



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



Press Release
EBB-017-2021

CONGEN BADAJOS FORGES PARTNERSHIP WITH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN LAS VEGAS, PROMOTES FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM



Meeting with the Coalition of Filipino-American Chamber of Commerce (COFACC)

02 May 2021, Los Angeles – In line with efforts to broaden the economic and cultural diplomacy program of the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles, Consul General Edgar B. Badajos met with local chapters of Filipino-American Chambers of Commerce in Las Vegas, Nevada, between 01 and 02 May 2021.

In particular, ConGen Badajos, together with Trade Attache Mr Eric Elnar and Tourism Attache Mr Richmond Torres, met in person with key leaders of the Coalition of Filipino-American Chamber of Commerce (COFACC), the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Southern Nevada (PACC-SN), and the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Nevada (FACCGN). He also virtually introduced himself to the Las Vegas Chambers of Commerce (LVCC) via Zoom.

During the meetings, Consul General Badajos informed the Chambers that the Consulate General is slated to launch its Financial Literacy Program in line with the reintegration program of the Philippine government for overseas Filipinos.

ConGen Badajos further explained that, *“In this unprecedented time of the CoViD-19 pandemic, I am of the view that educating our kababayan on how to strategically manage and grow their finances is highly relevant and important... The [financial literacy] program is also envisioned to encourage our Overseas Filipinos to prepare for their homecoming to the Philippines.”*

In response, the Chambers expressed their commitment to collaborate with the Consulate General in organizing said financial literacy seminars.

On the Consul General’s query regarding resources from the State and Federal governments to aid pandemic-affected businesses, the Chambers reported that they have been actively sharing information on how small-to-medium-sized businesses could access various U.S. government aid programs. These programs include stimulus checks, as well as loans and grants to help struggling businesses survive the financial challenges brought on by the pandemic.

Towards the end of each meeting, the Consul General encouraged the Chambers to continue pursuing their programs, while assuring them that the Consulate General’s doors are open for any appropriate assistance they may need.



Included in these meetings were: for COFACC, President Mr. Gerry Palon, Vice President and Corporate Secretary, Ellen Samson, and Vice President for Marketing Mr. Jeffrey Bautista; for PACC-SN: Vice President for Legal, Atty. Jennifer Borja, Vice President for Community Programs, Mr. Rona Sumbang; for FACC-GN: Ms. Olive Enriquez and Mr. Joel Enriquez; and for LVCC: President, Mr. Joe Green.

The Consul General is in Las Vegas, NV with a team from the Philippine Consulate General in

Los Angeles for the first consular outreach mission of the year to the city. Having arrived in Los Angeles on 06 April 2021, this is Badajos’ first trip to Las Vegas and to Southern Nevada as Consul General. END.