upcoming events, so you or your children can join us.

Nothing can happen without commitment and sacrifice. For the parents, we know it may require you to drop off you children at an event, or even try to encourage them to get involved to be with their fellow Lebanese. Please, let's walk that extra mile and make it happen...it is needed and we can do it.

Thank you again for attending the mothers' day event, and thank you for your continuous encouragement and support.

God bless you all.