



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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PH CONSUL GENERAL SPEAKS BEFORE BICOL USA OF THE MIDWEST

Bicolanos from the US Midwest gathered together to celebrate Christmas complete with the region's famous culinary delights such as "laing" and "Bicol express" at Seafood City's Elston Mix Mall last December 14, 2019. After a hiatus, the newly revived, "Bikol USA of the Midwest" led by its President Evelyn dela Rosa Tolledo, once again brought together fellow Bicolano's from the Midwest to show their love for their beloved, "Bikol Philippines". In her remarks, Consul General Gina Jamoralin congratulated the Bikol USA president and officers, for forging unity among Bicolanos and for showcasing the region's traditions and cuisine.

Consul General Jamoralin also urged the Filipino citizens to exercise their right to vote by registering as a Filipino overseas voter for the upcoming elections in the Philippines in May 2022. She also reminds them of their civic duty to vote in general and local elections in the United States if they are qualified to do so. She stressed that there are more than 4 million Filipinos in the whole of United States which represent a significant voice. She also invited the members and guests to join next year's Very Important Pinoy (VIP) Tour to the Philippines in July 2020 with destinations to Manila, Iloilo and Boracay.

State Senator Ram Villivalam, 8th Legislative District, Illinois, son of first generation immigrants from India, spoke about his advocacy for minorities in his district including the Asian Americans and to make sure that their voices are heard by their political leaders.





Consul General Gina Jamoralin delivering her remarks and thanking “Bikol USA of the Midwest” president, Ms. Evelyn Tolledo for taking the organization out of its hiatus.



Group photo with Bikol USA officers and members and State Senator Ram Villivalam, 8th Legislative District, Illinois