

## BRAZILIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA - BCAAB

### Brazilian Portuguese School in Calgary

The current Board of Directors of BCAAB has in place a plan for a creation of a Children's Brazilian Portuguese school. In informal conversations with members of our Community we have identified the creation of a school as a priority. Two Portuguese teachers, members of our association, are willing to help us with this initiative and we have been examining all possibilities within this plan, as well looking at other sources and/or institutions in order to determine the merits of this proposal.

What we have for the moment:

- The setting up of two groups of children according to the criteria of reading & writing, at least in one language, the group including those who would already be able to read & write and the second group of those who are not be able to read & write. This will allow for better co-ordination of activities during the classes. Using these criteria, probably the children would be grouped according to age as well. The fact that we have children with diverse levels in their knowledge of the Brazilian Portuguese language is taken as a positive component in establishing teaching methods.
- The classes would start in February 2005, as we need time to co-ordinate initial activities and for obtaining teachers who will for certain be available.
- We would begin with an initial period from February to June 2005 that would be a pilot period for our learning program. As we gain experience, we would make the necessary adjustments for the following period.
  - The classes are going to be planned with the theme: Brazilian folklore as well as with pedagogical activities applied to the learning needs of each group. The two teachers also could plan appropriate and beneficial activities for both groups of students.
- The classes would of two hours and half hours duration each week with one or two breaks of fifteen minutes each.
- A computer lab with software for Learning Brazilian Portuguese could be provided for groups of 2 or 3 children at a time depending on interest.
- Other audiovisual activities in Brazilian Portuguese would be offered to children as often as requested.
- The location for the classes will be a classroom in the French-Canadian Association (at the same location where we had our annual feijoada)
- The location for the audiovisual activities will be the Cardel Theater - SE of Calgary.
- The location for the computer lab is still to be determined.
- Creation of a library for the school.
- Annual fund raising event for the school. This event could be in conjunction with another event already taking place within our community, the Annual Feijoada that will occur in November. For this activity the children would present some kind of artistic activity linked to the Brazilian folklore learned during the classes; i.e. theatre, music, painting and so on..

In conclusion, in order to continue planning and other activities, we feel that we need to know a little more about our community and about the students that might attend classes

We have prepared the following questionnaire and we hope that all those interested in this activity will find time to fill it out and return it to us

Remember that our biggest goal is to offer an opportunity for the children to know each other and to interact in a Brazilian Portuguese language and culture-learning environment.

At the end of the questionnaire you will find information how to return it to us

*Portuguese School: "Pererê"*

Personal Information

Name of Father: \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Mother: \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time Residing in Canada: \_\_\_\_\_ Language Spoken at Home: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire**

- 1- Are you interested in Portuguese Language Lessons for your son/daughter(s) that the BCAAB will be offering next year?  
 ( ) Yes.  
 ( ) I will need to think more about it./I will wait for sometime before committing to it.  
 ( ) Not at this time.
- 2- What is your child's Portuguese Language level?  
 ( ) He/She understands, but does not speak  
 ( ) He/She understands and speaks  
 ( ) He/She does not understand  
 ( ) He/She understands, speaks and writes
- 3- Your child is literate in which of the following language:  
 ( ) Portuguese                      ( ) English                      ( ) He/She is not a literate child yet.
- 4- What would you like to see your child learning during the classes? Please mark with an 'X' in the appropriate space below:

	Extremely Important	Good	So so	Does not Matter	Do not see any importance	No opinion on the subject/ Do not want to answer
Socialization with other children in the community						
Grammar Understanding						
Conversation						
Knowledge of the Language						
Writing						
General Knowledge of Brazilian Culture						

- 5- How do you expect that these classes could help your child:  
 ( ) Understand Portuguese.  
 ( ) Express in Portuguese.  
 ( ) Understand, express and write in Portuguese.

