



2019 GALA DINNER February 23

የኢትዮ - ካናዳያን በጎአድራጎት ሽላጢ ድርጅት

Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.

Welcome to our 2019 Gala Dinner hosted by the ECCPA Inc.

The Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. was founded in 2016 in Winnipeg for Ethiopian immigrants who felt the need in our community to support one another in order to provide various resources for individuals excelling and striving to achieve and lifting one another for the improvement of humanity. The main goal of the organization is to appreciate one another by acknowledging the hard efforts and humanitarian acts that have resulted in great success in the Ethio-Canadian community in Winnipeg.

We are our brother's keeper. We will continue to strive for positive improvements in our community by supporting our fellow Ethio-Canadians and neighbours to ensure a better quality of life by providing various resources and access to achieve their goals.

Tonight's Recipients

Diamond Award

Dr. Daniel Asrat Balcha

Gold Award

Mr. Efreem Teklemariam

Lucy Award

Mrs. Merdia Imame

Excellence of Humanitarian

Ms. Altash Yirdaw

Leadership Award

Mr. Surafel Kuchem

Strive for Excellence

Ms. Winta Lakew



Board of Directors



Markos Tegegn
President



Girma Haile
Secretary



Germa Eshetu
Treasurer



Ali Hussein
Communications



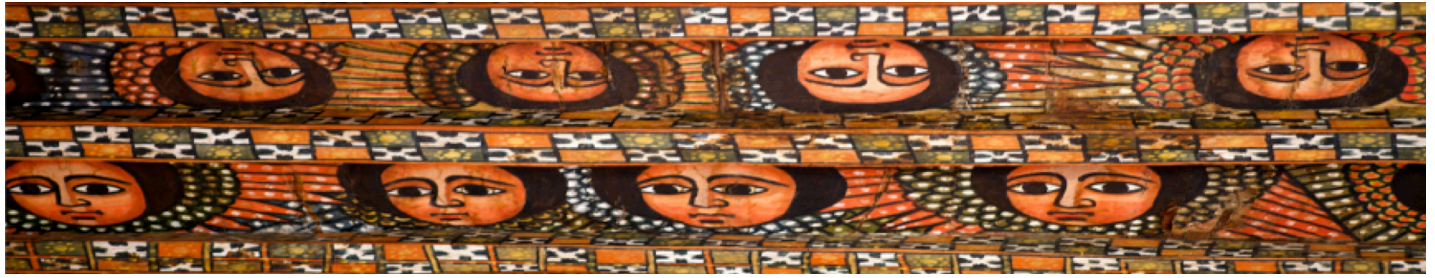
Mimi Tsegaye
Executive Member



Zenna Mussie
Executive Member



Simeneh Tsegaye
Executive Member



የኢትዮ - ካናዳያን በጎአድራጎት ሽላሚ ድርጅት
Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.

EVENT PROGRAM

- 6:00 p.m.** Venue doors open & guests to be seated
- 6:30 p.m.** Emcees' Introduction
Event Remarks by Markos Tegegn *President of ECCPA Inc.*
- 7:00 p.m.** Opening Prayer
by Komos Aba Fikresilassie Tsegaw

*** * * DINNER SERVED * * ***

Performance by Ladies of the Ethiopian Community
Performance Duet by Gashaw Alemneh & Yosef Kassa

- 8:00 p.m.** Guest Speakers by
Terry Duguid - *MP for Winnipeg South*
Rita Chahal - *Executive Director of the Welcome Place*
Engineer Takele Uma Banti - *Deputy Mayor of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*
Performance by Gashaw Alemneh singing – “Thank You”
- 8:30 p.m.** Award Ceremony
Recipient Speeches
- 9:30 p.m.** Performance by Abel Dawit
Closing Remarks

** The cash bar will be open throughout the night but will close during speeches **

Special Thanks To...

Emcees

Abel Mussie & Kemeriya Harun

Chairperson of the Program

Markos Tegegn

Event Treasurer

Girma Eshetu

Photographer

Surafel Bishaw

Videographer

Tesfa Demissie

Sound Controls

Abinezzer Demissie

M.E.T. Staff

Event Hosts & Decorations

Mimi Tsegaye

Hailu Dheressa

Mitiku Dulla

Nafkot Tariku

Yegile Eshetu

V.I.P. Guest Host

Zena Mussie

Girma Eshetu

Girma Haile

Simeneh Tsegaye

Ali Hussein

Event Performers

Ethiopian Community Group

Gashaw Alemneh

Yosef Kassa

Abel Dawit

Graphics & Design

Engineer Mesay Nasir – *Mesay Networks*

Bill Chang

Jan Enriquez

Rosselle Balitaan

Clothing & Cultural Display

Mihret Demissie - *Gabii Clothing*

Special Thank You

Stephanie Ponce and

Management & Staff of

The Metropolitan Entertainment Center

የኢትዮ - ካናዳያን በጎአድራጎት ሽላሚ ድርጅት Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.

I would like to welcome everyone in attendance for the 2019 Ethio-Canadian Promotional Award (ECCPA) Inc. Gala.

We would like to thank everyone who is here tonight. For our guests from the Government of Canada, Members of Parliament, MLAs, Directors, Chairpersons, visitors and friends of the Ethiopian and Eritrean community, a big thank you for your time and undying support in every aspect of our needs. It is an honor having you here tonight amongst us.

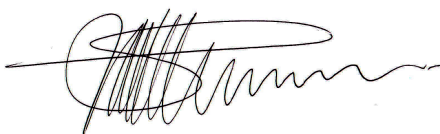
On behalf of the ECCPA Board of Directors, I'd like to congratulate the 2019 Award Recipients for tonight's event. Because of your commitment to our community, humanitarian acts and leadership skills, we are more than pleased to present you with your designated award. It is with humility and meekness that I share our gratitude for your commitment and kindness you've shown to us. It is you and people like you who have made our community, our city and of course our country a better place to live in. As an Ethio-Canadian, you have brought and reflected the class and beauty of our culture upfront. You have represented our country with great pride and dignity. For this and many other things, we are grateful you are amongst us.

The ECCPA Inc. was established in 2016 with a mission to recognize individuals for their humanitarian acts, social services, achievements in field of service, excellence in their academic curriculum, community service and leadership skills in our community. We have strived to achieve in filling the gap to support our Ethiopian and Eritrean community in Winnipeg.

We believe as we press on forward, that there is still a lot to be done to lift up our people to encourage one another and to support our community in bringing forward our needs to the government and to be recognized that we are a productive citizen of Canada, proud children of our native country in whom we take the highest pride representing and sharing our culture and language with no reservations or hesitation. This is what makes our country Canada a safe place to live. For those who opened their hearts and homes who have welcomed us so we could be integral part of Canada and our beautiful city Winnipeg. It is our commitment to strengthen and expand our movement one day at a time, one cause at a time. We are part of our community and work under the umbrella of the Ethiopian community. It is the reflection of our vision one Ethiopia to all Ethiopians.

Enjoy the evening. Reflect, enjoy and reminisce about your thoughtful and kind acts tonight. Remember, tomorrow starts today.

Regards,



Markos Tegegn
President

Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.





**MESSAGE FROM
THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MANITOBA**

As the Queen's representative in Canada, I am pleased to extend vice-regal greetings to the honoured guests, board of directors, volunteers, staff and supporters of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. (ECCPA Inc.) as you come together to celebrate outstanding service and humanitarianism among your members.

This program is an admirable means through which to recognize Ethio-Canadians who continue to strive to help others and improve the world around them. Their achievements reflect their dedication to their community, exemplary voluntarism and cultural pride that will, no doubt, inspire others to follow their lead.

Congratulations to this evening's honoured guests for reminding us all of the power of the individual to make a difference in the well-being of one's community. I also commend everyone whose dedication to cultural preservation and hard work will certainly be rewarded with a pleasant evening for all.



The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba



PREMIER OF MANITOBA

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA
R3C 0V8

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of all Manitobans, I am honoured to welcome and extend my warmest greetings to those attending the 2019 Annual Gala Awards Dinner, hosted by the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.

Tonight's event recognizes individuals who are making a positive, meaningful difference in our community. It is tangible proof of the tremendous growth of the Ethiopian community throughout Manitoba and its valued place in our province's rich and diverse cultural mosaic.

I join all Manitobans in congratulating tonight's award winners and thanking them for all they do to make Manitoba a better place. I also convey our appreciation to the members of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. for the positive work they do in our province and for hosting tonight's gala. You are helping to ensure that the only thing better than today in Manitoba is tomorrow in Manitoba.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Pallister".

The Honourable Brian Pallister



Mayor's Message

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the Annual Gala Awards Dinner hosted by the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award. As Winnipeggers recognize Black History Month, it is the perfect time to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and humanitarian acts that have resulted in great success, as well as growing unity and mutual support, in the Ethiopian community.

I am pleased to recognize those who are receiving awards this evening for their work to make a difference and a positive impact in our community. Winnipeg has been fortunate to welcome newcomers from across the globe and even the short history of your awards is a showcase of the talent and cultural gifts that Ethiopian immigrants have brought to our city. Winnipeg is a growing city – well on our way to a million people – and the diversity of our city is one of our great strengths. Through the celebration of Black History Month and through awards like the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotion Award, Winnipeg is acknowledging the central role black Winnipeggers have played in our history – and just as importantly in our future.

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg and my City Council colleagues, I want to recognize the volunteers, organizers, and award recipients whose tremendous work makes events like this possible. Thank you all for your contributions to the rich cultural life of our city.

Warmly,

Mayor Brian Bowman
City of Winnipeg





Greetings from Terry Duguid Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South

Congratulations to the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc., on hosting their 2nd Annual Awards Ceremony! On this important occasion, I would like to thank Mr. Ali Hussein, Director of Communications; Mr. Girma Eshetu, Treasurer; Mr. Girma Haile, Secretary; and Mr. Markos Tegegn, President of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc.: Their vision has made it possible for us to celebrate, encourage and support members of Winnipeg's Ethio-Canadian community who have made our city a more welcoming and inclusive place for all.

The leadership shown by members of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. and the community leaders honoured at this ceremony have shaped our diverse communities' wellbeing. Thank you to all the award winners for your service to our community.



Daniel Blaikie, M.P.

Elmwood-Transcona



February 23, 2019

2019 Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Awards

Congratulations on the success of last year's inaugural Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Awards dinner and for the great work your organization does in our community. Thank you for inviting me to be a part of this year's event.

Your mission, to facilitate progress and unity in the Ethio-Canadian community by supporting its members through recognition of their achievements and providing resources to help them realise their goals, is a service that benefits us all.

Best wishes to this year's award winners. May we all be inspired and benefit from their work for a long time to come!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Blaikie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daniel" being more prominent.

Daniel Blaikie

Parliamentary Office

House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6
☎ 613 995 6339

Constituency Office

210-1100 Concordia Ave
Winnipeg, MB
R2K 4B8
☎ 204 984 2499



Daniel.Blaikie@parl.gc.ca



Greetings from Rita Chahal
Executive Director of Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council

Congratulations to the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc., on hosting their 2nd Annual Awards Ceremony! On behalf of Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council, I would like to thank Mr. Markos Tegegn, President of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. and the Executive for their vision, work and commitment to celebrate, encourage and support members of Winnipeg's Ethio-Canadian community who have made Winnipeg more welcoming and inclusive for all.

The Leadership shown by members of the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc. and the community leaders honoured at this ceremony have shaped our diverse communities' wellbeing. Thank you to all the award winners for your service to the community and congratulations on your well-deserved recognition.





Robert
**FALCON
OUELLETTE**
Otapapistamâkew | Député
Member of Parliament
WINNIPEG CENTRE - HEART OF CANADA

**Constituency /
Circonscription**

594 Ellice Ave.
Winnipeg, MB
R3G 0A3
(204) 984-1675

**House of Commons /
Chambre des communes**

Justice Building 713
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6
(613) 992-5308

Robert.Falcon@parl.gc.ca

🐦 @DrRobbieO

f RFalconOuellette



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Greetings

Congratulations to the Ethio-Canadian Charitable Promotional Award Inc., on hosting their 2nd Annual Awards Ceremony! I am honoured to be a part of an event that celebrates the many accomplishments of those within and outside of the Ethiopian community.

As the Member of Parliament for Winnipeg Centre, it's heartwarming to see so many accomplished and dedicated award recipients. Together as a community we will continue to be our brother's keeper and strive to make life better for everyone.

These are the type of events that make Winnipeg a great place to live. Thank you for being a part of Winnipeg Centre and being a positive influence on the community.

Tapwe akwa khitwam

Robert-Falcon Ouellette, CD, PhD, MP
Otapapistamâkew/Member of Parliament/Député
Winnipeg Centre (Heart of Canada) House of Commons/Chambre des communes
Justice Building 710 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
(613) 992-5316 robert.falcon@parl.gc.ca

A look back at...

the
2017 ECCPA
Gala
AWARD DINNER

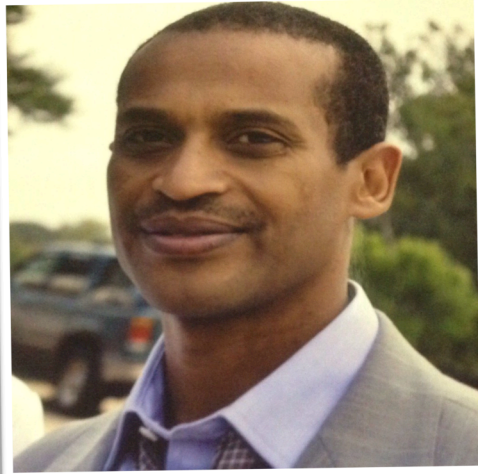




For more information
call 204.995.1621

or

Visit us online
www.ethiocanada.ca



Diamond Humanitarian Award

Dr. Daniel Asrat Balcha P. Eng. - Mechanical

Dr. Daniel has lived in Winnipeg, MB since 2002. He is married to his lovely wife Ribka Melesse. His academic and professional career includes obtaining his BSc. In Mechanical Engineering from Addis Ababa University, MSc. and PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Physics and Mathematics from the University of Winnipeg and Thermofluid Engineering from the University of Minnesota. He spent some time working as a faculty member at the Cape Breton Nova Scotia Nautical Institute. In addition, he worked at the Department of Marine Engineering as a research assistant and research associate at the University of Manitoba. Currently, he works

in the Ministry of Growth Entrepreneurship and Trade for the Government of Manitoba.

Dr. Daniel has not only ventured in academic and professional venues, but he has also spent a generous amount of time establishing the necessary steps of bringing Ethiopia to Canada. He firmly believes in his cultural background and proudly reflects this through his work within the community he helped to conceive. He danced for the African Pavilion for Folklarama representing Ethiopian culture. In 2010 the Ethiopian Pavilion was established, where he served as a Coordinator for six consecutive years. He managed to raise enough funds to purchase the Ethiopian Community cultural centre, which eventually helped succeed the community to be mortgage free. It was because of his true leadership that this was made possible. He served as president for the Ethiopian Society of Winnipeg for four terms. He led the Sponsorship Program as chairperson for The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, and with the Ethiopian Society of Winnipeg, they represented 2 organizations at the Welcome Place. From 2007-2013 he also taught computer skills, English language skills, Math and Life skills for war-affected youths from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Congo, Somalia, Afghanistan and Burma. His mentorship skills have provided aid to more than 150 youths, who have succeeded their potential as professionals, now working in the Health care, Engineering, Auto body mechanics, carpentry and Social Work field.



His many acts of kindness, humility, generosity and commitment commands the highest regard and respect for Dr. Daniel. He is a true reflection of Ethiopia in Canada. The ECCPA Board of Directors is honored to present the highest award of the year, 2019 Diamond Humanitarian Award to Dr. Daniel Asrat for his endless support, generosity, dedication and commitment, leadership and passion for our community.