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MEMBER INFORMATION & SNAPSHOTS OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS

FIA WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Fiji Institute of Accountants has welcomed its new Executive Director, Navin Raaj. Raaj, the former principal of Jai Narayan College takes over the helm from Murray Mackenzie.

Originally from Savusavu, "Master", as he is known to his gym buddies, grew up in the Hidden Paradise, attending school in his home town and Taveuni. Science and Math were his first loves, something his father inspired him to pursue as he encouraged his son to get the best education possible.

For Raaj, teaching was a career path that perhaps chose him instead of the other way round.

"There were no other options at the time," he said when asked why he chose this honourable calling. What followed were 19 years of teaching during which time he taught students at Nadi Muslim College, Mulomulo Secondary School, DAV Boys High and MGM High Schools. But it was at Jai Narayan College, formerly Indian College, where Raaj came into his own as a teacher and leader. "At Jai Narayan College I climbed up the ladder as a teacher becoming a Head of Department and progressing up the ranks to an Assistant Principal, then to a Vice Principal and then finally Principal."

The most common reaction when one hears the name Jai Narayan College is admiration due to the school's proven reputation as one of the top schools in the country, its students repeatedly getting the highest external exams pass rates. Many of these successes occurred during Raaj's time at the helm of the school and he is quick to pay homage to the school's community, "Many thanks to my students, staff, parents and management especially my mentor Mr Jai Narayan who is Mr College himself... I call him CAPTAIN!"

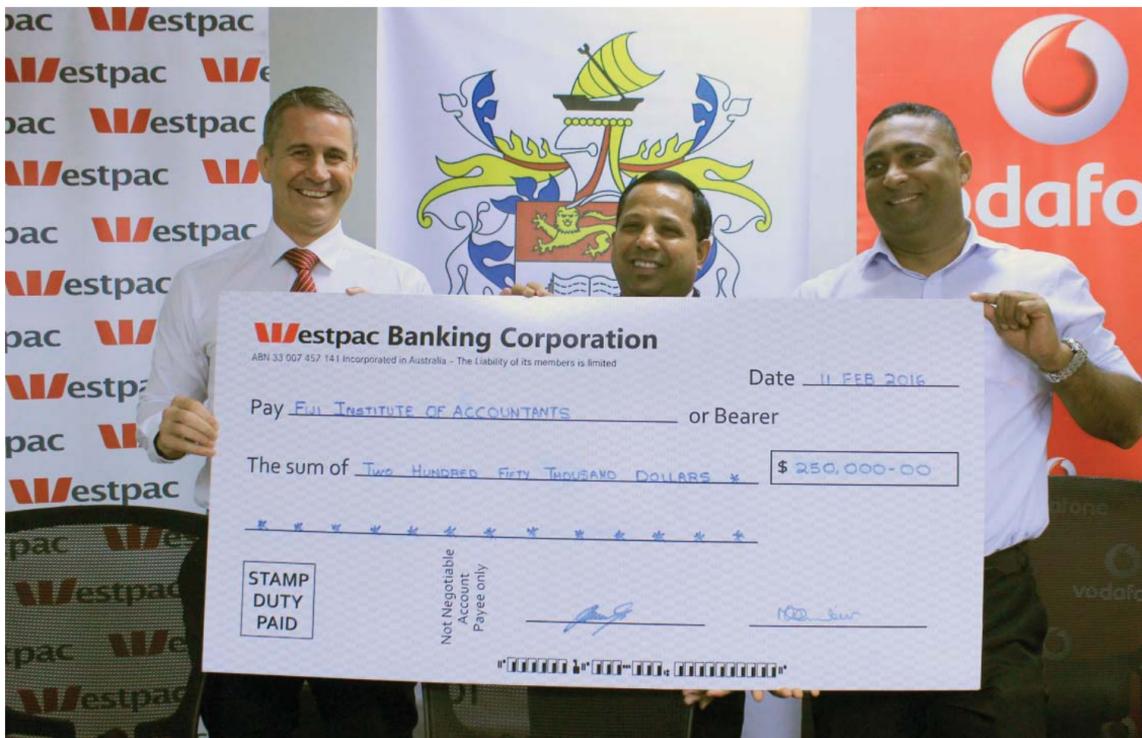
Having reached the pinnacle of that profession at such



a young age; Raaj decided not to sit on his laurels but to challenge himself further. "Coming out of the pool and now (jumping) into the sea should be fun," he predicts describing the leap he has made from teaching to Executive Director of the FIA. "While I'm excited about this change I'm also fully aware of the challenges that lay ahead of me and I wish to put myself to that test because if I succeed then it gives a true assessment of my calibre."

When he is not at work or watching rugby, you will find Raaj working out or playing squash at Suva's Metro Fitness Centre.

Mr. Mackenzie will stay on in a consulting role for the institute to enable a smooth transition.



Vodafone and Westpac continue to sponsor FIA's Annual Congress

The Fiji Institute of Accountants signed a three year sponsorship agreement with Vodafone and Westpac Bank on 11th February 2016 to assist the Institute organise its annual congress. The total sponsorship is worth \$250,000 over the three year period. This is a substantial commitment by the two sponsors which will enable the Institute to deliver a quality program.

The President of FIA, Mr Nouzab Fareed, expressed his sincere gratitude to the two sponsors for continuing to support the Institute deliver one of the most sought after and premier event in Fiji's business calendar.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES YET?

Annual membership fees for the year 2016 are normally due and payable by 31st January 2016.

If you have still not paid your subscription yet, we urge you to please do so. Your support is vital so as to enable the Institute maintain and improve on its level of services that is provided. For any enquiries, please feel free to contact the secretariat on 3305 807 or fia@connect.com.fj.

ADMISSIONS

The Institute is pleased to welcome the following persons, who have been admitted to membership, in various different categories, in the month of January & February 2016:

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

RAIYAZ AHMED - POST FIJI LTD
RITNESH RAVI CHAND - BSP LIFE
RATU NEMIA NAVUWAI DAWAI - MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DIVYA - KPMG
NEERAJ KARTIK DUTT - FDB
RANJAITA KUMARI - NEIL UNDERHILL & ASS.
BHAVISHA LAL - UNEMPLOYED
ASHWIN SINGH - ANZ (PNG)
RAGNI MUDALIAR - NAVINI ISLAND RESORT
ASHNI SHARMA - MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY

PROVISIONAL MEMBER

SAINIMILI V. BALENAGAGA - FHL PROPERTIES LTD
NAMRISHA V. CHAND - DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES INC
RAJESH CHAND - FLETCHER CONSTRUCTION (FIJI)
SHEETAL SHIVANJANI DEVI CHAND - OAG
EDWIN NIKIL CHANDRA - FICAC
VARSHA KOMAL DUTT - MIN OF EMPLOYMENT
MAKERETA SAUDODOYAWA DYER - OAG
KRISHAN S. GOUNDAR - REDDY'S ENTERPRISES LTD
PRANIL GOUNDAR - PARKERS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
ASHMIN HAROON - BASIC INDUSTRIES LTD
RAVIKASH KISHAN KUMAR - FBC
SHIVARNI RIKSHA KUMAR - I.NAIVELI & CO
JAIN VISHEK MAHARAJ - C J PATEL & CO LTD
PRIYA N. NANDANI - ASHPRI CONSULTING PACIFIC
RAVINEETA PRAKASH - BDO FIJI
SAPNA SIWANJALI PRASAD - KPMG
SHYLEEN PRASAD - MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT
ASHWIN DAYA RAM - MACQUARIE TRAVELWORLD
VIJAY RATNAM - REDDY'S ENTERPRISES LTD
RONALD ARTISH SHARMA - FNU

AFFILIATE ACCOUNTANT

NATHANIEL NAVNEEL CHAND - C J PATEL & CO LTD
NILESHNI CHAND - GPH
ADRIAN IOANE FIDOW - PACIFIC ENERGY
AMRITA SINGH JOSU - CARPENTERS MOTORS
AKENETA NAISOLA - ITAUKEI AFFAIRS BOARD
SALESH NAND - BASIC INDUSTRIES LTD
AVNEIL PRASAD - BDO FIJI
FRANK RYLAND - FNPF
SHALENDRA DUTT SINHA - UNEMPLOYED
RITA RESHIKA VANDANA - C J PATEL & CO LTD

MARCH PD ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

The recent cyclone TC WINSTON affected all of us one way or the other, either directly or indirectly. In recognition of the fact that much of our efforts were directed towards bringing normalcy to the lives of those affected, the PD Committee and indeed, the FIA cancelled its seminar scheduled for March so as not to over-burden our members and non-members who patronise our programs.

The FIA's education programs will continue from April 2016. We have a significant event, the FIA Annual Congress coming up in April 21st / 22nd. The premier event in FIA's calendar, the congress will be held at Sheraton Resort and appeals to the movers & shakers. A great line-up of presenters to look forward to. Business leaders and senior executives should not miss this event.

The normal seminar series will continue from May 2016. We have a great range of topics earmarked for our members including a lot of ground that needs to be covered for the new Income Tax Act 2015. Of course, a technical workshop is being planned for the later months and is currently on the drawing board.

The FIA strives to bring to its members and the public at large, quality programs of relevance to the profession and of benefit to the progress of our country.

Thank you for your continuing support.

FIA E-Journal – June 2016 Issue

The e-Journal of the institute is published twice yearly, in June and December. We welcome articles of interest from any of our readers including academics who may wish to have their work published to our membership. The articles must be relevant to the profession.

The publication of any article would be subject to approval of the Communications Committee of the Institute (the editorial team). The article may be edited to meet space limitations.

Please email your articles to the secretariat on: fia@connect.com.fj.

2016 PD activities start on a slow note

Our monthly seminar series commenced in 2016 with the topic, "An Economic Update on the Fijian Economy" that was delivered at the usual venue at Reserve Bank, Tower 11 on 25th January 2016. Close to 30 participants made it to the seminar, the numbers being on the lower side of expectations. It appears, the festive mood had not worn off fully and most had to contend with back to school preparations for their children etc so the response is understandable.

On 23rd February, Professor Michael White delivered a seminar on "The Accountants Professional Code of Ethics". This was also held at RBF, Tower 11. About 50 participants booked for the event but the actual attendance was lower due to disturbance from weather conditions being the most likely reason.

We are optimistic that numbers will continue to increase as we progress deeper into the year. The seminar series is a useful avenue for members to earn valuable CPE hours. It also assists members and non-members alike, to stay up to date with developments in and around the profession.

Interesting topics are being lined up for future seminars...stay tuned.

DO WE HAVE YOUR LATEST ADDRESS?

Has your address changed recently? If so, please let us know immediately. Email us on fia@connect.com.fj or fax: (679) 3305 588.

Also, let us know of any other changes to your personal details. As a valued member, we would like to stay in touch with you.

