

Good morning your excellencies, members of the Buddhist Sangha, members of the press, members of the extended Padmanadi family, our most valued customers and friends; ladies and gentlemen!

Today, on the auspicious Saturday, June 19, 2010, I have the great honor to make this welcoming speech for the historic grand opening of the newest and most exotic vegetarian / vegan restaurant in edmonton : “The Padmanadi Vegetarian Fine Cuisine”.

After experiencing the magic triple seven (7 years, 7 months and 7 days) of hardworking in Canada, today, my family and I have finally realized our dreams – to provide a vegetarian/ vegan restaurant that symbolizes quality, comfort, affordability and the signature Indonesian hospitality.

Today, I can tell everyone that we have reached another milestone!

My friends and valued customers, let me tell you that this big success is simply the result of your tireless support and enthusiasm through all the years. Your patronage has made us bigger, stronger and especially profitable as a business.

As you probably know, we have been able to share those profits with quite a number of charitable organizations, such as with the local homeless communities, with many fund-raising activities and with a number of relief actions for the world natural disasters (such as those things happened in Indonesia, Myanmar, Taiwan, and Haiti).

But today, we also feel so grateful, that apart from the above charitable activities, we still managed to save some funds for expanding and improving our existence as a business enterprise. And I should frankly acknowledge that you – my dear friends and customers – you deserve all the credits! In other words, your seven years investments with Padmanadi have finally brought their fruits. Some of you may say it’s like a dream has come true. It’s a dream of our vegan / vegetarian community – and I do believe that the Vegetarians of Alberta Association (V.O.A.) also shares the same dream.

Do you know that my family is so proud for having been living among the wonderful Edmontonians, for being cherished and supported through all the years, so that we have got the obsession to help the people of Edmonton grow to become a peaceful and healthy society. We therefore pledge to keep improving the quality of our foods and services, and start taking a bigger social responsibility.

In conclusion, a special acknowledgement to the following: to the Mayor of Edmonton (Mr. Stephen Mandel) and to the City of Edmonton, to the Vegetarians of Alberta Association (VOA), the Edmonton Indonesian Community, the Maltby and Prins Architects and Contractors – who have worked so hard to create this wonderful place, to our friend Bryan Nippers – our webmaster, to the musicians and artists who are performing today, and to many others whom we are unable to mention here, for all your valuable contribution, hardwork and supports !

Special thanks must go to our wonderful volunteers and friends who have gone above and beyond the bonds of friendship to help us organize this grand opening celebration.

Last but not least, I must thank my mother for all of her love and inspiration that have totally shaped my vegetarian lifestyle for the rest of my life. “Mom, you have been such a role model for me my entire life! Thanks for being my mom!” (Give her a big hug)

Ladies and gentlemen, now, let’s make a wish, that this new establishment will last forever.

Today, in celebrating with the new Padmanadi, please enjoy our special grand opening buffet – specially selected and prepared by our chef! Enjoy the non-stop music entertainments performed by edmonton’s best artists!

On behalf of my family, the management and staff of Padmanadi, we thank you for your presence in this grand opening celebration!  
“May all sentient beings be happy!”

Thank you !