



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Stockholm

LTR-80-MLBI-2024

27 December 2024

Mahal na mga Kababayan ko, Members of the Filipino Community in Sweden:

As my tour of duty as Ambassador of the Philippines to Sweden draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the nearly four remarkable years I have spent in your company. It is with a heart full of gratitude and pride that I address this message to you.

Despite arriving in Sweden during the cloud of the Covid-19 pandemic, your warmth and hospitality reminded me of the enduring spirit of Filipino solidarity, even so far from home. Your unwavering support for the Embassy's activities demonstrated what it truly means to be part of a vibrant and united community, and have been nothing short of inspiring.

I am especially grateful for your efforts in strengthening the bonds that tie Filipinos together here in Sweden. Your commitment to promoting our rich heritage, values, and traditions has not only enriched the lives of fellow Filipinos but has also fostered greater understanding and appreciation of our culture among the Swedish community. Through your initiatives, you have upheld the *Bayanihan* spirit that is uniquely Filipino – one that transcends borders.

Though my time as your Ambassador is coming to an end, my admiration and respect for each of you will remain constant. I hope that you continue your steadfast support to my successor, as the Embassy and the Filipino Community in Sweden continue to work together for the benefit of our community.

Maraming salamat po at Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon sa inyong lahat.

Mabuhay po ang mamamayang Pilipino sa Sweden!


MARIA LUMEN B. ISLETA
Ambassador

**MEMBERS OF THE
FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN SWEDEN**