



### **ESCA IN A NUTSHELL**

**BEGINNING.** *In the Spring of 2004, the idea of forming an association of Estehanons in Canada was broached by a group headed by Ed Lim. In December 2005, the Constitution & By-Laws of Eastern Samar (Canada) Association were approved and ratified, and the first set of officers was elected headed by Carlos Abug. On its fourth year, ESCA now boast of more than 100 proud members.*

**OBJECTIVES.** *The following are the ESCA objectives:*

- 1. Preserve & promote Eastern Samar's heritage, tradition, culture and values.*
- 2. Establish unity, cooperation and better understanding among members and the community.*
- 3. Promote camaraderie and to raise funds for worthwhile projects geared toward helping our kababayans in Canada and Eastern Samar.*

**ANNUAL REGULAR ACTIVITIES.** *We hold Spring Dance to whisk away the boredom of preceding cold winter. During summer we organize community picnic to enjoy the blissful warm weather. Our traditional Kapatronan & Thanksgiving Party is celebrated during the month of October. In December the group cheers up our kababayans in Metro Toronto with Christmas carols in their respective homes. We also hold our Christmas Party, exclusive for ESCA members and their families, usually on December 26<sup>th</sup>, Boxing Day.*

**SPECIAL PROJECTS.** *For the past two years the STAR Award program have given cash incentives and awards to 34 poor but high-achieving secondary school students in Eastern Samar. We donated funds to OIKOS Orphanage in Borongan, Eastern Samar. In collaboration with the Federation of Filipino Canadian of Brampton, we also sent OIKOS Orphanage 2 balikbayan boxes of used clothing and shoes, and donated to flood-stricken Malinao (Taft) Integrated School some used books and computer for their school library.*

**WHO MAY JOIN?** *Any person who have roots in Eastern Samar, Philippines, either by consanguinity or affinity, and who lives in Canada is qualified to join ESCA. A one-time membership fee shall be paid upon registration.*