

KNIGHTS of RIZAL WINNIPEG CHAPTER

SPONSORED: SENIORS' WELLNESS SEMINARS

Way back in 2002, the late Sir Ric Medina, *KCR, Chapter Commander of the Winnipeg Chapter of the Knights of Rizal* at the time, with the recommendation of Sir Dr. Roland Guzman, *KGOR, Regional Deputy Commander for Canada*, and Sir Dr. Romy Magsino, *KGOR, Area Commander for Western Canada*, appointed Sir John Gano, *KCR*, chairperson of the newly created (Knights of Rizal) KoR - Seniors' Wellness Workshops Committee. Sir John's appointment was an excellent choice because he has been the Cultural Minorities Representative to the Manitoba Council on Aging. The Knights of Rizal Chapter Council readily confirmed Sir John's appointment.

The Committee decided that a series of Seniors' Wellness Seminars on the various needs of seniors will be held beginning on January 11, 2003 at then, Filgrin's Palace (now, Pampanga Restaurant). Initially, 5 Filipino-Canadian Seniors' organizations namely, OFSAM; FILCASA; ORIGINAL WINNIPEG SENIORS' GROUP; SENIORS' PEACEFUL ASSOCIATION of MANITOBA; and the UNITED FILIPINO-CANADIAN SENIORS of MANITOBA participated, with the assistance of the Manitoba Seniors Directory that provided the professional speakers. Two KoR Seniors Wellness Seminars are held every year since inception. In 2006, the seminars were held on February 12th and October 21st at FILCASA Hall in Winnipeg, Canada. There were no KoR Seniors Wellness Seminar held in 2007 but on Oct. 19th a Seniors Cultural Celebration organized by Lady Jean Guiang, *PCCM Executive Director*, in cooperation with the PCCM Board & PCCM Affiliated Organizations and the Knights of Rizal Winnipeg Chapter, was held to honour the elderly of various ethnic groups and organizations at the PCCM.

FILIPINO-CANADIAN SENIORS CULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Through the initiative of Sir John Gano, *Deputy Chapter Commander*; Sir Rev. Dr. Neil Parado, *KCR, Chapter Commander*; and Sir Fausto Yadao, *KCR, Area Commander*, with the approval of Sir Dr. Romy Magsino and Sir Dr. Roland Guzman and with the assistance of the Filipino Writers' Guild composed of Mrs. Gemma Dalayoan, Mrs. Leah Magsino and Ms. Leonie Bailon, the Filipino-Canadian Seniors' Cultural Research Project entitled "*Understanding the Filipino Seniors in Manitoba: their Immigration, Settlement and Adaptation Process*" was launch on January 29, 2005. Two years later, a draft of the KoR Seniors' Cultural Research Project was presented to the Ethno-cultural Secretariat and to the Hon. Doug Martindale, MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly – Manitoba, Canada) at a brief ceremony in FILCASA Hall. But due to a terrible accident suffered last August 2007 by our editor, Sir Dr. Romy Magsino, editing was delayed and is still in the process of being finalized. Once completed, the project will be printed in book form.



In the picture, **(seated 1 to r)**: Mrs. Arlene Simon, *President of OFSAM and Treasurer of the Project Sponsors' Committee*; Mrs. Gemma Dalayoan, *President of MAFTI and Project Writer and Chair of the Manitoba Filipino Writers' Guild (MFWG)*; Sir Dr. Tom Colina, *KCR, KoR Winnipeg Chapter Commander*; Hon. Doug Martindale, *MLA*; Mr. Flor Tonelete, *President of FILCASA & Housing Coop, and Vice-Chair of Seniors Wellness Program and Cultural Research Project Committee*; Sir Rev. Dr. Neil Parado, *Area Commander for Western Canada*; Sir Mohamed Alli, *KCR, Secretary of the Seniors' Wellness Program and Cultural Research Project Committee*. **Not in the picture**: Sir John Gano, *Past Deputy Chapter Commander and Chairperson of the Seniors' Wellness Program and Cultural Research Project Committee*; Sir Dr. Romy Magsino, *Canada Region Deputy Commander and Editor of the project*; Lady Leah Magsino, *Researcher and Vice-Chair of the Manitoba Filipino Writers' Guild*; Ms. Leonie Bailon, *Project Coordinator and Proposal Developer and Member of MFWG*; and Sir Fausto Yadao, *Project Proposal Writer*. **(Standing)**: Some of the Seniors from OFSAM, FILCASA, MAFTI and Lady Gory Parado.



(L to R): Sir Dr. Romy Magsino, *Canada Region Deputy Commander and Editor of the project*, Sir. Rev. Dr. Neil Parado, Sir John Gano *Past Deputy Chapter Commander and Chairperson of the Seniors' Wellness Program and Cultural Research Project Committee*, Lady Leah Magsino, Mrs. Gemma Dalayoan, Ms. Leonei Bailon, Mr. Flor Tonelete and Sir Mohamed Alli.